

# "LISTEN UP"

NEWSLETTER OF THE LCPL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS DETACHMENT 647



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VOLUME III NUMBER V

ONE NATION, UNDER GOD

MAY 2025

## SCOOP FROM THE CP



Good things continue to happen. At the top of the list, **Sr Vice Commandant Getzie Lamar** was elected **Department of Georgia Judge Advocate** at the Annual Convention held May 2-3. Congratulations! **OORAH!**

In addition, Getzie is the Department Jr Vice Commandant for District 1 (detachment 1020, 1280, and 1309). In this role she will visit each of these detachment on a quarterly basis to observe and offer assistance. (Plus, we hope that she will bring back some of the "good stuff" she finds these detachments doing.) **Jay Maxwell** is our **District 3 (detachments 647, 1311, and 1325)**. Jay tentatively plans a visit with us at our June meeting.

A "shout out" to the **Roswell Rotary**. Three members (myself, Dave Hambrick, and Bill Craig) of the detachment were selected to be guests at their April 9 Honor Air flight. Long day, but what a day. Police escort to the airport, front of the line through security, visited the Naval Academy, World War II Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for the Changing of the Guard. The event was very well organized (and most of us slept on the flight home.)

## JUNE MEETING

Sat. 7th  
at 1100

## DAVE POE'S BBQ

660 Whitlock Ave NW, Marietta

33° 57' 10.30"N - 84° 34' 16.91"W

Five of us (and dual member Bill Craig representing det. 1280) attended the Department of Georgia Convention in Columbus May 2-3. **National Sr Vice Commandant Bill Miller** reported on activities at National. He reported that National is reinvigorating the League's VSO program. They have hired an experienced VSO for the National staff and are qualifying VSO's at the Division and Department level. He also reported on changes made to the Online Member Database to provide more functionality for Detachment Commandants and Paymasters to use the system and generate reports.

The biggest item under discussion during the business session was the proposed annual budget and need to raise the dues to meet operating costs. The original motion was to raise the dues by \$2 just to meet operating costs but providing no financial support for the Young Marines of the Marine Corps League. Many attendees felt funds for the YM's needed to be included in the budget. As a result, the initial motion was amended to a \$3 increase with \$1 of that increase being earmarked for the YM's. The budget was approved and the **dues increase goes into effect immediately.**

It was purely a coincidence that in the April "Listen Up" I mentioned

## Detachment Officers

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"guardian angels" and the Drill Instructor article talked about DI suicides. Withdrawing from family, friends, and community, feelings of isolation, and depression a warning signs of suicide. I can only wonder if drill instructors (who I feel have the hardest and most intense job in the Corps) don't have enough "down time" to remain connected with family, friends, and their brothers and sisters in the Corps. That is where the "guardian angel" comes into play – recognizing they are headed toward danger and pulling them back from the edge. These are my thoughts - I could be "full of s---". Who do you know that needs a friend, that needs the camaraderie that all Marines share, that needs a "guardian angel"? Reach out and touch them.

**Semper Fi,**

Tony

O'ER THE LAND OF THE FREE. . . . . BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE

**DETACHMENT YELLOW PAGES**

Detachment Commandant.....	1-(678)-270-8002	Military Records, DD-214's . . .	1-(314) 592-1150
Detachment Adjutant.....	1-(770)-895-4441	Social Security. . . . .	1-(800) 772 1213
HQMC Records Correspondence	1-(314) 801-0800	VA Benefits and Assistance . . .	1-(800) 827 1000
TRICARE South. . . . .	1-(888)-777-8343	Georgia Dept. of Veterans Service	1-(404)-656-2300

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# *MarCor, MCL and Veterans News*

**WHAT IS MCCCCGA?**

The Marine Corps Coordinating Council of GA was founded by General Raymond Davis (MOH) to provide support and assistance to Marines, Marine Families, and Wounded Marine Warriors. Learn more at <https://atlantamarines.org/about-us>. Commandant Gasper and Jr Past Commandant Tasse participate in MCCCCGA activities and can also answer questions.

The MCCCCGA is preparing for their annual golf tournament September 23, at the St Marlo Country Club in Duluth, GA. The tournament always has a full slate of players. Most of the money raised comes from sponsorships - all members are encouraged to obtain sponsorships. The Tournament Committee is in the process of setting up volunteers for various duties at the



tournament. They are also seeking the donation of items for their online auction and raffle.

The Dobbins based Combat Logistics Regiment 45 will have a change of command July 12, 2025. Col Kurt Boyd will pass the flag to Col Kevin Lewis. Col Boyd will report

for duty with the Joint Command at the Pentagon.

