



2007 Newsletter

ENGINEERS UP!





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Cover Photo: A montage of images representative of Marine Corps Engineers in action from World War Two forward. (Photos from USMC and MCEA sources)

2007 MCEA Newsletter was prepared by the Editor, Army Engineer Magazine under contract to MCEA, and in the spirit of joint service cooperation. Contact is ae.editor@mac.com.



Elected Officials:

President/Secretary: Ken Frantz, Col, USMC (Ret)

Vice President: Hank Rudge, Col, USMC (Ret)

1st Vice President: Charles Koenig, SgtMaj, USMC (Ret)

Treasurer: Mike Ellzey, Capt (Vet)

Chaplain: Pastor Stephen Robinson, MSgt, USMC (Ret)

Historian: Herb Renner, MCPO, USN (Ret)

Sgt at Arms: Vacant

Appointments:

Executive Director: George R. Hillebrand, MGySgt, USMC (Ret)

Permanent Associate Directors:
Jim Marapoti, Col, USMC (Ret)

Jim Echols, Capt USMC (Ret)

Terence J. Scully, CWO2, USMC (Ret)

Charles G. Koenig, SgtMaj, USMC (Ret)

Associate Directors:

NAME	TITLE	STATE	EMAIL
COY, JUDY	MRS	VT	YES
NESTVED, EARL	MR	NY	YES
REYNOLDS, PAUL C	MSGT	TN	YES
SANDLIN, ROBERT E	CWO3	SC	YES
SHORES, GEORGE W	MR	WI	NO
SMITH, DONALD C	MR	FL	NO

If you would like to be an Associate Director for your area, contact Ken Frantz

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to one & all!

We sincerely hope that all of you are doing better now that we have survived yet another dire winter.

I want to thank all of our contributors to this year's newsletter. I genuinely hope that you enjoy reading all about our Engineer & EOD community and all that has been going on since our previous unit update in 1992. A lot has certainly changed in just the last decade and you'll read about those changes right here.

Enclosed, you'll find several documents which are addressed further in the Admin Notes section, but I want to explain what we've been working on with our Combat Casualties list. As you can see from the list, we have identified almost 500 Marines & Sailors so far thanks to input from many of you. I hope to continue receiving input so that this listing will grow and become an all encompassing historical document. But this list as well as our Memoirs project will not be adequate or complete without your input. So please help by contributing your part.

We had another good turnout at our Peabody, Mass reunion and awards banquet and want to express our thanks once again to LtCol Kevin Leeman, USMC (Ret) & MSgt Phil Martin, USMC (Ret) for all their hard work.

Speaking of reunions, we sincerely hope you all are planning on joining us at Lejeune for this year's reunion. It's been 8 years since we've been able to tour the base and visit the Engineer units and we're looking forward to a large turnout & a gala event.

Please read the Admin Notes section and ensure you complete the required actions. This is your time to communicate your desires to us, so let us know the good, the bad and especially what else we can do to continue our progress.

GOD Bless & Semper Fidelis,

Ken Frantz

*Many people will walk in & out of our lives,
but only true friends will leave imprints on our hearts.*

ADMIN NOTES

Individual dues remain at \$15 for 1 year; \$40 for 3 years; and \$500 for a lifetime membership.

Corporate members' dues are \$400 per year.

Annual dues expire 31 Dec, but members will remain in good standing until 30 June. Email and/or phone reminders will be provided for one year.

Upon reaching the age of 80, "dues current" members will automatically change to Lifetime membership and no further dues are required.

Fortunately we're done with tax season for this year, but don't forget that 100% of your dues & contributions to MCEA and the Assistance Fund are tax deductible and most of your Reunion fees as well.

Last August, Congress passed the Pension Protection Act of 2006. This provision allows individuals who are at least 70 and a half years old to make tax-free direct transfers from their Traditional and Roth individual retirement accounts to public charities. These direct transfers must be made by Dec 31, 2007. Please note that a gift from an IRA account can count toward a donor's minimum distribution. The check from the IRA account must be made out to the charity, not the donor. No income tax deduction is permitted

for a qualified charitable distribution, since the distributions are not included in a donor's income. Please check with your tax or legal advisor about making this type of gift. If you would like to use this provision to make a gift to MCEA or the Assistance Fund, contact Frantz.

The enclosed Members' roster does not include the 23% of our membership who have expired dues. Last years' roster had 45% with expired dues, so we're making progress. Our deceased members remain on our rolls as long as their Next of Kin desire. You'll notice in the "email-address" column that I've annotated the NOK desires. The first yes/no indicates if they want to continue to receive the Newsletter and the second answer is if they want their contact info published.

We are communicating weekly or more often via email, as well as updating our website: www.MarCorEngAsn.org. Even if you don't have internet access at home, you can use the library or other locations to visit our website and find out what is going on year round.

Our Oct 8-10, 2008 Reunion/Awards Banquet will be held in the San Diego/Camp Pendleton area. Details forthcoming. Hope to see you all there!

ACTIONS REQUIRED: CHECK THE ENCLOSED MEMBERS' ROSTER & PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE # OR EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS AND KEEP YOU CONNECTED.

This is MCEA Officer Election year. If you would like to be on the ballot, submit your name & desired

position to Frantz no later than 6 July '07.

Enclosed is the 2007 Reunion Form for you to complete & return if you are planning on attending this years' reunion at Camp Lejeune.

If you would like to be our on-site reunion coordinator for Oct 2009, submit your recommended locale and any specifics you have to Frantz by 10 July.

If you would like an updated Members Roster, copy of the Bylaws or meeting minutes, contact Ken Frantz at frantzkd@alltel.net or 716-763-5655 or PO Box 322 Ashville NY 14710.

Enclosed is our latest report of our Combat Casualties for all of our Fallen Warriors who died while assigned to Marine Corps Engineer Units. If you have additions or changes, notify Frantz.

Lastly, and arguably most important, our Association has had an all encompassing set of goals since inception.

- A. Promote engineering and related MOSs.
- B. Renew/perpetuate fellowship.
- C. Locate and preserve the memory of those who served.
- D. Preservation of historical account.
- E. Foster solidarity.
- F. Honor/recognize Active/reserve duty individuals and units.

We have a handful of members who continue to carry the burden of filling Executive Committee billets and a few more who have volunteered to function as Associate Directors. But the reality is that we cannot adequately address all of the above stated goals with the limited number of part-time

volunteers. If you are satisfied with just receiving an annual Newsletter and/or attending the Reunion, then all we ask of you is to pay your dues on time and notify us of any change in your contact information.

HOWEVER, if you agree with us that we need to pursue all of our goals further, then we need to hear from you on what you can do to help. Additionally, we need to hear feedback from all of our members on how we can improve. You've elected the Executive Committee to represent you, so let us know what else you want done. Any and all ideas would be appreciated!

Send to Ken Frantz: frantzkd@alltel.net, phone #: 716-763-5655 or PO Box 322 Ashville NY 14710.

