



# LISTEN UP!

Central Bucks Detachment  
P.O. Box 1372  
Doylestown, PA 18901

Meets 7:30 P.M. 2nd Wednesday of Month  
American Legion Post 210  
315 North Street  
Doylestown, Pa.

"ONCE A MARINE - ALWAYS A MARINE"  
COMMANDANT - BUDD PEARCE

EDITOR - BOB SCHAFFER

VOL. 9 NO. 3

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1996

## MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY DETACHMENT MEETING

The regular Detachment meeting was held on Wednesday, February 14, 1996 (1930) at the American Legion Home, on North Street, in Doylestown, Pa.

Sixteen members were present including all officers except the Jr. Vice.

Past Commandants Frank Yohe, Don Parzanese and Bill Plant were recognized.

### MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve for January since that meeting was canceled due to the "snowstorm of the century" that closed down many meetings and events.

### PAYMASTER REPORT

The Paymaster's report from December was accepted as presented.

### SICK BAY

Detachment member and State Newsletter Editor **Don Gee** was reported being treated at the Doylestown Hospital for Diverticulitis, however, he expects to be discharged in a few days.

### CORRESPONDENCE

A "Thank You" card was received from Bill Rosenberger's wife thanking the Detachment for their participation in Bill's funeral ceremonies.

A letter from State Commandant, Dave Pavey reminding the Detachments that Khaki shirts are not to be considered as part of the Marine Corps League uniform.

### SR. VICE - Bill Rosenberger

Bill also wished to thank the Detachment members for their help during his family's recent loss of his father.

Membership as of this date: 40 Regular; 14 Life; 8 Associate and 11 Unpaid.

### JR. VICE

All tickets for the annual State Car Raffle have been distributed to the membership and everyone is urged to sell as many as possible since the Detachment is able to keep forty cents from each dollar ticket. This can add up to a nice little sum of money for the Detachment treasury

### ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The next highway clean up will be sometime in April, possibly the 13th. An exact date will be verified at a later meeting.

## REGISTER RECEIPTS

Along with Genuardi's tapes the Detachment is now able to redeem register receipts from Redners Markets. They can both be turned into Jim Marckstein and he will do the rest.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Don Parzanese presented the nominating committee's slate of candidates for the upcoming elections. They are as follows:

COMMANDANT	*	Ellis "Budd" Pearce III. Don H. Gee
SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT	*	William C.H. Rosenberger III
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT	*	Gary J. Smith Ernesto L. Ortiz
JUDGE ADVOCATE		James Marckstein Donald D. Parzanese, Sr.
PAYMASTER		Robert J. Cody
ADJUTANT	*	Raymond R. Krout

\*Denotes incumbent

Nominating Committee: Don Parzanese, Sr. and Mike Waldron

### POW/MIA

There has been a group in Washington, D.C. that has been selling "T" Shirts, Stamps and other items supposedly for the benefit of the POW/MIA . They have been arrested several times, have been in jail, and apparently are conducting a fraudulent business. Buyers beware!!!!

### GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

Paul Caprio said that they only received four responses to the questionnaire concerning the forming of a Ladies Auxiliary. They will try once again, however if the interest isn't forthcoming then the idea will be put on the shelf until a future time.

A Flea Market is in the planning stages for this spring or early summer . The committee chairman is Paul Caprio and he is going to need help from everyone to make this venture a success both financially and to establish if this would be a worthwhile annual event. He would like to hear from the members as to whether they have items that could be donated to the Detachment which would then be sold from our own table at the Flea Market and the profits would all belong to the Detachment.

In addition, tables would be rented for a fee of ten dollars to anyone who wanted them and they could sell whatever items they wished to bring.

The Flea Market would run both Saturday and Sunday (8 to 5 ) if the response indicates the desire to do so. Some trucks will be needed along with posters and suitable advertising. Paul would like to hear some input from the members with all ideas gratefully received. There is still time to put this together and make it a great event. You can contact Paul at (674-4111.)



