



PRO THE SPECTOR

Vol. 3 No. 3

Serving the Marine Corps since 1947
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

Feb. 13, 2014



TRICARE Updates

Around the Corps

Railway Training



TRICARE ENDS WALK-IN SERVICES

Story By:
Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney
 Press Chief

TRICARE, a health care program for uniformed service members, retirees and their families, will be having some upcoming changes, starting April 1.

“Walk-in service (in the U.S.) will no longer be available,” said Glynis Johnson, TRICARE benefit advisor at National Training Center Fort Irwin.

Walk-in services overseas will not be affected, she added.

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow’s TRICARE users can also seek guidance through Fort Irwin’s benefits advisors, Johnson explained.

However, Shirlene Griffis, beneficiary education representative, will be coming on MCLB Barstow every three months for group briefings for those who are new to TRICARE or who seek more information, said Griffis.

Griffis’ next visit to MCLB Barstow will be March 3, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. She encourages service members and dependents to attend her TRICARE briefs for more information and updates.

The change will allow TRICARE to invest an estimated \$250 million over the next 5 years to other, more important services, said Johnson. The change will not affect any benefits or health care services.

Many of the walk-ins are customer service related, Johnson added. With today’s communication possibilities, this type of service can easily be handled online or over the phone.

So, as of April 1, questions will be answered any time online, or by calling toll-free at 1-877-988-9378; as opposed to walking-in for questions during limited hours.

For more information, visit Tricare.mil.

On The Cover:

Front Cover:

Photo by Lance Cpl. Norman Eckles

Lance Corporal Folson Fairley-Baker, supply clerk with Headquarters Battalion on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., kicks up snow with his snowboard during a Single Marine Program trip, at Mountain High West Ski and Snowboard Terrain Park, Jan. 31. Attendees of the trip rode down the mountainside for a day of camaraderie and physical activity.

Back Cover:

Photo by Carlos Guerra

A Soldier with 171st Movement Control Command, loads a Humvee onto a flatbed train car on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow’s Railhead, Feb 5. Soldiers and Marines trained together in railway proficiency.



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On the web

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Photo courtesy of: Cpl. Cheriss Paige

Lance Corporal Quinn Trujeque, adjutant clerk on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., protects the ball during a basketball game against a National Training Center Fort Irwin basketball team, Feb. 5. MCLB Barstow's Bulldogs started their season, Feb. 3.

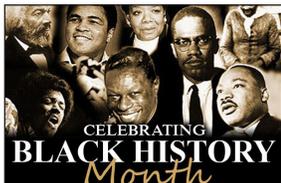
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Blood Drive & Marrow Screening

Nebo Multipurpose Room
(Auto Hobby Shop)
Yermo Annex,
BLDG 574-B
Thursday, March 6, 2014
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
in the Employee Support Facility.
Contact Eric Panknin
at 760.577.6252

FOR EVERY LIFESAVING DONATION PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE:

- Free cholesterol screening.
- Points that may be redeemed for items through LifeStream's online donor store at www.LStream.org.