"Four steps to achievement: Plan purposefully, prepare prayerfully, proceed positively, pursue persistently." William Arthur Ward

HONOR ROLL

*Below are our Members who have died.
May they join their fellow Marines and Sailors in GOD's Love and Peace.*
(THOSE WITH AN ASTERISK BY THEIR NAME HAVE BEEN ADDED THIS YEAR)

ALO, THOMAS T. GYSGT (RET)
AMSTER, ALVIN A. MR
ANDERSON, JESSE LTCOL (RET)
ANGELL, HENRY SSGT (RET)
* ARMITAGE, GEORGE L CAPT (RET)
BACHE, TERRANCE MR
BALLANCE, HENRY G. MSGT (RET)
BARKER, LAWRENCE S MAJ (RET)
BARNETSON, WILLIAM H MAJ (RET)
BATEMAN, JOSEPH S. VET
BENSTEAD, DARYL E. COL (RET)
BERNIER, RICHARD J CWO4 (RET)
BIGITSCHKE, UWE MR
BOURQUE, RAYMOND D MAJ (RET)
BRANDEL, RALPH E COL (RET)
BREAKFIELD, BRODUS GYSGT (RET)
BRUTSMAN, DONALD MR
BUCY, CLYDE T MGYSGT (RET)
BUTLER, FRANKLIN D GYSGT (RET)
* CALLOWAY, FRED VET
* CAMPBELL, KENNETH B CWO (RET)
CAREY, RALPH J MR VET
CLARK, ELMO A. CAPT (RET)
COLANGELO, NICK E. MGYSGT (RET)
COLE, JAMES MSGT (RET)
* COOPER, FRANCIS MGYSGT (RET)
CRESAP, CHARLES C. LTCOL (RET)
CREWS, JR., DUANE D. COL (RET)
* CROMWELL, MELVIN E VET
CROSBY, ARTHUR GYSGT (RET)
CUMMINS, MARTIN R. MSGT (RET)
CUNNINGHAM, CHARLES R 1STSGT (RET)
DAMON, ROBERT K. LTCOL (RET)
DENNIS, NICHOLAS J COL (RET)
DENORMANDIE, FRANK COL (RET)
DERRICK, LEWIS C MR VET
DRISCOLL, BERNARD E. LTCOL (RET)
DUDDY, ROBERT J. MR VET
* DUHE, CLARENCE VET
DUNCAN, DAVID N. CWO4 (RET)
FADICK, CARL MR VET
FAUST JR., RUDOLPH MAJ (RET)
FELLINGER, BARRY MAJ (RET)
FERRARO, STEPHEN L. MR (RET)
FEUER, HENRY O. CWO2 (RET)
FIANDER, WILLIAM MAJ (RET)
FIELDING, JOHN M. MSGT (RET)
FISH, ROY MR VET
FLOYD, JOSEPH C. MAJ (RET)

FOLEY, THOMAS MR
FRANKOWSKI, JOSEPH MGYSGT (RET)
FUNDERBURK, RAY LTCOL (RET)
GALLAGHER, JOHN F MGYSGT (RET)
GANGEWERE, KENNETH SSGT (RET)
GAZZA, HENRY J MR
GILBO, PATRICK F MR VET
GILES, SAM E MR
GIRAFFE, FRANK CPL (RET)
* GLENN, CARL J GYSGT (RET)
GOINS, ROBERT LTCOL (RET)
GOSS, EUGENE W MYGYSGT (RET)
GRADL, MICHAEL J VET
GUBALA, TIMOTHY LTCOL (RET)
HOLLINGSWORTH, JAMES K CWO4 (RET)
HOLZINGER, BERNARD MAJ (RET)
HORTON, EVERAD MR VET
HUNTZINGER, HENRY J LTCOL (RET)
JACOBSON, MILTON R GYSGT (RET)
JACQUES, MAURICE SGTMAJ (RET)
* JARVIS, JOHN VET
JOHNSON, GUSTOF MR VET
JOHNSON, STEPHEN J CAPT (RET)
JOHNSON, WARREN MGYSGT (RET)
JONES, THOMAS W LTCOL (RET)
KROPINAK, ROBERT C MAJ (RET)
LANGLEY, JOSEPH A SGTMAJ (RET)
LANIER, LUTHER L MSGT (RET)
LIGGETT, JAMES E MSGT (RET)
LIVEZEY, JAMES W MAJ (RET)
LOY, WILLIAM CAPT (RET)
MacKENZIE, JAMES M LTCOL (RET)
MACHA, JAMES F MSGT (RET)
MADER, JOHN F COL (RET)
MARJANOV, JOHN MGYSGT (RET)
MAXWELL, LEO F GYSGT (RET)
MASTICE, JOSEPH MR VET
McCLURE, GARY L LTCOL (RET)
* MCGILL, DENNIS C MR VET
* MILLS, DAVID C LTCOL (RET)
MURPHY, ROBERT F MSGT (RET)
NAHRGANG, DONALD V LTCOL (RET)
NUNN, GRANT P GYSGT (RET)
O'CONNOR, JOHN B MR VET
OLSON, FREDRIC COL (RET)
PALMER, RALPH CWO2 (RET)
* PALMER, ROBERT M CWO3 (RET)
PARKER, PETER MR
PEHOWIC, STANLEY A GYSGT (RET)

PENDERGAST, RICHARD L GYSGT (RET)
PHELPS, WILLIAM E LTCOL (RET)
PORTWOOD, TROY G MR VET
REID, KENNETH R VET
ROBERTS, JOHN SGTMAJ (RET)
ROBERTS, KENNETH MR
* ROBERTS, LONNIE MSGT (RET)
* ROCKWELL, NOEL VET
RUDAT, JUNIOR D GYSGT (RET)
* RUSHING, EDWIN VET
* SAULNIER, JOHN L CAPT (RET)
* SHARKEY, KEO J VET
SHELKOFISKY, EARNEST L MSGT (RET)
* SHELTON, OTEY CWO4 (RET)
SHIELDS, JIMMIE R MR
SILVERMAN, ALBERT MR VET
SIMONSON, ARTHUR K MR
SMITH, RAYMOND MGYSGT (RET)
SNYDER, GUY MSGT (RET)
* SOFRONAS, GEORGE P MR VET
SOGHOIAN, AVEDIS H MSGT (RET)
* SOUZA, JOSEPH W VET
SPIKERMAN, JACK MAJ (RET)
* STANDISH, PETER VET
STASIO, ANTHONY DR
STOCKSTILL, PAUL R VET
* STOKES, RUFUS R MSGT (RET)
STUBBLEFIELD, ROBERT MR VET
STURZA, RAYMOND CAPT (RET)
SWINDALL, THOMAS MR VET
TERRY, EDWARD MSGT (RET)
TURNER, BLAINE L MR
ULSH, AMON SSGT (RET)
VEGA, MANUEL SGTMAJ (RET)
VIERS JR, W.GUS LTCOL (RET)
VOORHEES, JOHN CWO2 (RET)
VROOMAN, LYNDON F CAPT (RET)
WATTERS, RONALD T (MESSIO) MGYSGT (RET)
WICKHAM, JOHN D MR VET
* WIGGINS, ANDREW J GYSGT (RET)
WILLIAMS, KENNETH W GYSGT (RET)
WINOSKI, WALTER M COL (RET)
WOODWARD, LEEMAN MGYSGT (RET)
WRIGHT, RICHARD CAPT (RET)
ZEMATIS, WALTER J MGYSGT (RET)
ZYSK, FRANK L VET

Medal of Honor Recipient



FIRST LIEUTENANT ALEXANDER BONNYMAN JR. **UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. Born: 2 May 1910, Atlanta, Ga. Accredited to: New Mexico.

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Executive Officer of the 2d Battalion Shore Party, 8th Marines, 2d Marine Division, during the assault against enemy Japanese-held Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands, 20-22 November 1943.

Acting on his own initiative when assault troops were pinned down at the far end of Betio Pier by the overwhelming fire of Japanese shore batteries, 1st Lt. Bonnyman repeatedly defied the blasting fury of the enemy bombardment to organize and lead the besieged men over the long, open pier to the beach and then, voluntarily obtaining flame throwers and demolitions, organized his pioneer shore party into assault demolitionists and directed the blowing of several hostile installations before the close of D-day.

Determined to effect an opening in the enemy's strongly organized defense line the following day, he voluntarily crawled approximately 40 yards forward of our lines and placed demolitions in the entrance of a large Japanese emplacement as the initial move in his planned attack against the heavily garrisoned, bombproof installation which was stubbornly resisting despite the destruction early in the action of a large number of Japanese who had been inflicting heavy casualties on our forces and holding up our advance.

Withdrawing only to replenish his ammunition, he led his men in a renewed assault, fearlessly exposing himself to the merciless slash of hostile fire as he stormed the formidable bastion, directed the placement of demolition charges in both entrances and seized the top of the bombproof position, flushing more than 100 of the enemy who were instantly cut down, and effecting the annihilation of approximately 150 troops inside the emplacement.

Assailed by additional Japanese after he had gained his objective, he made a heroic stand on the edge of the structure, defending his strategic position with indomitable determination in the face of the desperate charge and killing 3 of the enemy before he fell, mortally wounded.