From The Desk **COMMANDANT - BUDD PEARCE**  
Central Bucks Detachment, Marine Corps League

Marines,

I am sorry to report that John C. Hazen, father of our member Joe Hazen, passed away on 19 February. His funeral service was held at the Van Horn Funeral Home in Lambertville, NJ on Friday the 23rd. I was able to get the time from work so that I was able to attend. Member Larry Scheetz was also present. My relationship to Joe Hazen and his father goes back to 1981. It was that year that I went to work for the Lambertville Beacon. The Beacon was the local newspaper and John Hazen was the owner at that time. This was the type of man who always told you the truth, even if that might not be what you wanted to hear. He was a man who always had a nice thing to say to you whenever, and wherever you happened to meet. I always liked, and greatly respected, Mr. Hazen and I will miss seeing him when I go through Lambertville. I am sure that I can speak for the entire Detachment when I wish Joe, and all the Hazen family, our deepest sympathies.

The February meeting brought with it the nominations for officers by the nominating committee. A complete list appears elsewhere in this newsletter, so I won't name all the names here. I wish to thank the nominating committee for nominating me for a fourth term as your Commandant. I am greatly honored by this and will serve willingly, and happily, if re-elected. I hope to see each and every one of you at the 13 March meeting. This meeting is the elections, so please make every effort to attend!!! As Marines we were always there to do our duty for our Country and our Corps, now the Detachment calls on you to do your duty again and VOTE for the officers you wish to lead this Detachment through the coming year. I have spoken to Dept. of PA Commandant Dave Pavey about performing the installation of officers this year. Commandant Pavey told me that he would be honored to do the installations. He will be at our meeting on the night of 10 April along with another Dept. officer, or so.

We have a few things to go over at this next meeting, other than the elections. We have a planned fund raiser coming up and we will have that report from Paul Caprio. The quarterly meeting will be held on 23 March and I would like to hear any ideas that you wish me to bring up at the Commandant's Council. The Detachment has been asked by the American Legion in Landsdale to participate in their Memorial Day Parade. This parade will be held on Sat. 25 May. We were asked because they thought very highly of us at William Rosenberger's funeral. I informed them that I could not make that decision without consulting the Detachment, but that I would notify them as soon as possible. Full details on this parade will be discussed at the March meeting, as well as plans for the decorating of our float for the Doylestown parade. As you can see we need you to be at this meeting, as there is a bunch of business going on right now and you are a very important part of this Detachment! PLEASE BE THERE!!!

That will do it for this month, other than to say that I hope all of our members, and their families, are doing well. Come to the meetings...Bring a Marine!

Semper Fi,

Commandant

On April 27 , Bill Plant will be doing some Chain Saw Carving at Woodcrafters to help promote his own Chain Saw Carving Competition which is in late May. More on that, later.

Mike Waldron submitted several suggestions concerning the Marine Corps Ball foe 1996. On choice would be to get together without the dinner. Another choice would include dinner. Members can think about this one however the general consensus seemed to favor the dinner with all the trimmings. Lets hear from the members since this is the big event of the year for the Detachment.

### DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

March 22-23.....Third Quarter Staff Meeting at the Embers Convention Center in Carlisle, Pa.

May 3-4.....Annual Leadership School at the Embers in Carlisle, Pa.

June 1-2.....Pistol Match at Indiantown Gap. Practice for the Detachment starts in April

June 26-30.....Department of Pennsylvania State Convention at the Valley Forge Hilton, in King of Prussia, Pa.

Oct. 14-15.....State Rifle Matches at Indiantown Gap, Pa.

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**THE NEXT REGULAR DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE 13MARCH96(1930) AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HOME ON NORTH STREET IN DOYLESTOWN, PA..**

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## MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUIZ



1. Which Marine fighter squadron has the nickname "Black Sheep?"
2. Who was the first Marine ever accused of espionage?
3. When the Marines landed in the Bahamas in 1776, which colors were raised when they came ashore?
4. What WWI Marine hero was nicknamed "Old Gimlet Eye?"
5. How many Marine parachute battalions were formed during WWII?

**Answers in Next Month's Newsletter**

### ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. Sergeant John "Manila John" Basilone was the first enlisted Marine to win the Medal of Honor during WWII.
2. The first Marine Corps amphibious assault was commanded by Captain Samuel Nicholas.
3. The 9th Marines first encountered V-C guerillas at the DaNang Air Base.
4. The first Marine Commandant to be court-martialed and later acquitted was Lieutenant Colonel Franklin Wharton.
5. The Marines used Hotchkiss machineguns in Belleau Wood, France, during WWI.

