

the

CUTTING EDGE

news for and about the members of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 of the Marine Corps League

Mac McNeir, Commandant & Editor / <http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

America's Spartans...

Marines Face Uncertain Future

NOTE – This story by Arthur Herman appeared in the New York Post on December 1, 2010. Arthur Herman, author of "Gandhi and Churchill," is an American Enterprise Institute visiting scholar.

They stormed the shores of Tripoli in 1804 and the beaches at Tarawa in 1943 and Iwo Jima in 1945.

They fought America's foes house by house in Hue in 1968 and in Fallujah in 2004.



Marines firing on Taliban fighters in Afghanistan last month. [Photo by Scott Olson/Getty]

They died at Belleau Wood, halting Germany's last great offensive in World War I. Every day, they fight to stem the tide of Taliban resurgence in Afghanistan.

But in the halls of the Pentagon, they may be fighting their most desperate battle yet.

They're the United States Marines. Two hundred thirty-five years ago today, the Continental Congress authorized the creation of the Corps, which quickly evolved into America's most reliable fighting force and the toughest unit in the US military.

Generations of young men, and now young women, have passed through the Marines' unique 13-week boot camp at the Parris Island and San Diego recruit

depots, where they're prepared body and soul for a love of country as well as of combat – and a love for the traditions of the Marine Corps.

That's why they are easy for a historian to love. It's why the 1st Marine Division takes pride in being called the "Old Breed" – where "old" means upholding the sometimes unfashionable values of honor, duty, courage and sacrifice.

(see America's Spartans... on page 9)

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From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

Since there is no December meeting, I will take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year of renewed promise and hope! I look forward to seeing all of you at our first meeting of the new year.

Be sure to keep me apprised of your current email addresses.

The submission deadline for all **January** newsletter articles is no later than **MIDNIGHT, Wednesday, January 12, 2011.**



Membership Stats

Detachment Membership Stats – 11/30/2010			
Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	75	9	6
Annual Memberships	37	6	–
Delinquent Dues			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	2	2	–
New Members			
	3	–	–
Sub-Totals			
	117	17	6
Total			
	140		

Renewals Coming Due

Please note that members, who have not paid their dues since 2009, will be dropped from the roster during their anniversary month in 2011!

The following members, whose membership renewal dates are approaching, should consider becoming Life Members.

RENEWALS		
January 2011	February 2011	March
Bixler, Russ Wood, Scott	Albo, Charles Grove, Charles Hutton, James Stone, Sinamin Thompson, Chris Wright, Joseph	NONE

Note – Delinquent members, those whose dues are now overdue, are not listed above. Those members will be contacted by the Junior Vice Commandant.

Commandant's Message



Mac McNeir

Reflections of the 235th Birthday

The detachment's celebration of the 235th Birthday of our Corps was an overwhelming success. I would like to thank all of those members, who helped with the execution of the Happy Hour Celebration on the 10th and the Ball on the 13th.

Feedback from those in attendance at both events was indicative of a good time being had by all. More importantly, for the first time in years, the expenses associated with running the ball did not result in a deficit!

A special thank you is in order for our guest of honor **Michael Blum, Executive Directory of the Marine Corps League**, the **VFW Post 160 Auxiliaries** for their outstanding catering, **Jon Garrison (Joe Wright's brother-in-law)** for serving as the event photographer while taking a meal as his only payment, **Ed Ross** for doing a great job as emcee of the event, the **Marine Color Guard** from Fort Meade, and all of those detachment members who came in on Sunday morning to help the cleanup crew. To all of you, who have supported me in so many ways and who generally prefer to remain nameless... Thanks!

Belated Thanksgiving Reflections

The Thanksgiving holiday is over for another year and I had many reasons to give thanks. Beyond the blessings associated with having a great spouse and belonging to a wonderful family, I am also thankful for...

- Having been born in the greatest nation on earth!
- Overcoming the initial shock of my reception at Yemassee, SC and surviving the training at MCRD Parris Island.
- Serving twenty-two memorable years in the Corps.
- Developing relationships over five decades with some of the finest people that I could have ever hoped to know... simply because we shared the title "Marine."

