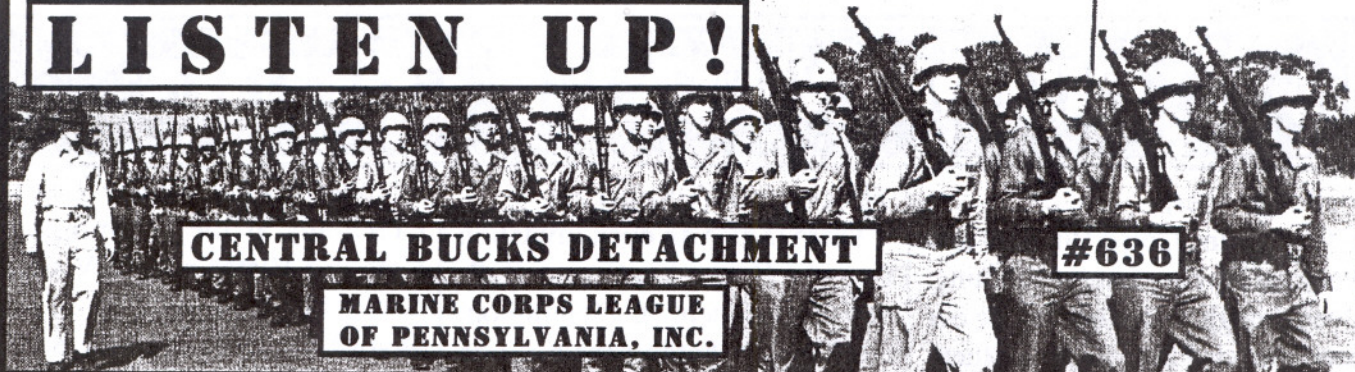


LISTEN UP!



VOLUME XX, Number 11

NOVEMBER 2007

Commandant: JAMES POWELL

Editor: DON H. GEE



10 NOVEMBER 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

Since the birth of our Nation, our liberty has been purchased by valiant men and women of deep conviction, great courage, and bold action; the cost has often been in blood and tremendous sacrifice. As America's sentinels of freedom, United States Marines are counted among the finest legions in the chronicles of war. Since 1775, Marines have marched boldly to the sounds of the guns and have fought fiercely and honorably to defeat the scourge of tyranny and terror. We are Marines—that is what we do.

In the words of President John F. Kennedy: "In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger." Magnificent heroes fought in the wheat fields of Belleau Wood, in the snows of the Chosin, and on the streets of Hue City. Your generation bears this obligation now, and it is borne on mighty and capable shoulders. Just like the Marines at Belleau Wood—we are once again engaged in sustained operations ashore. Just like at Belleau Wood—the Marines have been given the toughest sector and have prevailed over a resilient and determined enemy—who has made us pay for our gains. Once again, as in any struggle, the road ahead is far from certain, but as Marines, we are not dissuaded by the challenges of war or the tough conditions of a warrior's life. Indeed, we don't just accept our destiny—we shape it.

On our 232nd birthday, to every Marine—those still in uniform and those who have served honorably in the past—be proud of who you are and what you do. Know that your citizenship dues have been paid in full; you are part of this Nation's elite warrior class. Cherish our families who offer marvelous support, abiding resolve, and steadfast patience. Remember those who have served and those who have fallen—their names are chiseled on the roll call of America's heroes. Those who have carried the battle colors of our Corps have forged our heritage, and today's generation of leathernecks chart our future. Carry the colors with pride; carry them with honor.

Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

James T. Conway
General, U.S. Marine Corps

LAW FIRM WILL CONSIDER ACTION AGAINST MURTHA

A Christian law firm hopes that once its client is cleared of charges in connection with the so-called "Haditha Massacre," it will consider legal action against one of the men responsible for the accusations: **Pennsylvania Congressman John Murtha.**

The Michigan-based Thomas More Law Center is representing **LtCol. Jeffrey Chessani, USMC**, who has been charged with not fully investigating the events at Haditha, Iraq, and failing to report a Law of War violation, in the aftermath of the Nov. 19, 2005, incident that led to the death of 24 Iraqi civilians. Spokespersons for the legal group hope the convening officer in the investigation will throw out the charges as he already has for two of the six other men charged in the case. Chessani is the highest ranking officer charged in the case.