# Joseph H. Pendleton

house in Coronado near the harbor and became active in the civic affairs of the city. He served as mayor of Coronado from 1928-1930.

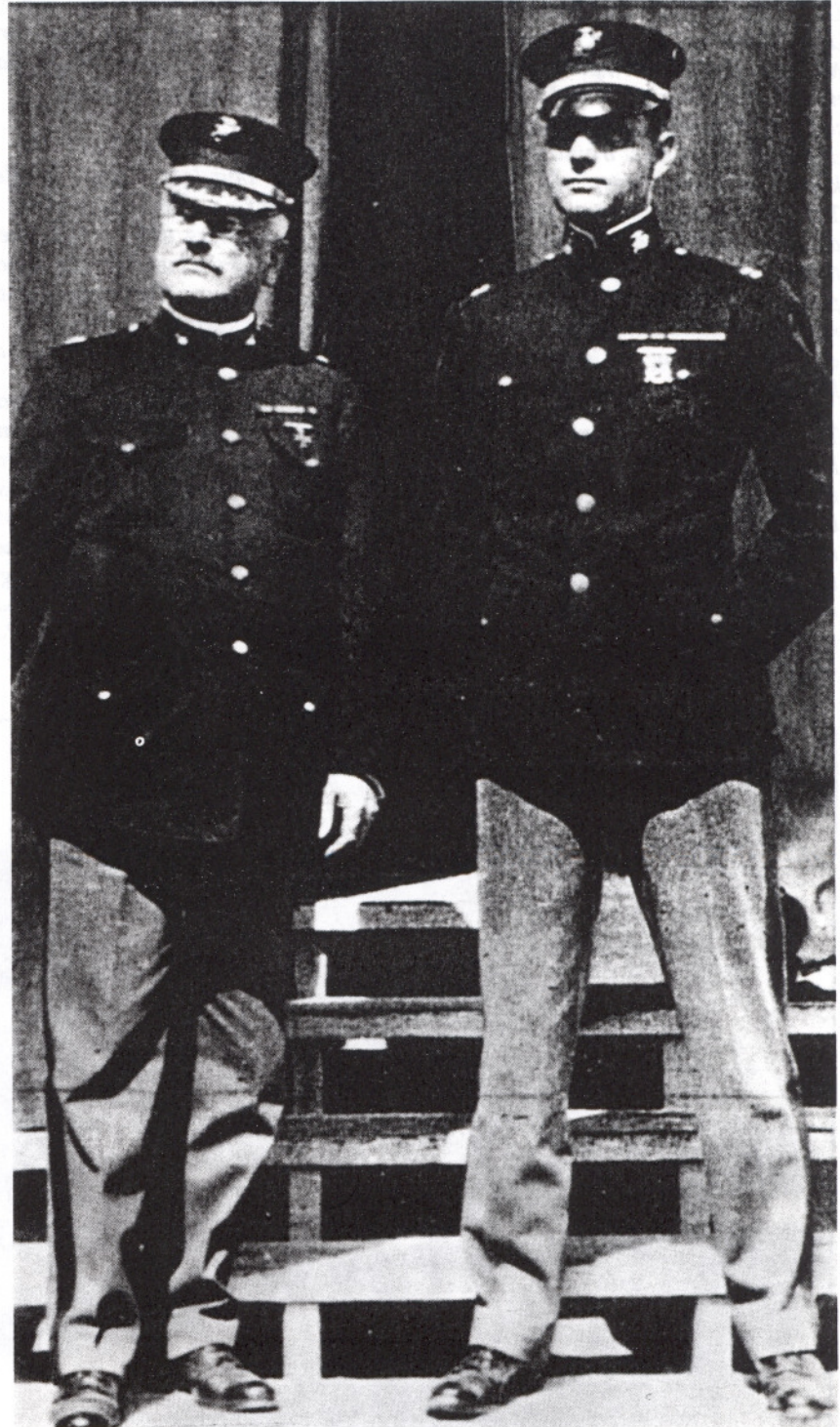
Married to the former Mary Helen Fay, he died in San Diego at the age of 81.