The Colonel George Bailey Scholarship was established at Kennesaw State University with funding provided by the MCCCCGA. Recipients to date are Sgt Kyle Posey, Sgt

Devonte Andrews, and Sgt Jose Martinez.

The MCCCCGA is discussing expanding this scholarship program throughout the University of Georgia System and possibly to technical schools.



## THE KITTEN

© 2013-2025 by Tara Ross.  
Facebook

On and around this day in 1953, a photo of a United States Marine is published in nearly two thousand newspapers, including the February edition of *All Hands* magazine, a U.S. Navy publication. The photo depicted then-Sgt. Frank Praytor hand-feeding a baby kitten with a small medicine dropper. The two-week old kitten's mother had been killed during the fighting at Bunker Hill.

The photo, the U.S. Naval Institute concludes, "would prove to be more than just an endearing moment of humanity captured in the midst of a brutal war, it would later save [Praytor] from being court martialed." Frank Praytor was a Marine serving as a combat correspondent with the 1st Marine Division in Korea 1952 when the photo was snapped. He'd named the kitten "Miss Hap" because "she was born at the wrong place at the wrong time."

The photo, once published, was an instant sensation. Women from the states wrote Praytor, asking if he were married. And, if not, did he want to be? When the women didn't know his name, they simply addressed their letters to "Kitten Marine, Korea." "I got letters from girls all over the country who wanted to marry me," Praytor laughed as he told the story

decades later. "I even got a few offers from men."

In the meantime, Praytor was continuing his work as a journalist, but he also had a side hobby as a photographer. He entered one of these pictures in a contest for *Photography* magazine—and he won! He'd captured a moment when a wounded Marine was being treated by a Navy corpsman. The only problem? He'd failed to get the appropriate approvals before submitting the photos. A court martial beckoned.

Would you believe the commandant tore up the papers, rather than follow through on the court martial? "I'm certain 'that cat' played a silent-but-significant role in my being excused from brig time." Praytor wrote decades later. "After all, I had become a celebrity of sorts and the prize-winning photo made a positive rather than negative impact on the Marine Corps' image." The kitten he'd once rescued was now saving him. "That little kitten saved me from the brig," he concluded.

In the end, Praytor received his photo prize, then he returned to Korea as a writer for *Stars and Stripes*. Miss Hap was still there, serving as a mascot of sorts for the Division's Public Information Office. According to some reports, she wasn't just a mascot. She was a spoiled mascot.

To answer the unspoken question, yes, Praytor did get married. When he passed away in 2018, at the age of 90, he left behind his wife of more than 46 years, plus children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. "Frank was, first and foremost, a good human being," one of his fellow Marines concluded. "That picture of him caring for a kitten lost on the battlefield wasn't just cute; it captured his character. Beyond that, he was an elegant writer and master communication strategist. I was fortunate to be able to count him both a mentor and friend."





# Marines Bring Fallen Comrades Home from Guadalcanal 80 Years Later

By Kevin Knodell  
Honolulu Star-Advertiser  
April 07, 2025

Late in the dark hours of Friday night, a Marine Corps C-20G "gray ghost" jet landed on the tarmac at Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay.

It was returning from the Solomon Islands with a special assignment—bringing back what are believed to be the remains of Marines killed fighting on Guadalcanal more than eight decades ago.

The plane was greeted by more than 100 Marines and sailors at the base as it pulled near the air terminal. They saluted as service members wearing white gloves carried boxes of the remains, each topped with a folded American flag, from the tarmac to a van that would take them to the Defense POW / MIA Accounting Agency at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The DPAA sends teams around the world to find the remains of missing service members and bring them to Hawaii where experts at the world's largest forensic skeleton lab work to identify them using a mixture of science and historical detective work. On the island of Guadalcanal alone, the U.S. military lists about 374 service members still unaccounted for since the end of World War II.

**Marine Staff Sgt. Stephon Smith**, an explosives expert, was part of the team and carried one of the box-



U.S. Marines rest in the field on Guadalcanal, circa August-December 1942. (U.S. Navy photo)

es of remains as he exited the plane. An Okinawa-based Marine, he is trained in identifying and disposing of World War II-era U.S. and Japanese explosives—skills that proved critical in retrieving the remains he held from the former battlefield.

Even 80 years after the war ended, as many as 20 people are killed or seriously injured in the Solomon Islands per year by unexploded ordnance left behind by Japanese and Allied forces that fought each other across Pacific archipelagos.

The DPAA team was searching for Marines believed to have died during the Battle of Edson's Ridge, where Marines repelled an attack by Imperial Japanese forces trying to retake the strategically important

Henderson Airfield from the Americans. An estimated 111 Americans and as many as 800 Japanese troops are believed to have died in the fighting—sometimes also called the Battle of Bloody Ridge.

