

# ON POINT

EQ FIGHTER TO WIN



MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND MAGAZINE  
FALL 2008, VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

- ▶ PM Ammo Turns Dollars into Bullets
- ▶ SPECIAL FEATURE: Dillon Retirement
- ▶ 10,000 MRAPs Pass Integration

# A message from the **COMMANDER**



## **To the Marines, Sailors and Civilian Marines of Marine Corps Systems Command,**

With great respect, immense gratitude and a somewhat heavy heart, I join the rest of our Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) family in wishing the best for Barry Dillon, our Executive Director, upon his upcoming retirement. You'll read about his many accomplishments throughout his federal government career, particularly his invaluable time at MCSC. I want to especially acknowledge his leadership and expertise during the long, hard and ultimately successful months as we built the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle acquisition effort into one of the highest visibility programs in the Department of Defense (DoD). We fielded this lifesaving piece of equipment in record time, and Mr. Dillon was an integral part of the oversight process. All of us owe a great deal to Mr. Dillon's dedication and know-how, and we wish him the best in what I suspect will be a fulfilling retirement.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll see how the MCSC Program Manager for Ammunition (PM Ammo) works with the rest of the Marine Corps and DoD to make sure the "pointed end of the spear" stays lethal. PM Ammo handles the Marine Corps' total life cycle management mission for conventional ammunition, a multibillion-dollar program centered at Quantico, Va.

Our "Looking Back" story focuses on the Riverine Assault Craft (RAC) with the very first boat off its assembly line moving to a new home at the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico. The RAC's 15-year career included service in the Small Craft Company of Headquarters Battalion, Second Marine Division in Iraq.

Besides mentioning some of the magazine highlights, I want to commend every member of the MCSC team for making FY08 a successful fiscal year. Our Command and mission have grown significantly. All of you have worked hard to keep our financial house in order, typified by our annual push to prioritize and allocate funds for the next fiscal year. To receive proper credit for that hard work, you need to put in the same effort completing the reporting and assessment requirements within the National Security Personnel System (NSPS). Many of us are still getting acquainted with NSPS, and you have shown a great capacity to adapt to these demands while supporting the warfighter.

MCSC will continue to lead the way in acquisition support, thanks to your skill and dedication.

Semper Fidelis!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M.M. Brogan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M.M. Brogan  
Brigadier General  
U.S. Marine Corps

# MARINES ON POINT

Fall 2008,  
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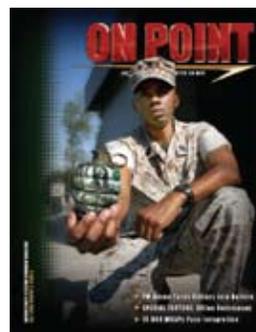
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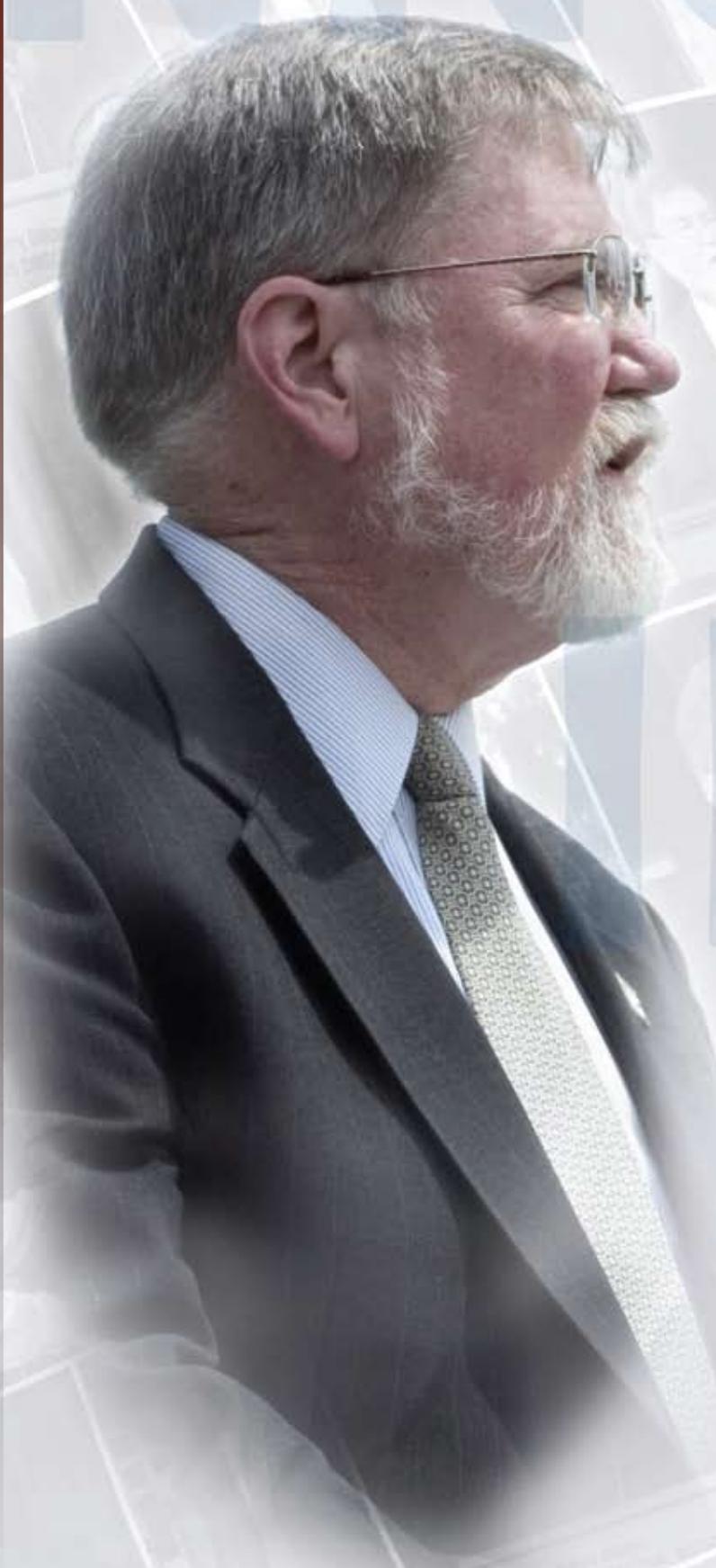


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**On the Cover:** Master Gunnery Sergeant Ronald Pressley is the Operations Chief for Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Management Office for Ammunition (PM Ammo). See PM Ammo story on Page 16. (Photo illustration by Bill Johnson-Miles and Kirk Nelson)



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# Perfect Ending

## **Barry Dillon completes long, varied career of government service**

Looking back on 37 years of federal service, Barry Dillon marveled, “Who gets to experience what I do? From one minute to the next we’re dealing with the Global War on Terrorism and working with Marines. It’s something one wants to do well, and there aren’t that many other opportunities.”

He describes his career as the happy result of good fortune – being in the right place at the right time. For the last five years his good timing placed him as Executive Director of Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), from where he will bring almost four decades of accomplishments to a close when he retires Jan. 3, 2009.

“Retirement is more of a change in style, from one to another,” said the electrical engineer. “The ops tempo in a war mode of operations can wear you down. It’s in my nature to make changes and adjust. I’ve been here five years, and it’s a good time to re-fresh.”

Every stop along the way, he said, was rewarding.

He called his favorite job the one he happened to be in at the time. That said, he particularly relishes his final duty at MCSC.

“I value being able to work here,” Mr. Dillon said. “It’s enormously positive – a great pleasure to work with these people and see them do what they do.”

The Executive Director admitted that saying farewell to so many acquaintances and such a long career is much more than a change in style, and that had weighed on his decision. “One of the thoughts that gave me pause is that government jobs have lots of authority,” he said. “I don’t know how much I’m going to miss that.”

Dillon has earned many awards during his government career, including the Presidential Rank Award three times. The MCSC executive received the Presidential award in the Distinguished category for 2006 and the award in the Meritorious category for 1999 and 2007. This distinction is the highest professional honor for career members of the Senior Executive Service, Senior-Level and Scientific and Professional communities. He has also received the Navy Civilian Superior Service Medal twice as well as receiving numerous performance awards throughout his distinguished career.

Attaining the highest Civilian Marine position within the Command, Dillon joined MCSC in 2003. As Executive Director, Dillon assists Brigadier



The RQ-1 Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle flies on a simulated Navy aerial reconnaissance flight off the coast of southern California in 1995. Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director Barry Dillon helped design, develop, produce and field the Predator. (Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Jeffrey Viano, U.S. Navy)

General Michael Brogan, MCSC Commander, in the overall management of the Command with special emphasis on the programmatic and business aspects of the acquisition programs.

“Mr. Dillon embodies the guiding principles of the Command to include integrity, innovation, teamwork and excellence,” Brogan said. “His efforts have had a direct and lasting positive impact with saving Marines’ lives. His leadership and professionalism have been significant contributors to the success of our operating forces. His ethics and knowledge bring out the best in our organization.”

Dillon’s fingerprints can be found on a wide variety of government programs and headline-making events throughout his federal service. For instance, as Deputy Program Executive Officer for Cruise Missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), he managed the Department of Defense’s (DoD) development, procurement and fielding of UAVs.

“We came up with the idea of the Predator,” he said. “We designed, developed, produced and fielded it. There was a great need for a medium-altitude aircraft with very, very long endurance. The vehicle had to take high-resolution pictures and fly controlled not only from ground stations but from satellite links to give it great range. Coming up with a platform with a very stable target system and synthetic radar was a major challenge.”