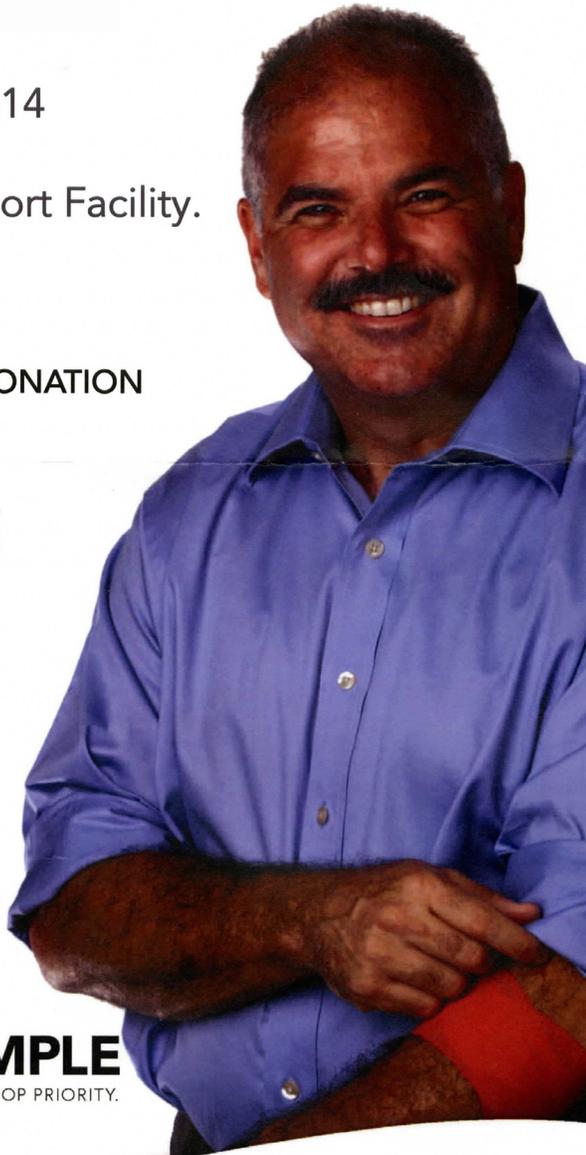
Please be sure to drink plenty of fluids and bring photo identification with you. If you are 15 or 16 years old, please bring a signed LifeStream parental consent form.

Potential volunteer bone marrow donors must be between the ages of 18 and 44, be willing to donate to any patient in need, and meet health guidelines. If you are 45 to 60 years of age, you may join online with a \$100 tax-deductible contribution.

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are strongly encouraged and receive priority.

BLEAD BY EXAMPLE

SCOTT LYLE | REALTOR LISTS DONATING AS TOP PRIORITY.



Leave Share Program

The following is a comprehensive list of individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and are in need of leave donations: **Johnny Davis, Uriah Garcia, Tyrone Wilford Holt, Amy Loughridge, Jennifer Marsh, Clairisa Mattig-Smith, Tulu Niusulu, Cheryle Magrorno.**

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Sharing Program may do so by obtaining a leave donor application form from the Human Resources Office. Ensure completed forms are turned into HRO as well. For more information, contact Michelle Cunningham at 760-577-6915.

Right to Representation

Pursuant to section 7114 (a) (2) (b) of Title V, U.S. Code, as amended by the Civil Service Reform Act (PL 95-454) this is to inform you that AFGC Local 1482 shall be given the opportunity to be represented at any examination of a bargaining unit employee of a management representative in connection with an investigation if: (a) the employee reasonably believes that the examination may result in disciplinary action against the employee. (b) the employee requests representation.

Library Services

Due to remodeling, the base library will be moved to Bldg. 17, on the corner of Day Street and Wake Ave. Story Time and Craft is to be held every other Wednesday of the month, at 10 a.m.

Tax Center

The Tax Center is now open to serve all eligible customers with their 2013 tax returns to get their taxes done on base, if you would like to use this service you need to make an appointment. Point of contact is Wanetta Blackwell, at (760) 577 - 6748, DSN 282 - 6748 for appointment times. This service will be at the SJA office (Bldg. 236), they will be open every Thursday until April 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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MARINES TRAIN WITH SOLDIERS IN RAILWAY OPERATIONS

Story By:

Lance Cpl. Garrett White
Combat Correspondent

Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 17 (CLR 17), 1st Marine Logistics Group, participated in training with soldiers from 171st Movement Control Company in railway operations on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. in order to improve their unit's effectiveness, Jan. 30 – Feb. 9.

Whenever a military unit goes somewhere, be it training exercise or a combat zone, it has a lot of mission essential equipment that needs to go with it.

For example, a tank battalion would be useless without its tanks. Someone has to figure out how to move them, what is needed to move them, transport them to where they need to go, and then unload them once they ar-

rive. One solution to this is railways.

While the Marines with CLR 17 have plenty of experience with managing port operations, beach operations, or air operations, due to the infrastructures available for them to work with, they have little to no experience in railway operations, said Marine Sgt. Daven Rowell, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Marines training here.