The service members who came to greet the remains Friday night stood still and silent as the boxes containing them were brought one by one to a van. The chaotic nature of historic battles and the amount of time that has passed make it hard to know for sure who the bones recovered actually belong to—or if they're even human bones—but they are treated with reverence regardless until DPAA knows for sure "One thing that's really impressive about all the Marines (is that) all the Marines know their



history," said **John M. Figuerres**, the DPAA's acting deputy director for operations. "They are schooled in their history, they're schooled in their battles ... whether it's Guadalcanal, whether it's the Chosin River, whether it's Khe Sanh in Vietnam. ... So for us to tell these Marines, there are Marines potentially—we have to ID them—that are coming back from Guadalcanal, they know the struggle that their brother Marines did."

As the ceremony concluded, **Lt. Gen. James Glynn**, commander of Marine Corps Forces Pacific, told the service members in attendance that while many regard the Marine Corps motto "Semper Fidelis"—Latin for "always faithful"—as a slogan, "what you demonstrate tonight is that it's a way of life, it's a family, that there actually, truly is faith between Marines."

As the van drove away, Smith and **Staff Sgt. Zachary Bailey**, an Army medic and mountaineer, were awarded Joint Service Achievement Medals for their roles in retrieving the remains.

Smith worked with the DPAA team but is not officially assigned to the agency; he had been brought on to help as a member of an investigative team that was on Guadalcanal

searching for potential remains. The team began its mission in February.

"The scientific research experts, the anthropologists, the amount of brains and research and work that goes into really finding out where these guys are, and then going in to actually get them, it's a lot of work," Smith told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.

"But it just tells me, and it sure made me feel great, because the country and this agency is committed to bring us home, even if it's many, many years after, you know, we have passed away."

Smith said that helping to retrieve the remains was an honor, noting that "investigation teams aren't typically digging." But when they found the site, they realized a nearby river was washing it away and potentially moving the remains. They decided to work fast, and Smith got to work identifying and clearing World War II-era munitions, identifying both American and Japanese explosives in the vicinity.

Ultimately, Smith said, "We were able to do digging and bring our guys back home."

The DPAA has been both a mission to bring fallen American troops home and also a diplomatic mission. It was through the program's operations that the United States reestablished relations with Vietnam, ultimately leading to normalization and paving the way for friendly relations and trade.

The agency also has worked in North Korea and China retrieving and identifying war dead. A mission in China is planned for this summer to look for the remains of World War II American service members.

As the assembled troops who came to welcome the remains to Kaneohe prepared to leave, **Lt. Col. Jeremy Smith**, the DPAA's deputy director for Indo-Pacific operations and senior Marine officer at the agency, told them that "every one of you also participated in this mission because you are here tonight, on a Friday night when you could be anywhere else, telling the American people and telling the families that we will never stop searching for their missing service members."

## Back to 13-Marine squads and a new company for infantry battalions

By Todd South  
Marine Times  
Apr 8, 2025, 11:23 AM

NATIONAL HARBOR, Md. – The 13-Marine squad is back, and the Corps is creating a new company within the infantry battalion to meet its modern war-fighting needs.

**Commandant Gen. Eric Smith** announced those changes Monday at the Navy League's annual Sea, Air and Space Exposition.

(13 man squads continued on page 6)





*(13 man squads continued from page 5)*

The fighting unit had grown to 15 Marines during infantry battalion experiments in recent years. That included adding an assistant squad leader and a squad systems operator to manage the many sensing and firing platforms being added to the unit's arsenal.

Dropping back to the 13-Marine configuration still gives Marines more personnel than the standard nine-soldier U.S. Army squad. It also returns the squad to its previous size, but instead with a sergeant, rather than a staff sergeant in charge of three fire teams and an organic precision fires specialist in the ranks.

The infantry battalion will also see the formation of a reconnaissance and fires company outside of the headquarters and service company ranks. That new company will include the battalion's 81mm mortars, organic precision fires, such as drones, and the scout platoon for reconnaissance assets, Smith said.

The decision was made this past week, the commandant said. When the Corps concluded phase one of its Infantry Battalion experiments in 2023, it reduced the size of the infantry battalion from 965 Marines to 811 and added new technologies for sensing, striking, communication and power generation.

Each of the battalion's three rifle companies hold individual operations, signal, logistics, electronic warfare and medical sections. Recent plans also called for a Navy corpsman available for each squad. The Marine Corps first unveiled the 15-Marine configuration in 2018. Prior to that, the service had used the 13-Marine squad model since at least the 1950s, with three fire teams of four Marines and a squad leader.

