



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Commandant: ELLIS M. PEARCE III

Editor: DON H. GEE

VOLUME XII, Number 2

FEBRUARY 2000



**CENTRAL BUCKS
DETACHMENT, Inc. #636**
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

Meets
7:30 p.m.,
2d Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
315 North Street, Doylestown, PA

Sr. VICE COMMANDANT:
WILLIAM R. MILLER

Jr. VICE COMMANDANT:
PAUL CAPRIO

ADJUTANT:
GARY SMITH

PAYMASTER:
ROBERT C. CODY

JUDGE ADVOCATE:
BOB MOMORELLA

QUARTERMASTER:
ROBERT DUFF

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:
ROBERT A. SUNDLING

MESS SERGEANT
WIL HAAS

WEBMASTER:
TRACY BROCKMAN

DEPT. OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFERS LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE PLANS

Marine Corps Leaguers in Pennsylvania now have the opportunity to take advantage of a number of money saving long distance calling plans.

Through the efforts of the Department of Pennsylvania, Excel Communications, Inc., the 4th largest long distance phone company in North America, is offering several plans designed to save money for the individual Leaguer and make a few cents for the Department.

Excel's most popular plan is the "Dime Deal" which costs 10 cents per minute, per call. The "Simply Seven" is 7 cents a minute and the "Three Penny Plan" is only 3 cents per minute.

The "Dime Deal" rate is for all inter-

state calls, 24 hours-a-day. There are no peak or off-peak restrictions, no minimum usage requirements, a convenient billing, and a no-risk, 90-day satisfaction guarantee. There is a \$1.00 monthly service charge for this plan.

On the "Simply Seven" plan, the interstate long distance rate has no peak or off-peak restrictions, no minimum usage requirements, and the same convenient billing and 90-day satisfaction guarantee. There is a \$4.95 monthly service charge for this plan.

The "Three Penny Plan," applies to all state-to-state calls made between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. with 2000 minutes per month.

(See **PHONE PLANS**, Page 5)

Vietnam Era Commandant Dead at 86

General Leonard F. Chapman Jr., who as Commandant of the Marine Corps, oversaw the withdrawal of the Corps' last combat forces from Vietnam, has died. He was 86.

Headquarters Marine Corps said Chapman, who was born in Key West, FL, in 1913, died Thursday, Jan. 6, of complications from cancer in Falls Church, VA, a Washington suburb.

His career as a Marine lasted from 1935 until his retirement in the early 1970s after commanding a 300,000-member

Corps in 1968-1971, the height of the Vietnam War. The Corps, the smallest U.S. Armed Force, now totals 172,500 Marines.

Chapman brought the last combat Marine out of Vietnam in 1971.

It fell on him, HQMC said, to guide the Corps "through the social upheaval and anti-military atmosphere that came to characterize the late 1960s and early '70s (to put) the organization on the path to the modern force it has become."

(See **COMMANDANT**, Page 9)

THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 9 FEBRUARY 2000
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

During the January meeting, the Detachment voted to continue the support we have given the Young Marines in the past. The motion to resume sending the Young Marines Unit a check for \$100 per quarter was passed with little opposition. This is an important thing since we had been giving the funds to them before all the turmoil with the past National Director of the Young Marines. Since the Marine Corps League (national) has satisfied itself with the settlement of this issue, it has directed local Detachments to continue (or start) to support a Young Marines unit. Our **Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling** has been acting as the Detachment's liaison since his son Bobby is a member of the Young Marines. The name of the Unit has changed to the Liberty Young Marines, but they are still a part of the Marine Corps League. Thank you to all who made the meeting and expressed an opinion. No matter how you voted, at least you were there to vote.

I was supposed to attend a Uted Veterans Council meeting on the 18th of January at the Legion building. The meeting was called by Marine Ray Krout (in his capacity as Commander of the Legion Post) to discuss the possibility of doing something on Veterans Day in the Doylestown area. Other towns have different programs but Doylestown does not. It is the hope of the United Veterans Council to change this. **Past Commandant Don Gee and Marine-of-the-Year**



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.