The Marines learned how to organize and run a railway loading and unloading operation, explained Rowell. This involved receiving and organizing vehicles and equipment to be loaded on a train cart, calculating the amount and type of train cars needed, the order the equipment will be loaded on, prepping the train cars to load the equipment, and finally loading and securing the equipment on the railcars for transportation.

Originally the plan was to give the Marines two days of classroom training and then the more experienced soldiers would supervise them during the hands-on portion, said Army Staff Sgt. Jason Simonek,

movement supervisor with 171st MCC, and the person who trained the Marines in railway operations. However, after only one day of supervision, they were able to operate independently.

“These guys picked it up so quickly I was able to release them to actually go out and run operations (by themselves) and they have been out here working flawlessly,” Simonek added.

This specific operation provided a unique opportunity for the Marines to get hands-on experience in both loading and unloading equipment on rail, said Chad Hildebrandt, railway operations supervisor here. Typically, an incoming unit's equipment is unloaded one day, and the outgoing unit's equipment is loaded and sent out another, or vice versa. This operation had to deal with an incoming and outgoing units' equipment at the same time, doubling the work load.

The service members worked extra hours until the mission was complete, Hildebrandt added.

“This was my first railway operation, but the way these soldiers taught it, (the information) sunk right in,” said Rowell. “It's all thanks to the soldiers out here; they did a great job teaching us.”