In 2018, then-**Commandant Gen. Robert Neller** initially announced he would cut the squad from 13 to 12. That changed after his own experiments recommended otherwise.

The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, had conducted six months of experimentation with new configurations and gear. Following that work, an article published in the professional journal Marine Corps Gazette recommended a 15-Marine squad.

Iran uses an even larger formation — a 16-soldier squad with a squad leader, sniper, a two-soldier rocket team and three fire teams of four soldiers, all with automatic rifles, according to "Infantry Building Blocks," published in a 2018 issue of Military Review.

The same article described China's dismounted infantry squads as formations of nine to ten soldiers devoted to anti-armor missions.

Before the Ukraine War, Russia had centered even their dismounted squads around the use of either a BMP infantry fighting vehicle, which is tracked, or a BTR wheeled armored personnel carrier, according to "The Russian Way of War," published by the U.S. Army University Press.

## Marine Corps Provides Details on How New Littoral Regiment Would Fight in Pacific

By Drew F. Lawrence  
Military.com  
Published April 09, 2025

The Marine Corps' new littoral regiment is less than two years old and growing as the service contends with how to resupply and sustain it in the vast Pacific region, where China's military influence is casting an increasing shadow.

**Col. Peter Eltringham**, commander of the 12th Marine Littoral Regiment, said in an interview with reporters Tuesday that logistics will be a key challenge that Marines will have to overcome, given the proliferation of drones, missiles and China's reach. The regiment was established in late 2023 and recently received the final element of its three-unit concept last month, Military.com previously reported.

The 12th MLR, one of the service's latest answers to China's Pacific aims and the region's vast environment, is uniquely capable of providing the Marine Corps a low-profile, rapid-response unit designed to be "hard to find," Eltringham said.

But as the service contends with abysmally low readiness rates for the Navy's amphibious warships, which are meant to transport Marine expeditionary units and supplies to the fight in the Pacific, the 12th MLR intends to remain "dispersed" across the region's countless archipelagos and isles to support combat operations there.

With that, comes the challenge of logistics, which Eltringham said "is going to be complicated by the adversary's ability to influence" the Pacific.



Marines tasked with explosive ordnance disposal, supply, engineering and beach landing support can "become a target" should they be seen during a major conflict with China, given that Beijing's wartime aims would include disrupting supply chains and maritime routes.

"Those challenges are very real," Eltringham said, alluding to China's ability to potentially deploy drone swarms and ballistic missiles directed at supply lines and other key capabilities. "I need them to be survivable," he added, alluding to the Marines tasked with logistics and other support roles amid a potential conflict in the Pacific.

The 12th MLR is made up of three subordinate units: a littoral combat team; anti-air battalion; and a logistics battalion, which would work in remote areas to resupply and support the other teams.

"Military logistics will be imperative for operational readiness and sustainment in any potential conflict with the People's Republic of China," according to a Georgetown University Center for Security Studies article from last year. "Successful logistics in the Indo-Pacific requires speed and resilience as the region is a dispersed

archipelago of states plagued by the People Liberation Army's military aggression."

Military.com previously reported on the 3rd MLR, one of the other new units oriented toward a Pacific fight, and leaders noted last year that logistics was a critical part of their training and required Marines to use the environment around them to thrive.

The 12th MLR is no different, according to Eltringham.

"They put us in a situation where we are without communication or without logistical resupply for sustained periods of time, so that we've got to be ready, and those Marines have got to be ready to remain sustainable -- internal to themselves -- for prolonged periods of time," he said.

"That's working locally," he added. "That's working within the environment that they have," noting that true "jungle warfare training" will give them the ability to do that "until we can get to them."

Eltringham said that the logistics team will have to work its supply missions from airfields, expeditionary airfields, landing sites, beach zones, ports and

other various locations as the broader unit is dispersed across the Pacific.

The 12th MLR is based out of Okinawa, Japan, and is known to the Marine Corps as a "stand-in force," meaning that -- unlike most Marine expeditionary units -- the MLR remains in the Pacific theater.

Eltringham also said that Marines in the region would be aided by the Autonomous Low-Profile Vessel, or ALPV -- dubbed the "narco-boat" -- for resupply. Military.com previously reported that Marines training in the area were also using platoon water purification systems, or PWPS, a piece of equipment that can produce up to 15 gallons of water per hour from sources found in the environment.

"I think what we owe those Marines is the ability to train on that gear and then be able to adapt as quickly as possible," Eltringham said. "Because I think we can all anticipate the constraints provided in that contested environment."

