



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

VOLUME X, Number 10

October 1997

Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held September 10, 1997, at Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 22 members present including all officers except the Paymaster. Distinguished Marines in attendance included **National Public Relations Officer Don Gee**; **Past Commandants Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr., Bill Plant, and Frank Yohe**; and **Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth**. We had a visitor— **Joe Braddock**, a Life Member from the Department of New Jersey.

The Minutes of the August Meeting were unanimously approved.

Paymaster Bob Cody could not attend due to illness and **Marine Joe Hazen** is weak and in need of blood transfusions.

Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, reported he had received a letter from Abington General Hospital thanking the Detachment for its donation in memory of **Ann Yohe**. The Detachment also received a letter from the Philadelphia VA Medical Center thanking the Detachment for the books it recently donated to the hospitalized veterans there.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Rosenberger reported the Detachment strength at 52—41 Regular Members, 5 Associate Members, and 6 Delinquent Members.

Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio reported he had received a letter and a book from NAS, Willow Grove, in appreciation for our participation at the recent Air Show.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported on correspondence received from the the Department of Pennsylvania regarding the Fall Staff Meeting.

Judge Advocate Bill Plant, PC, reported the revisions to the Detachment's Bylaws (which were approved at the August meeting) have been forwarded to the Department Judge Advocate for approval.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling reported he had received no new requests for the Detachment Color Guard.

(Continued on Page 3)

THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 8 OCTOBER 1997
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN



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

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
Marine Corps League
of Pennsylvania, Inc.
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7:30 p.m.,
2d Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
315 North Street
Doylestown, PA

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Jr. VICE COMMANDANT:
PAUL CAPRIO

ADJUTANT:
GARY SMITH

PAYMASTER:
ROBERT C. CODY

JUDGE ADVOCATE:
BILL PLANT, PC

CHAPLAIN:
FRANKLIN YOHE, PC

QUARTERMASTER:
DONALD PARZANESE Jr.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
ROBERT A. SUNDLING

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
& EDITOR:
DON H. GEE, PC

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

I am happy to report that the Friendlys' fund-raiser for this month brought in a little over \$100. This fund-raiser is about our easiest. All we have to do is pick up the money. It would be nice if a few more of the Detachment members would support this by going out to Friendlys on the third Wednesday of each month for an ice cream or something. The restaurant is good enough to us; we should return that favor with our participation.

Marine Joe Hazen could not make it out to the rifle match this year. He is still a bit on the weak side, but he is getting a bit better. I'm sure that he would like to hear from anyone who wishes to say hello. He can always use a few good jokes.

Speaking of the match, our team did fairly well. Our scores continue to improve and we keep having fun. **Frank Yohe, PC**, went along for the ride this year. He said that, although he had a lot of fun, it was more enjoyable pulling butts than it was laying around on the line for a whole afternoon. I think that it would have been more fun for Frank if it hadn't decided to rain on him while he was sitting there watching everyone else shoot. It was great to have him along. I shared a motel room with him and it was a pleasure. He doesn't snore like some of the other team members.

Don't forget we have our Birthday Ball coming up. Get your reservations in as soon as you can. We need to know how many are going to be there so we can make the dinner arrangements. We have a Guest of Honor this year that I am sure you will find quite interesting, even though he is a retired Army General. I have heard the General speak at a few different functions and I was really impressed. Even though he is a flag-grade officer, he still maintains a down-to-earth quality that is hard to find nowadays. The food promises to be good and the company can't get any better, so make sure you don't miss it.

Other than to remind you to come to the October meeting, I don't want to let you forget that we are going to have our highway clean-up in October. I am not sure of the date, but I believe that it will be the Saturday after our meeting. If you make it to the meeting, you will be informed of all the particulars. That's all for now...see you at the meeting!

Semper Fi,

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, reminded the Detachment that the deadline for submission of items for "*Listen Up!*" was Sept. 20. **Advertising Committee Chair Paul Caprio** reported he had received two new ads for the newsletter and one renewal. He enjoined each of the Detachment's members to solicit one ad for the newsletter.

Quartermaster Don Parzanese Jr. had nothing new to report.

STANDING COMMITTEES

VAVS—The VAVS Committee logged 27 volunteer hours since the last meeting. A VAVS Committee Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 12 and the Detachment will be represented.

POW/MIA—POW/MIA Coordinator Bill Plant, PC, reported on information from the U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam, who was a POW during the Vietnam War.

RIFLE & PISTOL TEAMS—Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger reported the Detachment Rifle Team will be competing in the Department Rifle Match on Sept. 20-21 at Ft. Indiantown Gap.

YOUNG MARINES—Young Marines Liaison Bill Plant, PC, reported MAG-49 had given the Young Marines a building for storage of their equipment. Additionally, he asked the Detachment members to see if they could volunteer some of their time to assist the Unit.

