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The Reawakening

Refocusing the Corps for an uncertain world

Lance Cpl. Brendan Roethel
Staff Writer

"In the last 12 years, you have defeated every enemy on the battlefield, and now Sergeant Major and I need your help to reawaken the soul of our Corps against an enemy within our ranks," said General

James Amos, the commandant of the Marine Corps, in his reawakening letter to the Marine Corps.

During the past 12 years, the Corps focused its might on defeating terrorist organizations during the "Global War on Terrorism". With Marine efforts ranging from combat and security operations to

humanitarian missions around the globe, the threat of violence has been greatly reduced, hundreds of schools have been constructed and millions of people received aid, whether in war-torn areas or countries ravished by natural disasters.

"Throughout the years, Marines have endured and strived through some of

the harshest environments in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Sgt. Brian Tull, an avionics technician for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 31.

Tull was awarded the NCO of the quarter for MALS-31, and is the base vice pres-

SEE REAWAKENING, PAGE 6

EOD Technicians earn uncommon certification

By Cpl. Timothy Norris
Staff Writer

More than 20 Marines and civilians from various fields of work became Hazardous Materials Incident Commanders after completing the Incident Commander course aboard Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Jan. 17.

The management level certification enables personnel to lead a team of first responders in an incident scene involving the exposure of hazardous materials.

"It benefits the Air Station because this is a civilian certification geared toward the fire department and Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, but if they are out of commission or engaged elsewhere there are more people qualified to run the scene," said Master Sgt. Jason Chrojapin, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal staff non-commissioned officer in charge.

Several EOD technicians, including Chrojapin, attended the 40 hour training course among ARFF Marines, civilian

firefighters, and other base personnel.

"It's not normal for EOD technicians to go through this course," Chrojapin said, "but it prepares them for an all hazards approach when responding."

Participants are required to have attended a hazardous material operator or technician course to have a solid base of understanding for the commander course.

"The training provides strategies, to be used by command and general staff positions regarding the management and oversight of emergency response operations during a hazardous materials incident or a weapon of mass destruction terrorist threat," said Robert H. Grunmeier, the executive director of Public & Industrial Safety Training and Certification at Bucks County Community College in Newtown, Pa.

The course integrated exercises where participants assessed simulated re-

SEE ICS, PAGE 5

New FY14 reenlistment cutoff

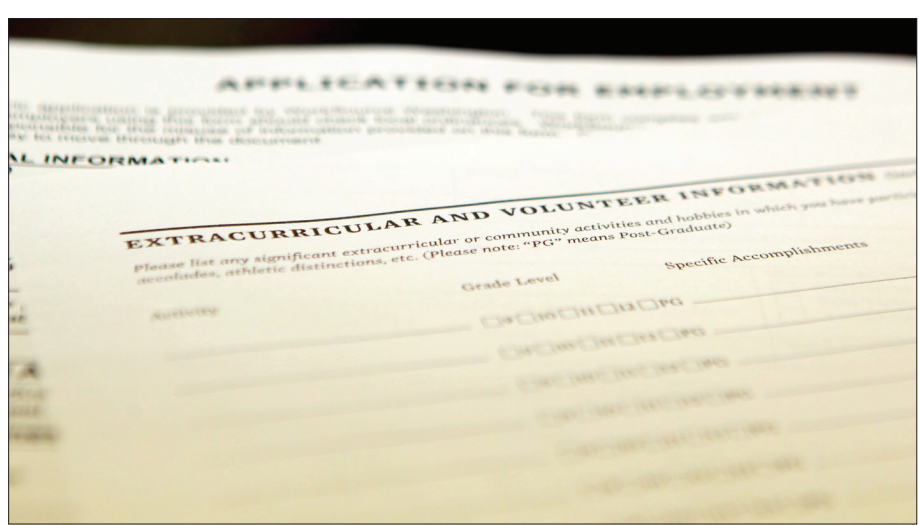
Cpl. Brady Wood
Staff Writer

According to Marine Administration Message 026/14, all Marines with an existing fiscal year 2014 end of active service date must have their re-enlistment package turned in to Headquarters Marine Corps no later than Feb. 28.

The MARADMIN states that the Marine Corps end strength for the year 2014 is a total of 188,500.

"Everyone who has an EAS date before Sept. 30 will be affected by this," said Staff Sgt. Edward McGee, the career

SEE CUTOFF, PAGE 5



Fightertown hosts first Volunteer Rally

Lance Cpl. Brendan Roethel
Staff Writer

Marines from Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort and Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island attended the MCAS Beaufort Volunteer Rally at the Laurel Bay Youth Center, Jan. 23.

More than 20 organizations recruited volunteers during the event, to include Habitat for Humanity, Carolina Hospice, Child Abuse Prevention Association, and

more. The purpose of the event is to introduce service members to the multitude of volunteer opportunities available throughout the Lowcountry. The Volunteer Rally also provided an increased interest in volunteering while providing organizations and service members with an opportunity to network and build professional relationships in the surrounding communities.

"Coming out to the Volunteer Rally really opened my eyes to the varying organizations and concerns that exist in the local community," said Lance Cpl. Joseph Charles, an administrative specialist with S-1 for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron aboard the Air Station. "I have always wanted to learn about construction, but I never had the opportunity

SEE VOLUNTEER, PAGE 5



MESS HALL MENU

Monday - Friday
 Breakfast: 6 - 7:30 a.m.
 Lunch: 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
 Dinner: 4 - 6 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday and holidays
 Brunch: 8:30 - 11 a.m.
 Dinner: 4 - 6 p.m.

MIDRATS

Sunday - Thursday
 11:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Takeout Window Hours:
 Breakfast - Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Lunch - Mon. - Fri. 12:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.
 Dinner - Mon. - Fri. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday

Lunch Herb baked chicken and carrots
Dinner Pork chops smothered with onions

Sunday

Lunch Pepper steak and potatoes
Dinner Veal parmesan and marinara sauce

Monday - Friday Breakfast

Hot farina, hot hominy grits and oven-fried bacon

Monday

Lunch Bayou chicken and cauliflower
Dinner Country fried steak and brown gravy

Tuesday

Lunch Bayou jerk pork loin and rice
Dinner Creole shrimp and corn

Wednesday

Lunch Indian spiced chicken breast and breadsticks
Dinner Lemon chicken and potatoes

Thursday

Lunch Chicken and cheese enchiladas
Dinner Louisiana seafood gumbo

Friday

Lunch Mesquite roasted pork loin
Dinner Baked macaroni and cheese

CHAPEL SERVICES

Roman Catholic
 • 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Mass
 • Confession takes place before Mass
 • Confession Monday - Thursday at noon