By his dauntless fighting spirit, unrelenting aggressiveness and forceful leadership throughout 3 days of unremitting, violent battle, 1st Lt. Bonnyman had inspired his men to heroic effort, enabling them to beat off the counterattack and break the back of hostile resistance in that sector for an immediate gain of 400 yards with no further casualties to our forces in this zone. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Medal of Honor Recipient



STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM JAMES BORDELON UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Staff Sergeant William James Bordelon of San Antonio, Texas, was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously "For valorous and gallant conduct above and beyond the call of duty as a member of an Assault Engineer Platoon of the 1st Battalion, 18th Marines, tactically attached to the 2d Marines, 2d Marine Division, in action against the Japanese-held Atoll of Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands on 20 November 1943."

William James Bordelon was born on Christmas Day, 25 December 1920 at San Antonio, Texas, a son of William Jennings Bordelon and Carmen Josephine Bordelon. He attended the local schools and was graduated from Central Catholic High School where he had become a cadet officer in the Reserve Officers Training Corps. On 10 December 1941, he enlisted in the Marine Corps for a period of four years. Private Bordelon was converted from a civilian to a Marine at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California. In "boot camp" he fired a score of 214 with the service rifle (Springfield) to become a Marine "marksman". Completing his training with the 5th Recruit Battalion, the Texan was transferred to the Casual Company for a brief period and then to Company D, 2d Engineer

Battalion of the 2d Marine Division, then stationed at San Diego. Promotions in the engineers came rapidly for Bordelon. Advanced to private first class 5 February 1942, he was promoted to corporal less than six weeks later, on 14 March. His appointment to sergeant took effect on 10 July of the same year. Transferred to Company C, 18th Marines in September, September Bordelon moved over to Company L, 3d Battalion, 6th Marines the next month, and was back with C Company in November.

It was 20 October 1942 that the sergeant and his company embarked at San Diego and sailed into the Pacific. Arriving at Wellington, New Zealand, on 9 November the 2d Division remained there for about six weeks before "shoving off" again. On 24 December 1942 he embarked on board the USS President Hayes, which took him to Guadalcanal. The sergeant's organization was on that still-enemy-infested island from 4 January to 19 February 1943, and then returned to New Zealand via the USS President Adams. The next few months were spent in reorganizing recreation, and preparation of the next campaign. Sergeant Bordelon was promoted to staff sergeant on 13 May 1943. He was transferred to Company A, 1st Battalion 18th Marines on 10 October and one week later, again went aboard ship. This was the USS Zeilin and she didn't leave Wellington until 1 November. Making one stop at Efate, New Hebrides on the 7th and sailing again on the 18th, the Zeilin arrived off grim, enemy-held Tarawa on D-Day, 20 November 1943.

During the subsequent landing, Sergeant Bordelon, was one of four men from his tractor to reach the beach alive. Sergeant Bordelon and a buddy, Sergeant Elden Beers, went over the tractor's side together and were immediately caught in the barbed wire entanglement. Extricating themselves under heavy fire, the two Marines and two others from their craft managed to hit the beach and secure a little protection behind a four-foot-high seawall. In reaching the beach the Marines lost all their equipment except a few small arms and two packages of dynamite. Quickly forming the dynamite into demolition charges, Sergeant Bordelon personally put two pillboxes out of action. Assaulting a third enemy position, the sergeant was hit by enemy machine gun fire just as one of his charges left his hand. The backlash from the charge also wounded Bordelon and he had to be bandaged by two of his companions.

The small band behind the seawall was still pinned to the sand by fire which was coming from a machine gun nest 200 yards up the beach. Gathering up the last two demolition charges, Sergeant Bordelon started to crawl toward the enemy gun pit. He succeeded in destroying the position but in doing so was again shot through the left arm. He returned and asked his men to apply a tourniquet. Taking a rifle, Sergeant Bordelon provided fire coverage for a group attempting to scale the wall. In the meantime, his companions had decided to try to rescue a group of wounded Marines who were floundering around in the water offshore. On their first move another enemy machine gun pinned them down. The sergeant, seeing his companion wounded, started off in search of a corpsman, but was unable to locate one. Instead he stumbled on a rifle grenade and immediately returned to take action against enemy machine gunners who were holding up the rescue of the wounded. As he started his next single-handed attack, his attention was caught by a badly wounded Marine whom the surf had thrown upon the beach. Immediately going to the aid of the Marine, he was caught in the shoulder by a burst of enemy fire. Although he was suffering from multiple wounds, he lunged toward the enemy gun and employing the rifle grenade, destroyed the nest before he fell dead from a final burst of enemy fire.

The Marine hero was originally buried in Lone Palm Cemetery on Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll. He later was moved to the U.S. Army Mausoleum at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The Medal of Honor, posthumously awarded to Sergeant Bordelon by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was presented to his mother at a giant, impressive ceremony at Alamo Stadium in San Antonio on 17 June 1944. That week was designated "Statewide Bordelon Week" throughout Texas by the state's governor. The 17th was "Bordelon Memorial Day" in San Antonio by mayoral proclamation. Major Donald M. Taft, Officer in Charge of the San Antonio Marine Recruiting office presented the first Medal of Honor to be awarded a Texan during World War II, to the late Marine's mother. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Sergeant Bordelon also was awarded (posthumously) the Purple Heart; Presidential Unit Citation; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; and the World War II Victory Medal. (Source: USMC History and Museums Division)

Medal of Honor Recipient



LIEUTENANT HARRY LINN MARTIN UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

First Lieutenant Harry Linn Martin was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry at the cost of his life, on Iwo Jima, 26 March 1945. Lieutenant Martin was the son of Stella May Linn Martin and Ralph Ray Martin, a car repairman. A member of the Ohio National Guard, he was graduated from Bucyrus High School and from Michigan State College at East Lansing, Michigan, where he majored in Business Administration. At State, he was on the football and wrestling teams and did some boxing and skiing. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Fraternity and served two years in the Cavalry unit of the ROTC. Following graduation in 1936, he worked in Honolulu, Hawaii, as an office manager for the Hawaiian Construction Tunnel Company.

On 25 August 1943, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve. Following schooling at Quantico, Virginia, Lieutenant Martin completed the Engineer School at New River, North Carolina, and was designated an Engineer Officer, 13 March 1944. Assigned to 2d Battalion, 16th Marines, engineer regiment of the 5th Marine Division, he joined Company C when the designation of the battalion was changed to 5th Pioneer Battalion.

Lieutenant Martin went overseas with his unit in the summer of 1944 and went into training at Hawaii. On 19 February 1945 - D Day - he landed on Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands and before the day ended he had already sustained a slight wound.

A few minutes before dawn on the morning of 16 March, the day the Iwo Campaign officially closed, the Japanese launched a concentrated attack and penetrated the Marine lines in the area where Lieutenant Martin's platoon was bivouacked. He immediately organized a firing line among the men in the foxholes closest to his own, and temporarily stopped the headlong rush of the enemy. Several of his men were lying wounded in positions overrun by the enemy and the lieutenant was determined to rescue them. In the action which followed, he was severely wounded twice but continued to resist the enemy until he fell mortally wounded by a grenade. He died ten days later.

The Medal of Honor and citation were presented to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Martin of Route 2, Bucyrus, Ohio, by Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal at a ceremony in the Navy Department on 6 May 1946. He was also survived by one brother and one sister.

Lieutenant Martin was promoted to first lieutenant on March first, twenty-five days before his death. He was buried in the 5th Division Cemetery at Iwo Jima. At the request of his mother, Lieutenant Martin's remains were returned to Ohio in 1948 for private burial in Oakwood Cemetery, Bucyrus, Ohio.