Following the purchase of the vast rancho, the new west coast Marine Corps training base would be named Camp Joseph H. Pendleton, in honor of MGen. Joseph Henry Pendleton, who had pioneered Marine Corps activities in the San Diego area during his 46 years of distinguished service from 1878 to 1924.

Born in Rochester, Penn., on June 2, 1860, "Uncle Joe" Pendleton, as he would later be known, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps on July 1, 1884.

Pendleton's service included duty in the jungles of Nicaragua, Santa Domingo, Guam, and the Philippines, in addition to several stateside and shipboard tours. In 1914, the 4th Regiment was reactivated and Pendleton was ordered to organize and command this expeditionary force. Pendleton and his regiment served on board the USS South Dakota and Jupiter, when it withdrew to land at Camp Howard, North Island, San Diego on July 10, 1914.

With the arrival of Pendleton's regiment in San Diego, his love affair with the area began. He immediately recognized the value of San Diego with its good weather and harbor as an ideal choice for the Marine Corps' Advance Base Force to be stationed on the west coast. Pendleton openly advocated a major Marine Corps installation in San Diego from his first stay on North Island until after his retirement 10 years later. Between July 1914 and June 1916, Pendleton and his regiment improved facilities at North Island while the Marines made a favorable impression on the San Diego community. Meanwhile, visits of high-ranking dignitaries to various expositions during this period helped to win government approval for a large Marine base at San Diego. Pendleton himself bought a



Then-Col Pendleton (left) with then-Capt C.H. Lyman in 1915.

# Camp Pendleton

*Under the command of future Commandant, Colonel Lemuel Sheppard, 9th Marines had just completed a four-day march from Camp Elliott in San Diego to be the first troops to occupy the newly acquired West Coast training base, later known as Camp Joseph H. Pendleton. The time was September 1942, building activity aboard the new base was continuing at a frenzied pace to transform a peaceful cattle ranch into a fast-paced military installation capable of training and transporting a large number of Marines to the Pacific.*

*Throughout the war years, thousands of Marines and three divisions passed through the camp on their way to the bloody battles in the Pacific, living in rapidly constructed tent camps throughout the sprawling hills. Training areas were constructed to provide realistic preparation for combat. Pillboxes were built exactly like those found in the Pacific.*

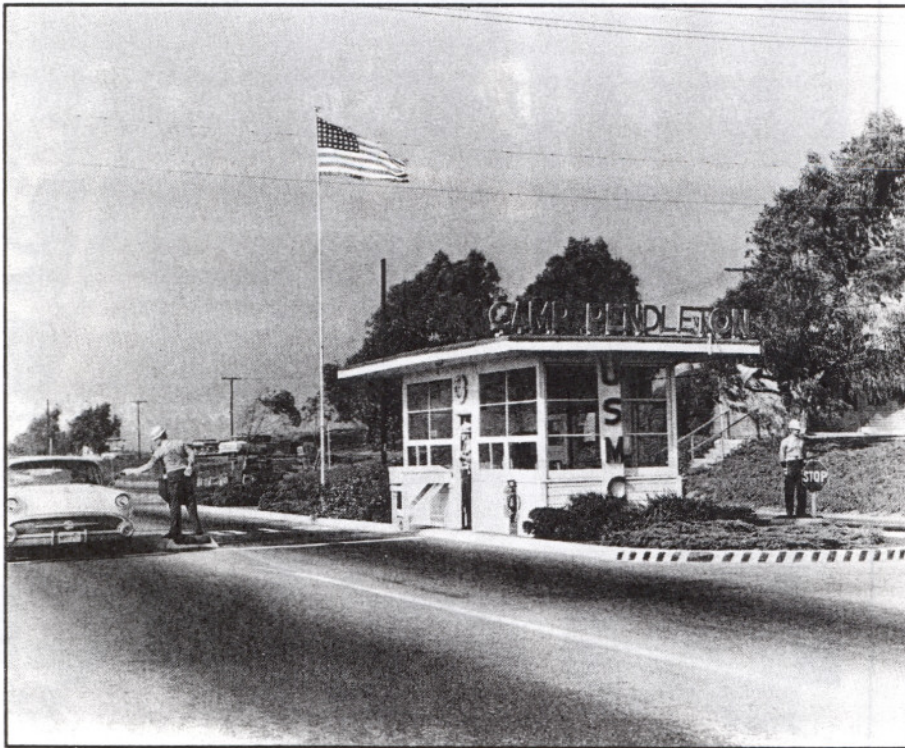
*Also during these early days, one of the famed Raider Battalions was formed and trained here under LtCol James Roosevelt, son of the President.*