Protestant
 • 9:45 a.m. - Protestant Church School (Sunday School)
 • 11 a.m. - Protestant Sunday Worship Service (Children's church is also available at this time)
 • 5 p.m. - Wednesday Protestant Bible Study
 • 5 p.m. - Saturday Worship Service at Laurel Bay Youth Center

Buddhist
 • 11 a.m. - Saturday Worship Service in the Chapel Fellowship Hall

Labyrinth Walk
 • 8 a.m - 4 p.m. - Monday in the Chapel Fellowship Hall

Other Faith Groups
 • For Jewish, Mormon and Islamic support, contact the Chaplain's Office at 228-7775

Mission Assurance
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Hotlines

MCAS Beaufort Station 228-7789
 Inspector
 Sexual Assault Response 228-6904
 Coordinator
 Force Protection information and concerns 228-6924
 PMO Dispatch 228-6710
 Severe Weather and Force Protection 1-800-343-0639

Sexual Assault

The contact number for a Uniformed Victim Advocate is 592-0646. This number can get you in contact with a UVA 24 hours a day.

Fraud, Waste and Abuse

If you know of or suspect any fraud, waste or abuse aboard MCAS Beaufort, call 228-7777. If you know of or suspect any fraud, waste or abuse within MAG-31, call (252) 466-5038. The automated answering service on these lines is available 24 hours a day.

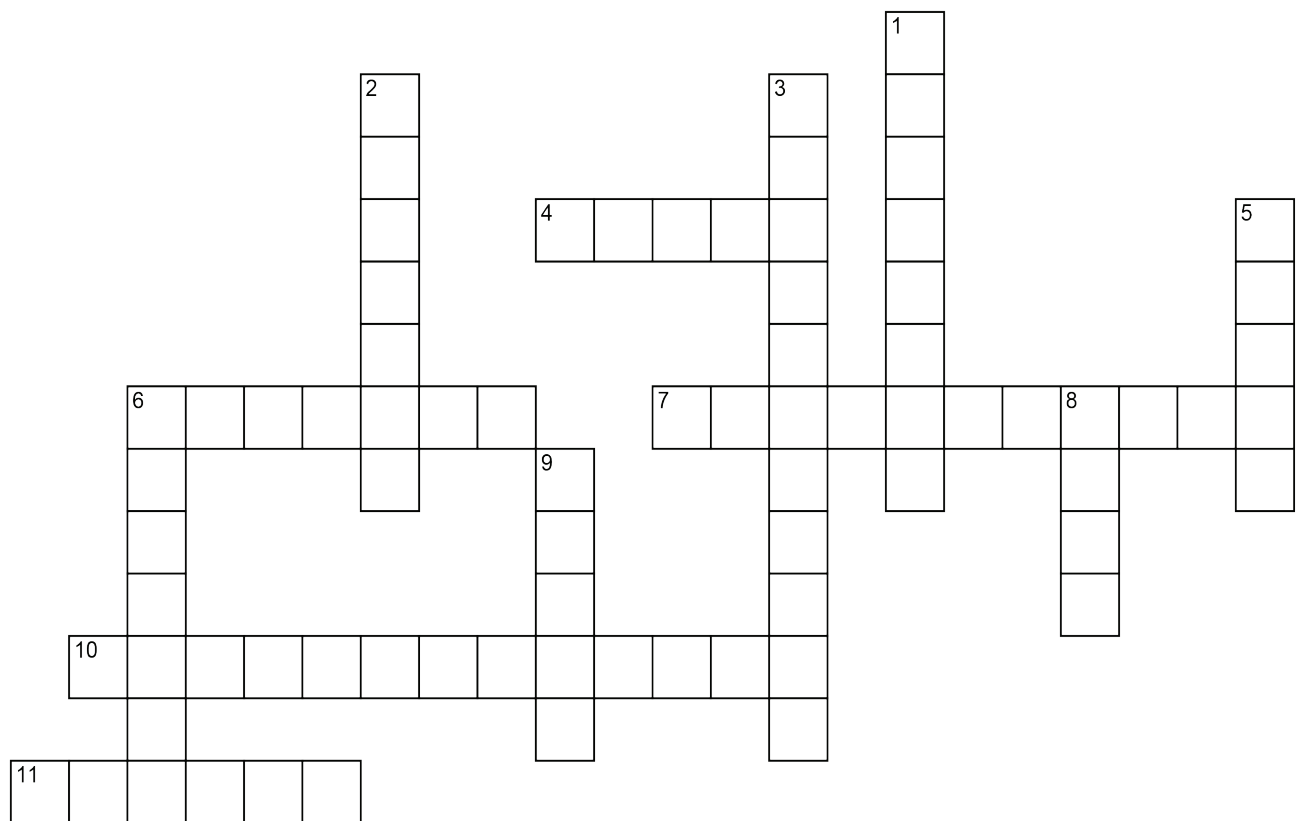
MCAS Beaufort Movie Schedule

Saturday 2 p.m. PG (1:27)	Saturday 4:30 p.m. PG-13 (2:41)	Thursday 7 p.m. PG (1:55)

MCRD Parris Island Movie Schedule

Sunday 2 p.m. PG (1:27)	Sunday 4:30 p.m. PG-13 (2:05)	Sunday 7 p.m. PG-13 (1:59)

Crossword



DOWN

- To walk my post in a ___ manner...
- 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing
- 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force
- Marine Air Ground Task Force
- 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force
- To receive, ___, and pass on...
- This is my ___, there are many like it...

ACROSS

- To give the ___ in case of fire or disorder
- 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
- 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing
- 1st Marine Expeditionary Force
- To take ___ of this post...

Answer key will be available on facebook.com/MCASBeaufort on Feb. 5.

Sudoku

							8	2
7				5		1		6
			1			4		
	8			2		7		
			8	1	6			
		4		9			6	
		3			7			
5		1		8				9
9	2							

Answer key will be available on facebook.com/MCASBeaufort on Feb. 5.

