Marines SAVED ROUNDS

Marines Almanac 2003

The Upcoming 2003 Marines Almanac is "new and improved." It will be combined with Concepts and Programs to make a more complete, one-stop reference source. For information on what units are based where, a listing of military occupational specialties, or a snapshot of our most recent operations, pick up a copy of the 2003 "Marines" Almanac. This handy reference contains manpower statistics, enlisted and officer distribution breakdowns, budget summaries and many other handy facts about your Marine Corps.

To subscribe, Marine Corps units should contact the Directives Control Point, normally in the Adjutant's Office, to request that the units' Publications Listings (PCN74000000200) be increased by the appropriate number of copies. Each unit rates one copy of the Almanac per every three Marines.

Non-Marine Corps units should send or fax a letter requesting an individual activity code to:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (ARDE)
2 Navy Annex,
Headquarters Marine Corps
Washington, D.C. 20380-1775

The letter must contain a complete mailing address, point of contact, phone number and the number of copies requested. The fax number is 703/614-1874.

Personal subscriptions can be ordered via the Internet at www.usmc.mil/order or by calling 202/512-1800.

The Almanac is scheduled to hit the streets in the first quarter of 2003, so be on the look out for it. M

Marines Congratulates Women Marines for 60 Years of Faithful Service

"Free a man to fight!' This was the call for women to serve in the Marine Corps Reserve during two world wars. February 2003 marks the 60th anniversary of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve. Although 305 women served in the Marine Corps Reserve during World War I, all were separated from service by June 30, 1919 after the war ended. It wasn't until 1943, during World War II, that the Marine Corps Women's Reserve was established.

Women Marines in World War II performed more than 200 military assignments. In addition to clerical work, they also filled positions as parachute riggers, mechanics, radio operators, mapmakers, and welders. By June 1944, women reservists made up 85 percent of the enlisted personnel on duty at Headquarters, Marine Corps and almost two-thirds of the personnel manning all major posts and stations in the United States and Hawaii.

Since then, women Marines served stateside and overseas during the Korean and Vietnam wars. Approximately 1,000 women Marines were deployed to Southwest Asia for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990-1991.

Women in the Corps have progressed a long way from those clerical jobs filled during WWI. Women have served in every rank from private to major general. Today, women can serve in ninety-three percent of all occupational fields and 62 percent of all billets. Women account for 4.3 percent of Marine officers and 5.1 percent of the active-duty enlisted force.

Congratulations, women Marines, past and present, for a job well done! M

Loud & Clear

"They (female Marines) don't have a nickname, and they don't need one. They get their basic training in a Marine atmosphere, at a Marine Post. They inherit the traditions of the Marines. They are Marines."

— Lt. Gen. Thomas Holcomb, 17th Commandant of the Marine Corps, 1943

Scholarships for Military Children Program Began Nov. 1

FORT LEE, Va. — How has being the child of a military service member influenced your educational goals?

That is the essay topic for the 2003 Scholarships for Military Children program, which began accepting applications for the $1,500 scholarships Nov. 1.

"According to program administrators, the essay has been a key factor in deciding recipients," said Edna Hoogewind, program liaison for the Defense Commissary Agency.

The program, administered by the nonprofit Fisher House Foundation, has awarded 920 scholarships and nearly $1.5 million in its first two years. Various manufacturers, brokers and suppliers who provide products for sale in military commissaries donate the funds.

The program is open to dependant, unmarried children, under the age of 23, of active-duty, Reserve Guard and retired military. Eligibility will be determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Applicants, as well as their sponsors, must be enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current ID card. Applicants must also be U.S. citizens.

Applicants must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003. Students attending a community or junior college may participate in the program, but must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

See application instruction sheets for additional guidelines. Applications may be picked up at any commissary or downloaded from www.commissaries.com or www.fisherhouse.org.

The deadline for returning applications to a commissary is Feb. 21, 2003. M

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>>on file:

Wounded Marine Awarded Purple Heart

BETHESDA NAVAL HOSPITAL, Bethesda, Md. — Lance Cpl. George R. Simpson Jr. was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained Oct. 9 when two Kuwaiti gunmen opened fire on a group of Marines training on the Kuwaiti island of Failaka. The medal was presented by Gen. James L. Jones (right), Commandant of the Marine Corps and Sgt. Maj. Alford McMichael, Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Oct. 19. The rifleman from 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, is at Bethesda Naval Hospital recovering from his injury. M