

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA

Desert **WARRIOR**



Volume 10, Number 53
January 12, 2012

AFTER AFGHANISTAN...?

The strategy that will direct the military's future

MARINE HITS RIGHT NOTES IN RECORDING PROJECT

YUMA MARINE FOLLOWS HIS MUSICAL PASSION

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MORE MEAN, STILL LEAN

STRATEGY CALLS FOR MILITARY TO HANDLE FULL RANGE OF CONTINGENCIES



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Have an opinion? We want to hear it:

yumapao@usmc.mil

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by Cpl. Bryan Nygaard

Sgt. Cody Palfreyman, a combat engineer with Alpha Company, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, and a native of West Valley, Utah, guides a bulldozer as it moves the berm surrounding a guard post at Firebase Saenz, Helmand province, Dec. 14. FB Saenz is the first of several patrol bases being demilitarized by the Marines of 9th ESB throughout the month of December.

Desert *WARRIOR*

MCAS Yuma's Official Newspaper

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HOT VIDEOS OF THE WEEK



<http://www.marines.mil/news/pages/marinestv.aspx>

Semper Fidelis bowl kicks off in Arizona.



<http://www.marines.mil/news/pages/marinestv.aspx>

Marines, coalition forces raise money for wounded Brits.



Front Page Photo Credit

*Cpl. Reece Lodder, 1st
Marine Division*

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE



Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13
Helmand Province, Afghanistan

Marine Attack Squadron 311
31st MEU



Marine Attack Squadron 214
11th MEU

News to Use

YUMA WINTER VISITOR TOUR #2 OF 3

On Tues, Jan. 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., MCAS Yuma will host a guided bus tour that includes a stop at the flight line to meet local Marines and view the station's aviation and support capabilities. Open to the public, both young and young at heart, the tour will also feature the K-9 dogs in action and Marines performing martial arts. All guests are asked to bring a picture I.D. and will use the main gate of the air station for entry. Please call the station Public Affairs Office for more details at (928)269-2275.

YUMA HERITAGE FESTIVAL, JAN. 13-15

The City of Yuma is hosting its annual Yuma Heritage Festival beginning Fri, Jan. 13 through Sun, Jan. 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in downtown Yuma on Main Street, in the Yuma Art's Center and inside Yuma's Historic Theater. MCAS Yuma and U.S. Army Proving Ground will have historical images and memorabilia on display as well as local Marine's in period uniforms.

32ND STREET RECONSTRUCTION, AVENUE A TO WEST OF AVENUE B

The intersection of 32nd Street and Ave. B will be closed for pavement milling from 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, until 6 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13. There will be a hard closure on 32nd Street just west of 21st Drive. Additionally, there will be no eastbound traffic allowed onto 32nd Street off of Avenue B during this time frame. Additionally to this overnight closure, daytime traffic remains primarily reduced to one lane each direction on 32nd Street from just east of Ave. A to west of Ave. B with most left turns prohibited and speed limit reduced to 25 mph. Additionally, 32nd Street will be closed west of the Ave. B intersection and east of 28th Drive.

LEATHERNECK COMEDY TOUR

The "For the Leathernecks Comedy and Entertainment Tour" will be hosting a free show for active duty service members. The show will take place at the Sonoran Pueblo Friday, Jan. 27, from 3 to 5 p.m.

YUMA MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT - JAN. 28-29

For some fun in the sun with your significant other, register for Yuma's marriage enrichment retreat at the Raddison Hotel and Resorts by contacting CREDO MCAS Yuma. Com: 928-269-2371. Email: tiara.spearman@usmc.mil Edwin.norlin@usmc.mil. Or find them on facebook at "CREDO Camp Pendleton".

MESS HALL HOURS

Monday-Friday:

Breakfast: 5:30-7:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: 4-6 p.m.

Midrats: 11 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

SubMarine Bar: 7-9 p.m.