Tri-Command Weather *7 Day Forecast*

			High / Low (°F)	Precip. %
Sat Feb 01		Partly Cloudy	64°/56°	20 %
Sun Feb 02		Showers	67°/50°	40 %
Mon Feb 03		Few Showers	62°/54°	30 %
Tue Feb 04		Scattered Showers	64°/54°	30 %
Wed Feb 05		Showers	69°/46°	40 %
Thu Feb 06		Showers	64°/44°	60 %

Forecast according to weather.com

Happenings

- Voting season is here. Voters must register in order to vote. Visit fvap.gov. Applications can also be mailed in. by Visit the Installation Voting Office or the Adjutant's office. To contact the Installation Voting Office call 228-8403.
- Outdoor Recreation is scheduled to hold a quail hunt Feb. 1 and 22. Registration must be completed one week prior to the event. Lunch and transportation are provided. For more information call 228-7472.
- A party for Superbowl XLVIII is scheduled to take place Feb. 2, at Brig & Brew aboard MCRD Parris Island and Afterburners aboard the Air Station at 5:30 p.m. Appetizers are available while supplies last. Prizes will be awarded throughout the night.
- A hazardous waste and prescription medication collection event is scheduled to take place Mar. 1, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Bluffton Public Works Site on Ulmer Rd. For more information call 255-2734.
- A "Night of Stars School Dance" is slated to take place Feb. 14, from 6 - 10 p.m. at the Laurel Bay Youth Center. The dance begins at 6 p.m. for grades 3-5 and 8 p.m. for grades 6 and up. For more information call 228-7640.
- The photocopying of U.S. Government identification cards is a violation of Title 18, U.S. Code Part I, Chapter 33, Section 701 and punishable by fine and imprisonment.

Brain Teaser

I live above a star, and yet I never burn
I have eleven neighbors, and yet none of them turn
I am visited in sequence, first, last or in between
PRS, and sometimes Q, are my initials.
Now tell me what I mean.

Answer for this week's brain teaser will be available on facebook.com/MCASBeaufort on Feb. 5.

New year, new resolve

Lt. David Nelson
MAG-31 Deputy Command Chaplain

As with the beginning of any New Year this year begins with many well intentioned people adopting resolutions that are intended to redirect those actions, habits, and life circumstances that are thought to be an impediment to a fulfilled and prosperous existence. Usually by spring, there is little resolve left. So many intentions are dissolved as quickly as a vapor when the sun appears. Most of us, if not all, are creatures of habit. From time to time we can successfully start new habits or break old ones, but it is not uncommon for us to slide right back into the comfortable groove that we have in the past removed ourselves from. This can leave one feeling as if change is a hopeless and misdirected goal.

No one is more aware of our faults and inabilities than the God by whom we have been created. The potential for right or wrong is evident in all of creation, and without that potential, we would be little more than machines. However we are not machines. Sometimes, when desiring for improvement, perhaps that would be easier. If I desire a device to behave in a certain manner, I program it as such and it follows through with that prescribed programming. I am reminded of the movie "The Matrix" in which the character in the story are able to gain amazing abilities (i.e. skills in kung fu, the ability to fly helicopters, etc.) by simply plugging their brain into a computer and downloading the appropriate app. That ability certainly would have made college and seminary a much easier venture! But that is not how it works. We are all too human, and as such, we are prone to failure. We are simply not created with the ability to download flawless actions.

It is into a world marked by such messy humanity that Jesus, God made

flesh, was sent into. Moving through the Gospels, we are given a glimpse of the beginning of his public ministry in the fourth chapter of Matthew. Verse 17 tells us, "From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.'" But, what does that mean to the average person trying to simply make it through the week and not commit the catastrophic?

In first understanding this message, it is helpful to understand what it means to "repent." The word in this passage literally means "to turn." We are talking about course adjustment. The assertion is that we are left to our own devices we will give in to our desires. As this may satisfy for a while, and it may even include beneficence to others, eventually, our desire will come into contradiction with what is good for us and certainly will trump what is good for those we come in contact with. Eventually, we will seek out what will destroy us. Case in point; it is necessary to eat. Most people like good food. Often, the food that is most tasty is not what is good for us. In an effort to satiate craving, our intake becomes more and more about richness and quantity, and as a result, health takes a back seat. Without guarding the intake, we can do damage to our health. Now given, that is a very simplistic way of putting it, but the point is made. We can use that example with any action, thought, desire, or goal that we have in our lives.

Jesus message was that of repentance. The "good news" is described later on in the passage. We as created and fallen beings have a tendency to put ourselves at the center. We were not designed for that, and we need not be bound to that end. We were designed to honor God and enjoy fellowship with him. In order to do that, he must be center. The call is to turn from our own selfish goals and to make God our goal. In doing so, we fulfill our design and we become satis-

fied in a way that we simply cannot be by following our own path, no matter how many resolutions we adopt!

So how do we as humans (prone to self-exaltation and selfish desires) ever come to repentance and fulfillment in God? I believe that the first step is to realize that to "repent" as Jesus is speaking of in this passage is not simply a one-time deal. Although a decision is made, it must be reaffirmed, and that reaffirmation must happen often and on many occasions. Repentance is not a singular action as it is a lifestyle. Lifestyle repentance is always living under the belief that there is something better to achieve. Lifestyle repentance does not find justification in the past so much as it finds hope AND justification in the future. The same humanity that we wish to be free from continually drives us back to our self-seeking ways, but hope and freedom are found in repentance. Continuing to turn from our ways and develops within us spiritual likeness unto Jesus.

So how is such repentance possible? If we are driven by our very nature to seek self and the desires contained therein, what is to keep that drive from overwhelming the decision to repent just the same as it causes us to give up those New Year's resolutions that we were so determined to keep? It is only by seeking this same Jesus that preaches repentance. Romans 5:8 tells us that, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." While we were self-seeking and inwardly focused, incapable of doing anything but chasing to fill our destructive appetites, Christ gave himself as a sacrifice for us. It is by this sacrifice that the supernatural way was made that can overcome our "self", and allow us to turn from it.

Do you want to see real change in your life? Set your goal on Him who can truly provide the power to change.

Did you know...

Feb. 6, 1968, two reduced Marine battalions, the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines with two companies, and 2d Battalion, 5th Marines with three, recaptured Hue's hospital, jail, and provincial headquarters. It would take three more weeks of intense house to house fighting, and nearly a thousand Marines killed and wounded, before the imperial city was secured.



Be aware of possible near or below freezing temperatures throughout the winter months. Exposure to cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia and become life-threatening. Infants and elderly people are most susceptible. What constitutes extreme cold varies in different parts of the country. In the South, near freezing temperatures are considered extreme cold.



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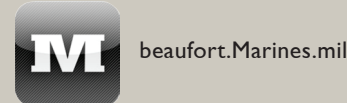
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Jet Stream Staff Photo

Youth gain life lessons from sports

Cpl. Brady Wood
Staff Writer

The Marine Corps Community Services Sports Center is holding youth sports registration until Feb. 18, for children ages four to 10.