*Combat Marines were not the only people to populate Camp Pendleton. Women Marine reservists arrived here in 1943 and were able to keep the administration of the base running smoothly. The Ranch House Chapel was restored and opened primarily for their use. Wars inevitably produce heroes, and*

*Camp Pendleton eagerly recognized one of its own. Basilone Road, familiar landmark on the base, was named for Sergeant John Basilone who was the first enlisted Marine to wear the Medal of Honor in WWII which he earned at Guadalcanal in 1943. Following the war, Camp Pendleton was inundated with troops returning from the Pacific and the deserted tent camps were once*

*again bursting with activity. Working overtime, the Redistribution Regiment was able to discharge about 200 Marines a day, and before leaving, each man was issued a discharge emblem to be sewn on his uniform as a badge of honor!*

*Camp Pendleton was declared a "permanent" installation in October 1944, and in 1946 General Vandegrift stated that the base's future role was to be the center of all West Coast Marine activities and the home of the 1st Marine Division, the peacetime strength of which would be 12,500. It was during this period of peacetime that MGen Graves Erskine, commander of the base known then as Marine Barracks, Camp Pendleton, was determined to develop the base into "the finest Marine post in the world." Tent camps were torn down and quonsets put in their place, 17 area barracks were renovated into officers' quarters, a \$130,000 Spanish beach club was opened at San Onofre and a commissary opened in 1948. The base library opened in 1950 in a small frame building across from division headquarters where it remains today. During the war, Pendleton became "Hollywood South." Movies were filmed on the base where morale was boosted by watching Hollywood Marines vanquish Hollywood Japanese! Following the war, movie makers continued to seek out Pendleton's brown hills for movies such as "Battle Cry," "Sands of Iwo Jima," "The Flying Leathernecks," and in later years "Retreat Hell" and "Heartbreak Ridge." Relations with surrounding communities have not always been cordial. In 1947 MGen Erskine was embroiled in a bitter dispute with the Oceanside School District over his right to operate a separate school for the children of Marines. The "Little Red Schoolhouse" was built in the 17 area and operated for two years until finally turned over to Oceanside in 1950. Water was at the root of another controversy that resulted on a long and complicated legal battle involving Camp Pendleton and Fallbrook area residents who felt entitled to use the water from the Santa Margarita River, flowing through the base. The water rights trial became the longest trial in history, ending 17 years later in a compromise allowing Fallbrook water district and Camp Pendleton to each construct a dam in*



*This is how the Main Gate looked in the mid-1950s.*



order to obtain the share which they were allotted. However, the case is not yet closed as Camp Pendleton is currently undergoing a reevaluation of its water requirements, postponing any dam construction until completion of the survey.

Peacetime activities came to an abrupt halt in 1950 with the outbreak of the Korean War. Reservists crowded into Camp Pendleton, headed for the front, faster than the base could process them. Throughout the war years replacements were hurriedly trained and sent to the Far East. The training, however hurried, was tough and realistic. A combat town was constructed to simulate a North Korean village where troops were exposed to as much realism as possible. Cold weather training was moved from nearby Idylwild to Pickel Meadows in the high Sierras because Idylwild wasn't tough enough. Cold weather training was definitely survival training for those soon to be sent to Korea. Camp Pendleton's role as a Training and Replacement Command was reflected in the nearly 200,000 Marines that passed through the base on their way to the Far East.

Those same hills and valleys beckoned to Camp Pendleton's civilian neighbors who wanted pieces of the base for their own use. Leases were granted for a California State Beach and for a nuclear power plant at the northern edge of the base, but developers eyeing the land for an airstrip and for private housing were forced to look elsewhere. At one point the city of Oceanside even attempted to annex the base to become part of their city's tax base. The purpose for Camp Pendleton's existence had not changed; it was first and foremost a training base, continuing to mold young men and women into the country's finest fighting force.