I hope that all of you had as many reasons as I (if not more), to have celebrated a joyous Thanksgiving!

Marines Helping Marines

New patients – wounded Marines – continue to arrive at the Bethesda National Naval Medical Center and Marine Corps Leaguers continue to visit, provide support, and offer encouragement. With the Christmas Holidays coming, I thought that as Marines, we ought to consider making a donation – either individually or as a group – to the **Marines Helping Marines Program**. The costs of supporting this generation of Marines continue to increase and without our help... well, you get the picture.

A Moment of Remembrance

Before we move into the New Year, it would seem to be appropriate to take a few moments to reflect fondly upon those members of the detachment and a cousin of our Chaplain, who are no longer with us. The names of those who were called by the Supreme Commandant during 2010 are listed as follows.

Wyman Bailey

Richard Allen Baxter, Sr
(Cousin of Kenny Webster)

Robert Everett Brand

Denny Bynum

Thomas Mock

Final Thought

As we approach the beginning of the 21st century's second decade, I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas, good health, and the blessings of a merciful God, for the coming year... a year during which we, the citizens of the United States, will hopefully rediscover the character and dedication of our founding fathers and begin this nation's resumption of its role as *the last great hope of mankind!*

Respectfully,

Mac



From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



Chris Thompson

Happy Holidays Marines,

As we embark on the Holiday season, devour lots of food, and enjoy the time we spend with our friends and family, we also need to remember our fallen brothers, and the ones that are still in harm's way.

On the **24th of December** at **1400** (2:00 PM on Christmas Eve for Air Wingers like Brady), the VFW Canteen will be holding its annual Christmas party. I will be smoking a couple of turkeys, and there will also be lots of other good food there for consumption. I hope to see you all there... partaking in some beverages and a little Christmas cheer.

Semper Fi

Chris Thompson



Veteran's Affairs
by Ed Dahling

VAVS the Oldest Volunteer System in America

Like all medical facilities, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics need volunteers. These volunteers are needed because many hospitalized vets have no family or friends, and they are very far from home.

Volunteers perform a wide range of duties. Some enjoy direct contact with patients, participating in recreational programs and other activities on the wards. Other volunteers assist the VA's professional staff in several ways that involve little patient contact. Your role as a volunteer at a VA medical facility can be as basic, and as important, as just being a friend to a patient in the trying days of illness and therapy.

VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) volunteers bring a touch of home...a personal contact with the world outside the hospital walls...the feeling that patients are remembered, that they're still a part of the community.

No matter what your inclination may be, there's a volunteer role you'll enjoy. Show our country's hospitalized vets that you are grateful for their sacrifices....**Volunteer today!**



From the desk of the

Junior Vice Commandant



Woody Bowman

Fellow Marines,

This month, we are welcoming three new detachment members – **Danielle Campbell** and **Sam Campbell**, who were sworn in during our November meeting; and **Kurt Osuch**, who will be sworn in at a future meeting.

Four members remain delinquent in the payment of their dues!

Color Guard Activities

Our Color Guard participated in two **Pearl Harbor Day** commemorative events during the month of December – on December 5th ceremonies at the Food Lion on Mountain Road and on December 7th at the World War II Memorial overlooking the Severn River and the United States Naval Academy (see photo on page 5).

Have a Great Christmas... See You at the Next Meeting,

Woody




**Chaplain's
Corner**
by Mac McNeir for Chaplain Ken Webster

Please contact me at either of the following numbers as soon as you learn of any member or family member, who is sick, in distress, etc. – **410-255-0741** (home) or **443-618-9641** (cell). Please keep those members of our extended family, mentioned below, in your thoughts and prayers.

Ray Horz, PDD and one of the oldest members of Pound 204 and the Maryland Pack, passed away on December 8, 2010. Ray succumbed to a severe stroke, experienced during surgery to repair a broken hip.

Helen Knight, grandmother of our Judge Advocate **Joe Wright** passed away on November 25, 2010.

See the *Lest We Forget...* column for more information.



Our Color Guard In Action...