The sports available are tee ball for ages four and five, coach-pitched baseball ages six through eight, baseball for ages nine and 10 and softball also for ages

nine and 10.

Parents can register their children at Human Resources, Bldg. 1617, next to the Laurel Bay Seven Day Store.

"Youth sports are good for the kids because it teaches children teamwork and life lessons," said Ronnie Moore, a recreation specialist for MCCA. "These life lessons can range from respect to how

to communicate and build camaraderie among other children."

According to Stephanie Harding, a sports center administration specialist, children ages 11 and up can register, but not through the youth center.

"These children would need to register with the Beaufort County Parks and Leisure Services," said Harding.

Practice will be on base and MCCA will provide your child with a uniform, pants, socks, shirt and a hat. Parents will need to supply a glove, practice clothes and cleats.

The registration fee is \$40, until Feb. 18. After which the registration will cost \$50.

For more information, call Stephanie Harding at 228-1587 or Ronnie Moore at 228-1586.

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#877-13

ICS

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sponse scenarios, developed strategies to support an incident action plan, and established a management structure to meet the demands of the incident.

"The difficult aspect is that the participants must complete their research projects, develop and complete their skills assignments, and study for the written exam,"

Grunmeier said.

In addition to the practical application process, participants must successfully pass seven skills tests and a 100 question written exam.

"The participants are tested through three learning domains: cognitive, psychomotor and effective," Grunmeier said. "In-class exercises challenge the participants' ability to recognize, assess, and respond to conditions involving life-threatening situations. In addition, each participant is required to suc-

cessfully complete a series of skill sets that involve written and verbal components."

At the end of the week-long course, each participant had successfully completed the requirements, making them hazardous materials incident commanders.

"The class was successful because of the partnerships and support of the management and participants representing MCAS Beaufort's Emergency Response Community," Grunmeier concluded.



REENLIST

continued from page 1

planner for Marine Wing Support Squadron 273. "Even if they haven't submitted their package for retention yet, they still have time to do so."

Reference C of the MARADMIN states that commanders have the authority to extend FY14 career Marines with an EAS date between Feb. 1 and April 30 until June 30 to await a response for a submitted reenlistment request.

"This will help out those that wish to stay in," said Gunnery Sgt. Jeremy Goco, the training chief for Marine Air Control Squadron 2, Detachment A. "Knowing that you can get an extension until you receive a yay or nay on your package will give Marines a chance to decompress. It also gives them more time to plan how they want to further their career."

The message also details that anyone submitting a re-enlistment request after the Feb. 28 cutoff date may not receive favorable consideration for further service.

"The perfect reenlistment candidate would have to have some very specific accomplishments in their record," said McGee. "These accomplishments include professional military education complete, no non-judicial punishments, served a special duty assignment, completed annual training, first class physical and combat fitness test, completed rifle and pistol qualification, off-duty volunteering and some off-duty education."

No doubt there will be some Marines who would be getting out this year who want to re-enlist and stay in the Corps, but the cut-off date may have some negative effects on those who are hoping for retention.

"Since procedures for the reenlistment packages have changed, it has become more competitive," said Goco. "Some packages could be put on hold and thus not give the Marine the chance to be as prepared as he or she wanted to."

As the Marine Corps continues to downsize, retention continues to become increasingly competitive. Marines should see their unit career planner as early as possible.

VOLUNTEER

continued from page 1

to study or work within the field. This event is exciting because I was able to sign up with Habitat for Humanity, and take my first steps toward working in construction. I am excited to help those in need of my help, while gaining experience and working alongside other volunteers."

All of the volunteer opportunities available will assist service members in obtaining credible experience in

desired job fields. Many of the volunteering organizations will also write letters of appreciation and recommendation for Marines that volunteer with them.

Marines can also earn the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, through a wide variety of activities and volunteer duties such as Volunteer Emergency Services, soup kitchen work, volunteering at sporting events or fundraisers, and more. Such volunteer service must be made in a sustained and direct nature towards the civilian community, must be sig-

nificant in nature to produce tangible results, and must reflect favorably on the military service and the Department of Defense.

"By volunteering the Marines have an opportunity to not only give back to others, but thank them for their continued support for the Tri-Command," said Lisa Montanez, the family readiness officer for H&HS. "This opportunity can open many doors for the service members and can provide them with the knowledge and experience to continue their success outside of the military."



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REAWAKENING

continued from page 1

ident for the Single Marine Program.

Marines prevail in harsh environments, but when it comes to being just as strong at home there have been shortcomings. During the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan the number of Marine deaths in garrison exceeded those over-seas, said Amos during a National Press Club interview.

"Marines, especially NCOs, can fight these numbers by looking out for the Marine to their left and right," Tull said. "Like an NCO would make sure their Marines are prepared before going on a patrol in combat, we need to step up and make sure our Marines are doing well, staying away from risky behavior and coming to us if they need help. In conjunction with this, corporals and sergeants should be excelling and setting the example for their junior Marines."

As Marines take care of one another during combat, they strive to give a helping hand to those all over the world. Whether responding to tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes or nuclear disasters, Marines answer the call ready and willing to help those in need.

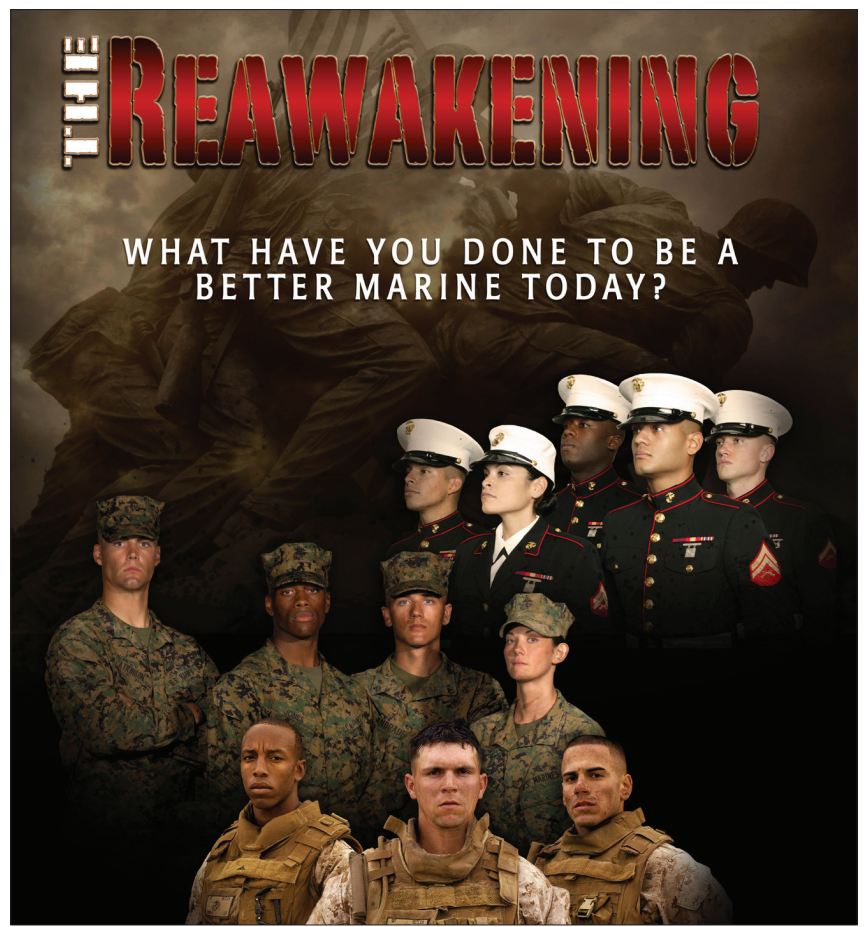
"When we go overseas and people see our uniform they know who we are and what we stand for," Tull said. "The Marine Corps