The Predator was developed in 1995 and deployed



Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director Barry Dillon congratulates George Seargeant of MAGTF C2, Weapons and Sensors Development and Integration on his 35-year Federal Length of Service Award in 2007. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

to Albania and Bosnia in 1996 as DoD's first advanced concept technology development. Limited-rate production of Predator UAV followed in 1997 under his leadership. Hunter UAV for the Army, Pioneer for the Marine Corps and Navy, Pointer for the Army and Marine Corps, as well as many other systems were also developed and procured for war-fighter use.

"Everyone worked well together to make a great product," Mr. Dillon said. The Predator and other UAVs met everyone's expectations in Bosnia, he said, which proved both satisfying and disturbing.

"My first reaction was to be horrified because from the UAV you could see what war does," he said. "You could see the genocide on the ground, and it was ugly. At the same time, without killing people, the sensors sent back data that brought people to the bargaining table."

At another place, another time, Dillon led a department that, with different sensors at the ready, helped find the cause of a disaster.

SwissAir Flight 111 was flying the evening of

Sept. 2, 1998, from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City to Geneva, Switzerland, when the MD-11 aircraft reported an in-flight emergency. At 10:31 p.m. the plane crashed into the Atlantic five miles from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"We got the call from the Joint Staff that Thursday afternoon," said Mr. Dillon, who was then in charge of the Research, Science and Technology Department at the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), Panama City, Fla. "The recovery and getting the aircraft's black boxes were really, really important. The staff asked if we had any equipment that could help."

A recovery team was quickly assembled, deployed on two C-17 aircraft to Canada, installed their gear on a Canadian vessel and deployed for two weeks to search the area and perform the recovery operation. As a result, the aircraft was located, the wreckage recovered, and the investigation was able to discover the cause for this disaster.

Recovery operations haven't been needed at MCSC, but shortly after Dillon arrived there was an urgent need for high-power jammers to defeat improvised explosive devices used in Iraq.

"We were concerned it was going to be a very long time to get the quantities needed for the Marine Corps," he said. "Our Product Group 12 people sat down to see how to get the jammers ready in a shorter time."

The team convinced the Joint Task Force to aggressively move forward. Their approach cost \$400 million and provided thousands of jammers that were integrated into a variety of vehicles in just a few months. This was about a one-year improvement in delivery time.

"We bucked convention to produce something very effective," Mr. Dillon said.

In a similar way, he led MCSC's drive to field Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles in a short time. "We always keep our eye on



Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director Barry Dillon speaks during the 2007 Small Business Fair. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)



Barry Dillon, Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director, and his wife Linda Dillon (left) with Dr. Delores Etter, former Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, during a 2006 reception for the Sunset Parade. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)



Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Executive Director Barry Dillon led MCSC's drive to field Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles in a short time, like this International Military Government's Category I MRAP vehicle. (IMG photo)

value and verify the quality of the product, which is very important," he said. "That's the healthiest thing you can do in acquisition."

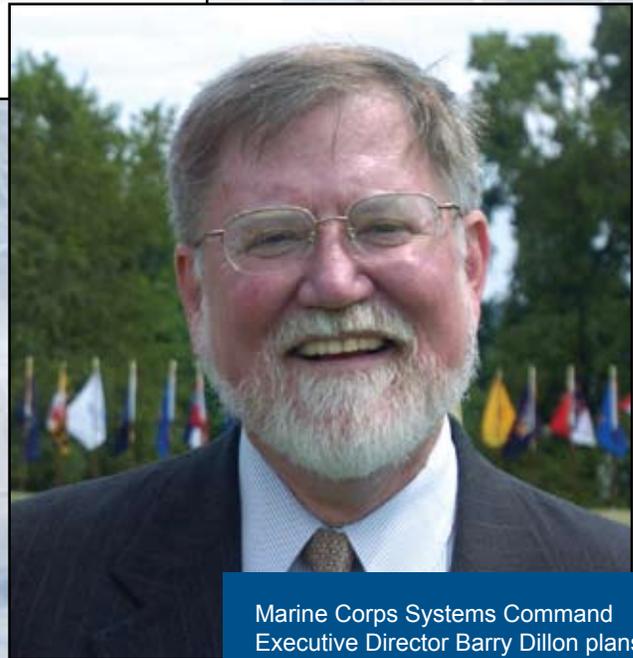
In both the jammer and MRAP acquisitions, Dillon said, industry relationships were an essential element for success.

"We worked with industry to ensure a culture of urgency," he said. "People were dying, and this equipment was imperative. We needed to get everyone on the same page, and we did that."

"Industry needs to keep this sense of urgency when working with Marine Corps Systems Command," he said. "They need to know that what they do is lifesaving and contributes directly to the Global War on Terrorism. A large portion of industry does get that now. We just can't let up until the last Marine is back."

Turning to the people within MCSC, Mr. Dillon said, "We're getting the job done, delivering products, making it happen, making a difference and saving lives. All of us probably know someone whose life was saved because of what we produced in the Command. It's a great feeling to know you've contributed to saving a Marine you know. To get that kind of opportunity is tremendous, and I think a lot of people here feel and think that way."

"I can't imagine being anywhere else in the last five years than here," he said. "No one I know of has gone from headquarters to the lab to headquarters and felt really comfortable, but for me it's been just perfect. If young people think about and understand what I did and it gives them insight about their jobs



Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director Barry Dillon plans to retire Jan. 3, 2009. (MCSC photo)

and how critical they are to this organization, that would be good."

His retirement imminent, the Executive Director has no firm plans. "I just deal with things in phases," he said. "I like helping people. I'd like a situation where no one goes hungry."

While he might not feed the world, he does confess to be a "very good pizza maker. I make homemade pizza, and I love making it for people." He added with a smile, "I work from scratch to make something that's low-calorie and good for you."

— By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications

## Marine Corps begins fielding Raven B's

The Marine Corps has begun exchanging Dragon Eyes for Ravens. The Unmanned System Mobile Training Team from Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), consisting of Major James Lee, Gunnery Sergeant Jerome Adams and Sergeant Martin Zamorano, deployed to Iraq in September to deliver the Raven B hand-launched unmanned aerial system (UAS) to Marines in theater. The Marine Corps is replacing the Dragon Eye UAS with the Raven B, thanks to Rear Admiral William Shannon, the Milestone Decision Authority at Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), who authorized the procurement and fielding of 467 Raven B's.

The Raven B, made by AeroVironment, has a wingspan of 4.5 feet, weighs 4.2 pounds and carries an Electro-Optical or Infra-Red payload. It is able to provide aerial observation, day or night, at line-of-sight ranges up to six miles. The new UAS delivers near-real-time color or infrared imagery to the ground control and remote viewing stations. It can be operated manually or programmed for autonomous operation, using the system's inertial navigation system and precise global positioning system navigation.

Capitalizing on emerging technology, the Marine Corps made the commitment two years ago to pursue the Raven B as a replacement for Dragon Eye. MCSC began equipping Marines with the hand-launched UAS in 2004, when they successfully deployed Dragon Eye in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. MCSC fielded more than 150 Dragon Eyes to infantry

battalions optimizing their organic intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability.

"Dragon Eye was the first UAS fielded by the Marine Corps at the platoon level and enabled units to effectively identify enemy actions in near real time," said Larry Bochenek, MCSC Unmanned Systems Team Lead.

In 2007, at the direction of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN) Research, Development and Acquisition (RDA), the Marine Corps fundamentally changed its approach to meeting its unmanned systems requirements. Program Executive Officer Strike Weapons at NAVAIR was assigned responsibility for the management of all Marine Corps unmanned systems programs of record. However, because MCSC developed the subject matter expertise, NAVAIR directed MCSC's Unmanned Systems Team under Program Manager (PM) Air Defense Weapon Systems (ADWS) to continue the daily execution of Raven B program activities.

"We have an excellent relationship with NAVAIR," said Lieutenant Colonel Brock McDaniel, PM ADWS. "Our collective team has worked very hard to achieve the goal of putting Raven B's in the warfighters' hands as expeditiously as possible."



Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) Unmanned Systems Team gathers with a Raven B unmanned aerial system aircraft in front of the MCSC headquarters building at Quantico, Va. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



A MCSC Raven B training team conducted an operator's course in March for Marines from Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, in Al Qa'im, Iraq, teaching them how to effectively operate the system.

"It's like a toy airplane you played with as a kid, so it's pretty easy to comprehend," said Lee, training team member. "That's why we are confident that we can train this system in two days. Marines are smart, and 90 percent of them who come through this course are already computer savvy."

"It's like with sports, and having good form and the right technique," said Corporal Alexander Ruffino, an Intelligence Analyst with Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment. "Once you get that down, it's a piece of cake. It was kind of like throwing a javelin."

An important aspect of the Raven B is that it provides small units with situational awareness and an edge in planning. It can be employed in all environments for direct or general support of the using unit

during offensive, defensive and force protection operations.

"It's definitely a great recon asset that could potentially save the lives of Marines," Ruffino said. "The picture and video capabilities that the battalion can use to observe what troops are doing or possible insurgent activity in an area will definitely aid in overall tasking and mission accomplishment."

The MCSC Unmanned Systems Team spent the last 18 months evaluating the Raven B system and preparing necessary documentation to execute their acquisition strategy. Most noteworthy, the team's expeditious coordination and aggressive negotiations with the Army to leverage off an existing Raven B contract enabled an economy of scale purchase.