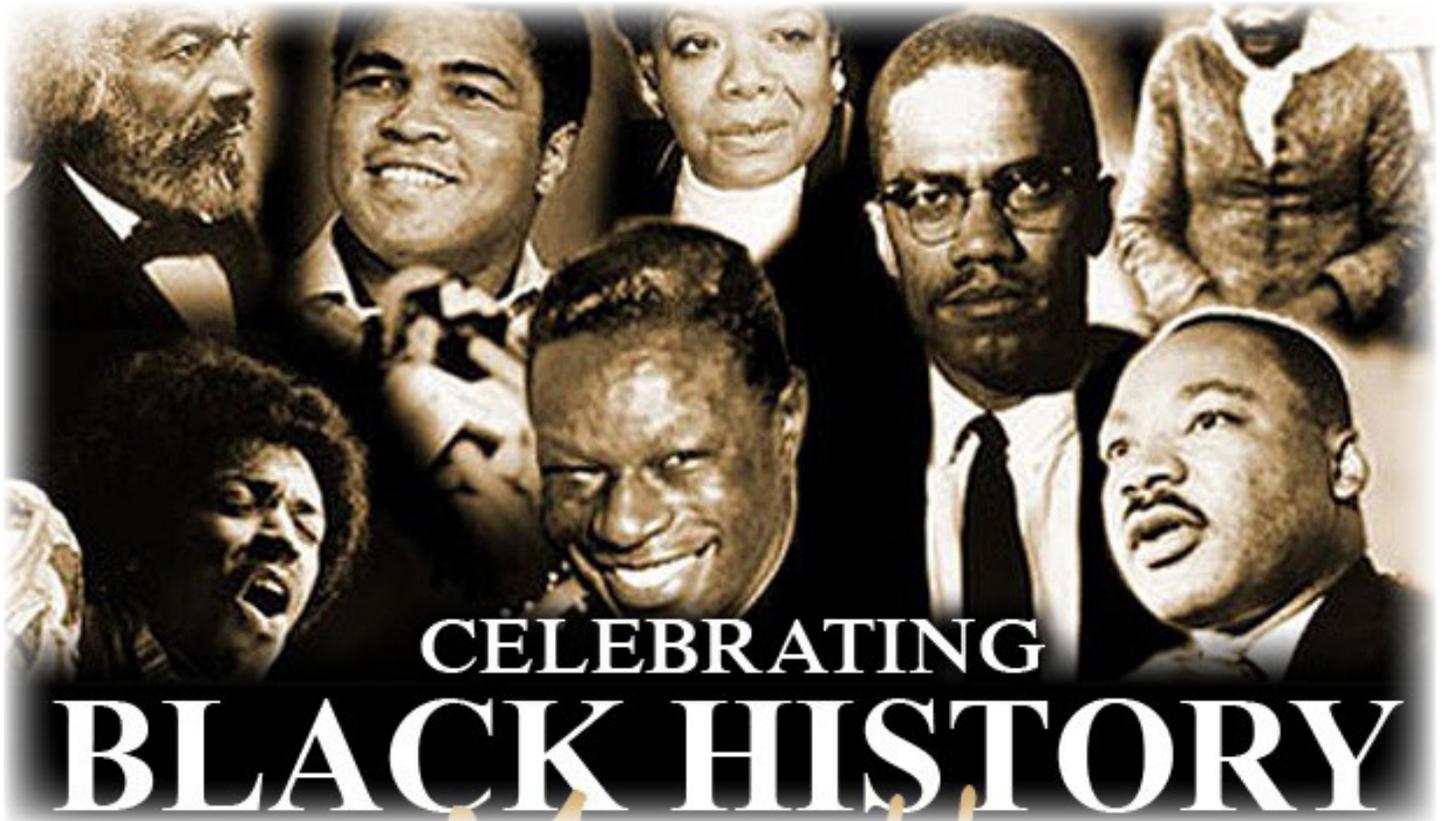
Photo by: Carlos Guerra

Marines from Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group train in railway operations with soldiers from 171st Movement Control Company on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Calif., Feb 5. Over a week and a half period, the Marines received training on all aspects of railway operations including safety and organizational and loading procedures.



Photo by: Carlos Guerra

Army Staff Sgt. Jason Simonek (center), movement supervisor for the 171st Movement Control Company, poses with Marines from Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, for a picture on a locomotive on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., Feb 5.



African American/Black Innovations ... where would we be without them?

Story By:

Lance Cpl. Norman Eckles
Combat Correspondent

Since 1976, February has been dedicated to the achievements and contributions that African Americans have made ... but everyone knows that; what impact have those had on society and where would we be without them?

Without some of the essential innovations African Americans have come up with and are still coming up with today, contemporary society would be a disaster.

Ask yourself this, what would a day in life be like if these men and women did not create such influential inventions?

Imagine waking up bright and early from a good night's rest, going into your kitchen to make a healthy breakfast then realizing your food is rotten. Without the innovative idea of John Standard, the refrigerator wouldn't be what it is today, and this scenario would often be the case.

In 1891, Standard improved the way refrigerators kept food colder longer by adding a 6 compartment that held ice, which had to

be manually put into the compartment.

After finding out your refrigerator wasn't working, you decide to go to the store to buy more groceries. You put your child in the car seat and head for the store. On the way to the store, you get into a car accident because there are no traffic lights to let you know when to stop or go.

In 1923, a man by the name of Garrett Morgan received a patent for a three-positioned traffic light. He was motivated to create it after witnessing a car accident in order to save lives.

Now that you have gotten into a car accident, you have no car and have to walk from place to place. Being a parent, you don't want to leave your child at home. But imagine having to carry your baby everywhere. You say, 'I have a stroller' ... but without African American innovation, you don't.

William H. Richardson, improved and patented the baby buggy in 1889. He brought the idea from England and improved it so you can walk your child down the street without having to carry them the whole time.

After your walk, you decide to relax for a while; however, it's a typical High Desert



Garrett Morgan, African American innovator, invented the three-positioned traffic light to prevent car accidents in 1923.

summer day out. Without a certain inventor, you would be relaxing while drenched in sweat.

During World War II, an inventor named Fredrick McKinley designed and created air conditioners for military units out in the field to store blood serum for transfusions and medicines.

This very uncomfortable, dangerous and inconvenient day would be the case everyday if it weren't for African American ingenuity. This is only to name a few, there are thousands of other inventions we use daily made from people who were once enslaved and thought to be incompetent by society.

CORPS' FY 2014 REENLISTMENT CHALLENGES

Story By:
Lance Cpl. Norman Eckles
Combat Correspondent

The Marine Corps has changed its business practices when it comes to reenlisting during fiscal year 2014.

Marines currently have until February 28, 2014, to put in their reenlistment or extension packages to stay in the Corps.