Congressman Murtha, a prominent war critic, last year accused U.S. Marines of shooting and killing unarmed civilians near the scene of an attack on a military convoy, then going into two homes and shooting others. According to **Brian Rooney** with the Law Center, **SSgt. Frank Wuterich** -- one of the other defen-

Please turn to **MURTHA**, Page 4



COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Hello Marines,

The Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day are fast approaching. Even though we are not having our own Birthday Ball this year, there are options if you want to attend one. The Montgomery County Detachment is having their birthday ball on Nov. 10 and have invited anyone interested to attend.



**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
DON H. GEE, PC

Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
ELLIS M. (BUDD) PEARCE III, PC

ADJUTANT
GARY SMITH

PAYMASTER
WILLIAM L. MICKELSON

JUDGE ADVOCATE
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EDWARD W. HOTH, PDC

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
BOB SUNDLING, PC

MESS SERGEANT
WIL HAAS

WEBMASTER
JAMES E. PEARCE

The cost is \$45 per person.

There is also an open invitation from the Hunterdon County Bulldog Detachment in Flemington, NJ. They are holding their ball on Saturday, Nov. 3 at 1800. The cost is \$45 per person or \$85 per couple. You can contact **Dick Brandt** at (908) 432-4390. And, finally, Marine Corps League National is having their 2nd Annual Birthday Ball at the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church, VA, on Nov. 10. You can get the information off of the National Marine Corps League website.

There are also several Veterans Day events that can be attended. The Township of Lower Makefield is having their 1st Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 11 at 1 p.m.. Then, the Guardians of the National Veterans Cemetery is sponsoring the Veterans Day Commemoration at the site of the National Veterans Cemetery. The site is at Dolington, Upper Makefield Township, and it will start at 2 p. m. on Nov. 11. And then, U. S. Representative Patrick Murphy

is sponsoring a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Washington's Crossing Historic Park Visitors Center at 4 p.m. on Nov. 11. If anyone has interest and needs more information please contact me at 215-801-0432 or our **Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee** at 215-822-6898.

Don't forget the groundbreaking for the Community Service & Veterans Memorial at 2 p.m. at Triangle Park at the southern entrance to Doylestown Township on Route 611 across from Tabor Home. Since a member of our Detachment was the initiator of the effort to erect a memorial to Doylestown's only Medal of Honor recipient, we should have members attending.

Remember at our next meeting on Nov. 14, we will be entertaining our Liberty Young Marines with a Cake Cutting Ceremony. Please wear your Red Blazer Uniform. Hope to see you there.

Semper Fi,

ONLY 4 ISSUES LEFT

LISTEN UP! Seeks Editor

Someone familiar with desktop publishing is needed to edit our Detachment newsletter. If you're interested in serving your Detachment as its P-R Officer, contact **Commandant Jim Powell** (215-862-6280) or **Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee** (215-822-6898).

OCTOBER DETACHMENT MEETING



M I N U T E S

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held October 10, 2007, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 23 members present including all officers except the Paymaster and Quartermaster. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Budd Pearce, and Bob Sundling**; **Past Commandant & Assistant Southeast Division Vice Commandant Bill Miller**; and **Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth**.

Sick Call: **Past Commandant Don Parzanese Sr.** had another heart attack and is scheduled to receive a pacemaker.

The **Minutes** of the September Meeting were unanimously accepted by the members.

The **Paymaster's Report** was presented by **Acting Paymaster Bill Mickelson**. The report was unanimously accepted.

New Members: **Marines Ben Jones** of Newtown and **Bruce Keller** of Easton were unanimously accepted for regular membership.

Commandant Jim Powell reported on Birthday Balls which other Detachments and organizations are hosting to celebrate the 232nd Anniversary of the Birth of the Marine Corps. He also reported discrepancies in the application for Gerhard (Jerry) Smith who attended last month's meeting and claimed to be a retired Major and a holder of the Silver Star. Smith did not attend this month's meeting.

Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee, PC, reported the Detachment strength at 53 including 22 Life Members, 26 Regular Members, 4 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member.

Junior Vice Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, reported the Detachment will be hosting the Liberty Young Marines at the November Meeting.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had received no communications from either the National or Department organizations.