has built national allies and relations with countries through the Corps' humanitarian efforts. In the U.S., we can build upon our reputation by reassuring our Marines stay out of trouble and continue to be good Marines on and off base."

By getting Marines involved in activities outside of their normal routines, such as volunteering, they can experience new things, build relationships with those in the surrounding community, build upon the nation's image of the Marine Corps and develop positive growth.

"Marines hold a reputation that is known across the world," said Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Monssen, the sergeant major for Marine Aircraft Group 31 aboard the Air Station. "We win wars and develop strong and determined leaders. By setting the example and instilling a desire to enforce proper behavior and standards, a leader can set up his Marines and the Marine Corps for continued success."

NCOs must become Marines that others emulate. Nobody is perfect, but by working hard and constantly fine tuning their leadership skills, NCOs can demonstrate what it means to be an excellent Marine and leader. By doing this and instilling good judgment and leadership traits into their junior Marines, NCOs prepare the Marine Corps for a full range of future missions in an uncertain world.



MWSS-273 gives back



Cpl. Lawrence Hulst (left), a native of Jacksonville, Fla., and Lance Cpl. Joshua Bladdick (right), a native of St. James, Mo., both heavy equipment operators with Marine Wing Support Squadron 273, participate in career day at Michael C. Riley Elementary School in Bluffton, S.C., Jan. 23. The Marines explained and demonstrated the capabilities of their heavy equipment used to support various operations both in deployed environments and at home. Some responsibilities of MWSS-273 include internal airfield communications, weather services, expeditionary airfield services, aircraft rescue and firefighting, aircraft and ground refueling, essential engineering services, motor transport, messing, chemical defense, security and law enforcement, airbase commandant functions, and explosive ordnance disposal.

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Guns and gear: SMP brings Marines together with paintball

Cpl. Sarah Cherry
Staff Writer

The Single Marine and Sailor Program for the Tri-Command sponsored a trip to Paintball Charleston, Jan. 25. The paintball trip offers service members opportunities to participate in morale and camaraderie building activities to improve unit cohesion.

"It's very popular," said Benjie Pangelinan, assistant coordinator for SMP. "It's also inexpensive. It's good when you see people who've never done it, especially when you go up to this park and just get a good experience and meet new friends and have a good time."

Lance Cpl. Corrine Brice, a consumable management division specialist with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 31, played paintball for the first time on the trip. Another consumable management division specialist with MALS-31, Lance Cpl. Jan Bush, has attended the same trip before.

They dodged around buildings and obstacles with their team mates, searching out opposing players. One player made her way up a tower, ducking low behind the wall and popped up to shoot unsuspecting players.

"An opportunity to play paintball again just to get out there with other Marines sounded like a good time," said Bush. "It's not that much money and it gives you a chance to get off base and try new things. It's a waste to pass up these opportunities."

The SMP program offers a myriad of events for Marines to take advantage of each month. Some upcoming trips hosted by SMP include a trip to Universal Studios in Orlando, Fla., a whitewater rafting trip, and a zip line adventure, and the benefits go beyond activities.

"It's a positive atmosphere," said Brice. "You're not around a whole bunch of trouble or potentially getting into trouble."

Although Brice was ready to leave by the end of the day, she said she enjoyed her first day playing paintball, and is looking forward to the next trip.





New MSG requirements raise the bar

By Cpl. Timothy Norris
Staff Writer

Requirements to apply for Marine security guard duty were updated with the release of Marine Administrative Message 010/14, Jan. 14.

Marine security guard duty is a program that provides Marines the opportunity to serve overseas with the U.S. Department of State at U.S. embassies and consulates throughout the world. Their mission is to provide protection to personnel and prevent the compromise of national security in-

formation and equipment at designated diplomatic and consular facilities.

In addition to the original requirements, the new prerequisites for MSG include:

- All Marines must have a 1st class physical fitness test
- All Marines must be a minimum of 64 inches tall
- All Marines must have an adjudicated secret clearance prior to applying
- Staff non-commissioned officers must have a GT score of 100
- Staff non-commissioned officers youngest child must be 9

months old prior to reporting to msg school

•Staff non-commissioned officers cannot have a family member assigned to the Exceptional Family Member Program

•Staff non-commissioned officers spouses must obtain U.S. citizenship prior to applying

•All annual training must be completed prior to reporting unless waiver is granted by Headquarters Marine Corps

"The first impression of Americans many people in other countries will have is of a Marine," said Sgt. Ross Woller, the Marine Fight-

er Attack Squadron 122 career planner. "It's a way of putting our best foot forward."

For lance corporals up to sergeants, a Marine security guard tour consists of three 12 month periods, each at a different embassy or consulate. Staff non-commissioned officers serve as detachment commanders for two 18 month periods at different locations.

"It gives you the opportunity to travel and see other countries and see the department of state at work," said Woller. "I saw 20 countries while I was on Marine securi-

ty guard duty. My motivation was to have time to do college classes, so you can complete your education while abroad."

In addition to education and travel, Woller also added that it's an excellent networking opportunity with other federal agencies, and opens doors for recruitment into those agencies after completing active service with the Corps.

"Every post is a good post," Woller said. "You make it what you want it to be no matter where you're stationed. That's Marine Corps wide. You bloom where you're planted."