Weekend Schedule:

Brunch 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Dinner: 3-5 p.m.

For full menu, visit www.yuma.usmc.mil.

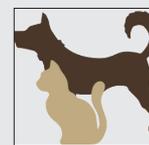


Tailspotter



Sally The Sweet

Sally is a 1 year old Tortoiseshell which is a nice blend of Orange and Black. Sally is part of our Lonely Hearts Club and their adoption fee is only \$25.00. For more information about adopting, contact the Humane Society of Yuma at 928-782-1621.



5 Questions

for the YPG Veterinarian OIC

Army Capt. Jolene North

Q. What veterinarian services are available to individuals living on station?

A. We are attempting to visit Marine Corps Air Station Yuma twice a month to provide services to those who need pet care. We provide basic care such as vaccines, minor skin problems and general health of your animal.

Q. What should you look for when thinking about getting a pet?

A. There are several aspects you should look into when thinking about getting a pet, especially as a servicemember. One is whether or not your house or apartment can accommodate a pet. Many times military housing is small and not very many large breed of dogs are suitable for these homes. Also, the dogs behavior is important to look at. You need to see how hyper that breed of dog is and if they are good with children. It is important to inform yourself about the type of dog you want. Military life also has you moving around a lot, so you want to think about how that will effect your animal.

Q. What costs should patrons be aware of?

A. They are the basic costs you will find out in town, such as exam fees, vaccines, etc. However, here the prices are generally cheaper than those out in town. For example, our exam fees are only \$25 and the average annual charges for annual shots are about \$60-\$75. Out in town you will find yourself spending an average of \$150-\$200 a year.

Q. What other services does the veterinarian clinic handle?

A. We also offer dental cleaning, spay and neutering. Another part of this job is food inspecting. A few of our soldiers will visit several food service locations in MCAS Yuma, Yuma Proving Ground and El Centro to ensure all produce is safe for consumption. Unfortunately, we do not cover emergency services so patrons must go out in town for those services.

Q. How do you go about getting medical care for your pet?

A. It is very easy to make an appointment. You just need to contact our office at 928-328-2064 and schedule your appointment. Also, if the matter is more urgent, you can walk into our office located at the Yuma Proving Ground. We are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Yuma Marine hits all the right notes in recording project

Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison
Desert Warrior

“I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music”

- Albert Einstein



Photo by Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

Lance Cpl. Brian Powell, Jr., an Installation Personnel Administrative Center travel claims clerk and native of New Brunswick, N.J., records a song in a Southwest Records studio in Yuma, Ariz., Jan. 9.

An Installation Personnel Administrative Center travel claims clerk aboard the station has much in common with Einstein in regards to the above quote. When the Marine's not assisting others in their travel reimbursements, he's in the studio spitting verses.

Lance Cpl. Brian Powell, Jr., a 24-year-old native of New Brunswick, N.J., uses his free time to contribute to the musical world under the recording name of Mi\$Match.

“It's just my upbringing,” said Powell, who grew up watching programs such as MTV Jams, MTV Raps and BET. “My family, we're all recording artists. So being around my cousins, seeing my cousins rap, that inspired me.”

Powell also cited his friends and everyday events as influences, which he and his friends would rap about later as a way to vent or find humor in otherwise dreary situations.

His name, Mi\$Match, is testament to Powell's confidence in his lyrical abilities.

“The level of thinking or mental capacity, they (other rappers) don't have that, it's not fair for everyone else,” he said.

Along with Mi\$Match, other monikers Powell uses are Pile of Money and NJP.

“For New Jersey Powell,” he said with a smile. “I got that name from a staff sergeant in Japan.”

Powell's recording endeavors predate his military enlistment by almost three years. He began recording in 2005 and has pursued his music in earnest since then.