Wil Haas attended the meeting and will bring us up to speed at the February Meeting.

I announced at the January Meeting that the next Detachment highway clean-up will be in March. The weather is normally a bit milder and the members are usually getting pretty restless by then. A good breakfast and a nice walk on a March morning is just what everyone needs to get his community spirit revved up. Remember, shortly after that we have the A-Day Parking fund-raiser and you'll need that spirit. The date of the clean-up will be Saturday, March 11 (rain date: Saturday, March 18). Come

out and work off some of that winter flab. Double Timing is optional.

If you haven't gotten your name on the nominations list for officers list, it's not too late! There are still a number of choice slots available. Avoid the last minute rush and get your name in now! Make your family proud when you go home and tell them the office to which you've been elected. That's it for now. See you at the February Meeting.

Semper Fi,

Navy Refuses WWII Veteran's C-A-R Request

It appears the Navy Department may have found a way around issuing the Combat Action Ribbon to combat veterans of World War II and Korea.

In the last issue of *LISTEN UP*, we published an article concerning the Combat Action Ribbon and the government action to make issue of the ribbon retroactive to "after Dec. 6, 1941."

WWII veteran **Herbert Borner** of Taylorsville, NC, had his application for the Combat Action Ribbon refused.

"Your request for the Combat Action Ribbon is being returned," stated the letter from the Head of the Retired Records Section, Navy Personnel Command, in St. Louis, MO.

"The Secretary of the Navy has not set the criteria necessary for review of records prior to 1961," it continued.

The subsequent paragraph indicates the Department of the Navy may have found a way to get around Public Law 106-65 which "authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to award the Combat Action Ribbon to a member of the Marine Corps or Navy for participation in ground or surface combat during any period after Dec. 6, 1941, and before Mar. 1, 1961, if the Secretary determines the member has not been previously recognized for such participation."

According to the letter send to Mr. Borner, "During World War II and

Korea, Battle Stars were authorized for wear and for that reason the Navy Department has never supported legislation to make the award retroactive back to 1941."

Apparently the Navy Department has decided to ignore the fact that the Army also issues Battle Stars for "participation in a campaign or major operation" in addition to issuing the Combat Infantryman Badge (C-I-B). The Combat Action Ribbon is the Navy-Marine Corps equivalent of the C-I-B.

The letter closed with, "At this time, we can take no further action on this matter. It is suggested that you resubmit your request in 180 days."

2000 MEETING SCHEDULE

**DETACHMENT MEETING
MARCH 8**

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY
MARCH 11**

**SPRING DEPARTMENT MEETING
MARCH 17-19**

**HOLIDAY INN GRANTVILLE,
PA**

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Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, was held January 12, 2000, at Albert E. Atkinson Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 17 members present including all officers except the Junior Vice Commandant. Distinguished members in attendance included **National Director of Public Relations** and **Past Commandant Don Gee**, **Past Commandants Don Parzanese** and **Frank Yohe**, **Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth**, and **Marine of the Year Wil Haas**.

The Minutes of the December Meeting were unanimously accepted.

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

Commandant Budd Pearce reported the Chapel of Four Chaplains will hold its 34th Annual Awards Banquet on February 1 at the Philadelphia Airport Marriott.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported the Detachment strength at 50 members comprised of 13 Life Members, 33 Regular Members and 4 Associate members. There are two members delinquent in their dues.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported on correspondence received from the Department of Pennsylvania. The Department is urging Detachments to make an extra effort to renew memberships. He also reminded the members that the Department Spring Meeting will be held Mar. 17-19 in Grantville and the Department Convention will be held June 21-25 at the Valley Forge Hilton.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling reported the Detachment had received no requests for our Color Guard since the last meeting.

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, set January 20 as the deadline for the February issue of "Listen Up!"

Committee Reports

"**Adopt-A-Highway**" -- **Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce** scheduled the next highway clean-up for Saturday, March 11. Members will meet at Lu's Place in Furlong for breakfast prior to beginning the clean-up.

Young Marines -- **Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling** reported the Liberty Young Marines Unit is very active and flourishing.