CITATION:

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Born: 4 January 1911, Bucyrus, Ohio. Appointed from Ohio. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as platoon leader attached to Company C, 5th Pioneer Battalion, 5th Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, 26 March 1945. With his sector of the 5th Pioneer Battalion bivouac area penetrated by a concentrated enemy attack launched a few minutes before dawn, 1st Lt. Martin instantly organized a firing line with the Marines nearest his foxhole and succeeded in checking momentarily the headlong rush of the Japanese. Determined to rescue several of his men trapped in positions overrun by the enemy, he defied intense hostile fire to work his way through the Japanese to the surrounded Marines. Although sustaining 2 severe wounds, he blasted the Japanese who attempted to intercept him, located his beleaguered men and directed them to their own lines. When 4 of the infiltrating enemy took possession of an abandoned machinegun pit and subjected his sector to a barrage of hand grenades, 1st Lt. Martin, alone and armed only with a pistol, boldly charged the hostile position and killed all of its occupants. Realizing that his few remaining comrades could not repulse another organized attack, he called to his men to follow and then charged into the midst of the strong enemy force, firing his weapon and scattering them until he fell, mortally wounded by a grenade. By his outstanding valor, indomitable fighting spirit and tenacious determination in the face of overwhelming odds, 1st Lt. Martin permanently disrupted a coordinated Japanese attack and prevented a greater loss of life in his own and adjacent platoons. His inspiring leadership and unswerving devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon himself and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life in the service of his country.

Medal of Honor Recipient



PFC JIMMY W. PHIPPS **UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

Jimmy W. Phipps, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Vietnam in May 1969, was born 1 November 1950, in Santa Monica, California. He attended Marina Del Ray Junior High School in Culver City, California and Venice High School in Venice, California. He left high school to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, 3 January 1968, and was discharged 7 January to enlist in the Regular Marine Corps. He completed recruit training with the 2d Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California, on 14 March 1968.

Transferred to the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California, he underwent individual combat training with Company L, 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry Training Regiment, followed by basic infantry training which he completed in May 1968. From June until August 1968, he was a student with the Marine Aviation Detachment, Naval Air Technical Training Command, Memphis, Tennessee.

Transferred to Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, he attended the Marine Corps Engineer School, until the following October. He was promoted to private first class, 1 October 1968.

In December 1968, he was transferred to the Republic of Vietnam where he served as a combat engineer with Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division. While participating in combat in the vicinity of An Hoa on 27 May 1969, he was killed in action.

A complete list of his medals and decorations include: the Medal of Honor, the Purple Heart with Gold Star in lieu of a second award, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with one bronze star, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. Private First Class Phipps was survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Phipps of Reseda, California, and two brothers and one sister.

CITATION:

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF. Place and date: Near An Hoa, Republic of Vietnam, 27 May 1969. Entered service at: Culver City, Calif. Born: 1 November 1950, Santa Monica, Calif. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a combat engineer with Company B in connection with combat operations against the enemy. Pfc. Phipps was a member of a 2-man combat engineer demolition team assigned to locate and destroy enemy artillery ordnance and concealed firing devices. After he had expended all of his explosives and blasting caps, Pfc. Phipps discovered a 175mm high explosive artillery round in a rice paddy. Suspecting that the enemy had attached the artillery round to a secondary explosive device, he warned other Marines in the area to move to covered positions and prepared to destroy the round with a hand grenade. As he was attaching the hand grenade to a stake beside the artillery round, the fuse of the enemy's secondary explosive device ignited. Realizing that his assistant and the platoon commander were both within a few meters of him and that the imminent explosion could kill all 3 men, Pfc. Phipps grasped the hand grenade to his chest and dived forward to cover the enemy's explosive and the artillery round with his body, thereby shielding his companions from the detonation while absorbing the full and tremendous impact with his body. Pfc. Phipps' indomitable courage, inspiring initiative, and selfless devotion to duty saved the lives of 2 Marines and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country .

Medal of Honor Recipient



CORPORAL HERSEL W. WILLIAMS
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE



CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Demolition Sergeant serving with the First Battalion, Twenty-First Marines, Third Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Iwo Jima, Volcano Island, 23 February 1945.

Quick to volunteer his services when our tanks were maneuvering vainly to open a lane for the infantry through the network of reinforced concrete pillboxes, buried mines and black, volcanic sands, Corporal Williams daringly went forward alone to attempt the reduction of devastating machine-gun fire from the unyielding positions.

Covered only by four riflemen, he fought desperately for four hours under terrific enemy small-arms fire and repeatedly returned to his own lines to prepare demolition charges and obtain serviced flame throwers, struggling back, frequently to the rear of hostile emplacements, to wipe out one position after another.

On one occasion he daringly mounted a pillbox to insert the nozzle of his flame thrower through the air vent, kill the occupants and silence the gun; on another he grimly charged enemy riflemen who attempted to stop him with bayonets and destroyed them with a burst of flame from his weapon.

His unyielding determination and extraordinary heroism in the face of ruthless enemy resistance were directly instrumental in neutralizing one of the most fanatically defended Japanese strong points encountered by his regiment and aided in enabling his company to reach its' objective.

Corporal Williams' aggressive fighting spirit and valiant devotion to duty throughout this fiercely contested action sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

General Officers



Brigadier General George L. Bartlett - Retired



Brigadier General George L. Bartlett retired from the Marine Corps June 1, 1977.

General Bartlett was born in Nampa, Idaho, and graduated from Wasatch Academy, Mt. Pleasant Utah, in 1942. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in February 1943, and served in World War II as a navigator-bombardier in the Northern Solomons area as a member of Marine Bomber Squadron 443. He attained the rank of staff sergeant prior to being released to inactive duty in February 1946. He received his B.S. degree in Architecture from the University of Oregon in 1951, and M.A. degree in Personnel Management from George Washington University in 1956. He was recalled to active duty on November 6, 1950 and

was commissioned a Marine Corps Reserve second lieutenant in May 1951.

General Bartlett completed The Basic School, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Va in September 1951, and Air Controller School, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C., in November 1951. He was then ordered to the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, El Toro, Calif., as Air Defense Control Officer, and later, as Adjutant, Marine Ground Control Intercept Squadron 4. He integrated into the Regular Marine Corps in February 1952, and the following July was transferred to Korea as an air controller with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. He was promoted to first lieutenant in November 1952.

Returning to the United States in June 1953, he served as an instructor at the Noncommissioned Officers School, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif., until February 1954. He was next transferred to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., as project officer, Research Section, Procedures Analysis Office, Personnel Department. He was promoted to Captain in March 1954.

From November 1956 to March 1957, he attended the Associate Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Va., and upon graduation, returned to Camp Pendleton as G-1 Officer, 4th Atomic Exercise Brigade, 1st Marine Division. He was reassigned as a company commander, 7th Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, in July 1957, and later, served as the Division Staff Secretary, until June 1959, when he was transferred to Okinawa as Commanding Officer, "C" Company, 7th Engineer Battalion, attached to the 3rd Pioneer Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

General Bartlett attended the Advanced Engineer Course, Fort Belvoir, from August 1960 to February 1961. Upon graduation he was assigned to Quantico where he served as Staff Secretary, and later, as Aide to the Commandant, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico. He was promoted to major in November 1961, and completed the Command and Staff College, also at Quantico, in June 1964.

He served as the S-4 Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, until May 1965, when he was ordered to Vietnam with Regimental Landing Team 7 and upon reaching Okinawa was assigned as Plans Officer, Special Landing Force, 7th Fleet. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" for this service.

General Bartlett returned to the United States in July 1966, and served as Inspector-Instructor, 10th Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division, USMCR, Portland, Ore. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in August 1966. He attended the Naval War College, Newport, R.I. from August 1968 to June 1969, when he was transferred to the 5th Marine Division at Camp Pendleton where he commanded the 13th Engineer Battalion. He later served as Plans' Officer, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, when the 5th Marine Division was deactivated.

He began his second tour in Vietnam in August 1970 serving as the Assistant G-1, Assistant Plans and Operations Officer G-3, and Assistant Chief of Staff G-1, Headquarters, Marine Amphibious Force, until July 1971, when he was ordered to Naples, Italy, as Chief, Plans and Operations Branch, Logistics Division, Allied Forces, Southern Europe. He was promoted to colonel in February 1971, and was awarded the Legion of Merit with Combat "V" for his Vietnam service.

General Officers

General Bartlett was transferred to Headquarters Marine Corps in September 1974, as Head, Plans and Policy Branch, Plans Programs and Management Division, Installations and Logistics Department. He remained in that billet until his advancement to Brigadier General on July 3, 1975, when he assumed duty as Director, Facilities and Services Division, Installations and Logistics Department, Headquarters Marine Corps. He served in this capacity until his retirement June 1, 1977.