## Medal of Honor recipient Dakota Meyer reenlists in Marine Reserve

**Marine Sgt. Dakota Meyer is joining the Marine Corps Reserve after leaving active duty in 2010. He was awarded the Medal of Honor the following year.**

*Jeff Schogol*  
*TASK & PURPOSE*  
*Apr 17, 2025*

**Dakota Meyer**, who in 2011 became the first living Marine since the Vietnam War to be awarded the **Medal of Honor**, is reenlisting in the Marine Reserve.

"I realized I had more to give," said Meyer, now 36, during a roundtable with reporters Thursday. "I love this country with every moral fiber of my being. I always have. The same reason that I joined 20 years ago is the same reason I'm coming back in. I've just got more to give and it's just such an honor to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the men and women wearing the nation's cloth today."

*(MOH; continued on page 8)*



Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth reenlists Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Dakota Meyer in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., April 17, 2025. DoD photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Alexander Kubitzka.





(MOH; continued from page 7)

Meyer spoke with reporters before a ceremony scheduled for later on Thursday, in which **Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth** was scheduled to reenlist him at the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.

Meyer's return to duty is unusual but not unheard of for Medal of Honor recipients. Many recipients of the Medal quickly leave the military, often due to medical issues or in light of the public profile that Medal of Honor recipients often find themselves in. But at least one recipient, **Matthew Williams**, remains on active duty with the Army, a service official told Task & Purpose on Thursday. Several other Medal recipients, including **Navy SEAL Edward Byers**, **Army officer William Swenson**, **Green Beret Earl Plumlee** and **Delta Force soldier Thomas Payne**, also remained on active duty after being awarded the Medal for actions in Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria.

### A firefight in Kunar Province

On Sept. 8, 2009, Meyer was deployed to Kunar Province, Afghanistan, when his unit was ambushed by more than 50 Taliban fighters. Over the course of six hours, Meyer fought his way to and from the ambush site five times, rescuing a total of 36 U.S. and Afghan troops.

He also helped recover four fallen U.S. service members: Three Marines and a Navy corpsman.

"Dakota and the others who had joined him knelt down, picked up their comrades and — through all those bullets, all the smoke, all the chaos — carried them out, one by one. Because, as Dakota says, 'That's what you do for a brother,'" **President Barack Obama** later said during Meyer's Medal of Honor ceremony.

Meyer, who left the Corps in 2010, is returning to the Marines as an infantry rifleman. To do so, he had to pass both the Physical and Combat Fitness Tests. He said that the PT test has become harder since he first enlisted at 17.

"The standards are higher," Meyer said. "The demands are higher. And it just means the men and women who are wearing the nation's cloth are better, and they are doing great things. Right now, I think I'm just trying to get my feet back under me of coming back in and becoming an asset to a unit. Down the road, I hope to stay in the Marine Corps as long as they'll let me and as long as I can be an asset to it."

**Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Carlos A. Ruiz** told reporters that he has been talking with Meyer about reenlisting for about two years. Meyer requested that he meet the requirements that all other Marines face, and that he return to the Corps at his old rank of sergeant because he needed to earn a promotion to staff sergeant, Ruiz said.

"He knows our culture and he knows we wouldn't want it any other way," Ruiz said.

Meyer also said that his first conversation with Marine Corps officials about reenlisting was about making sure he would be able to serve his country like any other Marine.

"If I were going to come back in, I wanted to be able to be a sergeant," Meyer said. "I didn't want any special treatment. I want to be able to go back and serve alongside my unit. If that unit ends up going and being deployed, I asked that I would have the same opportunities as any other sergeant."

Meyer also said he can't wait to rejoin rank-and-file Marines and show that he is just like them, whether it means picking up a broom and sweeping or getting "in the mud with them."

"I'm fully going to immerse into whatever they need me to do and just show up every single day and be a sergeant in the Marine Corps. I think it's going to be fine. I don't know it's going to be that big of a deal."

To which Ruiz joked, "It's going to be a big deal."



Bud Kueger accepting  
Certificate of Appreciation on  
4/5/2025



Jerry Foulis and Jim Bligh being installed as JrVice and  
Sgt-at-Arms respectively on 4/5/2025



Doug Tasse accepting  
Certificate of Recognition on 4/5/2025





## For my LE friends

When God created police officers

When the Lord was creating police officers, he was into his sixth day of working overtime when an angel appeared and said, "You sure are doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." And the Lord said, "Have you read the specs on this order?" "A police officer has to be able to run five miles through alleys in the dark, scale walls, enter homes the health inspector wouldn't touch, and not wrinkle his uniform. He must be able to sit in an undercover car all day on a stakeout~ cover a homicide scene that night, canvass the neighborhood for witnesses, and testify in court the next day. He must always be in top physical condition, running on black coffee and half-eaten meals. And he has to have six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands ... no way." "It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord, "it's the three pairs of eyes an officer has to have." "That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through a bulge in a pocket before he asks, 'May I see what's in there, sir?' (When he already knows and wishes he'd taken that accounting job.)" "Another pair here in the side of his head for his partners' safety." "And another pair of eyes here in front that can look reassuringly at a bleeding victim and say, 'You'll be all right ma'am,' when he knows it isn't so." "Lord," said the angel, touching his sleeve, "why don't you rest and work on this tomorrow?" "I can't," said the Lord, "I already have a model that can talk a 250-pound drunk into a patrol car without incident and feed a family of five on a civil service paycheck."