Detachment 1049 Color Guard participating in Pearl Harbor Day observance at the Naval Academy overlook. [Photo – R. Woolf, The Capital]



Legislative Report

by Jim Le Gette, Legislative Officer

ALERT: Veterans are warned that an organization, calling itself **Veterans Affairs Services (VAS)**, is attempting to offer benefit and general information on veterans affairs. In exchange for their services, they are asking for personal information from the veteran. According to the **Department of Veterans Affairs, VAS is not affiliated with the veterans affairs in anyway!** If you are contacted by VAS, please notify the Department of Veterans Affairs Staff Attorney, **Michael G. Daugherty** at:

The Office of the General Counsel (022G2)
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420.

Caregivers, who take care of disabled veterans, many times suffer from the stress and the strain of their care giving. A new report, "**Caregivers of Veterans – Serving on the Homefront**" documents a clear picture of the difficulties caregivers endure taking care of their loved ones. Support information is available through the following website:

www1.va.gov/health/caregiver/help.asp

Update on Agent Orange – A surge of claims, many related to Agent Orange difficulties, has caused the VA to have a backlog of 741,000 disability, survivor and pension claims. The VA hopes to speed up claim handling through the use of more modern capabilities. Also, the VA is attempting to become a "veteran-centric" organization. This means a change of culture to where the veteran feels the VA representative is an advocate for them and not an adversary.



Lest We Forget...

NOTE – The following obituary is based upon an online obituary published by the online version of The Capital.

Helen Knight, (née Rost), 89, grandmother of our Judge Advocate **Joe Wright**, and longtime resident of Glen Burnie, died surrounded by family on November 25 at her home.

She was born on February 8, 1921, in Locust Point on Cuba Street, to the late John P. and Beatrice A. Rost. On August 9, 1946, she married the late Joseph A. Knight. She enjoyed spending time with her family, watching

game shows, and spending time at Pasadena VFW Post 2462, where she was a member of the VFW Women's Auxiliary.



In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by four sisters, Anna Albritton, Margaret Squires, Lillian Moore and Isabelle Hartman; and four brothers, Frederick Rost, Robert Rost, John Rost Jr. and Thomas Rost.

She is survived by five children, Daniel T. Knight, Joseph A. Knight, Sandra D. Knight, Beverly B. Wright and Pamela F. Knight, 14 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren with one on the way.

Services were held on Saturday, November 27 at the Daugherty Family Funeral Home, 2603 Mountain Road, Pasadena.

NOTE – The following obituary is based upon an online obituary published by the online version of The Baltimore Sun.

Raymond C. Horz, beloved son of the late Elizabeth I and Herman A. Horz, Sr., brother of the late Herman A. Horz, Jr., Harry M. Horz, Sr. and Erma M. Adams, brother-in-law of Irene Horz, uncle of Harry M. Horz, Jr., Walter C. Horz, Douglas M. Horz, Donald R. Adams, and his daughter in spirit Peggy O'Brien and family passed away on December 8, 2010.

Services were held on Friday, December 10th at the Loudon Park Funeral Home. Interment took place on Saturday, December 11th at the Loudon Park Cemetery.





Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

The detachment's office space is essentially complete... there are of course a few things remaining to be done that will further enhance the utility of the space... however, the construction phase is now over.

The tree remnants, which were threatening to become a permanent fixture in front of our post home, have finally been removed. Again, thanks to **Chris Thompson** and all who were part of the tree removal process. Thanks are also in order for one of our newest members, **Sam Campbell**, who became involved as soon as he became aware of the effort.

The number of wounded at the **Bethesda National Naval Medical Center** have been increasing in numbers. However, the members of the Marine Corps League, who regularly visit, have noted that these Marines still reflect the esprit de corps and resiliency that we have come to expect of our fellow Marines. God bless them all and the members of their families.

It was good to see **Vic Halme** the other day. He's been spending a lot of time in Tennessee lately. Hopefully he will soon resume being a regular fixture at the post.