“Per Marine Administrative Message 026/14, the update to the FY14 Enlisted Retention Campaign, all Marines with an Expiration of Active Service (EAS, during FY 2014,) who desire to reenlist or extend, are required to submit the request to their career planner no later than Feb. 28,” said Master Sgt. Matthew Spencer, career planner for Marine Corps Installations West. “Requests submitted after Feb. 28 may not receive favorable consideration for further service.”

The reason for this MARADMIN is the Marine Corps trying to downsize, said Spencer. By the end of FY 2014, the Corps' goal is to have 188,500 Marines ... which needs to be met by Sept. 30. We currently have 192,841, that's a difference of about 4,000 Marines.

With the new MARADMIN, the rate of approval has changed for everyone, he added. This year will take longer for a Marine to find out if he or she will get to stay in the Corps.

“There is no difference in the rate of approval between first term and career Marines,” said Spencer. “Normally, a reenlistment or extension request would get approved (or denied) within 30 days from the date it was submitted. Now,

with the Executive Review Period in place, these requests are taking up to 3-months to get approved.”

This makes it more competitive for both first term Marines and career Marines to be retained, said Sgt. William Koepp, career planner on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. This means competition becomes fiercer.

“Be the best Marine you know how to be, always (strive to) improve, complete your professional military education, improve your physical fitness test and combat fitness test scores, and seek off-duty education,” said Spencer. “Talk to your noncommissioned officers, staff noncommissioned officers, and officers about how to get better proficiency (and) conduct marks. If your record speaks for itself, you will be given the opportunity to stay (in the) Marines.”

Nothing can prevent a Marine from submitting a reenlistment, extension or lateral move request, explained Koepp. However, Marines who have compromising issues on contract could be denied further service, depending on the situation. Every Marine's situation is different ... Headquarters Marine Corps will make the final determination on who gets to extend or reenlist for each military occupational specialty.

While waiting for a response from HQMC, Marines need to attend the Transition Readiness Seminar, 12 - 14 months from their EAS and complete all civilian transition requirements. However, attending TRS does not mean they will be automatically disapproved for retention beyond FY 2014, concluded Koepp.

For more information, contact your local career planner or refer to MARADMIN 026/14.



Photo by: Carlos Guerra

Corporal Samnorp Deung, supply clerk with Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., reenlists after a shooting range, August 20, 2013. Marines looking to reenlist this year will have a tougher time than in the past.

AROUND THE CORPS

A LOOK AT THE MARINE CORPS OUTSIDE OF BARSTOW

Compiled from courtesy sources



Photo By: Lance Cpl. Lonzo-Grei Thornton
 Marines assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1/4, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) and U.S. Sailors assigned to Assault Craft Detachment, USS Boxer (LHD 4) conduct visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) training in the Gulf of Aden, Feb. 1, 2014. The 13th MEU is deployed with the Boxer Amphibious Ready Group as a theater reserve and crisis response force throughout the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

(Below) Sergeant Jeffrey Fahrenbach, a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear defense specialist with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, documents a casualty as part of CBRN sensitive site exploitation training, Feb. 7. Fahrenbach spotted the casualty and immediately applied first response medical attention. He documented the casualty by taking a photograph as soon as it was determined his condition was too severe.



Photo By: Cpl. Demetrius Morgan



Photo By: Lance Cpl Cesar N Contreras
 Marines from Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, assault a high elevation landing zone from a CH-47 helicopter, for the final six-day field exercise for Mountain Exercise winter training package at Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif., Jan. 31, 2014. The Warlords and its attached units underwent the winter training package at MCMWTC to prepare for the upcoming a multi-lateral joint and combined exercise Cold Response, which will take place in March of 2014 in Norway.

(Below) Marines with Bravo and Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, conduct a rocket range outside of Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan Jan. 31, 2014. The Marines used the range to keep their knowledge sharp on the different weapons systems they use.



Photo By: Sgt. Eric S. Wilterdink

FALLING ON A GRENADE, LIVING TO TELL THE TALE

Story By:
Lance Cpl. Garrett White
Combat Correspondent

Few acts of heroism and selflessness can match jumping upon a live hand grenade in combat.