“I'm open to anything, any good music,” Powell said, listing artists such as Too \$hort and Bun-B as emulative sources, as well as newer stars like Wiz Khalifa and Rick Ross. “I try to touch all the bases, the whole United States, from East Coast, West Coast, down South, Midwest. I'm broadening my horizons for rock, such as pop in techno.”

An average session for Powell can take several hours, with laying down the hook and verses for one track taking at least two. Once completed, Powell finds himself either performing live or working on new lyrics.

Currently signed to Southwest Records, an independent hip-hop label based in Yuma, Ariz., Powell and his musically-inclined peers aim to turn Yuma into

a hot spot that puts the magnifying glass over rising talent.

“It's like a big brother, little brother relationship,” said Otis Howard, Powell's producer, as well as a fire desk operator with the station's range operations center. “When it comes to music, you have to forego a lot of things. When we got together, his work ethic and drive stood out to me.”

“People don't see Yuma as a place of music,” added Powell. “It's a small, quiet town. Everybody thinks it's just desert. But it can gain exposure. Tourists come down here, so I don't see why not.”

For Powell, the networking, long hours and valiant search for new expressions in his lyrics, many which thematically deal with military, provide an interesting contrast with his primary occupation as an administrative clerk. While the emotional and physical investment could be seen as distracting, Powell understands where his commitment lies.

“I have the military as my first priority, so music has to take the back end right now,” said Powell.

However, Powell says the traits he's developed in the Corps helps him stay focused on what he wishes to be his career path.

“(The Corps) made me grow as a man and mature. I learned if I want some-



Photo by Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

Lance Cpl. Brian Powell, Jr., an Installation Personnel Administrative Center travel claims clerk and native of New Brunswick, N.J., records a song in a Southwest Records studio in Yuma, Ariz., Jan. 9.

thing done, I've got to do it myself or find a way to get it done.”

And like any true artist, Powell is finding a way to get it done, to use his voice and beats as a medium of self-expression for whoever needs it. And the world provides no shortage of topics to break down.

“I can't speak for everyone,” he said, “but I can possibly speak on everything.”

COMFORT FOR THE TRAVELING SERVICE MEMBER

Sgt. Daniel Malta
Desert Warrior

Yuma International is a small airport that shares a flight line with Marine Corps Air Station Yuma and sees a high amount of service members.

Even though the airport couldn't convince the United Services Organization to open a USO here, the airport director made sure service members coming in and out had something, according to Gen Grosse, corporate account manager for the Yuma International Airport.

"Yuma International Airport lies at the heart of two of the nation's premier military installations, and literally thousands of troops and their families travel the world through our doors each year," said Bill Gresser, airport president. "We felt they deserve a dignified area of their own to relax and recuperate as they head off to their next assignment."

In July 2010, the Military Comfort Center was opened, with all the amenities and comforts you might find at a USO, all funded by the airport.

Keeping the MCC open and running is a large network of volunteers.

Janice Senderling, head volunteer at the MCC has been volunteering since its opening. Sanderling is no stranger to the military lifestyle, being a military spouse, having a son in the Navy and two grandsons in the Marine Corps.

"A lot of our volunteers are retired military, and they love being able to spend their donated time with the young ones, sharing information and learning how much things have changed," said Senderling.

The MCC has a number of comfortable couches, TV's, snacks, beverages, books, video games, free WI-FI and a slew of other comforts for the service members.

"The military life can be hard on service members and their families, so if we can make any of them feel at home or at peace for the short time they're in here then we've accomplished our mission," said Senderling. "It's a token of our gratitude."

The volunteers work two-hour shifts at the MCC. Along with the volunteer staff, a number of different organizations and people in the community donate foods, baked goods, coffee, toiletries and more.

"The whole community is keeping this thing running and it's really quite amazing," said Senderling. "Two thirds of the volunteers are local residents and the rest are, well, snowbirds."

People from all over the community as well as out of town visitors volunteer their time at the MCC, but when military members arrive, it's not

necessarily all work and no play.