Nila Caulder, Ed Ross, Woody Bowman, Sgt. Garcia (Ft. Meade Marine), and I attended a **Toys for Tots** breakfast at the **Severna Park Elks** on Sunday, December 5th. Detachment member **Jim McCormick** – who is a member of the Elks – served as our host at the event. The Elks generously contributed a large number of toys and \$1,365 in cash, which we presented to the Anne Arundel County Toys for Tots representative the following day.

I have had a few members of the detachment, volunteer to assist in the **'Sunday morning clean-up'** of the VFW facilities. Unfortunately, they are few in number and unable to commit on a regular basis.

We clean-up the VFW one day a week in lieu of paying rent for use of Post 160's facilities. This is an obligation that the detachment must meet! Once the new year arrives, we will have an insufficient number of committed members to meet this obligation! In general, four to five detachment members can sweep, swab, vacuum, and perform the other necessary tasks in approximately an hour. Contact me if you are willing to pitch-in.

Detachment member **Frank Fleishman** is relocating to Murrells Inlet, South Carolina; however, he will be maintaining his membership with us. Please join with me in wishing Frank good health and good fortune in his new home.



The following events are scheduled to occur through December of 2010. Unless otherwise noted, these events will take place at VFW Post 160, located at 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060 (410-766-9802).

NOTE – The dates and times listed below are subject to change. Please verify the information with the indicated organization (point of contact).

MODD Pound 204 Growl

Sunday, 19 December 2010 @ 1000 – *Paul Taylor*

Christmas Party, VFW Post 160

Friday, 24 December 2010 from 1200 – 1800 – *Pete Pervi*

Christmas Day

Post Closed

December Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049

Monday, 27 December **Cancelled!** *McNeir*

New Year's Eve Party, VFW Post 160

(includes breakfast)

Friday, 31 December 2010 – Saturday, 1 January 2011



The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof-Woof,

Some tired dogs are resting up after growling so early and so long on black Friday. So rest up for the holiday season and gnaw on a few bones while trying to keep warm.

I am very happy to report that all Dogs in Pound 204 have paid their 2011 dues.

Pound 204 will growl on Sunday, 19 December, at the Dog House as usual. The Growl begins at 1000, breakfast at 0900, and *Bloody-Marys* at 0800.

The Maryland Pack will Growl sometime in January 2011. As soon as the date and place are known, I will get the word out to you.

As always, keep the fleas at a safe distance.

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog!

Woof-Woof,

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber



Corps History

by Vic Halme, Historian

1 December 1947

The Corps' first helicopter squadron, HMX-1, was commissioned at Quantico, VA.

1 December 1950

1st Marine Division began its withdrawal from Yudamni, North Korea.

1 December 2005

Ten Marines from 2/7 were killed and 11 others wounded by an IED during a promotion ceremony held in an old flour mill near Fallujah.

2 December 1942

Carlson's Raiders neared the end of an epic 26 day patrol on Guadalcanal.

4 December 1950

Lt. Colonel Raymond G. Davis led the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines into Hagaru-Ri, Korea... fighting in the mountain passes against a numerically superior hostile force, clearing the way for the 5th and 7th Marines. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

5 December 1929

Marine Captain A. N. Parker was the first person to fly over unexplored Antarctica.

6 December 2006

Major Megan McClung, a 1995 Naval Academy graduate, became the first female Marine officer to be killed in Iraq. She was serving as a public affairs officer with I MEF when she was killed by a roadside bomb near the town of Ramadi. She was the fifth female Marine to die in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

7 December 1941

Marines defend against Japanese 'sneak-attack' on U.S. Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor, which resulted in the United States entry into World War II. More than 3,000 Marines and Sailors were killed in action.

8 December 1941

Japanese aircraft attacked Wake Island within hours of the fateful attack on Pearl Harbor. Marines of the 1st Defense Battalion and Marine Fighting Squadron 211 resisted Japanese invasion attempts for over two weeks before finally succumbing to an overwhelming force.

10 December 1941

With no weapon larger than the .30 caliber machine gun, 153 Marines defended Guam until overwhelmed.

10 December 1995

In Bosnia, 22 Marines from Marine Corps Security Force Company, Naples, Italy were among the first American troops to arrive. They provided the security for Allied Forces Southern Europe headquartered at Sarajevo.