Designed to kill or injure in a large area, absorbing the entire blast of a grenade with one's own body means almost certain death. It is for this reason that several service members throughout history have received the Medal of Honor for this ultimate act of self-sacrifice.

Carlton R. Rouh however, is one of very few men who have fallen on a grenade and lived to tell the tale.

Born May 11, 1919 in Lindenwold, NJ, Rouh enlisted in the Marine Corps, January 1942, shortly after the outbreak of World War II.

Following basic training, Pvt. Rouh was sent to the Pacific theater for combat duty.

Rouh received the Silver Star Medal during the Battle of Guadalcanal for carrying wounded men out of enemy fire, until he himself was wounded. In addition to this, Rouh was awarded a battlefield commission to second lieutenant for his outstanding leadership and initiative in combat.

As an officer, Rouh was put in command of a weapons platoon during the New Britain Campaign.

Rouh was promoted to first lieutenant prior to the Battle of Peleliu where he performed actions above and beyond the call of duty.

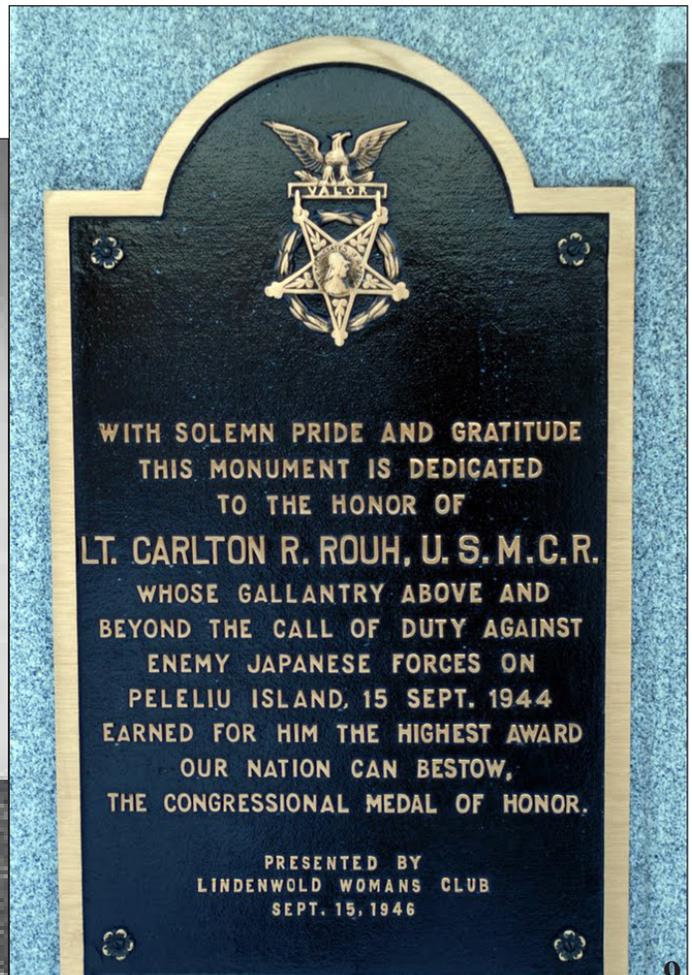
On September 15, 1944, during the Battle of Peleliu, Rouh was severely wounded by Japanese fire. Two of his fellow Marines managed to pull him away to a safer location and began administering first aid.

While receiving first aid, Rouh and his men came under fierce Japanese fire and grenade assault, with one grenade landing in their midst. Despite his injuries, Rouh shoved his two comrades aside and threw his body over the grenade. Rouh's body absorbed the entire blast, leaving his two Marines uninjured.

Still conscious, Rouh heard the continuing firefight, and was eventually able to be evacuated. For his selfless actions, Rouh received the Medal of Honor.

Following his evacuation, Rouh was hospitalized to recover from his grievous wounds. Upon his retirement from active duty, Rouh was promoted to Captain.

Rouh passed away December 8, 1977, but his actions and the actions of service members like him continue to inspire people to this day.





S-6 Communications Spotlight

February 2014

With the on-going efforts by the S-6 Communications Department to keep their customers fully informed and provide world class customer service, we are providing a “How-To” Guide that better helps our customers.