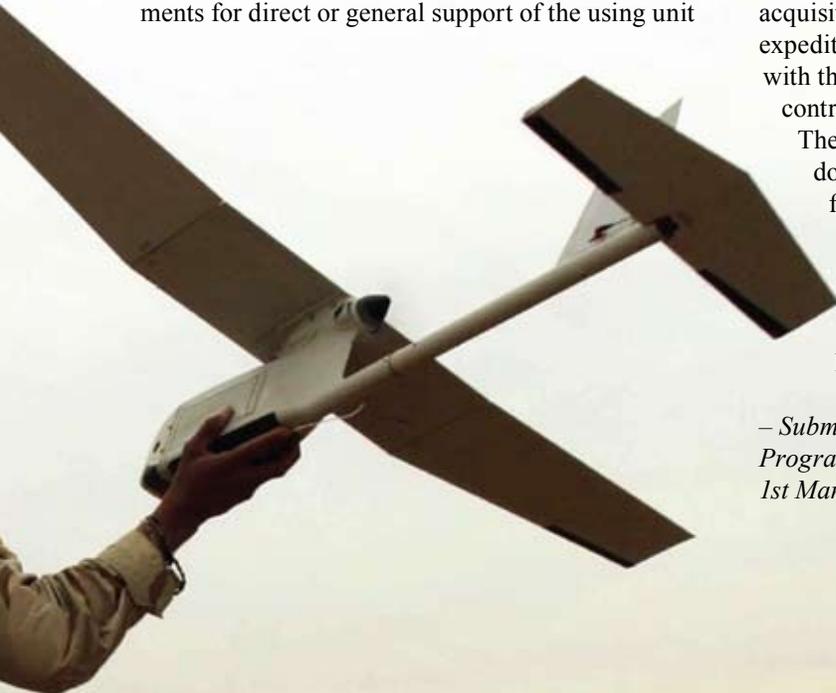
They saved the Marine Corps more than \$100,000 dollars in 2008. All this hard work has led to the fielding of Raven B's to theater.

"This was a very significant accomplishment for the Unmanned Systems Team," McDaniel said. "They have worked extremely hard to get the ball across the goal line, and I am very proud of them."

– Submitted by the Air Defense Weapon Systems Program Management Office (Corporal Billy Hall, 1st Marine Division, contributed to this article)



Staff Sergeant John Eckhardt (left), a member of the Marine Corps Systems Command Raven B training team, instructs Corporal Alexander Ruffino, an Intelligence Analyst with Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, how to properly launch the Raven B Unmanned Air Vehicle during an operator course at Al Qa'im, Iraq, in March. (Photo by Corporal Billy Hall)





# COMPUTER REFRESH

## Marine Corps reaches technology refresh milestone

The Marine Corps reached a major technology refresh milestone in August by refreshing 100 percent of eligible computers within the Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) environment. Technology refresh is the physical process of replacing aging computers with the latest technology available to NMCI. It ensures Marines and Civilian Marines on the NMCI network have the most up-to-date computers and technology within NMCI, help-

ing them accomplish their warfighting mission.

The Department of the Navy challenged Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Manager for Marine Corps Network and Infrastructure Services (PM MCNIS) to improve the services provided by industry while facilitating the changing needs of the government's information technology network. The PM MCNIS, Seat Planning and Deployment (SP&D) Team began the technology refresh process in October 2006 with a pilot program for the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit at Camp Pendleton, Calif. The

full production process started in January 2007, and the first production delivery of "seats" occurred at the Marine Corps Mobilization Command in Kansas City, Mo., in April 2007.

"Approximately 38,500 Marine Corps computers have been refreshed," said Scott Allan, SP&D Team Lead.

Since establishing the original process, the SP&D Team adopted many new procedures to achieve the desired end state for Marine Corps users.

"This evolution integrated SP&D into a union with the Marine Corps customer," said Herman Hill SP&D Team analyst. "We learned from trial and error that what looked good on paper did not always work well in the field. The outcome created a process that enhances the current and future information technology network for the Marine Corps."



Sergeant Nathan Sales, Data Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, the Basic School, Marine Corps Training Command, Quantico, Va., prepares a computer for a technology refresh in July. (Photo by Mason Lowery)

The PM MCNIS SP&D, Budget Execution and Order Management teams, as well as Marines and Civilian Marines from around the world, coordinated and cooperated to meet the technology refresh milestone.

“Teams were challenged by technical issues that required innovative thinking, exceptional communication skills and individual determination to succeed at mitigating solutions,” Hill said.

Through identification of eligible computers, proper scheduling and coordination with the NMCI vendor Electronic Data Systems personnel, the Marine Corps met the August milestone. This ensured operational forces have the most up-to-date NMCI gear to effectively accomplish their missions.

“This has been a major team effort from the ground up,” Allan said.

According to Allan, the SP&D Team oversaw the project and provided schedule accuracy to facilitate the technology refresh lifecycle process. The Budget Execution Team removed obstacles by expediting the submission of seats requiring short-notice adjustments or activations. And the Order Management Team contributed to the success by educating the customer on the Enterprise Information Technology Management Service Management System and NMCI Enterprise Tool. They also provided subject matter experts for areas within the critical design review process,

which streamlined the customer’s endeavors.

In addition, thanks go out to critical personnel from worldwide Marine Corps locations who helped the Corps achieve this milestone. According to Hill, Regional Contracting Officer Representatives, Marine Corps Transition Officers in Charge, Site Transition Officers in Charge, Contract Technical

Representatives and Augment Contract

Technical Representatives should receive most of the credit for this success.

Hill indicated that one of the key components of the technology refresh effort is within each command – the G6s, S6s and Information Systems Coordinators at the small unit level. Another group that is often overlooked is the vendor site deployment team. These teams travel to each site and physically place the computers on the network.

“The most successful technology refreshes we have seen are the results of government personnel working together with the vendor to achieve a common goal, supporting the end user,” said Lieutenant Colonel James Graeme, SP&D Project Officer. “The real success of technology refresh belongs at the site and unit level.”

Even though the milestone has been reached, the work goes on. The SP&D Team, along with all their team members, will continue to refresh eligible computers and adapt to the needs of the warfighter.

– By Olivia Cucco, PM MCNIS



# SAVING LIVES

## 10,000<sup>th</sup> MRAP vehicle passes through integration

In August, the 10,000th Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle passed through integration at the Space and Naval Warfare (SPAWAR) Systems Center (SSC) at Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C. SSC Charleston outfits MRAP vehicles with a full complement of communications, computers, command and control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment.

During an August celebration ceremony, four warfighters who used MRAP vehicles in Iraq spoke to more than 400 SSC Charleston employees, industry partners and leaders from related commands involved in the integration effort.

"It is an honor for us to be here and meet you," said Army Private First Class Rusty Davis. "Because of you, the four of us are able to stand here. Six months ago in Iraq, we had just left to return to the base. We were six MRAPs heavy, and I was driving one. We started taking indirect fire ... small arms fire, mortars and IEDs [improvised explosive devices]. No one was injured; not one of us got as much as a scratch or a bruise.

"So many people I have spoken to here this morning have called us heroes," Davis continued. "I am just glad to have

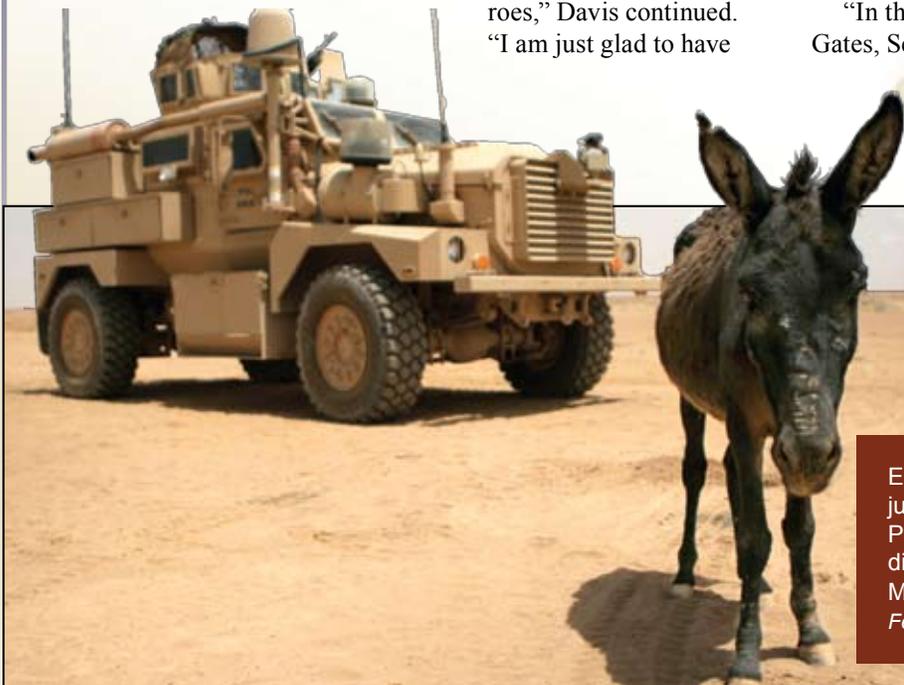
a chance to stand here and tell you that you are our heroes."

Army Specialist Raymond Rodriguez echos the sentiment, "Thank you for being here, and thank you for saving many lives."