10 December 2001

CIA agent Mike Spann, the first American killed in action in Afghanistan, was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Spann previously served as an artillery captain in the Marine Corps. Spann was buried with full military honors rendered by Marines from the Marine Barracks 8th and I.

10 December 2003

Marine Sergeant Christopher Chandler, who lost his left leg below the knee after stepping on a land mine in Kandahar, Afghanistan on 16 December 2001, made history as the first service member retained on active duty with a prosthetic limb to graduate from the U.S. Army Basic Airborne Course. He was also the class' NCO Honor Graduate.

15 December 1948

The Secretary of the Navy signed a 'Memorandum of Agreement' with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

17 December 1941

17 SB 2U-3s of Marine Scout Bomber Squadron 281 flew 1,137 miles, the longest massed flight over water.

18 December 1998

Following the commencement of U.S. and British air strikes against Iraq, the Okinawa-based 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC) conducted a non-combatant evacuation operation of some 90 diplomats and American citizens from the U.S. embassy in Kuwait.

19 December 1972

The Marine detachment of the USS Ticonderoga provided shipboard security for three U.S. astronauts, Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans, Harrison Schmitt, and their Apollo-17 space capsule. The astronauts had successfully completed a (then) record lunar stay of more than 75 hours.

20 December 1965

Operation Harvest Moon ended for Task Force Delta (2/7, 3/3, and 2/1). More than 400 Viet Cong were killed in action.

20 December 1989

Operation Just Cause was launched in Panama to protect American lives, restore the democratic process, preserve the integrity of the Panama Canal Treaty, and apprehend dictator General Manuel Antonio Noriega. One Marine, Corporal Gareth C. Isaak, was killed and three other were wounded during the operation.

23 December 1941

Japanese forces launched a predawn landing on Wake Island and Wilkes Island, while their carriers launched air strikes against Wilkes, Wake, and Peale islands in support of the landing force. After nearly 12 hours of desperate fighting, the three islands were surrendered.

24 December 1950

Last elements of the 1st Marine Division departed Hungnam, North Korea.

26 December 1776

Marines participated in the second Battle of Trenton (NJ) as part of General George Washington's force.





Members' Birthdays

NOTE – Please advise the editor of any errors/omissions in the following birthday listings.

Members of our detachment, who will be celebrating birthdays during the month of **January** include:

Bill Creager	Charlie Dorn	Fred Downey Jr
Gerald Grimes	Warren Lindgren	David Reyes
Harold Van Buskirk Jr	Philip Werner	



Quotation

To Iraqi tribal leaders...

"I come in peace, I didn't bring artillery. But I am pleading with you with tears in my eyes... If you f--- with me, I'll kill you all!"

To his Marines...

"Be polite, be professional, but have a plan to kill everybody you meet!"

General James Mattis, USMC

Commander of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM).

Corps Humor

As the bus stopped and it was her turn to get on, a young woman became aware that her skirt was too tight to allow her leg to come up to the height of the first step of the bus.

Slightly embarrassed and with a quick smile to the bus driver, she reached behind her back to unzip her skirt just a little... thinking this would give her enough slack to raise her leg. She tried to take the step, only to discover that she couldn't.

So, a little more embarrassed, she once again reached behind her back to unzip her skirt a little more, and for the second time attempted to reach the step.

Once again, much to her chagrin, she could not raise her leg. With a little smile to the driver, she again reached behind her back to unzip her skirt still more; but, as before, was unable to take the step.

Suddenly, a large Marine, who was standing behind her, grasped her around her waist, carefully picked her up and placed her gently in the bus.

The startled woman became irate, turned to the would be Samaritan, and yelled: "How dare you touch my body! I don't even know who you are!"

The Marine smiled and then drawled, "Well, ma'am, normally I would agree with you; but, after you unzipped my fly three times, I kind of figured that we were friends."



Bombastic Bumper-Snicker:



To observe a Marine is inspirational...

to be a Marine is exceptional!

America's Spartans... *(continued from page 1)*

That's why some of us would feel a whole lot safer if President Obama had done his 13 weeks at Parris Island. Because right now, this administration is casting a shadow over the Marines and their future.