A complete list of his decorations and medals include the Legion of Merit with Combat "V", the Joint Services Commendation Medal, three Strike/Flight Awards of the Air Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", the Combat Action Ribbon, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with one star, the Korean Service Medal with two stars, the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal with 3 stars, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Gallantry Cross with Palm, the United Nations Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Lieutenant General James A. Brabham, Jr. - Retired



At the time of his retirement, Lieutenant General James A. Brabham Jr., was serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics.

General Brabham received his commission in June 1962 following graduation from Cornell University, where he earned a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree.

In December 1962, after completing The Basic School at Quantico, Va., he was assigned to the 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as a platoon leader in the 1st Bridge Company, FMF, Pacific. He commenced a two-year tour of duty at the Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor in 1964, serving as guard officer and barracks personnel officer. He reported to the 1st Shore Party Battalion in Chu Lai, Vietnam in August 1966, where he served as Commanding Officer of Company A, and subsequently Commanding Officer of Headquarters and Service Company.

From August 1967 to July 1968, he attended the U.S. Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Va. Upon graduation, he was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., for duty as the Engineer Equipment Programming Officer in the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff (G-4).

Ordered back to Vietnam in April 1971, he served as the Engineer Advisor to the Vietnamese Marine Corps, remaining in that capacity through the North Vietnamese Easter offensive of April 1972.

Upon reassignment to Twentynine Palms, Calif., he assumed command of Provisional Maintenance Company, Force Troops, FMF Pacific. He commanded that unit until assignment to the U.S. Naval Academy in August 1975. During his tour at the Naval Academy, he served as a Company Officer, Instructor of Leadership, and Executive Assistant to the Commandant of Midshipmen.

Returning overseas in August 1978, he served as Executive Officer of Camp Garcia, Vieques, Puerto Rico, until December 1978.

General Brabham's next assignment was as the Program Coordinator for the Air Cushion Landing Craft Development and Acquisition Program on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C. On July 2, 1981, he assumed command of the 2d Combat Engineer Battalion, Camp Lejeune, N.C., and commanded that unit until July 1983, when he was assigned duties as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, 2d Marine Division.

From August 1984 until July 1986, General Brabham was assigned duties as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, II MAF, Camp Lejeune, N.C. General Brabham was next assigned as the Deputy Director for Logistics, J-4,



General Officers

USCENTCOM, MacDill AFB, Fla. While serving in this capacity, he was selected for promotion to brigadier general in November 1988. He was advanced to brigadier general on June 23, 1989, and was assigned duty as the Commanding General, 1st Force Service Support Group, FMF, Camp Pendleton, Calif., on July 14, 1989. He commanded that Unit during its participation in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. On July 8, 1991, he was assigned duty as Director, Marine Air-Ground Training and Education Center he also served as Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command, Quantico, Va.

His decorations and medals include: the Distinguished Service Medal; Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and gold stars in lieu of a second and third award; Navy Achievement Medal; Presidential Unit Citation; Navy Unit Commendation; Meritorious Unit Commendation; Vietnam Service Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal; Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with gold star; Vietnamese Honor Medal, 1st Class; Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross Color); Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Civil Actions Color, 1st Class); the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.



Brigadier General Richard H. Huckaby - Retired



Brigadier General Richard H. Huckaby was the former Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California.

General Huckaby, a native of Galveston, Texas, entered the United States Marine Corps in 1959 following graduation from the University of Houston with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. Commissioned a second lieutenant in December 1959, he completed The Basic School and was assigned to the 3d Pioneer (Engineer) Battalion, 3d Marine Division, Okinawa, where he served as an Engineer Platoon Commander and later on the Battalion Staff.

Returning to the United States in October 1961, General Huckaby was assigned to Marine Corps Air Facility, Santa Ana, California where he served in various Command and Staff positions. Ordered to Headquarters Marine Corps in August 1964, he served in the Management Engineering Branch until reassigned to Marine Corps Development and Education Command, Quantico, Virginia, as an instructor in the Basic School in September 1966.

Transferring to the 3d Marine Division, Republic of Vietnam, in January 1968, General Huckaby served as the Assistant Division Engineer and later as the S-4, 11th Engineer Battalion. Upon departing the Republic of Vietnam in February 1969, he assumed command of Company A, Marine Security Guard Battalion in Frankfurt, West Germany.

Returning to the United States in May 1971, General Huckaby served as Assistant Force Engineer, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia, while awaiting assignment at the Armed Forces Staff College. Graduating in January 1972, he was assigned to Headquarters, Atlantic Command, Norfolk, and served as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff, CINCLANT, until August 1973 when he was assigned as the Officer-in-Charge of the Recruiting Station in Detroit, Michigan.

General Officers

In September 1976, General Huckaby again departed the U.S. to serve as the Wing Engineer, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, on Okinawa. He returned to the United States and Camp Lejeune, North Carolina in October 1977, where he served successively as Director of Instruction, Marine Corps Engineer School, Commanding Officer of Base Material Battalion, and Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities.

Assuming command of the 2d Combat Engineer Battalion, 2d Marine Division on June 18, 1979, General Huckaby remained at Camp Lejeune until being reassigned to Headquarters Marine Corps in August 1981. General Huckaby served in the Materiel Division, Installations and Logistics Department as the Head of the Engineer, Motor Transport and General Supply Branch until assuming duties as Operations Officer for the Materiel Division in October 1985. While serving in this capacity, he was selected for promotion to Brigadier General in April 1986. He was assigned duty as the Commander, Defense Electronics Supply Center, Defense Logistics Agency, Dayton, Ohio on May 15, 1986, and advanced to Brigadier General on May 27, 1986. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1990.

General Huckaby's personal decorations include: the Defense Superior Service Medal; the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V"; Navy Commendation Medal; Navy Achievement Medal; and the Combat Action Ribbon. He is also authorized to wear various service and unit awards.

Brigadier General Huckaby is married to the former Jan Parish of San Angelo, Texas. The Huckaby's have two grown children, Steven Huckaby and Sandra (Hanna) and one granddaughter, Emily Hanna. He currently teaches American Government at North Texas Central College.

Major General Michael R. Lehnert

Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West



Major General Michael R. Lehnert currently serves as Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West. Michael R. Lehnert graduated from Central Michigan University in 1973 with an undergraduate degree in History and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant through the PLC program.

After attending the Marine Officers Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, Lieutenant Lehnert was transferred to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Assignments at Camp Lejeune included: Engineer Platoon Commander and Maintenance Officer, LSU-32, and S-4, Headquarters & Support Battalion, 2d Force Service Support Group (FSSG).

During his follow on assignment to 9th Engineer Support Battalion in Okinawa, Japan, he served as Battalion Operations Officer and finished his tour as Commander (C.O.), Company A.

In 1977, he was ordered to Marine Barracks, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, to serve as the Operations Officer, and in 1978 took command of Company A, Marine Barracks, Subic Bay.

In 1979, Captain Lehnert attended the U.S. Army Advanced Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and upon graduation, was assigned as Executive Officer, USMC Recruiting Station, San Antonio, Texas.

General Officers

In 1983, he was transferred to Camp Pendleton, California where he served as; C.O., Company C, 1st Landing Support Battalion; C.O., Combat Service Support Detachment 11; C.O., Combat Service Support Detachment 16; Executive Officer, MAU Service Support Group 17; Landing Force Support Party Commander, BSSG-7; and MEF Engineer, First Marine Amphibious Force.

He was selected for Armed Forces Staff College in 1987, and upon graduation reported to the United States Southern Command for duty as Chief, Central American Exercise Branch, J-3 Operations Directorate. During the Panama crisis, he participated in Operation Just Cause and Operation Promote Liberty.

Major Lehnert was assigned in 1990 as Inspector-Instructor, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, Portland, Oregon. While there he was selected for top level school and completed the Naval War College in 1993, earning a Masters Degree in International and Strategic Studies.

In 1993, Lieutenant Colonel Lehnert was assigned to the Joint Warfighting Center in Norfolk, Virginia where he served as Chief of the Futures Branch, Doctrine Division.