New Business

Motion was made and seconded to resume sending the Young Marines Unit the \$100 per quarter stipend. After some lively discussion, the motion was approved.

Commandant Pearce appointed Junior Past Commandant Don Gee to Chair the Detachment's Nominating Committee. The Committee, comprised of all Detachment Past Commandants, will present the proposed slate of officers at the February Meeting.

Announcements

Marine Ray Krout announced the United Veterans Council of Doylestown will be meeting with local politicians on Tuesday, Jan. 18, to discuss the feasibility of holding a Veterans Day program this year.

P-R Officer Gee announced a Korean War Commemorative Ceremony March 23 at Temple University.

Marine Ray Krout announced the Department of Veterans Affairs (V-A) has added prostate cancer to the list of service-connected disabilities. He also announced the replica of the Vietnam War Memorial--the "Traveling Wall"--will be in Quakertown this fall.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, February 9, at 7:30 p.m.

UNITED VETERANS PLANNING VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

The United Veterans Council of Doylestown met with **State Representative Charles McIlhinney Jr.** at

N-J FIRM SEEKING WWII VETERANS FOR UPCOMING BOOK

NORTHVALE, NJ--Glendale Industries continues to reach out to all World War II veterans to share their stories, letters, and narratives about their experiences during the war.

The stories will be compiled in a book entitled *Theaters of War: We Remember* and will be available in stores, in Glendale's catalogs, and to schools and libraries. The American Battle Monuments Commission, which is responsible for the creation of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC, has endorsed this project. All profits from the sale of the book will be donated to the Memorial.

World War II veterans or families of World War II veterans wishing to be included in this important historical project should send their letters, comments, and narratives--short or long, paragraphs or pages--directly to Glendale. Please include name and address. Mail them to Glendale Industries, 192 Paris Ave., Northvale, NJ 07647-2016. FAX them to: (201) 767-3323. E-mail them to: glendale@glendale.com.

Glendale is an international catalog company that outfits military, police and fire unit honor guards, color guards and drill teams. The American Battle Monuments Commission is an independent agency of the Executive Branch of government. For more information on the Memorial or to make a donation, the American Battle Monuments Commission can be reached at (800) 639-4WW2.

Visit our Website at <http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Barracks/6266/>

American Legion Post #210 on Jan. 18 to explore the possibility of hosting a Veterans Day program this year. **Marine Ray Krout**, who is the American Legion Post Commander, hosted the meeting.

Representatives from the Central Bucks Detachment #636, American Legion Post #210, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #175, and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #210 discussed program possibilities with Mr. McIlhinney and chose War Memorial Field (Central Bucks West High School) as the tentative site for the ceremony.

Potential activities include an appropriate formal ceremony, a guest speaker,

Dept. of Veterans Affairs Adds Prostate Cancer To List of 'Service-Connected' Disabilities

The Department of Veterans Affairs (V-A) recently made an important decision and announcement concerning prostate cancer.

For veterans who served anywhere in Vietnam, all forms of prostate cancer are now considered "service-connected," according to an article in *The USAF Alumni Report* (Fall-Winter 1999 issue).

military exhibits, the Central Bucks West High School Band, and a combined Color Guard from among the four major veterans groups.

Also being considered is a program similar to the 1995 World War II 50th Anniversary Program. Representative McIlhinney and the veterans groups will review videotapes of the ceremony before making a final decision. Mr. McIlhinney volunteered to prepare a sample program brochure for the event.

The group will meet again in March to continue planning the program.

Past Commandant Don Gee and **2000 Marine of the Year Wil Haas** represented the Detachment at the meeting.

According to *The Report*, if the service member dies from prostate cancer, the spouse is entitled to dependency and indemnity compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

If you have or had prostate cancer and served in Vietnam, you are entitled to a service-connected disability, the article concluded.

DALE DYE TO OPEN WEBSITE

A new website "www.rulesofengagement.com" published by Hollywood's premier Military Technical Adviser, **Dale Dye**, will be launched shortly.

The new site will concern itself with issues related to "Rules of Engagement." Dye is involved with a motion picture coming out in the spring of next year which will highlight this issue.