When Navy Secretary James Forrestal watched Marines plant the flag on Mount Surabachi on Iwo Jima – the most iconic image of World War II in the Pacific – he told Marine General Holland Smith, “That means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years.”

His prediction is looking premature.

Back in August, Defense Secretary Robert Gates ordered a massive review of the Corps' future role, due out in December. In Pentagon speak, “review” usually means “get ready for cuts,” and this is no exception.

Gates has been quoted as saying that the Marines have “gotten too big” since the Iraq and Afghanistan wars grew their numbers from 175,000 to 202,000, and “too heavy, too removed from their expeditionary, amphibious roots” as during World War II. Too many Marines “have never stepped aboard a ship.”

That's fine, except Gates has also mused about whether big amphibious operations like Iwo Jima or Inchon are even feasible any more in the age of long-range anti-ship missiles – and whether the money spent on ships, helicopters, landing vehicles and planes for close air support of Marines attacking from the sea might be better spent elsewhere.

Today's Pentagon is focused on saving money, no matter what. If the Marines are best suited for one kind of warfare, and that warfare is becoming obsolete, that begs the obvious question: Why have Marines at all?

Yet here, Gates' view of history is distorted. The Marines have never been just a fighting force that existed to land and die on beaches. They literally wrote the book on counterinsurgency back in 1940, the “Small Wars Manual,” based on their 180-year experience fighting in remote jungle and rough terrain environments from Latin America to the Philippines and North Africa.

The Marines pioneered the strategy of not just fighting an enemy but understanding his mind-set and culture, as well – a huge advantage in counterinsurgency operations – which is why Marines have led the way in the surges both in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

Five times past administrations have tried to take down the Marines, and five times they've failed. President Harry Truman was the last to publicly talk about dismantling the Corps to save money. Then as (one hopes) now, Marines were too tightly woven into the fabric of American life to let that happen.

And the Marines soon proved how wrong Truman had been in the Korean War, during the landings at Inchon and at Chosin Reservoir, where the Old Breed fought off 8-to-1 odds against the Red Chinese army in 40-degree-below-zero weather, and won 17 Medals of Honor.

Still, the Marines have an even more powerful enemy in the Obama White House. Gay activists pushing to end “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” see them as the last bastion of resistance to a social ethos that puts personal rights over teamwork and self-sacrifice, and tolerance over group cohesion.

Yet that warrior ethos has been why presidents have been able to say “Send in the Marines!” in response to sudden crises around the world for more than 200 years.

Some argue that, today, this role can best be done by such special forces as the Navy SEALs. But Marines are trained not just to fight but to die – if necessary, to the last man. They are our American Spartans – and like the Greek Spartans of old, their tradition of courage and self-sacrifice is the ultimate guardian of our freedom.

We tamper with the Marine Corps at our peril. The Corps' new Commandant, General James Amos, needs to defend it against those who would do so, for budgetary or ideological or other short-sighted reasons.

It's not just the Corps that's at stake, but our nation.

Editor's Comment – One Marine's Opinion

This article as well as others that have been published (reproduced) in earlier issues of the Cutting Edge, since I took over as editor, underscore why I believe that the current movement to separate ourselves from the Navy is ill-conceived and not thoroughly thought out. Our actions say who we are! Our history says who we are! The actions of our latest generation of Marines say who we are! Renaming (restructuring) of the Department of the Navy is counter to our best interests as Marines and our survival.

I believe that the energies being expended in this drive to rename the Department of the Navy could be better used by redirecting our efforts and educating our governmental officials that any effort to do away with our Corps – or minimize its traditional role – borders on insanity and jeopardizes the security of our nation and its citizens!





Marine Corps League
Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049
PO Box 804
Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

(Address Correction Requested)



Featured Foto

Marine Corps officer candidates training in 3rd Platoon, Company C, Officer Candidate Course 206, battle the waste-deep, bitter-cold water of 'Big Ford' during the log drill race the morning of Dec. 2, 1010, at the Officer Candidate School aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.
[Photo – Sgt. Michael S. Cifuentes, USMC]