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CORPS BITS



2nd MAW squadrons support 3/6 exercise

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point – MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. - Marines and Sailors from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and Marine Corps Air Station New River coordinated with Marines from 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment for an aerial insertion exercise at Marine Corps Outlying Field Atlantic, Jan. 13.

During the training, Marine helicopter crews with Marine Heavy Helicopter Training Squadron 302, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 366, HMH-461 and HMH-464, maneuvered to and landed at OLF Atlantic, carrying infantry Marines with 3rd Bn., 6th Marines for assault training.

The aircrews gained valuable insight into the capabilities of their aircraft and the partnership between Marine air and ground assets, according to Capt. Thomas E. Reese, a division lead pilot during the exercise with HMH-366.

Seven CH-53E Super Stallions carried 115 infantrymen, two waves of troops. In a closely timed aerial maneuver, the flight crews landed at OLF Atlantic, delivering their teams of infantry.

"Due to the amount of aircraft involved in this mission, two pilots completed a division leader syllabus training flight," said Reese. The syllabus training gives division lead pilots the knowledge to manage several aircraft while in flight.

The exercise required several weeks of planning and coordination between the aircraft squadrons and the leadership of 6th Marines. The squadrons' attention to detail helped facilitate a smooth flow of information and execution during the exercise, according to Reese.

The exercise gave the aircrews, especially the less experienced ones, a chance to collaborate with ground forces. Interoperability between air and ground Marines is critical for both helicopter crews and the Marines they carry for possible future operations, according to Reese.

For the Marines and Sailors conducting the assault from the Super Stallions, the training reinforces a capability most infantry Marines practice routinely. Continuous practice gives the infantry multiple opportunities to refine each of their capabilities as a ground force.



SOTG makes 3/5 better asset for 31st MEU

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Special Operations Training Group hosted a mounted raid for Marines from 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines and an attachment from 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 15, to prepare for their assignment to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

SOTG's role facilitates training for units across the Marine Corps to better enhance combat effectiveness and provide additional training in preparation for deployments.

Sgt. Peter Monfeli, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the Tactical Recovery of Aircraft Personnel, said that realism is what they train Marines for.

"The goal was to expose them to scenarios that we've painted to be relevant in the theaters that they may find themselves operating in as part of the 31st MEU," said Monfeli.

The scenario set for 3/5 and 3rd LAR involved rendering aid to the Philippine government that requested assistance against a growing insurgency.

"Initially we had intelligence that there were eight to 12 men on an objective," said 1st Lt. George Eggers from 3rd LAR. "We came in on the objective and found out through a reconnaissance and surveillance team that instead of twelve men they now had twenty hostiles on the objective."

SOTG instructors equip Marines coming through the course with the knowledge they require to succeed — from classroom instruction and evaluation to practical application and hands on experience.

"It's phenomenally helpful, specifically for our NCOs," said Eggers. "This is a refresher for them, but they will be able to emulate the SOTG staff NCOs and pass on knowledge to junior Marines to hone the skill that makes us so successful on deployment."

Instructors from SOTG develop and implement with the sense of realism in scenarios that could potentially present themselves to Marines worldwide.

"With the mission set currently changing overseas we try and keep things real and current," said Monfeli. "The better we can prepare them for going overseas the better asset they will become for higher level commanders to use if and when situations arise."



Photos by Lance Cpl. Andrew Kupper

Corporal Nathanael Skousen, an anti-tank missile man with Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, shoots at a target during a point man reaction course here, Jan. 22 - 24. The training course tested a dozen teams of three to four Marines in the challenging jungle vegetation with more than ten targets concealed in positions at varying heights.

Rumble in jungle: 31st MEU Marines engage targets in Okinawan undergrowth

Cpl. Henry Antenor
31st Marine Expeditionary Unit

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa, Japan -- A fire team of Marines move methodically down a wet gorge, up a slick stone ledge and through a widening valley. Small missteps cause Marines to fall knee deep in mud, but they climb out and continue forward. When the patrol leader yells, "One! Two! Three!" the Marines raise their rifles and the shooting begins.

Marines with Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, completed a point man's reaction course here, Jan. 22-24, as part of their pre-deployment training. The unique jungle, mountain and island environments in the Asia-Pacific require the unit to adapt, making additional

training necessary.

The Marines' of Weapons Co. primarily work with the Combined Anti-armor Team and Light Armored Reconnaissance Marines attached to the company, with most patrols being mounted in vehicles. Mounted patrols give the Marines options to use various heavy weapons like machine guns and Tube-Launched, Optically-Tracked, Wire-guided (TOW) missiles.

"Due to the type of terrain here on Okinawa, there's more of an emphasis to conduct patrols while dismounted, which diversifies our skill sets," said Lance Cpl. Bijan Vaziri, a machine gunner with Weapons Co., BLT 2/5, 31st MEU, and a native of Winston-Salem, N.C.

The training course tested a dozen teams of three to four Marines in the challenging

jungle vegetation with more than ten targets concealed in positions at varying heights. The targets were man-shaped, paper silhouettes with balloons tacked to their chest, which burst when the Marines made a direct hit with live ammunition.

"The terrain was the most challenging aspect due to the heavy mud and change of elevation," said Vaziri. "The brush gave [the targets] concealment and some targets were as high as 30 meters above us, so finding the targets was a little difficult at times."

Patrolling through the jungle and searching for enemy targets was a new experience for many of the Marines. To help the training along, experienced Marines were on hand to provide guidance.

"Everybody was taking turns

being point man during the course, which was a good thing because I have never done it before," said Cpl. Michael A. Guzman, a radio operator with Weapons Co., BLT 2/5, 31st MEU, and a native of Cathedral City, Calif. "Sometimes when we didn't spot one, the (officer-in-charge) would start counting, which meant the enemy could see us, so we had to find them and shoot them, or seek cover. The training gave me a good idea of what to do as a point man."

The point man course was part of a pre-deployment training package to prepare the Marines for the 31st MEU's regularly scheduled Spring Patrol. The 31st MEU is the Marine Corps' force in readiness in the Asia-Pacific region and is the only continuously forward-deployed MEU.



Corps Shot

Lance Cpl. Stephen D. Himes

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA, OKINAWA, Japan - An AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter flies toward Ie Shima Training Facility Jan. 16, before executing forward air controller airborne training. The AH-1W and two other helicopters executed multiple assault formations and attack patterns, attacking various targets on Ie Shima to improve crew proficiency in close air support.

Fightertown deployed:



VMFA-312 Checkerboards are currently deployed to the Mediterranean to promote security in the region.