He wanted to use this opportunity to prompt discussion and media awareness of how limitations of current rules of engagement protocols have, all too often, produced disastrous results. Regardless of how well the film eventually highlights the issue, Dale Dye felt passionately about using the opportunity to use what will be a heavily visited site to create further awareness.

Sen. John McCain and other military and political figures as well as associates of Dye will be involved in this forum as it unfolds during the coming months. There will be weekly events

(chats, news and historical figures, commentary) which will attract new and return visits.

Free Chinese Searching for Veterans Who Served ROC

The Badge of Honor Association USA is certifying, for the MND/ROC, those that have been of service to the free Chinese, on Taiwan, since 1949 to today.

If you have been of service to the Republic of China, on the island, or on Quemoy or Matsu, in the Straits of otherwise, contact: **Lloyd Evans**, Chairman, BOHAUSA, 639 Page Ave., Lyndhurst, NJ 07071, or e-mail: CDQSM@Worldnet.att.net, or FAX: (888) 511-7109. Certification is being done now for the October 2000 ceremonies. Posthumous awards are being presented.

V-A SECRETARY MOVES TO TREAT ALL VETERANS

WASHINGTON--Beginning last Oct. 1, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities began enrolling all honorably discharged veterans who seek VA health care during this fiscal year announced **Secretary of Veterans Affairs Togo D. West Jr.**

The VA Secretary's announcement ensures continued treatment this year for "Priority Group 7" veterans, the lowest in a seven-group listing of veterans that began in 1998 under a nationwide VA enrollment system.

"Priority Group 7" veterans do not have service-connected disabilities; they are rated as "zero-compensable" for service-connected disabilities; or their incomes exceed a threshold level.

"It is my intention to serve as many veterans as possible under the law and give them access to the full range of services they need," Secretary West said.

West's decision assures veterans in all priority groups that they are eligible to enroll during Fiscal Year 2000. VA officials still recommend that veterans retain private health insurance, since it may cover services, such as emergency care, that VA does not usually provide.

The VA's enrollment program was established by the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Act of 1996.

It requires most veterans to enroll to receive health care at VA medical facilities. Veterans can apply at any time. Veterans who fall into the following groups are not required to enroll:

- Veterans who have received VA health care since Jan. 1, 1996;
- Veterans with a service-connected disability of 50 percent or more;
- Veterans seeking care for a service-connected disability; and
- Veterans discharged from military service for less than one year for a disability that was determined to have been incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, but that VA has not yet rated.

Under the enrollment program, VA offers an expanded array of healthcare services, such as preventive care; pri-

mary care; inpatient and outpatient services; rehabilitation; mental health and substance abuse treatment; home health, respite and hospice care; and drugs and pharmaceuticals in conjunction with VA treatment.

Veterans can use these VA services even if they have Medicare, Medicaid, Department of Defense, or private health insurance coverage.

To apply for enrollment, veterans can call, write or visit their nearest VA healthcare facility.

Most facilities have designated special enrollment coordinators to assist veterans and their families, and to answer any questions they may have. Information is also available by calling 1-877-222-VETS.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Marine of the Year

Wil Haas will be collecting used (clean) clothing for the needy at the next meeting.

Please bring your clothing donations to the meeting to support this annual effort.

CHOW CALL

**9 FEB 00
ITALIAN
HOAGIES**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

FEBRUARY

**Thomas M. LYONS Sr.
Richard J. PARSONESE**

PHONE PLANS

(Continued from Page 1)

From 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. the interstate calls are billed at 10 cents per minute as are calls exceeding the 2000 minutes per month. There is a \$5.95 per month monthly service charge for this plan.

This "Long Distance Phone Program" is a "win-win" situation according to **Department Junior Vice Commandant John C. Moyses**.

"The member wins personally by saving money on his or her long distance phone charges and the Department of Pennsylvania wins by receiving a commission on each of the people who sign up," he explains.

"Those who sign up don't even have to be League members," Moyses continues. "They can be relatives, friends, neigh-

bors. Heck," he exclaims, "we'll even sign up the Army, Navy and Air Force."