"Many of the volunteers really enjoy talking with the service members. They've been all over the world and hearing and talking about their experiences is just wonderful. Many times, we form bonds and friendships with these people," said Senderling. "A lot of times they even thank us. If you look around the place, you'll see pictures and patches all over the place that those boys have given us out of appreciation."

Volunteering can give you a purpose according to Senderling, so if that sounds like something of interest, the MCC is always looking for volunteers. Call 928-726-5882 for more information.

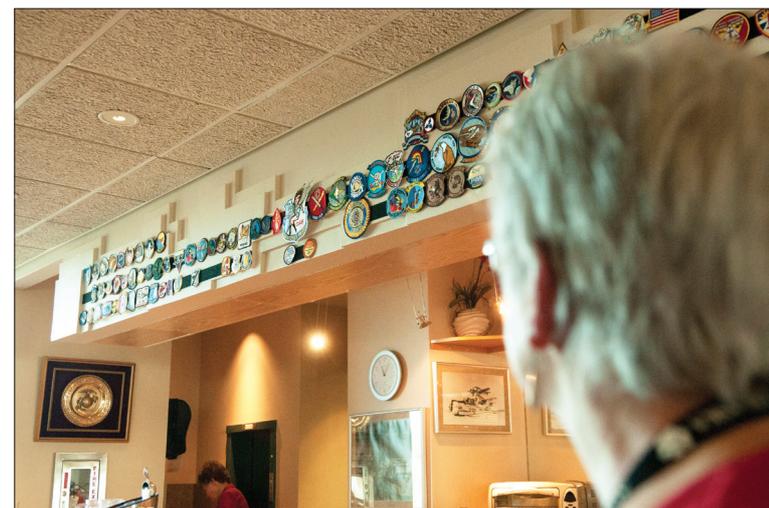


Photos by Sgt. Daniel Malta

Judith Proksch and Janice Senderling are both volunteers at the Military Comfort Center at Yuma International Airport and have accumulated over 1,000 hours. "I do my little part to help serve the military members and their families, as well as those who served in the past," Said Proksch. Volunteers serve in two-hour increments based on the time they have available.



Since the Military Comfort Center opened in 2010, thousands of service members have stopped in to enjoy one of its many comforts. Giving thanks to the airport and its volunteers, service members have donated squadron patches and artwork, which you can find posted around the MCC.



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Full Ads

DoD leaders: U.S. Will Remain World's Strongest Military

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 2012 – The Defense Department's new, 10-year strategy will ensure the United States remains the world's strongest military power, DOD leaders emphasized in weekend interviews.

In an interview with Bob Schieffer that aired today on the CBS news program "Face the Nation," Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Joint Chiefs Chairman Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey said the department is changing to respond to a new global reality.

The strategy announced Jan. 5 outlines defense priorities for the coming decade, and emphasizes trimming the force while investing in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance programs, combating anti-access technologies, countering weapons of mass destruction and prevailing in all domains, including the cyber world.

"Clearly, we face the constriction of having to reduce the budget by almost half a trillion dollars," the secretary said. "We developed a strategy that said [the military] is going to be leaner, it is going to be smaller, but it has to be agile, it has to be adaptable, it has to be flexible, quickly deployable, and it has to be technologically advanced. That's the kind of force we need for the future."

The department's plan calls for priority emphasis on the Pacific and the Middle East, while maintaining a presence elsewhere, Panetta noted.

"The bottom line is, when we face an aggressor anywhere in this world, we're going to be able to respond and defeat them," he added.

The chairman said a popular misconception about the new strategy assumes the nation's forces will no longer be able to fight more than one conflict at a time.

"In fact, we were pretty adamant that we must be able to do more than one thing at a time, and by the way not

limit ourselves to two," Dempsey said. "The threat, and the environment in which we find ourselves in this decade of the 21st century, suggests to us that it's likely to be more than two."