VMFA(AW)-224 Bengals are currently deployed to the Western Pacific as part of the Unit Deployment Program.



MALS-31 Stingers a detachment is currently deployed to the Western Pacific supporting VMFA(AW)-224.

CORPS BITS



1st CEB participates in machine gunners course

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion recently participated in a non-Infantry machine gunners course aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif.

1st CEB specializes in conducting shore party operations during amphibious landings and providing close combat engineer support to the Marine infantry.

The Marines of 1st CEB are required to handle and effectively operate weapons used in combat, the course provides over the eight training days.

Lance Cpl. Daniel Vitellaro, a Marine with 1st CEB, said the non-infantry machine-gunner's course gives non-infantry Marines the proper tactics to effectively operate machine guns used in combat.

"We take classes on four different types of machine guns," Vitellaro said. "We use The M249 light machine gun, the M240, the Browning .50 Caliber machine gun, and the Mk 19 automatic grenade launcher."

Lance Cpl. Alex Cruz, a Marine with 1st CEB, said the course is designed to teach the Marines every aspect of the weapon systems they use.

"We learn the characteristics, how to perform immediate remedial actions and the rates of fire," Cruz said. "Then we get into machine gun tactics, and my favorite part, firing the weapons."

The course improves the Marines combat effectiveness and bolsters their sense of self-reliance.

"We have been practicing every day and every night, over and over, until it has become muscle memory," Vitellaro said. "This course made me confident that if I am deployed and I have to man a machine gun, I could get behind that weapon and operate it effectively."

Law enforcement Marines patrol, clear urban terrain

Lance Cpl. Matt Myers
3rd Marine Expeditionary Force

CENTRAL TRAINING AREA, Japan – "Move up, covering fire!" Orders like these mixed with the rattle of machine-gun fire as Marines with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion took defensive and offensive positions to outmaneuver the simulated enemy machine gunners during military operations on urbanized terrain training Jan. 16 in the Central Training Area.

Marines with the battalion perfected a variety of skill-sets from patrolling to room clearing in preparation for future operations and exercises, as well as increasing overall combat readiness.

"This training is important because we have a lot of different missions as military police," said Lance Cpl. Spencer Alphonso, a military policeman with 3rd LE Bn., III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. "We have a variety of tasks (that range from) humanitarian aid to clearing buildings. This training that we are

doing now is vital because it allows us to train for these necessary missions."

During the training, the Marines also strengthened previously learned skills, allowing them to be efficient warriors in a combat scenario, according to Alphonso.

Throughout the exercise, the Marines of Company B, 3rd LE Bn., acted as an opposing force for Marines with Company A.

To further add to the realism of the scenario, simulated improvised explosive devices were placed around the training area and both combatants fired simulated rounds.

"We picked our approach and set up in the buildings," said Lance Cpl. Jesse M. Callahan, a military policeman with the battalion.

"(The attacking Marines) came through and tried to infiltrate the buildings. (It was our) goal to funnel them in and get them inside a certain building, so we could suppress them and push them back."

The Marines with Company A completed their training once they had secured their

objective and captured or eliminated the mock opposing force.

The MOUT-training scenario was the culminating event for a series of broader evolutions that took place the week prior, according to Gunnery Sgt. Alexander Orellana, a military policeman with the battalion.

"The company has been conducting this exercise for one week," said Orellana. "We have had K-9 and our intelligence sections here. LE battalion Marines need to be ready to deploy at a moment's notice to any situation in the Pacific region (for missions) ranging from humanitarian aid to rebuilding a government's infrastructure."

The successful training left the Marines confident in their skills, according to Callahan.

"As military police this training is extremely critical," said Callahan. "If there is ever a threat on the inside, we are the ones to go in. This training has exceeded all my expectations ... it has been an excellent experience."



A Marine with 3rd LE Bn. prepares to return fire Jan. 16 during MOUT training in the Central Training Area. During the training event, Marines used simulated rounds to mimic combat operations in a controlled environment.

Warlords attend Mountain Exercise

Staff Sgt. Steve Cushman
2nd Marine Regiment

Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif. – Early morning, near freezing temperatures and enormous mountains paint the landscape as Marines mill around their neatly staged packs ready for the days march. The order comes to "step-off" and the Marines begin the hike during which they will travel from just above 8,000 feet in elevation to approximately 11,000 feet within a distance of less than three miles.

This was the first training event of Mountain Exercise for the Marines and sailors of 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division and consisted of a hike and training exercise without troops for the battalion and company staff at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif., where the battalion is conducting the winter training package to gain experience in cold weather and mountainous terrain operations.

The Warlords of 2nd Bn., 2nd Marines, were augmented by detachments from 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment and were joined by Ragnarok Company, a composite unit sourced from 2nd Supply Battalion and other units within 2nd Marine Logistics Group. Air support was provided by the California Air National Guard, which allow the Marines to train with each element of the Marine Air Ground Task Force.

"All of these units together, gives the Marines a real sense for the MAGTF," said Lt. Col. Joel Schmidt, the commanding officer for 2nd Bn., 2nd Marines. "The Marines are working on refining their squad through battalion level combat (standard operating procedures). The squads are

working on their squad level core proficiencies. Most importantly, the Marines are learning to have an expeditionary mindset"

To gain that expeditionary mindset the Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines and Ragnarok Co., conducted a 10-day field exercise, which consisted of long range day and night foot movement through extremely rugged terrain with drastic elevation changes and tested the Marines' endurance, said Schmidt, a Robinson, Ill., native.

According to the Ragnarok Co., commander, Maj. Alfredo T. Romero II, his Marines have been training in support of 2nd

Bn., 2nd Marines.

"We've been providing food, water, fuel and transportation," said Romero, a Albuquerque, N.M., native. "Our Marines have been putting into practice (reception, staging, onward movement and integration), which is one of the missions the Marines of Ragnarok Co., will be doing to support 2nd Bn., 2nd Marines during exercise Cold Response."

The Warlords and its attached units are undergoing the winter package at MCMWTC to prepare for the upcoming bilateral NATO training exercise Cold Response, which will take place in Norway this March.



Capt. David Kucirka, the intelligence officer for 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, leads a group of Marines during a hike at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif. To gain an expeditionary mindset the Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines and Ragnarok Co., 2nd Marine Logistics Company, conducted a 10-day field exercise, which consisted of long range day and night foot movement through extremely rugged terrain with drastic elevation changes and tested the Marines' endurance.