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

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

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported the Detachment had provided a Color Guard for Nockamixon Days on Sept 22. No new requests for the Color Guard have been received since the last meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUNG MARINES--Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling reported the Young Marines reported on the unit's trip to Gettysburg.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY--Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce set Saturday, Sept. 13 as the date for the quarterly highway clean-up.

PUBLIC RELATIONS--The P-R Officer reported the Detachment had manned a booth at Nockamixon Days on Sept. 22. He set Oct. 20 as the deadline for submitting materials for the November issue of *Listen Up!*

MARINE OF THE YEAR--Marine of the Year Committee Chairman Budd Pearce announced the Committee would meet immediately following the Detachment Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The Hatboro Chamber of Commerce is seeking "stick flag" donations for its holiday parade.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The "Community Service & Veterans Memorial" will hood a groundbreaking ceremony at 2 p.m. on Nov. 9 at Triangle Park at the southern entrance to the township on Rt. 611 at Sauerman Rd. (across from Tabor Home). Members are invited to attend the ceremony. The Detachment had donated a paver honoring Doylestown's only Medal of Honor recipient.

The Plumstead Christian School will honor veterans on Nov. 10 at 8:45 a.m.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

The Montgomeryville Detachment will host a Birthday Ball at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 10. Cost is \$45 per person.

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

GROUNDBREAKING SET FOR MEMORIAL

A groundbreaking ceremony for the long-awaited Doylestown Township "Community Service & Veterans Memorial" is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 9. All Central Bucks Detachment members are invited to attend. **Uniform: Short-Sleeve Shirts with MCL ribbons or USMC ribbons & badges.**

Representatives of other local veterans organizations, politicians, and community and civic leaders will assemble at Triangle Park (Rt. 611 & Sauerman Rd.) at the southern entrance to the township to break ground at the site of the memorial which will be dedicated this spring.

The Community Service & Veterans Memorial project grew from a request by a veteran to erect a monument to Doylestown's only Medal of Honor recipient. The Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors directed **Supervisor E. Thomas Scarborough** to work with the veteran and devise a plan for a memorial that would honor not only those

who fought in wars but all those whose service to the community have helped make it a better place to live.

Supervisor Scarborough contacted nationally known Bucks County sculptor and former Marine **Ashby Saunders** who agreed to join the effort and began designing the unique memorial. A committee of dedicated citizens from Doylestown and the surrounding communities was formed and the members immediately began soliciting funds for the project through the sale of bricks and pavers. Additional contributions and support came from local businesses and organizations. Larger donations for flagpoles and benches were sought and a "Friends of Doylestown" category was added late in 2006.

Originally to be located atop a hill overlooking the Kid's Castle in Doylestown Township's Central Park and at an estimated cost of nearly \$300,000, the monument site was moved to a place in the park

nearer to Wells Road. The move reduced the cost to about \$100,000. With the final relocation to Triangle Park, the cost was further reduced to approximately \$50,000 and became much more visible to the many people driving into and leaving the township and is accessible 24 hours a day year-round.

The memorial is a three-sided monument containing the faces of a variety of unnamed citizens--veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present including police officers, firefighters, doctors, nurses, teachers, caregivers, volunteers, and others. Faces, donned with appropriate headwear and other symbols which depict their affiliation protrude from each side. The monument, cast in bronze, is eight feet high and each side is four feet wide. Its landscaped setting will include various shrubbery, granite benches, flagpoles representing each of the Armed Services, and bricks and pavers representing individuals and organizations.

MURTHA from Page 1

dants in the investigation -- is already suing Murtha for those comments. Rooney argues the Pennsylvania Democrat should be held accountable for taking the word of Iraqi insurgents and calling the Marines "cold-blooded murderers."

"Staff Sergeant Wuterich's attorneys are suing Congressman Murtha for libel for saying that the Marines were cold-blooded murderers, so that suit's still ongoing," the attorney explains, adding that the Law Center is considering taking similar action.

"We're exploring our options ... in that regard because Murtha said that

officers covered this up, which is explicitly naming our client as covering it up," says Rooney. "So once we get through with this court-martial -- and hopefully it goes our way -- then we're going to look at whether or not we should take a hard look at Congressman Murtha as well."

In comments during a June 2006 interview with ABC's **Charles Gibson**, Murtha stated, after a meeting with high-level Marines: "I know there was a cover-up someplace. They knew about this a few days afterwards, and there's no question the chain of command tried to stifle the story."