To sign up for the program, call 1-(888) 673-3795 and tell the operator you want to change your long distance carrier to Excel Communications. Let the operator know the plan in which you are interested, let him/her know the Excel representative is the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, and give the Department's identification number--**251313898**.

If you do not feel comfortable signing up by phone, you can call either **Bill Brower** (the Department's rep) at 1-(888) 291-5497, PIN# 5727 or Junior Vice Commandant Moyses at (610) 353-2851 to obtain a form with which to enroll by mail.

'Operation: DUE REGARD' Brings WWII Raiders Home

Marines never leave their dead comrades behind. No fallen Marine is abandoned on the battlefield. Whether a buddy pulls his wounded comrade to safety or a search and rescue team goes after a lost pilot, the Marines consider bringing every man home one of the most sacred obligations of *Semper Fidelis*.

Some Okinawa-based Marines recently helped fulfill that obligation to bring fallen comrades home.

These Marines recently made the journey to the South Pacific to return 20 fallen comrades for their journey home. They called the mission "**Operation: Due Regard.**"

Fifty-seven years have passed since the Carlson's Raiders' attack on Makin Island (now called Butaritari) in 1942.

Thanks to a native of Butaritari, the Marines from Okinawa and Joint Task Force Full Accounting, the Marine Raiders were located and prepared for their return to the U.S.

"I've done a lot of different things," said **Major James C. King**, KC-130 Aircraft Commander for **Due Regard**. "This is the most important I did the Gulf thing and it seemed important at the time, but it was nothing compared to this." King is a member of Marine Aerial Refueling Transport Squadron-152.

In true Marine Corps fashion, the mission came suddenly and the team assembled with less than 48 hours notice.

Sergeant Robert J. Snoddy, Color Sergeant, Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, was notified of the mission and told to muster a Color Guard the morning before departure. None of the Marines knew the specifics of the mission, but showed up at the flight line with gear in hand, ready for anything.

After flying to Kwajalein for a night, the Color Guard boarded the plane in dress uniforms for the two-hour flight to Butaritari which lies south of Kwajalein. When the plane landed, the island's entire population arrived to watch the aircraft come in.

Standing in a group by the thatched

huts and open-air airport, the islanders stared as Marines in full Dress Blues stepped off the plane's ramp, U. S. and Marine Corps Colors flying high in the wind under the blazing sun. As the truck carrying the remains of the Marine Raiders crept toward the KC-130's open ramp, the Color Guard slowly walked ahead. Once it was close to the plane, the four Marines quickly cased the Colors and took up positions as an Honor Guard. While the two rifle bearers presented arms at the foot of the ramp, **Gunnery Sergeant Daniel Joy**, the Staff NCO in Charge of the detail, saluted, **Snoddy** and **Corporal Kenneth G. Lyons Jr.** carried the fallen Raiders aboard the plane.

"There's so much history that happened here," said Lyons. "This is definitely the biggest honor I've had since I've been in the Corps."

On the ground before the ceremony, the Marines had the opportunity to meet the men responsible for the location and recovery of the Makin Island Raiders.

Although the remains were exhumed and identified by JTF Full Accounting personnel from the Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii (CILHI), the most important single link in the recovery was a civilian living on Butaritari.

"Mr. Baramoa was actually part of the

PRESIDENTIAL GREETINGS AVAILABLE

Anniversary and birthday cards from the President go to couples celebrating a 50th anniversary or higher and to individuals 80 or older.

Write at least six weeks ahead of time to the **White House Greetings Office, Room 39, Washington, DC 20502**. Fax your request to (202) 395-1232. Or e-mail to president@whitehouse.gov.

Be sure to give the name and address of the recipient and date of the event.

detail the Japanese put together to collect the dead after the battle," explained Army **Captain Mark Hollingsworth**, the recovery team leader. "We had a team here in June that looked and dug in what we thought were likely places, but they didn't find anything. With his help, we managed to have a lot of success very quickly."

Success isn't a cold matter of numbers and statistics to the men of CILHI, who, according to Hollingsworth, never lose sight of the importance of their mission.

"The mission at CILHI is to go worldwide and collect our brave soldiers who have died so we can take them back for identification and return to their loved ones," he explained.