In 1995, Colonel Lehnert reported to 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, and participated in Operation Sea Signal, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as the Commander, Joint Task Group Bulkeley (JTF 160). During this operation, he commanded the security forces responsible for the operation of Cuban and Haitian migrant camps.

Colonel Lehnert commanded Marine Wing Support Group 27 at Cherry Point, North Carolina from May 1996 until reassigned in 1999 to duties as Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, II MEF. In 1999 he deployed to Panama as the Chief of Staff, Joint Task Force Panama, and oversaw the final turnover of the Panama Canal.

During his first tour as a General Officer at Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, Quantico, Virginia, he served as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics.

He took command of 2d FSSG in July 2001. In January 2002 he deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as Commander, Joint Task Force 160. During this tour, JTF 160 constructed and operated the detention facilities for Taliban and Al Qaeda detainees.

In 2003, 2d FSSG deployed to the CENTCOM theater and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Brigadier General Lehnert served as Commander, Marine Logistics Command. He was subsequently assigned as Chief of Staff, United States Southern Command. In April 2005 he took command of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California. On 21 October 2005 Major General Lehnert assumed command of the newly activated Marine Corps Installations West and its seven subordinate installations.

Decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with Gold Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



Major General Harold Mashburn, Jr. - Deceased



Major General Harold Mashburn, Jr.'s last command was as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Logistics Command, Albany, Georgia.

General Mashburn received a B.S. degree from the United States Naval Academy and a M.S. degree in Engineering Management from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

General Mashburn's operating force assignments include duties as Construction Officer, Engineer Platoon Leader, Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of an Engineer Company, 1st Engineer Battalion; Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, 1st Marine Division; Utilities

General Officers

Officer, Executive Officer and Commanding Officer, Engineer Support Company, 3d Engineer Battalion; Engineer Operations Officer, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific; Operations Officer and Executive Officer, 3d Combat Engineer Battalion; G-3 Plans Officer and Commanding Officer, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2d Force Service Support Group; Commanding Officer, Combat Service Support Group 1; and Commanding General, 2d Force Service Support Group.

He has also served as Officer-in-Charge, Officer Selection Team, Oklahoma City, OK; Operations Officer, Depot Maintenance Activity, Barstow, CA; Chief, Logistics Readiness Center, J-4, The Joint Staff; Director of Logistics, J-4, U.S. Forces, Japan; Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics (Logistics Plans and Policy); Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics (Facilities and Services); and Commandant, Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

General Mashburn is a graduate of The Basic School, Basic Engineer Officer Course, Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Amphibious Warfare School (non-resident), Marine Corps Command and Staff College (non-resident), and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.



Major General (sel) Frank A. Panter, Jr.

*Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations
and Logistics (Plans)*



Brigadier General Panter is currently serving as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics (Plans, Policy and Strategic Mobility).

Enlisting in the Marine Corps in August 1968, he served until 1972. This included a tour in the Republic of Vietnam with the 1st Marine Division. After graduating in 1975 from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology, he entered Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in July 1975.

Following the The Basic School in 1976, Second Lieutenant Panter attended the Basic Combat Engineer Course. He then served as a Combat Engineer and Shore Party Platoon Commander, Alpha Company, 3D Combat Engineer Battalion, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii participating in several deployments throughout the Western Pacific. Transferred in July 1979 to the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia, Captain Panter served as the Commanding General's aide-de-camp until 1982. Captain Panter then served as Inspector-Instructor for Headquarters & Service Company and Assistant Battalion Inspector-Instructor, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, Portland, Oregon until 1986. He was later assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington D.C. as an Acquisition Project Officer for engineer equipment.

In 1990 Major Panter was transferred to Okinawa, Japan and served as the Operations Officer and later as the Executive Officer for 3d Combat Engineer Battalion, 3d Marine Division. After being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he assumed command of the 3d Combat Engineer Battalion. While at 3d Combat Engineer Battalion he participate in Operation FIERY VIGIL, providing disaster relief assistance in the Philippines after the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.

In 1993 Lieutenant Colonel Panter was transferred to United States Central Command, Tampa, Florida and served as the Branch Chief, Exercise Branch, Logistics and Security Assistance Directorate (J4) and also as the Humanitarian Assessment Survey Team (HAST) Chief.

General Officers

During 1997 he was transferred to Naples, Italy, where he served as the Military Assistant and Senior Special Assistant to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Naval Forces Europe / Commander, Allied Forces Southern Europe.

In July 1998, Colonel Panter was transferred to United States Atlantic Command, Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the Deputy Chief and later Chief of the Current Operations Division, Operations Directorate (J3). During August 1999 Colonel Panter was transferred to the 2D Marine Aircraft Wing and served as the 2D Marine Aircraft Wing Inspector until assuming command of Marine Wing Support Group 27, which he commanded for two years.

From July 2002 until August 2003, Brigadier General Panter served as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Warfighting Lab in Quantico, VA and the Vice Chief, Office of Naval Research in Arlington, VA.

In September 2003 he assumed command of the 3d Marine Logistics Group. During this tour he commanded the Combined Support Group-Sri Lanka, Operation UNIFIED ASSISTANCE, which was responsible for U.S. military tsunami disaster relief assistance in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. BGen Panter also deployed forces to Pakistan for earthquake disaster relief efforts as well as commanding the U.S. forces in Indonesia for earthquake disaster relief operations.

Brigadier General Panter is a graduate of the United States Army's Advance Engineer Officer's Course, the Marine Corps' Command & Staff College, the Naval War College and the Air Force's Air War College (non resident). He has a Master of Education degree in Secondary Mathematics and a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Lieutenant General Robert A. Tiebout - Retired



No photo available

Lieutenant General Robert A. Tiebout was born on August 11, 1938 in Urbana, Illinois. He graduated from Memphis State University, Memphis, Tennessee with a B.S. degree in 1961, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in October 1961.

Upon completion of The Basic School at Quantico, Va., General Tiebout attended the Combat Engineer Officer School at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and subsequently assigned as a Platoon Commander of Landing Support Company Service Battalion, 3d Marine Division on Okinawa.

Returning from his overseas tour, he was assigned to the billets of Platoon Commander and Executive Officer of 2d Bridge Company, 2d Force Service Regiment. He was then assigned to the 2d Shore Party Battalion where he was promoted to captain and served as the Commanding Officer, Headquarters and Service Company, Platoon Commander, Engineer Equipment and Motor Transport Platoon and Assistant Logistics Officer of the Battalion, respectively.

During 1967, he deployed to Vietnam with the 1st Marine Division, where he served as the Company Commander of "A" Company, 9th Engineer Battalion and Battalion Operations Officer. Returning to the states in 1968, he was assigned to the 2d Engineer Battalion to serve as the Support Company Commander, Division Engineer and Battalion Training Officer.

In 1969, he was ordered to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., and assigned duties as Engineer Monitor, Officer Assignment Section of the Personnel Management Department. From July 1972 to June 1973, he attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and upon graduation, was assigned again to the 3d Marine Division where he served with the 3d Engineer Battalion as the Operations Officer.

Transferring back to the states in July 1974, he was assigned to the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Ga., as the Base Facilities Maintenance Officer. General Tiebout returned

General Officers

to Headquarters Marine Corps in 1977 for duty and served in the billets as Head of the Garrison Mobile Equipment Section and the Head of the Engineer Section, Materiel Division, Installations and Logistics Department. During 1978, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

From July 1980 to June 1981, he was a student at the Naval War College, Newport, R.I., and upon graduation transferred to the 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as G-4 of the Force Service Support Group and Commanding Officer, 7th Engineer Support Battalion. He then served as the Base Facilities Maintenance Officer from August 1982 until April 1984. Returning overseas, he served as the Commanding Officer of Range Company, Camp Fuji, Japan.