Rooney says perhaps the people of Murtha's heavily Democratic district will vote him out of office next year.

"Even if it's a Democratic district," he suggests, "you would hope that a Democrat of good conscience would stand up [against] what this congressman has put these men through."

GOODIES FOR THE TROOPS

Peggy Sundling, who continues to send "Goodies to the Troops," has provided a sampling of items which are needed for the shipments. She cautions, "NO CHOCOLATE!" Items include Moist Wipes--with or without aloe (some people are allergic); Beef Jerky/Slim Jim--very popular; Hard Candy--no lollipops; Lotions and Moisturizers; Lip Balm; Chewing Gum; Crackers/Snacks/Granola Bars--in individual packages for easy totting; Fruit Snacks/Raisins--in individual packages; Writing Tablets/Envelopes/Pens; Crossword Puzzles; Magazines--military, automotive, hunting, etc. (used, are fine); Drink Mixes--individual envelopes.

Thanks, Marines, for your continued support!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DAYLIGHT SAVING
TIME ENDS
4 NOVEMBER**

**MARINE CORPS
BIRTHDAY
10 NOVEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
14 NOVEMBER**

**THANKSGIVING
22 NOVEMBER**

**HANUKKAH
5 DECEMBER**

**PEARL HARBOR DAY
7 DECEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
12 DECEMBER**

**FIRST DAY OF WINTER
22 DECEMBER**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
25 DECEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
9 JANUARY**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING
DAY
21 JANUARY**

**GROUNDHOG DAY
2 FEBRUARY**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
13 FEBRUARY**

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Marine Corps League**

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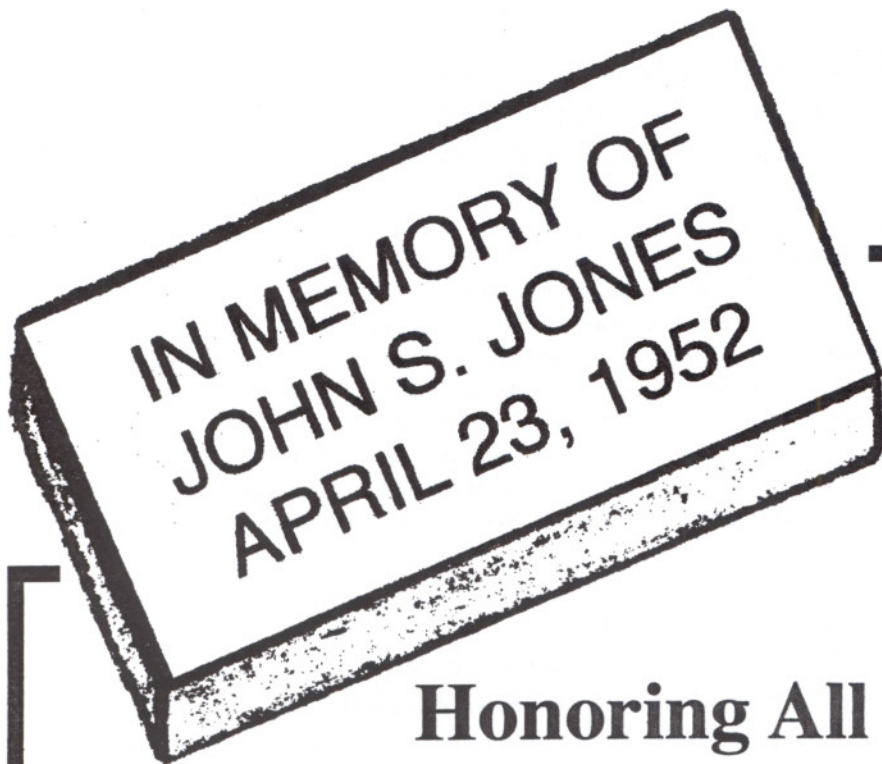


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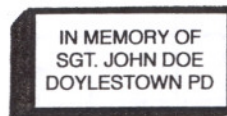
Honoring All Who Served!

With A Permanent Memorial

Now you can have your name or the name of an ancestor, family member or friend permanently etched in a lasting, prominent piece of Bucks County history. For years to come you will enjoy showing friends and family the most important brick or paver on the Community Service and Veterans Memorial. Honor a veteran, express appreciation for a teacher, a nurse, or friend, or memorialize a loved one who has served the community by purchasing an attractive brick or larger paver that will be placed in the walkway surrounding the monument.