The MRAP family of vehicles provides operating forces with multiple mission-role platforms capable of mitigating IED, underbody mines and small-arms fire threats. The MRAP platforms include a suite of government-furnished equipment to help warfighters be successful on the battlefield. SSC Charleston oversees the integration and installation work after the vehicles are accepted from the manufacturers. The MRAP team also performs interoperability testing and then hands the vehicles over to the U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM), which orchestrates transportation of the vehicles from South Carolina to the Middle East.

Overseeing all this is Navy Captain Bruce Urbon, who relieved Navy Captain Red Hoover as SSC Charleston Commanding Officer in June. He noted that Hoover would have been especially happy to see the 10,000th integrated MRAP vehicle roll off the line.

"In the last year, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Secretary of the Navy Donald Winter, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Gary Roughead and various Congressmen, Generals and Admirals have visited the integration facility to view operations and to thank the integrators for their hard work," the Captain told the assembled team. "As the Secretary of the Navy said, the patriotism and dedication he witnessed here is reminiscent of the effort un-



Every Marine learns to expect the unexpected, which is just what Marines traveling in a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle in the Jazirah Desert of Iraq, discovered. This MRAP vehicle is being operated by Marine Air Wing Support Squadron 172. (Photo by Andrew Fellows)



Army Private First Class Rusty Davis calls the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) team members heroes during an August ceremony celebrating the integration of the 10,000th MRAP vehicle at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center at Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C. (Photo by Tom Egbert)

Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, the 841st Transportation Battalion, and the Charleston Air Force Base 437th and 315th Airlift Wings' aerial port.

Thanks to the help of all team members, SSC Charleston's MRAP integration program went from inception to full-rate production in a little over a year. Charleston's program began in March 2007. What started out as just a few vehicle deliveries to SSC Charleston's integration facility grew to more than 1,200 in subsequent months. Initially integrating about five vehicles a day, the team ramped up to full-rate production of 50 vehicles per day by early December 2007. Since then the team has sustained that rate and completed as many as 69 MRAP vehicles in a single day. SSC Charleston reached the 10,000th integrated MRAP milestone on Aug. 1.

– By Lonnie Cowart, SSC Charleston

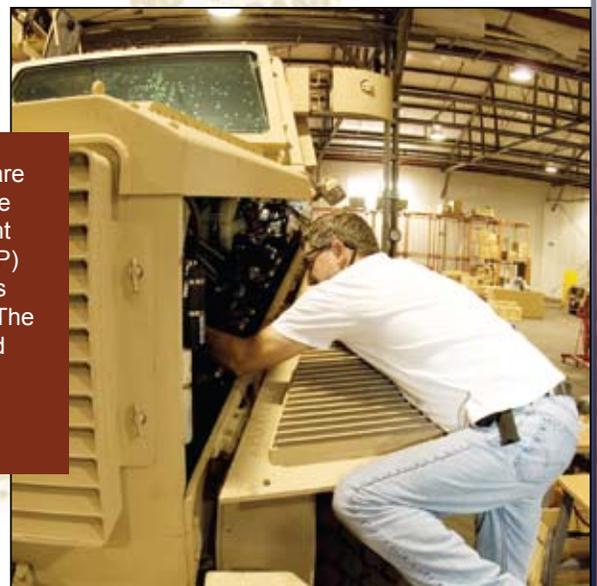
undertaken just a few miles up the road at the Naval Shipyard more than 65 years ago when we fought a different enemy.”

“With 7,000 MRAP vehicles in two theaters, I saw your handiwork all over Iraq,” said keynote speaker Paul Mann, the Joint MRAP Program Manager. Working at Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) in Quantico, Va., Mann leads the team responsible for procuring, fielding and sustaining MRAP vehicles. Noting that he just returned from a trip to Iraq and Afghanistan, Mann stressed the difference these vehicles are making in theater.

“Warfighters are leaving their bases with confidence in their MRAP vehicles,” Mann said. “It is really making a difference in the battle rhythm. These MRAP vehicles are a great tool for commanders and operational planners to get warfighters where they need to be to fight and win.”

SSC Charleston's MRAP integration program is a team effort. MCSC, the Defense Contract Management Agency, Naval Weapons Station Charleston, SSC San Diego, SSC Norfolk, SSC Charleston's industry partners and other Department of Defense members all contribute to make the MRAP program a truly joint effort. TRANSCOM is also an important part of that team and includes the Army Military

A Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center employee works on a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle at Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C. The facility recently celebrated the integration of the 10,000th MRAP vehicle. (SPAWAR photo)



# By a **LONG** shot

## Thermal Sighting System vastly improves lethality

First Lieutenant John Kim could be called a satisfied customer. The Charlie Company Commanding Officer was almost breathless in his email after using the new Thermal Sighting System during a training exercise.

“We witnessed an evolutionary change to our community at the shoot,” he wrote. “The sight and the capabilities it brings to our vehicles were amazing to see as the first four vehicles engaged targets 1,600 to 1,800 meters out.”

The change Kim referred to is, indeed, nothing less than night and day. Fielded in the early 1990s, the original Up Gunned Weapon Station (UGWS) on the Assault Amphibious Vehicle (AAV) used image intensifier – also known as starlight scope – technology in the M36E3 configuration. It amplified existing light and had a range of about 400 meters on a clear day.

However, the sight could not see through smoke, fog, sand or other obscurants to visible light. “Day sighting was good, but image intensification for night proved to be very ineffective,” said Bryan Prosser, Marine Corps Systems Command’s Program Manager for AAV Systems.

An urgent universal needs statement from forces involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom prompted fielding of the Thermal Sighting System. It was approved in January 2006 for the AAV and fully funded by fiscal year 2006 and 2007 budget supplements.

The upgraded M36E-T1 Thermal Sighting System is state of the art. Its contract called for daylight as well as nighttime sighting ability to detect targets up to 3 miles, recognize targets up to 1.5 miles and identify targets at 700 meters.

Prosser said the upgrade was relatively simple. “We reuse most of the original sight. The vendor

The upgraded M36E-T1 Thermal Sighting System has the ability to detect targets up to 3 miles, recognize targets up to 1.5 miles and identify targets at 700 meters. (PM AAV Systems photo)



The upgraded M36E-T1 Thermal Sighting System turns night into day. (PM AAV Systems photo)



Bravo Company, 3d Assault Amphibian Battalion, participates in an Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV) landing as a part of their training at Pyramid Rock Beach at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, in July. The Marine Corps plans to have all AAVs, except for those on Maritime Prepositioned Ships, fully fielded with the new upgraded Thermal Sighting System by the end of the year. (Photo by Lance Corporal Daniel Balmer)

took the old image intensifier off the sight and replaced it with a thermal elbow. Off-the-shelf thermal technology was packaged to fit into the current sight. The operator will see some difference in appearance, but day sighting is unchanged and the thermal sighting is very easy to learn and use.”

The revelation, based on Lieutenant Kim’s email, pops out at night.

“It’s amazing in the sense that, while unable to determine targets with the naked eye, first round and effects were all on target using the thermal sights,” Kim wrote. “The tracers did not ‘white out’ the sights as was the case with the old night sights, so we were able to still see and manipulate gunnery without the temporary loss of sight.

“Engaging targets at greater range is definitely possible,” he continued, “and the sight is clearly capable of observing targets beyond the range of our UGWS. During the night movement, we were able to clearly see across the river (upward of 3 kilometers).

Visibility was so good that we could pick out individual cars and, with some additional gunnery training, might be able to effectively engage them with plunging fires.”

The Marine Corps plans to have the Thermal Sighting System fully fielded – except for those planned for the AAVs on Maritime Prepositioned Ships – by the end of the year. The acquisition objective calls for 1,026 Thermal Sighting Systems.

The result, based on glowing reviews, will be quite a sight.

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



# LOOKED

## PM Ammo molds dollars into bullets

**A**mmunition is the lifeblood of the military, as the saying goes in the “ammo” community. But Jerry Mazza, Marine Corps Systems Command’s (MCSC) Program Manager for Ammunition (PM Ammo), is more point blank:

“Going to war without ammo is nothing more than a camping trip,” Mazza said. “Unlike any other commodity – the vehicles; weapons systems; clothing and equipment; petroleum, oil and lubricants; communication equipment; spare parts – ammunition is the last stage in the war fight. It is that which directly destroys the enemy combatant.

“Thus,” he continued, “it represents the finality of all the preceding events leading up to its use. It is the key ingredient that makes the ‘tip of the spear’ pointy and lethal.”

That last stage owes

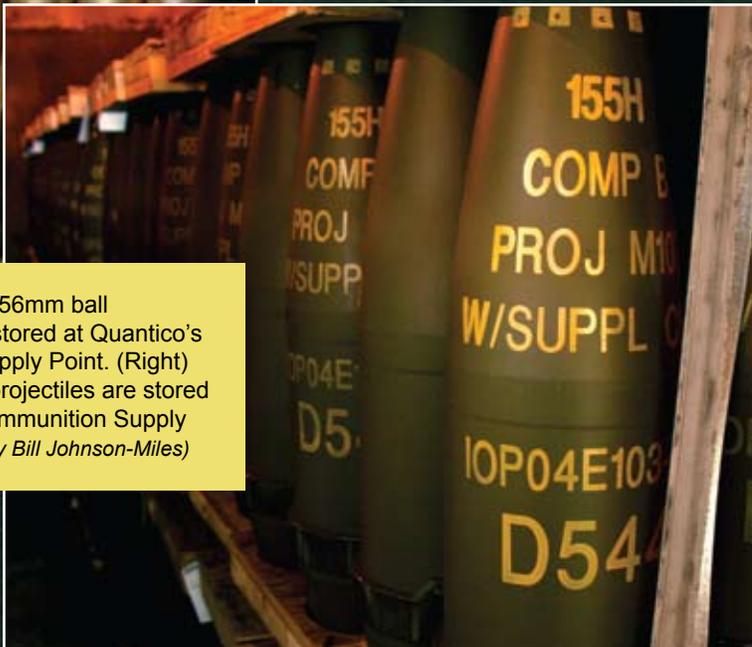
its success to the ongoing efforts of ammunition acquisition launched from PM Ammo at Quantico, Va. There, the initial plans and programs take the first steps down the long road to finished products.