Upon completion of his overseas tour, General Tiebout was assigned as the Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C. During 1986, he assumed duty as the Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Engineer School. While serving in this capacity, he was selected for promotion to brigadier general in December 1987. He was advanced to that grade on May 31, 1988, and served as Commander, Defense Electronics Supply Center, Defense Logistics Agency, Dayton, Ohio from June 1988 until June 1990. He was assigned duty as the Program Manager, MAGTF C2 and Deputy Commanding General, Marine Corps Research, Development and Acquisition Command, Quantico, Va., on June 18, 1990. General Tiebout was advanced to major general on May 31, 1991, and assigned duty as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Research, Development and Acquisition Command on June 3, 1991. On Jan. 1, 1992, the Marine Corps Research, Development and Acquisition Command was renamed Marine Corps Systems Command. General Tiebout was nominated by the President for appointment to the grade of Lieutenant General on March 19, 1992, and assignment as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics. He assumed his current assignment and was promoted to his present grade on Aug. 12, 1992.

His medals and decorations include: the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; the distinguished Service Medal with Star; Bronze Star Medal with Combat V; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal; Presidential Unit Citation with Ribbon bar and one bronze star; Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross Color); and the Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Civil Actions Color, 1st Class).



Brigadier General George H. Walls, Jr. - Retired



Brigadier General George H. Walls Jr., was the former Commanding General, 2d Force Service Support Group, FMF, Atlantic, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

General Walls is a native of Parkesburg, Pennsylvania. He graduated from West Chester State College in 1964 with a B.S. degree in Education and was commissioned in 1965 upon completion of the Officer Candidates School, Quantico, Va. He also holds an M.A. degree (1975).

Following completion of The Basic School at Quantico and the Combat Engineer Officers Course, Camp Lejeune, N.C., he reported to the Third Engineer Battalion, 3d Marine Division in Vietnam in 1966. Assignments included duty as a platoon commander and the assistant operations officer for the battalion. He was promoted to First Lieutenant in October 1966.

Returning to the United States in 1967, he served as a platoon commander and company executive officer with the 2d Engineer Battalion, 2d Marine Division, Camp

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Lejeune, N.C. During this assignment, he was promoted to Captain in July 1967. He was later reassigned to duty as the Senior Instructor, Combat Engineer Instruction Unit, Marine Corps Engineer School.

General Walls was transferred to the Headquarters, 4th Marine Corps District, Philadelphia, PA., where he served as an Officer Selection Officer and Assistant Head of the Personnel Procurement Branch. He next served aboard the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVA-42), as Commanding Officer of a Marine Detachment.

In 1972, General Walls was assigned duty as the Marine Officer Instructor, NROTC Unit at the North Carolina Central University. He also served for two years as the unit's Executive Officer. He was promoted to Major in August 1974, and while in this assignment he completed the requirements for an M.A. degree in Education (1975).

From 1975-1976, he was a student at the Command and Staff College, Quantico. Upon completion of school, he reported to the Marine Corps Engineer School at Camp Lejeune, where his assignments included, Assistant School Director, Director of Instruction, and Commanding Officer, Engineer Equipment Instruction Company, respectively.

He was assigned as the Marine Corps Representative, United States Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, from 1980 to 1982, and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in August 1980. General Walls is a graduate of the National War College, Washington, D.C., Class of 1983.

General Walls transferred overseas in July 1983, where he commanded Wing Engineer Squadron-17 until June 1984. Returning from overseas, he served as the Special Assistant and Marine Aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) from July 1984 until June 1987, and promoted to Colonel July 1986.

Reporting to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., he served from July 1987 until July 1989, initially as the Head, Engineer, Motor Transport, General Supply Branch; and then as Program Manager for Engineer Systems, Marine Corps Research, Development and Acquisition Command.

General Walls was next assigned duty as the Commanding Officer and Professor of Naval Science, NROTC Unit, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While serving in this capacity, he was selected for promotion to Brigadier General on March 13, 1991. He was advanced to his present grade on June 19, 1991, and assumed command of the Second Force Service Support Group on July 12, 1991. On Nov. 22, 1991, General Walls was appointed Commanding General, Joint Task Force for Operation GTMO, a humanitarian relief effort for Haitian migrants at Guantanamo Naval Base, Cuba. He resumed command of the 2d FSSG on March 27, 1992.

General Walls' personal decorations include: the Distinguished Service Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"; Navy Achievement Medal; and the Combat Action Ribbon.

General Walls has been awarded a honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Virginia Union University; the NAACP Roy Wilkins Renowned Service Award and the Humanitarian Service Award, Chapel of the Four Chaplains.

General Walls retired from active duty on October 1, 1993. He is married to the former Portia Diane Hall and has three sons, George III, Steven and Kevin.

BYLAWS STATE: ARTICLE XI- FELLOWS

The MCEA recognizes the importance of its members, partners and stakeholders who are a valuable and sustaining element of the Association. The MCEA is prepared to recognize these organizations and individuals by establishing a Fellows category to acknowledge their contributions in support of the Association and/or its Foundation, special fund/assistance programs. As a tax exempt, Non Profit organization under the IRS Code section 501(a), tax exempt donations to support the MCEA will be solicited from a wide range of potential donors, to include members, organizations, numerous charitable organizations, and individuals. Contributors, who make significant donations, one time or cumulatively, will be recognized by "Fellows" status and be so recognized both at the annual reunion/Awards Banquet and on the MCEA website. Fellows' categories include Platinum (\$5000 or more); Gold (\$1000 to 4999); Silver (\$500 to \$999) and Bronze (\$250 to \$499).

PLATINUM

NONE

GOLD

FRANTZ, KEN COL USMC (RET)
HARRIS-INMAN, TERRY LTCOL USMC (RET)
MARAPOTI, JIM COL USMC (RET)
TEREX CORPORATION

SILVER

ANDERSON, VIRGIL

BRONZE

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Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps



Sergeant Major Robert E. Cleary - Retired



Sergeant Major Robert E. Cleary assumed the post of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps on 28 June 1983 and served until 26 June 1987.

Sergeant Major Cleary was born in Tewksbury, Mass., on 2 June 1931, and graduated from Holyoke Trade High School in May 1949. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on 24 October 1951.

He underwent recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, then attended a nine-week Demolition Specialist Course at Schools Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where he was promoted to private first class. Upon completion of the school, he was assigned as the Battalion Demolition Specialist, Company B, 7th Engineer Battalion at Camp Pendleton, California. Promoted to corporal, he remained with the 7th Engineer Battalion until April 1953.

Sergeant Major Cleary transferred overseas, where he joined the 1st Marine Division in Korea, as a Squad Leader and Right Guide with Company I, 3d Battalion. While in this assignment, he was promoted to sergeant. Returning from overseas, he reported to the 1st Rifle Company at the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, Springfield, Massachusetts. In early 1958, he returned to Camp Pendleton, for duty as a military policeman with the Military Police Company.

In May 1958, he was promoted to staff sergeant, and continued to serve in this assignment until April 1961, when he transferred to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California, for duty as a drill instructor.

Upon completion of his tour as a drill instructor, Sergeant Major Cleary joined Headquarters and Service Company, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, for duty as a Section Leader, and later, Platoon Sergeant in the 81mm Motor Platoon. During February 1965, he transferred to H&S Company, 3d Battalion, 3d Marine Division, as a Platoon Sergeant and Platoon Leader in the Anti-Assault Platoon.

This assignment was followed by his first tour in Vietnam as a Platoon Leader, Company G, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, 3d Marine Division, where he was promoted to gunnery sergeant. In August 1966, he transferred to Company F, 2d Battalion, 27th Marines, 5th Marine Division, for duty as Company Gunnery Sergeant. For his combat service in Vietnam, he was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", and two awards of the Purple Heart.

He returned to San Diego for a short tour as a drill instructor in August 1967, at which time he was selected for promotion to first sergeant. He was reassigned to the 27th Marines as the Company First Sergeant. During March 1968, he returned to Vietnam, serving as the First Sergeant of Battery C, 1st LAAM Battalion, MACC-19, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Subsequently, he served as Company First Sergeant of Company G, 28th Marine Regiment.

Sergeant Major Cleary then reported to H&S Company, 2d Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, as the Company First Sergeant, followed by his third tour in Vietnam as the Squadron Sergeant Major of HMM-165, MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

Upon his return from overseas, in May 1973, he was assigned to VMA-223, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Yuma, Arizona, where he attained his present grade and served as the Squadron Sergeant Major. In September, he was reassigned to the 2d LAAM Battalion, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, as the Battalion Sergeant Major.