The angel circled the model of the police officer very slowly, "Can it think?" she asked. "You bet," said the Lord. "It can tell you the elements of a hundred crimes; recite Miranda warnings in its sleep; detain, investigate, search, and arrest a gang member on the street in less time than it takes five learned judges to debate the legality of the stop ... and still it keeps its sense of humor." "This officer also has phenomenal personal control. He can deal with crime scenes painted in hell, coax a confession from a child abuser, comfort a murder victim's family, and then read in the daily paper how law enforcement isn't sensitive to the rights of criminal suspects."

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek of the police officer. "There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told you that you were trying to put too much into this model." "That's not a leak," said the lord, "it's a tear. "What's the tear for?" asked the angel.

"It's for bottled-up emotions, for fallen comrades, for commitment to that funny piece of cloth called the American flag, for justice." "You're a genius," said the angel.

The Lord looked somberly at the angel and said. "I'm no genius, I didn't put the tear in his eye!"

- Author Unknown



# DETACHMENT BULLETIN BOARD

## HAVE YOU MOVED?

Is Your Address Wrong?

Please send change of address  
to:

Adjutant, Det 647  
3279 Holly Mill Ct.  
Marietta, GA 30062

email: [mcldet647@gmail.com](mailto:mcldet647@gmail.com)

## ATTENTION TO ORDERS

### ...NOTICE...



Don't be a ring-a-dingy during our meeting. Turn off your dadgum phone **BEFORE** you receive that unimportant call.

## CHAPLAIN'S INFORMATION

Chaplain Griffen would appreciate being notified of members or relatives in ill health or distress.

Call him at:

**678-612-2345** or  
email at: [winwithgod@bellsouth.net](mailto:winwithgod@bellsouth.net)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June Meeting**  
**06/07/25**  
**1100**



## June Happenings



<b>G. Lamar</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>June Meeting</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>USMC @ Guantanamo</b>	<b>10</b> (1898)	<b>A. Gasper</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Gen. Al Gray</b>	<b>22</b> (1928)	<b>Chesty Puller</b>	<b>26</b> (1898)
<b>Belleau Wood Ends</b>	<b>26</b> (1918)	<b>G Foulis</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>E. Nigri</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Col. John Ripley</b>	<b>29</b> (1939)





# Heaven's Unit Diary



## Editor's Ramblings



*At ease Marines. Fallout! Drop your packs, gather round and listen up. Smoke 'em if you got 'em.*

## IS SOMETHING WRONG HERE?

In Sgt. Meyers picture on page 7 he is wearing both, the MOH ribbon and the MOH pendant around his neck. I respectfully question the sergeant's choice in this matter. I believe the pendant should be worn when wearing large or miniature medals and the ribbon when wearing the ribbon "stack", not both at the same time. Can anyone clarify this. I looked in the awards manual and uniform manual and can find no reference.



*Semper Ti,*



*Bernie*

<u>Marine</u>	<u>Tour of Duty</u>	<u>Date of Last Transfer</u>
Raymond G. Davis, MOH	1915-2003	3 Sept. 2003
Joseph O'Connor	1934-2009	14 Oct. 2009
Squire K. P. Wells	1994-2015	16 July 2015
Al Oeade	1937-2016	30 Apr. 2016
Dorothy Pollock	1920-2016	13 Aug. 2016
Robert Kitchen	1949-2017	21 Feb. 2017
John W. Delton	Unk-2017	23 Oct. 2017
Gene W. Whitten	1933-2017	12 Nov. 2017
George W. Lewis	1936-2020	28 Feb. 2020
George Bailey	1933-2020	18 June 2020
Raymond Frazier	1953-2021	1 Feb. 2021
Charlie B. Stephenson	1923-2021	21 Aug. 2021
Arthur Dunlea	1944-2021	1 Dec. 2021
Richard Wakefield	1943-2022	27 Oct. 2022
Harry Kone	1920-2022	30 Dec. 2022
Neal Lawrence	1938-2023	17 Oct. 2023

An officers' mess was talking about rifle shooting. "I'll bet anyone here," said a young lieutenant, "that I can fire 20 shots at 200 yards and call each shot correctly without waiting for the marker. "I'll stake a box of cigars that I can."