“Ammunition touches every Marine and is a unique commodity that is either used, moved, expended, stored, procured, analyzed, budgeted or developed by Marines or Marine Civilians,” Mazza said. “The unique explosive safety aspect drives policy. Ammo is high value, and high use – a multi-billion dollar stockpile and a multi-billion dollar investment. Management of ammunition is broad, from the simple to the complex.”

PM Ammo manages the total lifecycle management (TLCM)

mission for conventional ammunition in the Marine Corps, a task that Mazza said sounds simpler than it really is. The span of responsibility – from budget formulation and acquisition strategy development to ultimate use and disposal – traces a methodical path within the myriad of ammunition logistics elements.

“Our biggest challenge,” Mazza said, “is administering to many stakeholders to do the best for all the Marine Corps. We constantly look at how to make sure we manage resources to get the most out of limited dollars. In fact, the rule in



(Above) This 5.56mm ball ammunition is stored at Quantico’s Ammunition Supply Point. (Right) Many 155mm projectiles are stored at Quantico’s Ammunition Supply Point. (Photos by Bill Johnson-Miles)

# AMMO LOADED

ammo is that a dollar today is a bullet in three years.”

Simply put, he added, “We must incorporate a significant production lead time averaging 24 months, when balancing the ammunition requirements.”

Coupling this with the demands from the Marine Forces for both combat and live-fire training ammunition, Mazza explained, requires a fine-tuned balancing act to support all demands placed on the conventional ammunition stockpile.

Ammunition, the Program Manager said, is more than just bullets. PM Ammo includes more than 300 items in its inventory – everything from self-defense munitions to smoke grenades.

The portfolio of products and services includes management of the Marine Corps’ Conventional Ammunition Inventory Control Point (ICP).

The ICP, a multi-billion dollar organization, controls the maintenance and upkeep of the wholesale and retail ammunition accounting

systems as well as various other related information technology functions. One such endeavor is the PM Ammo-hosted Marine Ammunition Knowledge Enterprise, an extensive, ammo-based knowledge management portal designed to support the entire Marine Corps ammunition enterprise with technical, program and logistical information necessary to execute the collective

ammunition mission.

PM Ammo is the single entry point for customers and stakeholders in the TLM of ammunition and explosives for the Corps. Fortunately, Mazza said, with great responsibility comes great flexibility.

“Our greatest pleasure,” he said, “is the autonomy given to us by the MCSC Commander to do the ammo mission.”

With ammunition and explosives in the picture, PM Ammo answers not only to the Marine Corps but also partners across many Department of Defense (DoD) organizations.

In addition, PM Ammo executes the Marine Corps Explosives Safety Program. This has evolved into both explosives and environmental concerns as environmental issues continue to creep into munitions management.

“Altogether,” Mazza said, “we have more comprehensive lifecycle management if we do all this through one program



Jerry Mazza (left), Marine Corps Systems Command’s Program Manager for Ammunition (PM Ammo), speaks with Chief Warrant Officer Jessica Donnell, also with PM Ammo. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Master Gunnery Sergeant Ronald Pressley, Operations Chief for Marine Corps Systems Command’s Program Management Office for Ammunition, lifts a 100-pound 155mm projectile. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

manager. If we have inventory management, procurement, policy, information technology, stockpile surveillance, maintenance and renovation, and the requisite skill sets all in one place, it's much more manageable."

Responsive and flexible management is key, he said, especially amid the demands and surprises of war.

One recent example of rapid support to the Marine forces occurred during April through July. Based on an Urgent Universal Need Statement (UUNS) for a 155mm Infrared (IR) illuminating projectile, PM Ammo worked closely with the Army's Program Executive Office, Ammunition to field the 155mm IR capability. The 200-round UUNS quantity was delivered to the Marine Corps during June – about three months from UUNS to final support, during

which the safety qualification, transportation coordination, legal review and a variety of program requirements were executed.

Today, the Corps' ammunition program has become a significant investment in the Procurement Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps (PAN&MC) appropriation. With Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, supplemental budget requests and Grow the Force, the Marine Corps will procure nearly \$5 billion in conventional ammunition from FY08 through FY15, with FY08 alone surpassing \$1 billion.

When adding the nearly \$1 billion of munitions in the production pipeline as well as the current conventional ammunition global stockpile of \$5 billion-plus, Mazza said, "One can see the overall fiscal responsibility within PM Ammo."

This includes the current live-fire expenditure of ammunition, about \$325 million annually.

According to Mazza, PM Ammo's job is a "fine balancing act of ensuring assets are available for the current war fight,



Captain Matt Williams of Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Management Office for Ammunition checks out some ammunition crates at Quantico's Ammunition Supply Point. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Marines work in on Ammunition Supply Point. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)





while ensuring sufficient prepositioned stocks and training assets are available, coupled with sufficient war reserve stocks.”

Because PM Ammo does a good job handling its responsibility, Mazza said the Marine Corps and the rest of DoD will never see what he calls the nightmare memo:

“Today I must advise that the Marine Corps has run out of ammunition. Bins are empty. Once the MCSC Commander is notified, this will be immediately passed to the Commandant and to all Deputy Commandants. The Commandant will most assuredly advise the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Live-fire training stops. Marine Corps Recruit Depots cease training new Marines. In theater, senior Marine leaders will seek handouts from the Army. The Marine Corps stops, in total. Doors closed for business.”

Mazza returns to the present, greatly relieved. “Unrealistic? Yes,” he said. “Are we moving in that direction? No, but, it does give you an idea how critical a commodity ammunition represents to Marine Corps

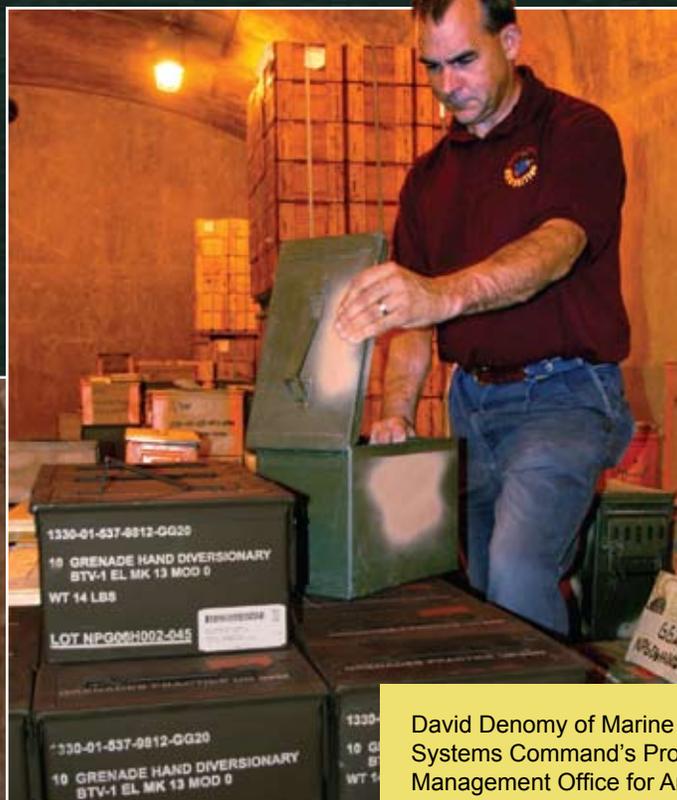
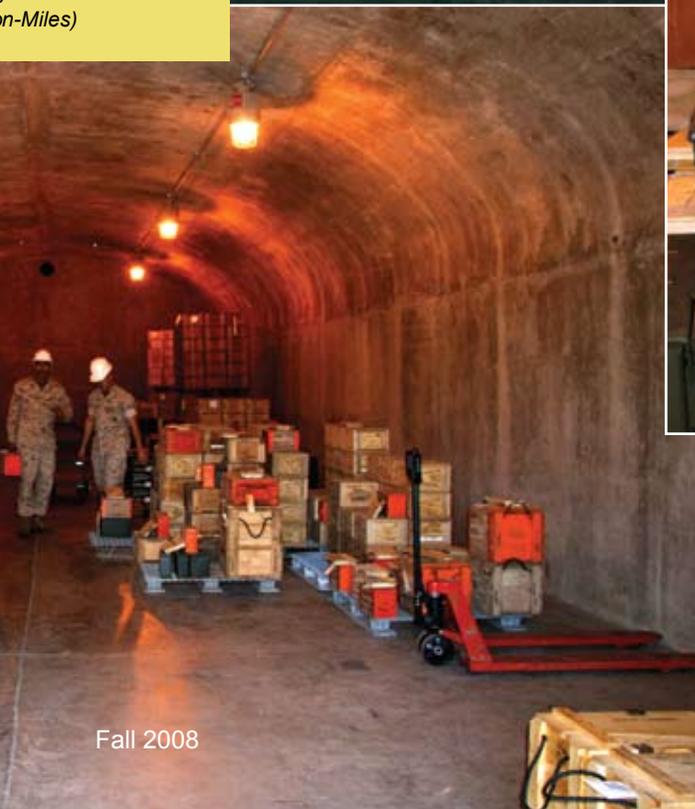
readiness and execution of its assigned missions.”