Speaking of world class customer service...

Please join us in congratulating Sgt Julio Tovar from our S-6 Communications Department for his accomplishments in receiving the MCLB Barstow Marine of the Year Award!



Please join us in congratulating Mr. Wayne Wilbourn from our S-6 Communications Department for his accomplishments in receiving the MCLB Barstow Employee of the Year Award!



Voicemail Tips:

- Voicemail is automatically disabled after 45 days of non-use and re-enabling voicemail requires submission of a Helpdesk trouble ticket. To avoid this and keep your voicemail enabled, make it a habit to check your voicemail once a week, even if you don't see or hear a message indicator.
- Hearing the message “Please enter the number of the party you wish to reach”, does not mean you have called the wrong number, or that the number you are calling doesn't work. It means that the number has a disabled voicemail, and they are either out of the office or on the phone.
- A voicemail passcode is chosen by the user. It has to be between 6 and 10 digits and cannot start with a zero.

Cyber Security Tips:

- **Protect your computer against power surges and brief outages.** Power strips alone will not protect you from power outages, but there are products that do offer an uninterruptible power supply when there are power surges or outages.
- **Back up all of your data.** Regularly backing up your data on a CD or network reduces the stress and other negative consequences that result from losing important.



E-mail the S-6 Communications Department with your questions at bstw_helpdesk@usmc.mil, and we'll answer then in our next S-6 Spotlight issue.

QUILTS OF VALOR

Story By:
Gunnery Sgt. David J. Drafton
Public Affairs Chief

Kelly Smith and Kathy Choi of Southern California Quilts of Valor have turned what some would call a hobby into a way of honoring combat service members and veterans through their efforts with Quilts of Valor Foundation.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation has produced and presented thousands of quilts across the nation to deserving service members. A Quilt of Valor is a generous lap-sized quilt (minimum of 55 X 65) made by a quilt-topper (the piecer) of quality fabrics and beautifully quilted by a longarmer. After it has been bound, washed, labeled and wrapped in a presentation case, it is ready to be awarded.

“Although this is my first time (presenting), it really humbles me and makes me even more thankful for their (service members) service,” said Kelly Smith, a QOV volunteer.

Cpl. Samuel Ribeiro, adjutant NCO in charge on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, was recently presented a quilt for not only his service, but also his selection as the MCLB Barstow Marine of the Quarter.

“I knew a little about the organization because some of the Marines here were given one when they returned home from deployment during the Welcome Home Heroes event on base,” said Ribeiro.

Although Ribeiro has not had the opportunity to deploy, he was still recognized for his contributions and ability to stand out amongst his peers, which earned him the nomination to receive a quilt.

“Each quilt takes about two months to construct and QOVs are



Photo By: Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney
(From left to right) Kelly Smith, quilter with the Quilts of Valor, Cpl. Samuel Ribeiro, noncommissioned officer in charge of the adjutant section on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., and Cathy Choi, also a quilter, pose for a photo with the quilt the women made for him, Feb. 7.

stitched with love, prayers and healing thoughts,” said Kathy Choi, a volunteer with Quilts of Valor.

“When they presented me the quilt I thought about how lucky I was to get one,” concluded the Boston native.

To request a ‘Quilt of Valor’ or to learn more about the group, visit their website at www.socalqov.org.



Photo By: Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney
Kelly Smith (left), quilter with the Quilts of Valor, presents Cpl. Samuel Ribeiro, noncommissioned officer in charge of the adjutant section on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., a quilt, Feb. 7. This was Smith’s first time presenting a quilt to a service member.



Photo By: Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney
Kelly Smith and Cathy Choi, quilters with the Quilts of Valor, present Cpl. Samuel Ribeiro, Marine of the Quarter on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., letters of appreciation for his service, Feb. 7.



Photo By: Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney
Kathy Smith, quilter with the Quilts of Valor, inscribes Cpl. Samuel Ribeiro’s, noncommissioned officer in charge of the adjutant section on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., name into a quilt, Feb. 7. Ribeiro received the quilt for being awarded Marine of the Quarter.