"Done!" a major cried.

The entire mess was there the next day to watch the experiment tried. The lieutenant fired, then calmly announced, "Miss." A second shot: "Miss." A third; "Miss."

Hold on the major protested. "What are you doing? You're not aiming for the target at all!"

"Of course not." The lieutenant admitted. "I'm aiming for those cigars." And he got them.

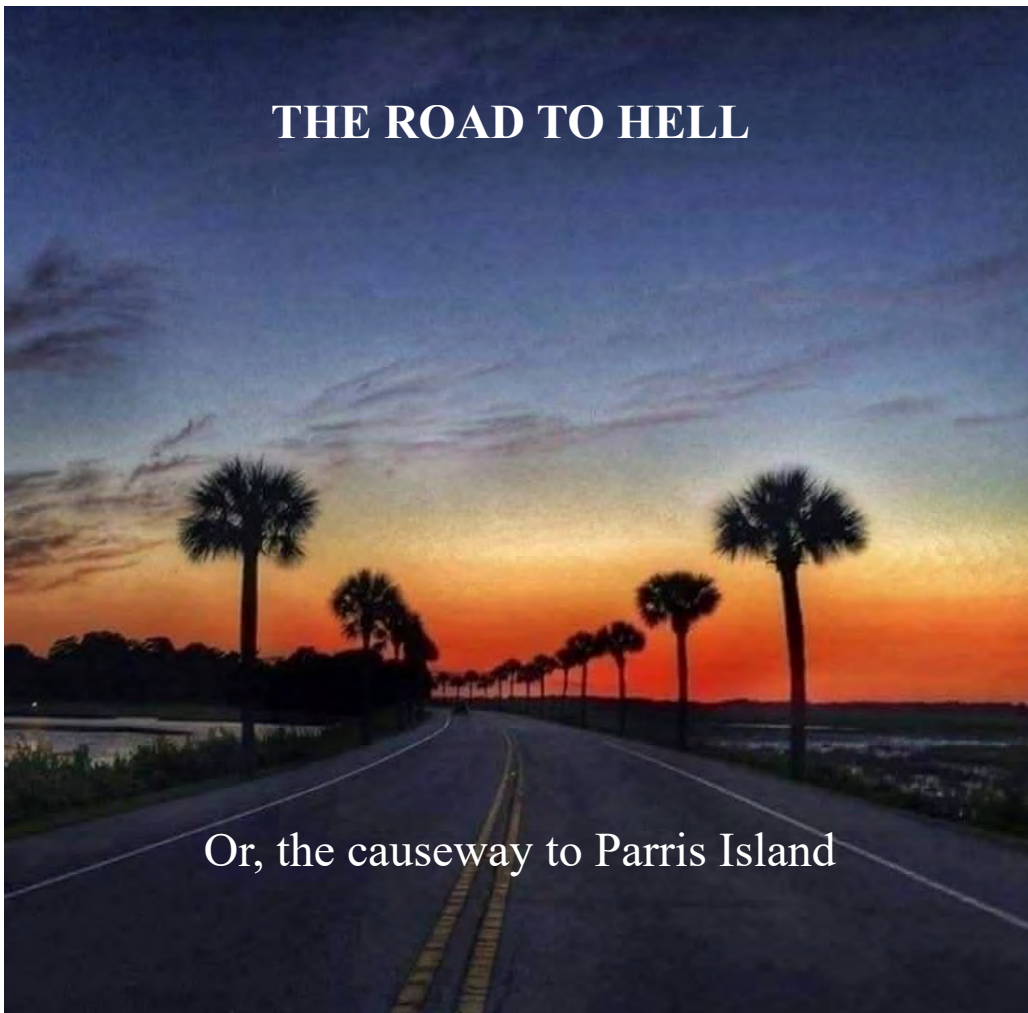






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## THE ROAD TO HELL



Or, the causeway to Parris Island



This is for anyone who lives in Atlanta, Georgia, has ever lived in Atlanta, has ever visited Atlanta, ever plans to visit Atlanta, knows anyone who already lives in Atlanta, or knows anyone who has ever heard of Atlanta. Atlanta is composed mostly of one-way streets. The only way to get out of downtown Atlanta is to turn around and start over when you reach Greenville, South Carolina.

It generally takes about an hour, to an hour and a half to get to Atlanta, from Atlanta.

There is no real Rapid-Transit or Mass-Transit system in Atlanta. There's something called MARTA (Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) that doesn't cover all of Metro Atlanta, and that's neither "Rapid" nor "Mass". It's more of an "Afterthought-last-chance-of-getting-somewhere-Transit". Carpooling rarely happens.