He added that PM Ammo will continue to address new challenges and complex management issues associated with this critical commodity. “We will remain the Marine Corps’ central repository for ammunition data and act as the singular point of contact for Marine Corps Ground Ammunition.”

At its final stage, Mazza said, ammunition represents the very “tip of the tip” of the spear. “As such, it is recognized by every member of the PM Ammo staff that all our efforts support those who may ultimately find themselves in harm’s way. The PM Ammo staff serves as enablers to our Marine forces. This will remain our primary focus.”

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications

View of Quantico's Ammunition Supply Point bunkers. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



David Denomy of Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Management Office for Ammunition inspects ammunition containers at Quantico's Ammunition Supply Point. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



# Logistics LD by Degree

## Online program leads to associate diploma

Donna Sills and Camellia Paulin thought their cap and gown days were behind them. Sills has 10 years until retirement, and Paulin, accumulating a few years worth of college courses, never planned to earn a degree.

Two years ago their prospects changed and futures brightened. Both technical management data specialists at Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Albany, Ga., hold newly earned associate degrees in business logistics. With diplomas in hand, the women are confident of a successful career change as they near the end of decades of government service.

Besides their own push for achievement, Sills and Paulin give a nod to John Klemm, Director of Operations for MCSC Albany. He created the online associate degree curriculum for Albany Technical College. Tapping into the talent at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, the college wanted to set up a certificate program in supply chain management. So as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Executive Potential Program, Klemm created three courses followed by four others. He started to teach the classes in 2004.

Then college officials decided to try an online associate degree program, and Klemm had started work on his doctorate that conveniently focused on creating courses for online education. The business logistics associate degree program was approved by the college regents and started in 2006; going online in 2007.

Back at the Logistics Base, many people had tried to take college courses. However, they were foiled due to cramped or changing work schedules or the occasional supervisor who resisted the notion of em-



Donna Sills (right) and Camellia Paulin review the online degree program in business logistics with John Klemm, Director of Operations, Marine Corps Systems Command Albany, Ga. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Albany, Ga., partners with Albany Technical College to provide online classes and associate degrees in Business Logistics Management. John Klemm, Director of Operations for MCSC Albany, helped set up the program. (*Albany Technical College website*)

ployees taking time away from the office to get higher education.

“There are many people on base who will complete the program in the next year,” Klemm said. “It’s worked out very well. It’s well supported by base officials, including the generals.”

The degree program also extends beyond the Albany fence.

“The course is designed for anyone off the street, including a kid right out of high school,” Klemm said. In that way, he explained, MCSC might attract an infusion of young people into the workforce. But the focus of the course is on the civilians and military community on the base.

“Almost all students are associated with the government,” the Operations Director stated.

He is proud of the education track the college has plotted through the years. The certificate program has evolved into today’s associate degree course that can jump start a bachelor’s degree. Now, Klemm said, Albany workers’ horizons have broadly expanded.

Sills and Paulin concur. After haphazardly compiling college credits, the associate degree program finally gave Paulin direction. She was among the first persons to receive her degree in November 2007.



Sills followed suit, accepting her degree in April. Both have now set their sights on four-year degrees from the college.

“Before our jobs came under Systems Command, we couldn’t have taken these courses if we wanted to,” Sills said. “Now I have something I can do after retirement. In the meantime, I’ve got the education I need to

receive pay raises and promotions.”

Paulin, having previously taken a myriad of classes, only needed three more core classes for her degree.

“It was something I wanted to do,” she said. “The online instruction was good because it’s more at your own pace. On the other hand, there are more papers to write.”

Either way, Sills and Paulin are the vanguard of what Albany Technical College and John Klemm hope will be a trend toward greater education opportunities for everyone associated with MCSC.

– *By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications*





# DOUBLE RETIREMENT

## Riverine craft takes final trip to Marine Corps Museum



One of Marine Corps Systems Command's Riverine Assault Craft makes a hard turn on the Potomac River near Quantico, Va. (Marine Corps photo)

Mike Getsey, a coxswain (small boat operator), had been with Riverine Assault Craft (RAC) 001 even before the boat first sliced through the water in 1993. The first craft off the assembly line, Getsey helped write its specifications, watched its assembly in the factory, recommended changes and tested this and other vessels in what became a 25-boat fleet for the Marine Corps.

Fifteen years after RAC 001's launch, it seemed almost fitting that boat and overseer would end their service at the same time. RAC 001 moved from the Marine Corps Systems Command Boat House on July 16 to its permanent home at the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico, Va. Two days later Getsey retired as a contractor for Computer Sciences Corp.

"I know that boat," Getsey said. "I know every nut, bolt and screw. I knew what was wrong with it and how we fixed it."

Aside from the number denoting its place at the head of the line, RAC 001 is otherwise identical to the subsequent 24 vessels in its production line.

RACs were assigned for a variety of missions: armed escort; command, control and communications; transport; armed reconnaissance; and pursuit and interception. They were designed to function as inland and coastal waterway patrol craft. They would cruise at 38 mph and accelerate to a full throttle

speed of 45 mph in five seconds.

The RAC was fielded in the Small Craft Company of Headquarters Battalion, Second Marine Division, so Marines could perform high-speed

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**"The Marine Corps bought Riverine Assault Craft to prepare for missions in certain parts of the world where there were more jungles and rivers than roads."** – Mike Getsy

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riverine operations to support Commander in Chief, United States Southern Command. The boat had a crew of four Marines and could transport 10 to 15 combat-loaded Marines. With its shallow draft the RAC could operate in 8 inches of water while on plane (full speed) and 24 inches of water while moving slowly or stopped.

The boats were swift and lethal. Fore and aft gun tubs could mount either the M2 .50-caliber Heavy Machine Gun or MK19 40mm Grenade Machine Gun. Medium machine guns could be mounted on pintles fixed to the port and starboard gunwales.

“The Marine Corps bought Riverine Assault Craft to prepare for missions in certain parts of the world where there were more jungles and rivers than roads,” Getsey said. “The only way to move troops in there would be by river.”

Infantry Marines trained aboard RACs at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Some boats were sent to the Jungle Warfare School in Panama. Having seen action in Iraq, none of the boats were lost in combat. However, the small group of RAC boats was outmoded when the Marine Corps fielded new Small Unit Riverine Craft in 2002. The Corps then pulled RACs back to Albany, Ga., for disposition.



Stefan Rohal, Registrar for the National Museum of the Marine Corps, signs papers officially accepting Riverine Assault Craft 001 into Museum custody. Joining him are Beth Crumley of the Museum staff and Coxswain Mike Getsey of Marine Corps Systems Command’s Boat House. Getsey has since retired. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

“Some went to Dahlgren, Va. [at the Naval Surface Warfare Center],” Getsey said. “They were dropped from the system and used as targets. Four are still at Camp Lejeune to train Navy personnel to be jet boat operators. The fifth is this one at Quantico.”

RAC 001 was water worthy to the end, as Getsey noted with pride: “If we hadn’t donated it to the Museum, it’d be on the river today.”

RAC 001 will spend the rest of its days high and dry on display at the Museum, a relic to a brief action-packed legacy. Mike Getsey plans a different retirement – often on a boat, floating on the water.

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



Marines attempt to keep their weapons dry aboard a Riverine Assault Craft. (Marine Corps photo)



# Parade Deck

1



2



3



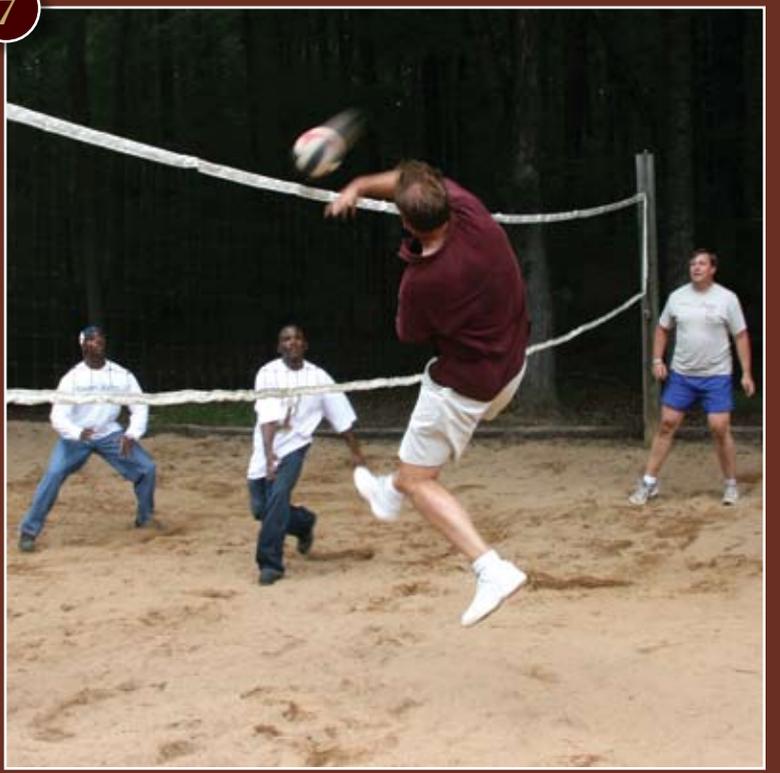
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# MCSC Families enjoy 'Fun Day'