They'll be part of our history--forever!

Choose from the following:

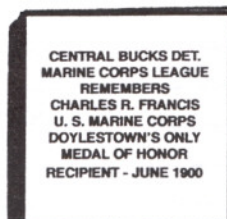


THE \$100 INDIVIDUAL BRICK

2" x 4" x 8" brick.

Fourteen characters per line.

Three lines maximum.



THE \$400 PAVER

2" x 12" x "12 paver.

Nineteen characters per line.

Nine lines maximum.

DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP IS RECORDING HISTORY AT THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY TO OUR COMMUNITY!

The "Community Service and Veterans Memorial"

Situated on Route 611 (Easton Road) in the Triangle Park at the southern gateway to the Doylestown Township, the Memorial will be an integral part of a serene setting designed for reflecting on the contributions of those individuals and organizations surrounding it and on the walkways leading to it.

We invite our friends, neighbors, businesses, veterans organizations, and visitors to join us in honoring those who made a mark on Doylestown by their selfless service to our community and our nation. This is an opportunity for everyone to add a personal touch in making the Community Service and Veterans Memorial a reality while honoring an ancestor, a relative or friend, or someone who made an impact on your life through their community or national service.

These bricks and pavers will provide memories and recognition that will forever be etched on the approaches to the Memorial. What a terrific way to honor your favorite teacher, a friend, say thanks to a veteran or community volunteer, memorialize a loved one or remember a police officer or firefighter. Join us in the excitement surrounding this project. Join in right now---complete and return the order form. If you need additional information, please call Sarah Brennan, Special Projects Coordinator, at (215) 348-9915.

CREATE YOUR OWN!

Put letters in the blocks **EXACTLY** as you want them on your brick or paver.

LEAVE A SPACE BETWEEN NAMES AND CHARACTERS.

Use additional sheets of paper for more brick or paver orders. Bricks and pavers received together will be laid together.

THE \$100 INDIVIDUAL BRICK

2" X 4" X 8" Brick.

Fourteen characters per line.

Three lines maximum.

THE \$400 PAVER

2" x 12" x 12"

Nineteen characters per line.

Nine lines maximum.

Purchaser's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Phone: _____

Veterans Organization Affiliation: _____

Return this form with your check/money order made payable to:
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IRIS P. GEE
President

DON H. GEE
Vice President

HOW TO PROPERLY WEAR RIBBONS AND MEDALS

- * No pins, medals or any other devices shall be worn on the MCL Cover other than the EGA.
- * **Either** DOD **or** MCL ribbons to be worn one-eighth inch above the left breast pocket of white short sleeve aviator shirt. **DO NOT INTERMIX!**
- * Shooting badges will not be worn with MCL ribbons.
- * MCL Ribbons **ONLY** on the MCL Ceremonial Uniform (khaki shirt). No DOD ribbons or Shooting Badges to be worn.
- * Miniature medals may be worn on the Blazer as part of the MCL Formal Uniform (tuxedo shirt, bow tie).
- * Large medals may be worn on the MCL Mess Jacket.

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Services LLC**

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President

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Mobile: 215-801-2286
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USMC TRIVIA QUIZ



1. Which type of aircraft did the first Marine Aviation Force fly during World War I?
2. Who was the first Commandant to request the recruiting of women in the Marine Corps?
3. Which Marine Aircraft Group first engaged with the North Koreans?
4. Where is the largest Marine Barracks in the U.S. located?
5. What is the candlepower of the MK1 illuminating hand grenade?

Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. Major General Alexander A. Vandegrift was nicknamed "Sunny Jim."
2. The casualty radius of the M16A1 "Bouncing Betty" mine is 27 meters.
3. "Field Days" are usually held on Thursday evenings aboard Marine bases.
4. The UCMJ's punitive articles are 77 through 134.
5. Major General Commandant Heywood was the first Marine Major General.



Application for Membership Marine Corps League

(Date) _____

Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning _____

Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement _____ SSN _____

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

E-mail: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT**, Marine Corps League, and enclose \$35.00 for one year's membership (which includes subscription to **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAGAZINE**).

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)

Remit this form with check or money order (made payable to **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, MCL**)
to: **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, P. O. Box 1372, Doylestown, PA 18901-1372**

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"