"MARINE OF THE YEAR" COMMITTEE —No report.

GROCERY RECEIPTS—Past Commandant Don Parzanese Sr. reported he had received a check from Genuardi's since the last meeting. **Redner's Grocery Receipts Coordinator Gary Smith** reminded the members to save their grocery receipts for the benefit of the Detachment.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FRIENDLY'S RESTAURANTS —A date mix-up at the restaurant resulted in our not participating this month. **Senior Vice Commandant Rosenberger** reminded the members to support this fund-raiser by eating at the restaurant on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of each month.

BIRTHDAY BALL—Junior Vice Commandant Caprio reported on Birthday Ball plans. He said Birthday Ball Invitations had been sent out. He announced the deadline for Birthday Ball reservations is October 26, 1997. The Detachment has received a letter from **Major General Hugh Foster**, USA (Ret.), Honorary Chairman of the Bucks County World War II Commemorative Committee, accepting our invitation as Guest of Honor for the Ball.

PARADE COMMITTEE—Commandant Pearce requested the Detachment form a Parade Committee. **Senior Vice Commandant Rosenberger** will chair the Committee. **Marine Mike Waldron** presented his ideas for re-doing the Detachment parade float.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marine Mike Waldron announced the local appearance schedule for the Marine Band.

Public Relations Officer Gee reported the Air Force Association is attempting to build a monument next to the Marine War Memorial (Iwo Jima statue) in Arlington, VA. He has joined with "The Friends of Iwo Jima" to help stop the Air Force Association from building on the site.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed until 1930 on Oct. 8, 1997.

Air Force Plans Monument Near Iwo Statue

For decades, the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Monument) has been a source of great pride for U.S. Marines, their families and the nation, as a whole.

The memorial stands majestically on Arlington Ridge near Arlington National Cemetery. Millions of Americans have visited the site and they have shared the feeling of extreme pride in the Marines and America as they stand reverently before the statue.

The U. S. Marine Corps uses the area around the memorial for a wide variety of functions. From the Marine Corps Marathon to memorial services to being a backdrop for photos of the Marine Band, the Iwo Jima Monument has been both a source of pride for the Corps and a focal point for official public ceremonies.

All of this will come to an abrupt halt in the near future if the Air Force has its way.

The Air Force Memorial Foundation plans to construct a 50-foot tall aluminum structure requiring 4,000 square feet of surface area and 20,000 square feet of underground space. Plans also include 40 visitor parking spaces to be carved out of what is currently a sedate, wooded area. And, they plan to do all of this within 600 feet of the Iwo Jima Monument.

The "Friends of Iwo Jima" and New York Congressman Gerald B. H. Solomon are spearheading a movement to shoot down the Air Force plan.

"We strongly endorse the idea of an Air Force Memorial," states Friends of Iwo Jima President Clayton S. Depue. "However, we believe that it would be a disservice to both the Air Force and the Marine Corps, and to all of the fallen Americans represented by the Iwo Jima Memorial, if the two memorials were to share a common site," he continues. "Further, we are concerned about the park itself which is used and enjoyed by thousands of visitors, as well as residents. An additional memorial, especially one with displays and interactive media, as proposed by the Air Force, would tax the park and surrounding neighborhood beyond their limits," Depue concludes.

Congressman Solomon agrees. He introduced H.R. 2313 at the close of the last

session of Congress "to prohibit the construction of any monument, memorial, or other structure at the site of the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, and for any other purposes."



Solomon, a former Marine and chairman of the House Rules Committee, is actively seeking support among his fellow Congressional representatives and Senate members.

The Friends of Iwo Jima are circulating petitions and encouraging all Americans to contact their Congressional representatives and senators expressing opposi-

tion to the Air Force Memorial being located at the Iwo Jima Memorial site.

"We have launched a grassroots effort to have the Air Force change its memorial location," states retired Marine Major Stu Rayfield, a member of the Friends of Iwo Jima. "We have more than 7,000 names on petitions so far. We are hoping to have Marine veteran organizations get behind this movement and join us in our efforts."

The Friends of Iwo Jima also encourage Marines and other interested Americans to write the National Capitol Planning Commission, 801 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20576-Mr. Harvey B. Gantt, Chairman; write the Air Force Memorial Foundation, 1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22209; and, write Letters to the Editor of their local newspapers, supporting H.R. 2313 and opposing construction of an Air Force Memorial on the Iwo Jima Monument site. Additional information can be obtained from the Friends of Iwo Jima, P.O. Box 10409, Arlington, VA 22210.

MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What are the four parts of the M-16 rifle's magazine?
2. When saluting an officer, when should an enlisted Marine cut his/her salute?
3. How many Marines are needed to form a Marine rifle team?
4. What are the three purposes for establishing an interior guard?
5. What are the dimensions of a stradle trench?

Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. The first Marine Corps recruiter was Captain Robert Mullen.
2. The six Iwo Jima flag raisers in the Rosenthal photo were Sgt. Michael Strank, Cpl. Harlon Block, Pharmacist Mate 2d Class John H. Bradley, PFC Ira Hayes, PFC Rene A. Gagnon, and PFC Franklin R. Sousley.
3. There are five stars on the Medal of Honor ribbon.
4. The rope on a flagpole is called a halyard.
5. The three official publications which regulate the Marine Corps are: U.S. Naval Regulations, the Marine Corps Manual, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

U.S. & Royal Marines Have Same Concerns

When British forces torched Washington during the War of 1812, one of the only sites spared was the Marine Barracks at 8th & I streets.

So, when SgtMaj. Neville Weston of the British Royal Marines arrived at the historic Center House at the barracks, he was stopped cold.

"I was searched for matches before I was let in," he said.

U.S. Marines are fast to harry any Brit who wants to enter the house—even Weston, the top sergeant major in the Royal Marines, a sinewy 44-year-old who can still run 1-1/2 miles in 10 minutes flat. And that's in combat boots.

Weston was in town to join the 1997 Sergeants Major Symposium last month as the guest of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Lewis G. Lee. Next year, Lee plans to join Weston's annual gathering in Britain.

As the top sergeant major in among the Royal Marines' 6,000 enlisted men, Weston's worries aren't much different from Lee's. Recruiting and retention, operational tempo, generational differences, women in the service, you name it.

Personnel. "We are not recruiting the number that are required for the Royal Marines to be fully manned. We are not retaining the numbers we need."

Op-tempo. The average Royal Marine on his first two-year enlistment spends 18 months away from home, deploying to hot spots like Bosnia and Northern Ireland, international exercises as far away as Brunei and the Philippines, and covert missions elsewhere.

"The Marines are still carrying out every tactical and operational requirement we are asked to do," he said. "The piece of plastic remains stretched."

Women in service. There never has

been a female Royal Marine, but not because of a ban in the force. "We've never had a woman approach us to do the training yet," says Weston.

He conceded the day will come, however, when a woman joins his corps.

Quality of life. While Royal Marines get \$5,000 reenlistment bonuses at 4-1/2 and 7-1/2 years, the money isn't enough to keep them in, Weston said. "Quality of life is." U.S. Marines complain about "ancient" World War II-era barracks, but Royal Marines contend with some quarters that are—no joke—600 years old. For those interested in moving off base, the force provides a \$13,000 loan toward a home, payable through a Royal Marine's enlistment.

Training. If you think the Crucible, boot camp's new final event, sounds tough, consider what it takes to become a Royal Marine, Weston said. Boot camp lasts six months, more than twice as long as in the United States, and ends with a grueling three-day "Crucible" that Weston calls "hell." Dressed in full combat gear, recruits must complete a nine-mile run in 90 minutes; a 6-1/4-mile cross-country endurance course in 70 minutes; the Tarzan Assault (ropes) Course; and a 30-mile speed march in eight hours.

Then, during the "King's Squad Week" recruits are called Royal Marines and can don dress blues and the coveted green

beret.

At that point, Weston said, "they're special. Everybody knows these guys have passed."

New Ribbons Approved for Drill Instructors and MSG Marines

New ribbons for drill instructors and Marine Corps security guards will become available starting the middle of this month.

The khaki-and-green Drill Instructor Ribbon will be worn after the Marine Corps Recruiting Ribbon and before the Armed Forces Reserve Medal. It will be awarded for service dating from Oct. 6, 1952.

The red-white-and-blue Marine Security Guard ribbon will be worn after the DI ribbon and before the Armed Forces Reserve Medal. Eligibility for the Marine Security Guard ribbon will date from Jan. 28, 1949.

The ribbons will be awarded to a Marine who successfully completes a tour as a drill instructor at boot camp or at Officer Candidate School at Quantico, VA, or completes 24 months as a Marine Security Guard.

Others also qualify. Eligibility rules were stated in AIMar 262/97.

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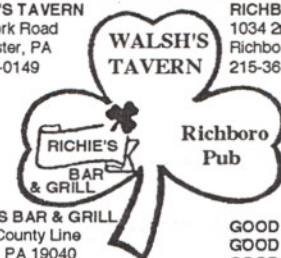
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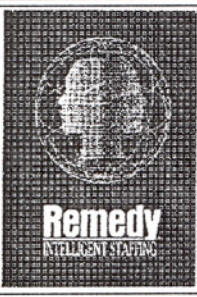
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