The Vietnam years again saw a buildup of men and machine bound for Indochina. The movement of the 1st Marine Division to the Far East occurred more gradually than in Korea or WWII. Replacements were rotated in and out of combat zones through Stag Bay Battalion, which took a Marine arriving at the Camp and gave him 15 intensive training days before sending him to Vietnam. The Korea combat vil-

lage became a Vietnamese jungle village, complete with deadly booby traps. The combat environment and training methods had changed over the years, but the purpose remained constant--train Marines to fight and get them to the battle.

Unlike their WWII counterparts, Marines discharged following the Vietnamese conflict did not receive badges of honor, but could still hold their heads high, as they had fought bravely and honorably in the highest Marine Corps tradition. And Camp Pendleton continued its proud tradition of training top-quality Marines and maintaining its combat readiness while it prepares itself to face the 21st century.

The Corps broadened its mission capabilities during the 1980s as "amphibious" became "expeditionary." Marines combined infantry, armor, supply and air power according to the task at hand, then demonstrated the effectiveness of the air-ground team in Grenada, Panama and the Persian Gulf. The rapid projection of self-sustaining military power was clearly shown when Camp Pendleton forces and their equipment were deployed halfway around the globe in just days. Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm are just the latest in a 217-year history of unequalled national service, and it was the training here at Camp Pendleton that made those successes possible.



Cold weather training at Pickel Meadows.



Marine Corps Exchange in early '50s.

## At the Corps

# Author knows rigors of war

By Chris Lawson  
Times staff writer

WASHINGTON — Most heroes, the adage goes, are not supermen. They're simply ordinary people with extraordinary drive, resilience and determination.

Former Sgt. Maj. Maurice J. Jacques, a 30-year Marine who retired in 1978 after serving everywhere from Guam to Korea to Vietnam to the drill field, was just such a hero.

The life and times of this up from the boot straps, blood and guts warrior are profiled in a new paperback book titled *Sergeant Major, U.S. Marines*, penned by well-known Marine Corps historian and author retired Maj. Bruce H. "Doc" Norton of *Force Recon Diary* fame.

"In a day and age when role models are sports legends who evade taxes, beat their wives, are multiple drug users, or who color their hair differently for each game, a lot could be said for true role models like Sgt. Maj. Jacques," Norton told *Navy Times*.

In the book, Norton traces Jacques' beginnings in Lawrence, Mass., and follows him all the way from boot camp in 1948 and his first assignment in Guam to his retirement in 1978 as sergeant major of the First Marine Regiment. Along the way, Norton and Jacques tell what it means to pin on that next chevron and strap on the responsibility that goes with it. There are also many sea stories that both men hope will entertain and enlighten fellow Marines.

"This is a story about a successful combat Marine who spent 30 years serving his country and Corps," Norton said. "He's not a Navy Cross winner, just someone who had 30 years of professional service."