The recovery team exhumed and packaged the remains after doing preliminary identification in the field. Although their anthropologist was able to discern the information on six sets of dog tags, further work will be done with dental records and DNA samples from next of kin, Hollingsworth said.

Although the work of identifying the 20 Raiders has only just begun, the recovery of the remains and the effort expended to bring them back to American soil was the most important thing to many members of **Due Regard**.

"This let young Marines see the government spares no expense to bring these guys home 57 years after the fact," King said. "It makes them have faith that if something happened to them, the government would do the same."

For some of the members of the Color Guard, just being picked to participate in the ceremony was an honor.

"Of all the Marines who could have come out here, it was my buddies and me from Okinawa who were picked," said rifle bearer for the Color Guard, **Lance Corporal Jonathon E. Rosenberg**, Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group. "This is a big part of Marine Corps history, and it was amazing to be a part of it."

The Okinawa Marines carried their fallen brothers to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, for a formal repatriation ceremony, bringing them back to American soil after 57 years.

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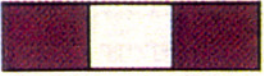
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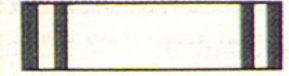
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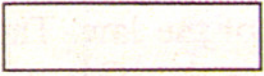
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NATIONAL RECRUITER SILVER



NATIONAL RECRUITER BRONZE



PAST NATIONAL COMMANDANT



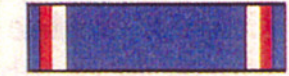
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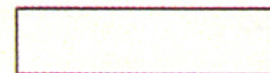
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USMC EMBLEM FOR MOY, NATIONAL DEPARTMENT & DETACHMENT TO BE WORN ON A DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN MEDAL



DEPARTMENT 50TH CA, ILL, PA, WI, MI, VA, MO

Honor Guard Provision in FY 2000 DoD Authorization

WASHINGTON, DC--The House recently passed a Fiscal Year 2000 Defense Authorization Bill that includes a reform of the law governing the provision of an honor guard burial detail for one veteran's family that requests it.

Congressman Bob Stump, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and a senior member of the Committee on Armed Services, said the provision answered a need expressed by the veterans community.

"I'm pleased to see this provision included in the DoD authorization because it accomplishes two things, Stump said. "First, it responds to the shortage of military personnel to staff such honor guards. It also increases the likelihood that an honor guard will be available to the families of veterans who served their country."

The measure requires the military services to provide the honor guard details.

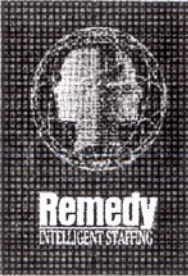
But it allows the Secretary of Defense to suspend the requirement in cases of military necessity. It also reduces the required detail from three persons to two. To further meet the shortage of active duty personnel available for such details, the provision authorizes use of Guard and Reserve troops. It also authorizes the DoD to provide material and equipment to "non-governmental" organizations, such as veterans groups, for support of honor guard activities.

The Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Authorization Act required the Secretary of Defense to convene a conference on ways

to increase and improve the availability of military burial honors for veterans. Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen convened the conference in November 1998 and reported his findings to Congress.

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CAMP LEJEUNE MARINES GET NEW COMBAT MACHINE

by Sgt. Houston F. White Jr.

CAMP LEJEUNE, NC--Christmas came early for the Camp Lejeune Marines attached to Battalion Landing Team 2/6, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, during a ceremony here late last year.

The special occasion commemorated the delivery of the first seven Interim Fast Attack Vehicles (IFAVs) to a Marine unit. The IFAV replaces its early 1980s counterpart, the M-151 Fast Attack Vehicle which previously served as a smaller attack version of the humvee.

In use since 1979, various models of the M-151 have seen successful military service in 15 different North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries. Of major importance to Marine commanders, is the increased offensive power the IFAV offers.