1) Staff Sergeant Kristen Erario of Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) Staff Secretary Office (Staff Sec) grabs some air during the sack race at the Command Family Fun Day near Quantico's Lunga Reservoir in June. 2) Chief cook and master grillar Ken Jordan, MCSC's Postal Officer, made sure no one went home hungry. 3) Staff Sec Marines dig in during the tug of war competition. 4) Young MCSC family members get their hips moving during the hula hoop challenge. 5) Bobbie Cave, the Command's Paralegal Specialist and the lead organizer of MCSC's Family Fun Day, feeds the sweet tooth of young attendees with cotton candy. 6) The Systems Engineering, Interoperability, Architectures and Technology team, with help from Corporate Communications, earned the Commander's Cup at Family Fun Day. 7) Volleyball was one of the Commander's Cup events, along with tug of war, sack race, three-legged race and horseshoes. *(Photos by Bill Johnson-Miles)*

7



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Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Commander Brigadier General Michael Brogan and Fisher House Foundation Trustee James Carrier salute the flag during the Sunset Parade hosted in July by MCSC at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

# Summer Showcase

## Sunset Parade honors those who serve

As shadows grew long on the late July evening, the beat of the Commandant's Own U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps filled the air while its members marched out from behind the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial. The Sunset Parade, hosted by Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), had begun.

The Command used its opportunity to host the weekly summer event by honoring James Carrier, Fisher House Foundation Trustee. The one-hour performance featured the music of the Commandant's Own U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, and precision drill by the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon, climaxed by a 21-gun salute.

Brigadier General Michael Brogan, MCSC Commander, said the parade was the opportunity to showcase the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C. "We can display their unique talents for all of

you," he told the audience of MCSC military members and Civilian Marines at a pre-parade reception at nearby Henderson Hall. Carrier also addressed the audience at Henderson Hall.

"My mission as the guy who did not serve [in the military] is to serve you," Carrier said. "The military has taught me so much about being a member of a team."

Through the Fisher House Foundation, Carrier said he is "focused on caring for our most precious resource, the nation's military personnel and veterans."

In May 2008, the Commandant of the Marine Corps honored Carrier with the Superior Public Service Award, the second highest award attainable by a civilian. He also earned the 2006 Bob Hope "Spirit of Hope" award for his unrelenting enthusiastic support to the U.S. military.

Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes" built on the grounds of major military and Veteran

Members of the Commandant's Own U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps perform during the Marine Corps Systems Command-hosted Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., in July. (CVIC photo)





Members of the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon perform during the Sunset Parade hosted, in July, by Marine Corps Systems Command at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. (CVIC photo)

Affairs medical centers. There is at least one Fisher House at every major military medical center. It provides a “home away from home” that enables family members to be close to loved ones at the most stressful time – during hospitalization of military members for illness, disease or injury.

“While serving on the foundation I learned about the great work you do in the military,” Carrier said. “I didn’t know Semper Fi when I was a kid, but now I say Semper Fi to all of you.”

Since September 1956, Marine Corps marching and musical units have been honoring the same Marines that Carrier has been serving, paying tribute to those whose “uncommon valor was a common virtue.”

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



Members of the Commandant’s Own U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps perform during the Marine Corps Systems Command-hosted Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., in July. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



# Additional MCSC Events

Commandant of the Marine Corps General James Conway (second from right) speaks with members of Marine Corps Systems Command's Infantry Weapons Systems Product Group at the World Wide Conference for Marine Leaders held on Quantico in June. *(Photo by Jim Katzaman)*



John Maurer and Kris Rinaldo of Marine Air-Ground Task Force Command and Control, Weapons and Sensors Development and Integration, speak with a visitor during Marine Corps Systems Command's Small Business Fair held at the Clubs of Quantico in June. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*

Corporal Russ McClain, Motor Transport Specialist at Camp Pendleton, Calif., aims his wireless M16A4 service rifle off the back of a Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement to aid his fellow Marines in the Combat Convoy Simulator. Two of these \$5.5 million Combat Convoy Simulator buildings opened in September at the Camp Pendleton Tactical Vehicle Simulation Center. *(Photo by Private Daniel Boothe)*



(From left) Colonel Frank Kelley, Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Manager for Training Systems; Colonel James Seaton, Camp Pendleton Base Commander; and Jim Craig, Lockheed Martin, cut the ceremonial ribbon in September marking the completion of two \$5.5 million Combat Convoy Simulator buildings at the Camp Pendleton, Calif., Tactical Vehicle Simulation Center. *(Photo by Private Daniel Boothe)*





## Marine Corps Systems Command Awardees

### Legion of Merit

Colonel John Bryant  
Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle,  
Program Executive Office Land Systems

### Meritorious Service Medal

Colonel Alan Pratt  
Marine Corps Tactical Systems  
Support Activity

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Coolican  
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors  
Development & Integration

Lieutenant Colonel Todd Emo  
Program Executive Office Land Systems

Lieutenant Colonel Scott Huelse  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Lieutenant Colonel Brain Long  
Advanced Amphibious Assault,  
Program Executive Office Land Systems

Lieutenant Colonel John Mades  
Systems Engineering, Interoperability,  
Architectures and Technology

Lieutenant Colonel William Rysanek  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking Systems

Lieutenant Colonel Tracy Tafolla  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Lieutenant Colonel Clyde Walker  
Reserve Affairs

Major John Gutierrez  
Combat Equipment and Support Systems

Major Richard Paradise  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking Systems

Master Gunnery Sergeant Davis Corbin  
Ground Transportation  
& Engineer Systems

Hospital Corpsman Chief Petty Officer  
Michael McNair  
Infantry Weapons Systems

### Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Major Philip Erdie  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking System

Major Victor Frausto  
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors  
Development & Integration

Major Brian Newbold  
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors  
Development & Integration

Captain Edward Amdahl  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking Systems

Captain Nathan Dmochowski  
Training Systems

Captain Stephan Karabin  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Captain Corey Mazyck  
Global Combat Support  
Systems – Marine Corps

Captain Russell Pound  
Ground Transportation and  
Engineer Systems

Captain Trevor Thibodeau  
Training Systems

Lieutenant Charles Bunton, USN  
Advanced Amphibious Assault,  
Program Executive Office Land Systems

Master Sergeant James Hillyer  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking Systems

Gunnery Sergeant Wade Clark  
Office of the Chief of Staff

Gunnery Sergeant William Drew  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking Systems

Gunnery Sergeant Troy Powers  
Marine Corps Tactical Systems  
Support Activity

Gunnery Sergeant Fredrico Williams  
Global Combat Support  
Systems – Marine Corps

Staff Sergeant Troy Allenbaugh  
Marine Corps Tactical Systems  
Support Activity

Staff Sergeant Michael Niman  
Combat Equipment and Support Systems

### Superior Civilian Service Award

John Gay  
Systems Engineering Interoperability,  
Architectures and Technology

### Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Joyce Brent  
Joint Program Executive Office  
Chemical and Biological Defense

Todd Calhoun  
Programs

Mary Cooney  
Resource Management

Ronald Demott  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Jeanette Evans-Morgis  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Richard Halcisak  
Systems Engineering, Interoperability,  
Architectures and Technology

Julie Mattocks  
Command Response Cell

### Certificate of Retirement

Joyce Brent  
Joint Program Executive Office  
Chemical and Biological Defense



Maureen Torn receives the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity (MCTSSA) Civilian Employee of the Quarter award from Colonel Alan Pratt, MCTSSA Commanding Officer. (Photo by Thomas Prothro)

## Marine Corps Systems Command Awardees (continued)



Lieutenant Colonel Clyde Walker of Reserve Affairs celebrates receiving the Meritorious Service Medal with his family. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

### Certificate of Retirement (continued)

Barbara Hanna  
Facilities and Services

Russell Houston  
Global Combat Support  
Systems – Marine Corps

Daryl McClung  
Armor and Fire Support Systems

### Federal Length of Service

Linda Salisbury (40 Years)  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Joyce Brent (35 Years)  
Joint Program Executive Office  
Chemical and Biological Defense

Nancy Harmon (35 Years)  
Training Systems

Maria Lenore (35 Years)  
Resource Management

John Finke (30 Years)  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Patricia Hoffpaur (30 Years)  
Operational Forces Systems

Douglas Jones (30 Years)  
Armor and Fire Support Systems

Patricia Neves (30 Years)  
Combat Equipment and Support Systems

Randy Ream (30 Years)  
Communications, Intelligence and  
Networking Systems

Jeanie Sholander (30 Years)  
Program Executive Office  
Land Systems

Donald Wong (30 Years)  
Ground Transportation  
& Engineer Systems

Lisa Botkin (25 Years)  
Contracts

Angela Ellis (25 Years)  
Ammunition

Douglas Fenner (25 Years)  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Lynda Fullem (25 Years)  
Strategic Change Management Center

George Gibbs (25 Years)  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Kelly Gibson (25 Years)  
Life Cycle Logistics

Mary Moody (25 Years)  
Combat Equipment and Support Systems

Kevin Scott (25 Years)  
Ground Transportation  
& Engineer Systems

Michele Lee Stewart (25 Years)  
Ammunition

Sandra Switzer (25 Years)  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Robert Van Olst (25 Years)  
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors  
Development & Integration

Pamela Amorosi (20 Years)  
Resource Management

Melinda Busansky (20 Years)  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Michael Busansky (20 Years)  
Contracts

Christopher Hatch (20 Years)  
Program Executive Office Land Systems

Bruce Melton (20 Years)  
Armor and Fire Support Systems

Randolph Murdock (20 Years)  
Ammunition

Susan Torfin (20 Years)  
Systems Engineering, Interoperability,  
Architectures and Technology

Thomas Voth (20 Years)  
Information Systems and Infrastructure

### Special Act Award

Michael O'Neil  
Marine Corps Tactical Systems  
Support Activity



Major David Manka of Systems Engineering, Interoperability, Architectures and Technology receives his new rank insignia from his wife and his supervisor Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Bey during the new Major's promotion ceremony. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



## Pick a number, find a person

Finding someone at Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) headquarters has become a lot easier, thanks to the new Workspace Management System (WMS). The WMS is available through the Command's Tiger website, MCSC's total information gateway for enterprise resources.