All bark, all bite

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – Military working dogs are trained to do many things. They can locate drugs and explosive components. They can be a part of search-and-rescue teams and react to save its handler's life.

Aggressive behavior is encouraged with military working dogs, but it is a very controlled aggression. Some dogs have the aggression built into them when they are born, some need a little more training for to have the confidence to pursue a suspect or go in for the takedown.

"It's all about building confidence," said Staff Sgt. Charles Hardesty, kennel master, Combat Center Provost Marshal's Office. "If the handlers are timid, the dogs are going to sense that and act the same way. We have to build their confidence and then reinforce it with positive feedback."

The aggression in a military working dog can be compared to the use of a ballistic vest for police officers. The likelihood of being shot on duty is relatively low, but it's always good to have a tool and not need it, vice the alternative.

"It's a tool that we like to have," Hardesty said. "Aggression and biting are skills we need the dogs to have even if we aren't going to use it"

Training the dogs' aggression is a gradual process. Handlers will work on specific drills and repeat them until the dogs can maintain that good habit.

Handlers and trainers utilize bite sleeves and suits to get the dog in an aggressive mindset. They move more aggressive dogs into advanced training, including vehicle extractions and hidden bite sleeves under civilian clothes.

"We like to take it step by step with aggression," said Daniel Andrzejewski, K9 trainer, Combat Center Provost Marshal's Office. "Training varies from dog to dog. We work them up with different biting wraps. We like to work off wraps too, because we don't want the dogs to become gear dependent."

Controlled aggression is crucial characteristic for K9 handlers to instill in their MWDs. It allows them to be effective in their jobs and safe when those skills are called into action.

Aggression is a true test of the working dog's obedience. Commands for aggressing and stopping need to be obeyed without hesitation. The handler and working dog need to have a strong relationship to be able to be aggressive when the time comes.

K9 training is continual throughout the MWD's career. From the time they get to the kennel as young as two years old until the day they retire, they work on the skills of their trade.

The war to end all wars: 100 years ago

Cpl. Sarah Cherry
Staff Writer

One hundred years ago today, the world was in the calm before the whirling storm of World War I. Few suspected the raging war which would soon pull countries across the world into a global battlefield.

Later that same year, war broke out on an international scale as 30 countries declared war or joined the war on behalf of an ally.

The United States announced neutrality, a status that would change on April 6, 1917 when the U.S. entered the war. Tension erupted between Germany and the United States after Germany's attempt at isolating Britain, one of the United States closest trading partners.

"Marines up to this point had been used as an amphibious force and ship guards," said Dr. Stephen Wise, the museum director for the Parris Island Museum. "For the first time, you're seeing Marines operating away from their logistical assistance in the Navy."

The history of the Marine Corps at the start of the Great War was characterized by Marine detachments aboard naval vessels subduing the Barbary pirates, dueling frigates in the War of 1812, and the Banana Wars in the Caribbean among other actions.

Wise said the Marines of the time were more experienced than their Army counterparts, with skill in amphibious assault from recent combat in the Banana Wars. While they were more experienced, they were not as well grounded in fighting on land. During the war, two Marine divisions served attached to the Army.

The war to end all wars is not only etched into the heart of the earth for the sheer geographical scale on which it took place. New technology spurred a need for new methods of fighting.

Reconnaissance reviewed photographs of enemy fortification, better weapons drastically improved the ability to kill the enemy, and troops from opposing countries dug down into the earth for protection from this new artillery.

The impact of the war was far reaching. Countries once close were now enemies, like Russia and Germany, and former enemies allied, like France and Russia. The League of Nations, forerunner to the United Nations, was formed and later failed. France wanted financial retribution and revenge for the damage Germany caused in the country, while Britain wanted a balance of power. The Austro-Hungarian Empire collapsed, and Italy didn't get Austrian land that they wanted. Revolutions sparked across the globe, including Russia, Germany and Hungary.

Germany was drastically restricted by the Treaty of Versailles; Germanic land given to France, Belgium, Denmark, Czechoslovakia and Poland; army reduced to 100,000; and a colossal bill to pick up of 132 billion marks, about 30 billion dollars today, a bill that Germany would not finish paying until 2010.

The cost of the Great War was heavy for all parties with 16 million dead civilian and military alike and 21 million wounded, and set the stage for the horrific scenes of World War II.



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Daddy, what did YOU do in the Great War?



Cpl. Jun Lin, a supply shipping clerk for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 31, teaches Lance Cpl. Micheal Dillard, an aviation supply specialist for MALS-31, how to package shipping items at the supply warehouse aboard Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Jan. 28.

Attaining an education outside the classroom

Lance Cpl. Brendan Roethel
Staff Writer

Marines looking to build upon their education without having to sit through classes, apply for tuition assistance, scholarships and grants or take out loans can do so by applying for internships. Internships can provide Marines with the opportunity to learn marketable skills and network with people in their desired job field.

Internships provide work expe-

rience opportunities to service members, college graduates and students, considering entering or attaining further knowledge in certain careers. Employers are willing to hire interns with little to no experience, especially if the intern is willing to accept little or no monetary compensation. However, the benefits of doing an internship go far beyond a paycheck.

"An internship can give Marines the opportunity to gain hands on work experience that you just

can't get in the classroom," said David Thompson, the owner of Fidelis Aviation in Beaufort and Hilton Head Island, S.C. "Employers are usually more concerned with work experience than qualifications and internships are often the only way to get the work experience needed to secure a job. Many employers prefer or require applicants who have done an internship or relevant work in many of the more competitive job markets. They are a vital part of a resume, and it is essential to

set you apart from the others."

An internship can be seen as the pinnacle of someone's education. They can provide Marines with the opportunity to apply their Military Occupational Specialty or desired job skills in a work environment outside of the military.

Employers see interns as prospective employees. Many finish their internships and continue working with the company full time.

"Internships are a great way

to meet people in the industry," Thompson said. "Even if you have experience, knowing people never hurts. An internship allows you to meet people who might help you land a job later on, and give you the contacts in the field you're trying to break into."

Getting experience is a great way to build a resume and confidence when entering the career field. With an impressive resume, Marines can be confident in securing a job when they finish their military service.

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Senior Drill Instructor: Staff Sgt. E.S. Watkins

Platoon 2010

Pfc. N. Tejada, Tampa, FL

Senior Drill Instructor: Staff Sgt. T. Humphrey Jr.

Platoon 2012

Pfc. A.T. Mack, North Royalton, OH

Senior Drill Instructor: Staff Sgt. J.D. Lewis

Platoon 2013

Pfc. R.E. Ausherman, Martinsburg, FL

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