"It gives us an enhanced fighting capability, one that we need in an uncertain and hostile world," commented **BrigGen. Robert M. Flanagan**, Deputy Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Another primary advantage of the

COMMANDANT

(Continued from Page 1)

The current Commandant, Gen. James L. Jones, said Chapman "was a gentleman and a leader, and he epitomized everything it means to be called a 'Marine.' He guided our Corps through turbulent times, demobilization and the ultimate recovery from the Vietnam years.

"His many contributions kept the Marine Corps on the right path and brought us to where we are today."

Chapman saw extensive service in the Pacific with the 1st Marine Division in World War II. He was awarded the Legion of Merit with combat "V" in the battle for Peleliu and a Bronze Star Medal with combat "V" on Okinawa.

After Chapman retired from the Marines, President Nixon appointed him Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery alongside his wife, Emily, and son Leonard III.

Survivors include a second son, Walton, and a granddaughter.

IFAV is its ability to be transported internally by the Marine Corps' "work-horse" aircraft, to include the CH-46 Sea Knight, CH-53 Sea Stallion, and in the future, the V-22 Osprey, said Flanagan.

Other important improvements to the IFAV have made it far superior to the M-151 in most respects, according to **Col. Michael M. Kephart**, Director of the Combat Support and Logistic Equipment Division, Marine Corps Systems Command, Quantico, VA. "The M-151 didn't quite have the mobility, speed or durability to get our Marines into the

Marine Buglers Still Make The Call

Since ancient times, all types of musical instruments have been associated with military traditions. Drums were used to "beat commands" to troops of the Roman Empire. Colonial American militia used British-influenced fifes to communicate on the battlefield. The United States Marine Corps adopted the bugle as its instrument of choice for communication and ceremonial purposes more than a century ago. Marine Corps posts throughout the world still use recorded bugle calls to send messages to Marines, but nowhere is the tradition of the bugle call more preserved than at "The oldest Post of the Corps." Marine Barracks, 8th and I is the only Marine post still using a live bugler, or "duty music," to perform the traditional calls on a daily basis, according to **MSgt. Stephen MacSisak**, USMC (Ret.), a former member of "The Commandant's Own," the United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps, and the current historian for the unit.

The staff at 8th & I, especially the Drum & Bugle Corps, have always tried to preserve music and its tradition at the Barracks, according to MacSisak. "Some things here just seem to resist change," he said. The Marine Corps adopted the bugle as its duty musics' instrument in 1881 and established its first music school at the Barracks. At that time, the Corps began the practice of assigning newly enlisted Marine buglers to the guard of the day at all Marine posts, including barracks and ships. "Back in those days, the top of the classes went to

environments they will need to be in during the 21st century," he said.

The M-151's tendency to roll over in addition to its use of flammable unleaded fuel, made it a safety liability, according to Kephart.

Now run by safer diesel fuel and equipped with greater handling ability, the IFAV appears to be tailor-made for the Marine Corps.

"Any advantage we can give to our Marines is worth it," said Flanagan. The first of seven Interim Fast Attack Vehicles (IFAVs) was delivered to BLT 2/6 last November.

sea and served as orderlies for ships' captains," said MacSisak. "They sounded all the calls aboard the ship and rang the bells."

Buglers at sea and in garrison had their work cut out for them when the Navy standardized the calls for the newly acquired bugle in 1892. "There are 40 calls for the regular posts and about 125 seagoing calls," said MacSisak. "There's a call for everything, really," he said. The modern calls have changed very little though many of the original calls are no longer used on modern posts, according to MacSisak. For instance, the warnings of "Fire Call" and "To Arms" are alarm calls which are no longer the responsibility of buglers because of modern alarms and communications. These signals, like the "Stable Call," have simply become outdated. However, many bugle calls are still as much a part of life in the Marine Corps as ever. "There is a lot of tradition involved with playing bugle calls," said **LCpl. Scott A. Pierce**, a Drum & Bugle Corps soprano bugle player who stands duty as a bugler. "Depending on the day of the week, we play about 11 calls," he said. "The main ones are First Call, Colors, Chow Call, Liberty Call, and Recall daily, and Church Call on Sundays."

"Having a live, duty music on centerwalk is definitely an impressive sight for visitors," said **Sgt. Mark S. Miller**, ceremonial bugler for Marine Barracks, 8th & I. "It upholds the way bugle calls started and the way they were meant to be sounded," he said.