Workspace and asset management at MCSC is controlled by Facilities and Services (F&S). F&S is responsible for cubicle reorganization and implementing changes to phone numbers for each user. F&S has long wanted to integrate workspace requests, floor plan and phone requests into one overarching management system. In the past, F&S managed information pertaining to cubicles and rooms using multiple documents. Phone request management was

handled separately. These documents tracked names and cubicle numbers but did not allow for any reporting capabilities.

Every workspace is assigned a workspace identification number (WIN). The WMS matches your WIN through a link from your Staff Directory profile. This link provides a floor plan map of where you sit including the building, wing and cubicle/office location.

"MCSC is not structured for ground combat as our Marines are," said John Young, Assistant Commander, F&S. "The battles we fight are not won on a field of battle. We win our battles in offices, work stations, conference rooms and test facilities. Our resources or weapons of choice are a workspace, computer, phone and the connections or infrastructure to use these resources to their maximum efficiency."

To that end, Young said, office managers, through Tiger, can now find an employee in the floor plan map and

create a workspace or phone request for that person. The application manages the workflow by notifying F&S of the request creation and, upon completion, notifying the office manager that the work has been performed. WMS manages the request automation and manages the seat allocation management. When a request is approved to move a user from one WIN to another, the floor plan map is automatically updated.

WMS provides a reporting capability to administrators and, at any time, F&S knows the answers to frequently asked questions: How many contractors are seated at Hospital Point? How many vacant seats are there?

WMS also provides future workspace and asset management planning. If major reorganizations occur within the Command, proposed floor plans can be created to provide useful planning information on a cubicle rebuild or mass personnel movement.



This Workspace Management System screen shot on Tiger indicates the office location of Brigadier General Michael Brogan, Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command. (PDS graphic)

## SCMC library available to the Command

The Strategic Change Management Center (SCMC) has established a library to help Command personnel find information to improve their management and team building skills or improve business processes. The library has more than 60 books, CDs and DVDs covering topics such as strategic planning, teaming, Lean Six Sigma, benchmarking, and other techniques and practices that help create and sustain high performance in organizations.

“If you’ve ever been frustrated with problems concerning change, team management, improving performance or perhaps are just looking for ways to increase your knowledge on these topics, you can leverage our library,” said Joan Woodcock of SCMC. “You can learn helpful tips and pick up useful techniques to make you or your project team more effective. And you can also learn how to help your team work better together and how to improve working relationships with other projects or programs.”

If reading time is limited, SCMC is working to provide executive book summaries, similar to Cliff Notes, for all the books in their library. These summaries highlight the key points and specific techniques without going into extensive details and examples. According to Woodcock, the summaries provide a brief overview and can help you make a difference in work environments.

Checking out resources from the SCMC library is simple. Here are the procedures:

1. Visit <https://mcscweb01.marcor-syscom.usmc.mil/ELibrary/> on the Internet.
2. In the left column, on the list of books, click on More Information/Request.
3. To put a resource on hold, click on Request Item. You will be advised as to how long the item will be held at SCMC on your behalf.
4. For additional information, like synopsis and reviews, click on More Information/Reviews located above Request Item.
5. For the Executive Book Summaries, click on the executive book review, which is below the description.
6. Visit SCMC on the first floor in Building 2200 to check out the item you placed on hold.



Master Gunnery Sergeant Rodney Curry (left), Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV), receives the EFV guidon from outgoing EFV Program Manager Colonel John Bryant during a change-of-command ceremony at The Clubs at Quantico. Colonel Keith Moore (right) assumed command of the EFV program office during the August ceremony. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

“It is necessary in this day and age to be updated on the newest technologies, the best techniques of program management and business management, and any other work aiding ideas or plans that improve your abilities in the Command,” Woodcock said. “It is well worth your time to keep up to date on the latest theories and practices that can help you and your team operate more effectively or help you refine your interpersonal and leadership skills.”

## Security training required by end of December

All Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) government employees are required to attend the annual security training, which will be presented nine separate times at Quantico’s Gray Research Center between Oct. 29 and Dec. 17. The block of training includes

Information and Personnel Security Program, Information Assurance and Counterintelligence. Registration information is located on the Command’s Tiger website.

According to Susan Jones, MCSC’s Security Manager, this training and briefing will not be offered electronically. All personnel located on Quantico are required to attend one of the nine available training opportunities. MCSC personnel located off base can arrange a tailored briefing at their site by contacting the Security Manager. Contract support personnel will be provided the briefing on a separate date in January 2009. This is not the same security training that was presented in the spring.

“The briefing you attended last April at Little Hall was a special briefing pertaining to classified spillage and markings only,” Jones said. “It did not meet your annual requirement. If you are attached to this Command as a powder blue government employee, you need to attend this training. Topics pertain to governmentwide and Command policy.”

## Tentative dates set for Acquisition MOS boards

The Marine Corps has tentatively set aside Jan. 12-16, 2009, for the annual Acquisition Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) Selection Board and Acquisition Command Selection Board. A Marine Corps administrative message (MARADMIN) announcing the boards went out in October. Interested officers should check the most recent MARADMIN messages for more information.

According to Michelle McKamy, the Marine Corps Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act Manager, Marine Corps officers interested in submitting their application for the Acquisition MOS should make sure their acquisition records are up to date. An audit of acquisition records can be arranged by contacting McKamy at Marine Corps Systems Command's Workforce Management Directorate, (703) 432-4497 or [michelle.mckamy@usmc.mil](mailto:michelle.mckamy@usmc.mil).

## Correct shipping address noted

For people who order items or equipment using a contract, purchase order or government credit card for delivery to the Command, the correct address is:

Supply Officer (M30500)  
Marine Corps Systems Command  
Attn: (Name, Office Code, Phone Number)  
2201A Willis Street  
Quantico, VA 22134-6050

Customers listing this address must send a copy of the ordering

paperwork to [supplyreceiving@usmc.mil](mailto:supplyreceiving@usmc.mil). Notification will ensure Supply is aware of the incoming shipment and can relay it to the customer.

For more information, call (703) 432-3008.

## President recognizes outstanding volunteers

All civilians, military service members and contractors who have worked for Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) for more than 12 months are eligible for the President's Volunteer Service Award. The program runs from Oct. 1 through Sept. 20 each fiscal year and recognizes people who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service

and civic participation.

Service must meet national or community needs in the areas of youth achievement, parks and open spaces, healthy communities, and public safety and emergency response.

Award qualification is based on hours of service over a 12-month period or substantial service over a lifetime. More information can be found on Tiger. Under MCSC, select Awards, and then select President's Volunteer Service Award.

MCSC also offers a Civilian and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for three years of outstanding volunteer service. For this medal, volunteer service should be significant, of a sustained and direct nature, produce tangible results and reflect favorably on the Department of Defense. More information can be found on the same Tiger page as mentioned above. Under Honorary Awards select Civilian Outstanding Vol Service or Mil Outstanding Vol Service.



Colonel Alan Pratt (left), Marine Corps Tactical System Support Activity's new Commanding Officer, receives the Meritorious Service Medal from Colonel Patrick Looney, Weapons and Field Training Battalion Commanding Officer, at Camp Pendleton, Calif. (photo by Tom Prothro)



# Snapshots



Andria Cook (left) and Jami Murray scoop up ice cream during a Director Financial Management fundraiser for the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Master Gunnery Sergeant Tony Aldredge serves barbeque sandwiches as part of Ground Transportation and Engineer Systems' August fundraiser for the Command's Marine Corps Birthday Ball. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)



Captain Sean Donohue, the Birthday Ball Committee's Director of Finances, delivers a load of pizzas in August for the American Society of Military Comptrollers' Ball fundraiser. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)



Armor and Fire Support Systems' Norman Voss (left) and Captain Matt Williams of the Program Management Office for Ammunition are members of a band who performed at Quantico's annual Interfaith Expo in July. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Dominic's Grill reopened for lunch in September and is now located behind Building 2200 between Wings B and C. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Laura Branham (left), daughter of Program Executive Office Land Systems' Dave Branham, and her friend Katie Davis enjoy the Command-sponsored trip to a Baltimore Orioles baseball game. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

*Marines On Point* encourages members of the Command to submit photos. Printed photos may be delivered to magazine staff members in Building 2200, Room 153, or mailed to *Marines On Point* magazine, Corporate Communications, 2200 Lester St., Quantico, VA 22134. High resolution digital photos should be emailed to [MCSCPAO@usmc.mil](mailto:MCSCPAO@usmc.mil). Please identify all people in each photo and include event details.

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