Atlantans love their cars as much as their privacy. There are High Occupancy Vehicle lanes that had to be converted to toll lanes because there weren't enough 2 or more passenger cars to make it worthwhile. People have been ticketed for having blow up toys in the passenger seat and dolls in car seats just to try and fake carpooling.

All directions start with, "Go down Peachtree" and include the phrase, "When you see the Waffle House." except for Cobb County, where all directions begin with, "Go to the Big Chicken" (Including GPS directions). **Peachtree Street has no beginning and no end and is not to be confused with:**

- \* Peachtree Circle
- \* Peachtree Place
- \* Peachtree Lane
- \* Peachtree Road
- \* Peachtree Parkway
- \* Peachtree Run
- \* Peachtree Terrace
- \* Peachtree Avenue
- \* Peachtree Commons
- \* Peachtree Battle
- \* Peachtree Corners
- \* New Peachtree
- \* Old Peachtree
- \* West Peachtree
- \* Peachtree-Dunwoody
- \* Peachtree-Chamblee
- \* Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- \* Or any of the 30+ additional streets that have Peachtree in their names.

(Atlanta; continued on page 14)



*(Atlanta; continued from page 13)*

Atlantans only know their way to work and their way home. If you ask anyone for directions, they will always send you down Peachtree.

Atlanta is the home of Coca-Cola. Coke's all they drink here so don't ask for any other soft drink unless it's made by Coca-Cola. Even if you want something other than a Coca-Cola, it's still called Coke.

EXCEPT Atlantans never say "Co-ca Co-la", nor "At-lan-ta". You drink a "Cocola in Atlanna"

The gates at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport are about 32 miles away from the Main Concourse, so wear sneakers and pack a lunch.

The 8 a.m. rush hour is from 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The 5 p.m. rush hour is from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 pm.

All remaining hours are the lunch rush hour.

Friday's rush hour starts Thursday afternoon and lasts through 2 a.m. Saturday.

Red Lights and Stop Signs in Atlanta aren't treated as LAW. They're more like suggestions.

If the Light has been red for a while, you probably should stop, but if it's only about to turn red, speed up - You Can Make It! And a STOP sign is treated as a "Slow-down-just-enough-to-make-sure-there's-not-a-cop" Sign.

Only a native can pronounce Ponce De Leon Avenue, so do not attempt the Spanish pronunciation. People will simply tilt their heads to the right and stare at you. The Atlanta pronunciation is "pawntz duh LEE-awn." And yes, they have a street named simply, "Boulevard."

The falling of one raindrop causes all drivers to immediately forget all traffic rules. If a single snowflake falls, the city is paralyzed for three days and it's on all the channels as a news flash every 15 minutes for a week. Overnight, all grocery stores will be sold out of milk, bread, bottled water, toilet paper, and beer.

I-285, the loop that encircles Atlanta, has a posted speed limit of 55-65 mph but you have to maintain 80 mph just to keep from getting run over and is known to truckers as "The Watermelon 500."

And 285 has wonderful directional signs that advise towns like "Augusta, Greenville, Chattanooga, Birmingham, Montgomery, and Macon" depending which part of the Circle of Hell you are trying to enter. BUT, 285 does NOT take you to any of those cities. It merely points you in a general direction that might lead you there eventually on other highways. Hell, 285 won't even take you to Atlanta. Just ask Pascual Perez.

Don't believe the directional markers on highways: I-285 is marked "East" and "West" but you may be going North or South. The locals identify the direction by referring to the "Inner Loop" and the "Outer Loop." If you travel on Hwy 92 North, you will actually be going southeast.

Never buy a ladder or mattress in Atlanta. Just go to one of the interstates and you will soon find one in the middle of the road.

The last thing you want to do is give another driver the finger, unless your car is armored, your trigger finger is itchy, and your AR-15 has a full magazine.

Possums and armadillos are flat animals that sleep in the middle of the road with their feet in the air.

There are 5,000 types of snakes and 4,998 live in Georgia. There are 10,000 types of spiders. All 10,000 live in Georgia.

If it grows, it sticks. If it crawls, it bites.

If you notice a vine trying to wrap itself around your leg, you have about 20 seconds to escape, before you are completely captured and covered with Kudzu.

It's not a shopping cart, it's a buggy.

"Fixinto" is one word (I'm fixinto go to the store) - also can be pronounced "Fixinta".

Sweet Tea is appropriate for all meals and you start drinking it when you're 2 years old.

*Just some of the many reasons I dearly miss South Carolina.*

*Editor*