NEW WEBSITE HELPS VETERANS IN JOB MARKET

Veterans in the job market may be interested in a new job site which went "on-line" late last year.

The site is called VetJobs.com (<http://www.vetjobs.com>). This is the first Internet job site that not only meets the needs of transitioning military personnel, but anyone who has ever served in the military, regardless of when they left

DoD Releases Armed Forces Strength Figures

WASHINGTON--The total numerical strength of the Armed Forces on Oct. 31, 1999, was 1,377,753. This is a decrease of 7,950 from Sept. 30, 1999, and a decrease of 18,677 from Oct. 31, 1998.

These figures represent full-time military personnel comprising both regulars and reserves on active duty and officer candidates, including cadets at the three military academies.

Excluded from these figures are approximately 65,000 full-time military personnel who are paid from other than active duty military personnel appropriations. This group is funded from appropriations for reserve components and Corps of Engineers civil functions. A comparable figure for Fiscal Year 1999 was also 65,000 military personnel.

October 1999 strength figures for each Service with comparison figures are:

a=10/31/99 Strength
b=10/31/98 Strength
c=Total Change
d=Change percentage

Total DoD/Service

a=1,377,753
b=1,385,703
c=(-7,950)

Marine Swaps Blues for Whites

The Marine Corps' recently retired Head of Logistics may not wear his Dress Blues anymore, but he's still in uniform.

Retired **Major General Joseph Stewart**, formerly the Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics, became the 9th Superintendent of the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy recently, according to an Academy news release.

Stewart, a 1964 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, accepted a commission as a Rear Admiral in the U. S. Maritime

their respective service.

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d=(-.57)

Army

a=474,903
b=479,426
c=(-4,523)
d=(-.94)

Navy

a=370,985
b=373,046
c=(-2,061)
d=(-.55)

Marine Corps

a=172,812
b=172,641
c=171
d=.10

Air Force

a=359,053
b=360,590
c=(-1,537)
d=(-.43)

The active duty personnel strength data provided does not include Selected Reserve strength ordered to active duty by the President under Title 10, United States Code 12304.

Service as part of his appointment as Superintendent, according to Academy officials.

He relieved **Rear Admiral Thomas T. Matteson**, a former Coast Guard flag officer.

The Merchant Marine Academy is a federal academy with about 950 midshipmen trained for careers aboard U. S. merchant ships, ashore in the transportation industry and as officers in the Armed Forces.

veterans by military friendly companies.

VetJobs.com invites veterans to visit the site and post their resumes. There are NO CHARGES to the veteran for using this site. All fees are paid by the employers who post the jobs. VetJobs.com is not a recruiting firm, but rather an Internet company for veterans owned and operated by veterans.

VetJobs.com was established from three years of Internet research on job and resume sites. This research indicated there was a gap in sites which assisted recruiters in identifying not only transitioning military, but also highly qualified veterans who have separated over the decades and are now productive members of the civilian work force in all disciplines.

VetJobs.com is for ALL personnel who at one time or another served in one of the military branches of the United States.

The founders of VetJobs.com are veterans themselves who have made successful transitions from the military. The site is quickly becoming the benchmark against which all job sites will be measured.

"Please tell your friends about this new site for veterans," says VetJobs.com President Ted Daywalt. "We look forward to assisting you in your job efforts."

Marine Corps Gazette Seeking New Editor

QUANTICO, VA--The President of the Board of Governors of the Marine Corps Association, **Gen. Terrence R. Dake**, has announced that **Col. John E. Greenwood**, USMC (Ret.), Editor of the *Marine Corps Gazette* since January 1980, plans to retire this year.

Applicants with a strong background of active of reserve Marine Corps service and with editing and journalism experience are sought. Starting salary is open with vacation, insurance, and pension benefits.

Persons interested in applying for the position of Editor of the *Gazette* are requested to forward a cover letter and resume to: **MajGen. Leslie M. Palm**, USMC (Ret.), Executive Director, Marine Corps Association, Box 1775, Quantico, VA 22134.

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