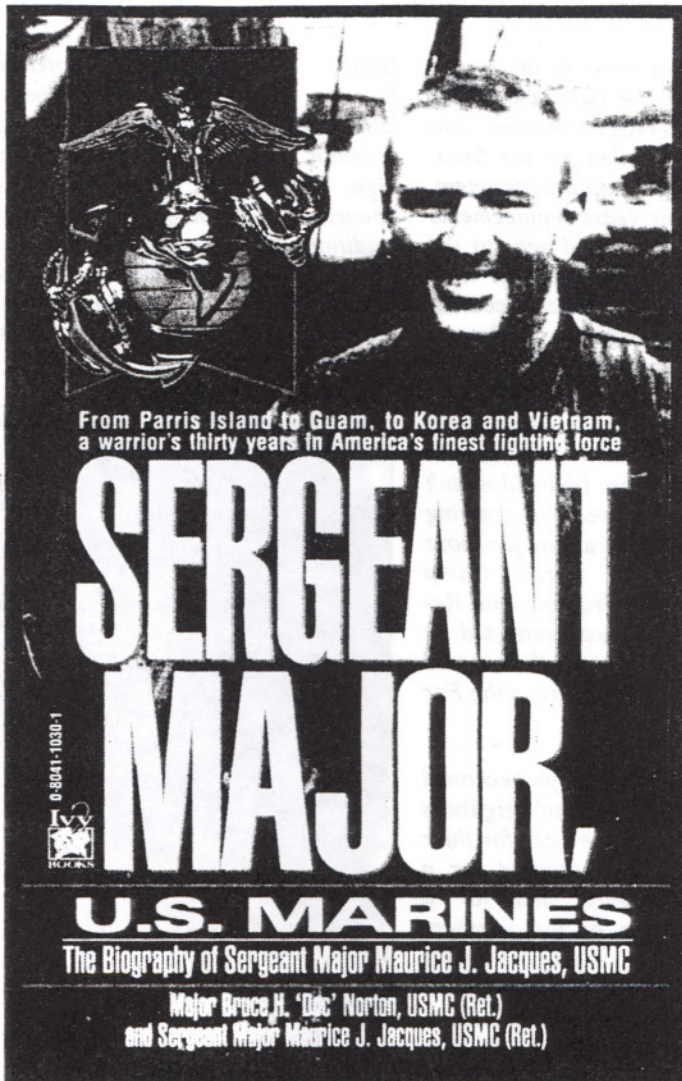
While not a household name, Jacques does have a place in the Corps' history books. A reconnaissance Marine by trade, he was among the Marines who made the Corps' first combat parachute jump, and his battles in Vietnam helped rewrite force reconnaissance doctrine and tactics forever. He's survived being shot through the throat while evading capture after a patrol he was leading was ambushed. He has the Bronze Stars and Purple Hearts to prove it.

Young and old Marines alike — but especially younger ones with a yen for "Old Corps" stories — will revel in the stories.

There's the battle for Nevada Cities in Korea:

*"By 2200 hours, my squad had been decimated from incoming artillery, mortar, and small-arms fire. . . . Miraculously, only Fry and myself had escaped being hit. . . . We were caught in the middle of no-man's land crisscrossed with enemy machine-gun fire, able to stay alive only by killing the approaching Chinese soldiers silhouetted by the light of the flares."*

And the battle of Ba To in Vietnam:  
*"As the darkness of the evening be-*



**Sharing experience:** The life and times of retired Sgt. Maj. Maurice J. Jacques are shared in his book *Sergeant Major, U.S. Marines* just released in paperback.

*gan to cover the hilltop, squads of well-camouflaged North Vietnamese soldiers began to silently slither through the elephant grass and onto the two fingers, intent on killing all of the defenders on the tiny hill above them."*

And the less than glorious time when Jacques and his fellow boot Marines spent their first cruise on an amphibious ship.

*"Within a very short period of time, our ship, which we had found spotless when we boarded, became a bucket of vomit."*

Jacques has the experience that most Marines only dream about and knows of what he speaks. Having been in combat almost six years, he also attended some of the Corps' most rigorous and demanding professional schools.

Norton contacted Jacques, who lives in Oceanside with his wife Nobuko, more than two years ago with the idea for the book. Although Jacques told *Navy Times* he was hesitant at first, Norton convinced him that all Marines could learn from his life.

"I usually like to keep stories to myself," he said. "But, mainly what we tried to get into was to give today's Marines a little history lesson and esprit de corps."

Joining the Corps shortly after the end of WWII, Jacques said he could have had no better teachers than the Marines who fought the Pacific campaigns.

"In my case, I was trained by some of the best," he said. "They were all World War II veterans. They were my leaders when I first came in. They taught me well."

Photo courtesy of Bruce Norton



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Central Bucks Detachment  
Marine Corps League  
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Doylestown, PA 18901



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
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(Date)

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Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement \_\_\_\_\_ SSN# \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Application — New ( ) Renewal ( ) Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I hereby apply for membership in the Central Bucks Detachment, Marine Corps League and enclose \$ 30.00 for one year's membership.\*

\*Includes \$2.00 subscription to MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAGAZINE

I hereby certify that I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, that 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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's signature)

Upon completion, turn into your Detachment sponsor with required payment.