He reported to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC., in September 1974, for duty as the Battalion Sergeant Major of Marine Security Guard Battalion, followed by duty as Personnel Sergeant Major. His next assignment was as the 3d Marine Division Sergeant Major in July 1979, then returned to Marine Security Guard Battalion as Battalion Sergeant Major.

On 1 January 1982, Sergeant Major Cleary was selected as the Sergeant Major of Marine Corps Development and Education Command in Quantico, Virginia. He was selected as the 10th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps on 25 May 1983, and assumed the post on 28 June 1983.

His personal decorations consist of the Silver Star Medal; three Air Medals; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"; and gold star in lieu of a second award; Navy Achievement Medal; two Purple Hearts; and the Combat Action Ribbon.



MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION MEMOIRS

Two of our Association's objectives address the preservation of our USMC engineering history and the memories of those who have served. Over the last several months, we've been soliciting input from our members via email and have received a couple of dozen replies. Our desire is to continue to collect these personal recollections along with other information from our members and units and publish a manuscript. Herb Renner MCPO, USN (Ret) has agreed to be our Historian and is logging all of the submissions. I see the future product as a loose leaf document that we can publish periodical updates to and insert into a 3 ring binder.

To make this product worthwhile, we need several things to happen. First, we need your input—whether it is one paragraph or an entire chapter discussing your memories, units served with, locations, most memorable people/events etc. Secondly, we need your pictures along with a good description of who/what/where/when. Finally, we need help assembling the input, especially someone adept at scrap booking.

Please provide your input to Frantz via email or mail. Any questions, call. All the contact info is on the Members' Roster.

Below are examples of what we've received so far. Thanks to all of you for taking the time to contribute.

True Story -- BGen Richard H. Huckaby, (USMC, Retired) "I can do that."

My first real assignment after basic training and commissioning in 1959 was to the 3rd Pioneer Battalion, 3rd Marine Division in Okinawa. As a training exercise, the 3rd Marine Division was planning to make an amphibious landing over a local beach. The Commanding General had flown over the beach in a helicopter and selected a site overlooking the landing beach from which he could observe the exercise.

The Commanding General returned to

Division Headquarters at Camp Courtney and told the Division G-3 Operations Officer (Colonel) where he wanted to set-up. The Colonel contacted the 3rd Pioneer Battalion Commander (Lieutenant Colonel) and told him what the General wanted and directed him to prepare the site so that the General could get to it by jeep. The Lieutenant Colonel told his Battalion S-3 Operations Officer (Major) what was needed. The Major called the "C" Company Commander (Captain) and directed that an observation site be prepared at the desired location. The Captain called his 1st Platoon Commander (2ndLt. Huckaby) and told me to prepare the site for the Division Commander. With the confidence of the inexperienced, I gathered up Corporal McKim, bulldozer operator, loaded a bulldozer onto a low bed and proceeded by what roads then existed to the coordinates

given for the site. I could only get within a quarter mile of the site by road.

Okinawa is principally a coral island with steep, rough, vertical escarpments covered with dense vegetation. In those days it was undeveloped, very rugged and difficult to walk through and impossible to get a jeep overland cross-country. The only way into the desired site was to cut a pioneer road along a very narrow ridge that had extremely steep slopes on both sides. The natural ridgeline was about four feet wide and the treads on the bulldozer were about 6 1/2 feet wide. In my "expert" opinion there was no way we could reach the site much less prepare it for the Commanding General to park his jeep on.

I walked back to my jeep and clicked on my radio. I was going to tell my Company Commander that someone should tell the Commanding General that 2ndLt

Huckaby said he should “pick another site.” However, before I could key up the radio, Corporal McKim came to me and made what I am sure is the most important statement in my budding Marine Corps career. The conversation went something like this:

Corporal McKim -- “Sir, I can do that”

2nd Lt. Huckaby -- “Are you sure?”

Corporal McKim -- “Yes sir”

2nd Lt. Huckaby -- “OK” AND HE DID!

As you have no doubt already surmised, Second Lieutenants who tell Commanding Generals that they cannot do something that every Marine Corporal knows can be done, do not become a First Lieutenant, much less a General Officer. Corporal McKim saved my professional butt.

To my great good fortune I learned early that Marines “can do that” and the lesson has stayed with me. For the next 31 years, no matter the task or circumstances, Marines repeatedly demonstrated that they “can do that” over and over in countless ways. They still do.

I was promoted to Brigadier General in Spring 1986. It must be said, however, that it was not because of any remarkable things I ever did. I was elevated to that rank because of the superb collective performance of all those I was privileged to lead. It was not a singular achievement. I must thank Corporal McKim and so many others.

Close Calls That I Can Remember. By Gene Spanos.

Attacked while working at bridge 9/11 by enemy artillery: (Winter '68)

As members of the 11th engineers, we were assigned to repair the bridge at 9/11 along route nine. It was while we were working with air tools that we would get hit from the NVA's artillery. Please keep in mind that while working as a combat engineer

Engineers Up!

in a combat zone with air tools and being targeted - you needed the buddy system. This worked OK - so when the bad guys targeted us at the bridge that day - it took a Marine to hit you on the back - then you hit the deck for cover. Keep in mind that this was the main route from Dong Ha combat base out to Khe Sanh fire support base that was manned by our Marines. The bridges kept being hit at night so squads of Marines were assigned to security at each of these bridges.

Marine that blew his foot off in front of me while inside minefield: (Mar '68)

We were assigned as a company unit to install the minefield around the perimeter of the fire support base Gio Linh up along the DMZ. While inside the minefield that day and working on “C” strip I had just installed a cluster of three small M-14 landmines and one M-16 large mine. It was at this point while looking over at one of my NEW squad members a Marine named “Marinke” was stepping on the face of the M-14 mine that he had just installed into the ground. It was at this time that I watched the mine explode, his foot came apart and he went nuts. At that time we yelled for our navy doc - who then RAN DIRECTLY INTO THE MINEFIELD CRISS-CROSSED the clusters and got to this Marine who was bleeding badly. The doc then grabbed his belt, applied a tourniquet and applied to his leg. Earlier the evening before, this Marine had been warned not to use his foot to make the M-14's that he has been installing - flush with the ground's surface. His squad leader was ordered to “kick his butt” if needed. The squad leader that spoke with Marinke - was me.

Marines blown up in minefield after hitting trip wire at FSB site: (Mar '68)

One day I had been assigned to “D” strip and had just completed installing the last cluster of mines when I almost forgot to attach the trip wire to the larger M-16 landmine. I was then ordered over to “A”

strip to help finish up with the clusters that needed to be installed. It was at that time while looking north that a huge explosion took place. I immediately hit the ground carefully thinking to be sure to land on the comm wire. Later on we watched while we were told no one moves - that three Marines had been severely injured. We watched as they loaded all three Marines into the jeep trailer and up to the middle of the fire support base called Gio Linh. It should be noted that if I had stayed exactly where I was earlier - I too' would have been injured. It appeared that one of the Marines had stepped back into the minefield and tripped a trip wire to the M-16's landmines. They were assigned to string the fence line up to close off the minefield that day. They were medevac'd to delta med back in Quang Tri province. In closing, we performed our duties as Marine engineers whether it was assigned to a grunt unit, building a bridge, installing a minefield, building bunkers or whatever was required. Our unit patch read: 11th Engineer Bn, 3rd Marine Division Construction - Demolition. It should also be noted that I along with a six-man Marine team went back to Vietnam on a humanitarian aid - landmine removal project.

11th Engineers - Vietnam revisited in 1989.

We achieved our goal which was two fold: Long Term: See that the landmines are removed from the DMZ area. Short Term: Send medicines/medical supplies to the children's hospitals. Note: Today, our wartime map hangs in the US Embassy - De-mining Offices located in Hanoi, Vietnam and the fruits from our efforts - still are paying off.

Gene Spanos, Lieut. Ret, RPD 72/95, Fmr Sgt. USMC '66/71.