The strategy aims to build a force capable across the military operational spectrum with the leadership, manning and equipment to provide options to the national command authority, the chairman noted.

One point that may have been underemphasized, he add-

ed, is that the military has "learned an enormous amount over the last 10 years about how to wage war."

Dempsey said the military has developed strengths unforeseen a decade ago, noting its capabilities in special operations, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and cyber.

"What we're looking to do here is not constrain ourselves to a two-war construct, but rather build a force that has the kind of agility the secretary mentioned, that is a learning organization that will adapt itself to what it confronts," he said.

The military has seen a decade of high demand, and defense leaders are working to ensure the force size remains adequate and adaptive to future missions, he said.

"We do have a ... significant, capable [National] Guard and reserve component, and we do have an active component that has learned a lot over the last 10 years," Dempsey noted. "What we're trying to do is break the template and think about different ways of accomplishing the task, to give more options to our nation's leaders."

The geopolitical and economic challenges of 2012 demand a shift in military power, the general said.

"What we're trying to do is challenge ourselves to respond to that shift and to react to that strategic inflection point," he said.

Dempsey said his concern is that in light of changing strategy and budget issues, some will see the United States as a nation and a military in decline.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," the chairman asserted. "That miscalculation could be troublesome ... it could cause even our close partners to wonder, what kind of partner are we? So what I'd like to say right now is, we're the same partner we've always been, and intend to remain that way."



Photo by DoD Erin A. Kirk-Cuomo

CBS' "Face the Nation" host Bob Schieffer interviews Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta, center, and Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, left, in Washington, D.C., Jan. 6, 2012. Panetta and Dempsey fielded questions ranging from the upcoming budget cuts to the threats that Iran poses in the Middle East.

Wake Island Avenger's farewell to Sgt. Major

Cpl. Aaron Diamant
Desert Warrior

Sgt. Maj. Robert Pullen passed the Avengers' sword to incoming Sgt. Maj. Michael Cayer, a native of Alexandria, La., in a ceremony in the squadron's hangar Jan. 5.

Pullen, who had served as the Marine Attack Squadron 211 senior enlisted advisor since January 2010, won't be going far however, he's taking over as the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 sergeant major, taking his years of experience to the maintenance side of the Harrier fleet.

Cayer comes to Yuma with a strong background in the ground side of the Corps, his most recent assignment as the Headquarters Company first sergeant for the 8th Marine Regiment.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Laura Cardoso

Outgoing Sgt. Maj. Robert Pullen relinquished command to incoming Sgt. Maj. Michael Cayer in a Relief and Appointment ceremony in the squadron hangar Jan. 5.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Laura Cardoso

Sgt. Maj. Robert Pullen, Marine Attack Squadron 211 senior enlisted advisor since Jan. 2010, shares his farewell speech with thirty plus guest during the squadrons Relief and Appointment ceremony Jan. 5. Sgt. Maj. Pullen relinquished command to Sgt. Maj. Michael Cayer after honorably serving the Wake Island Avengers. Sgt. Maj. Pullen will be taking over as the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 sergeant major. "The welcome the MALS has given my family and me is phenomenal," Pullen said of his new unit. "I am excited for the opportunity to serve the Marines and sailors of the MALS and look forward to meeting each and every one of them."

1/2 Ads

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

"Tis the season for reflecting"

Lt. Greg Woodard, Station Chaplain

What has 2011 held for you? Has it gone according to your plan, or have there been surprises along the way? If you are like most of us, the past year has been full of good moments with a full measure of uncertainty, surprises, and disappointment thrown in.

It seems that the only thing that is certain in life is that life is uncertain. There are seasons when it seems that each day we find a new challenge in our path. The nights are long and sleepless as we face the uncertainty of the next day. There are other seasons of life where things go pretty much according to plan and we sleep well at night knowing that things are in order in our world.

No matter which season of life that you are in, it is always helpful to take time to reflect the journey behind you, and the journey yet to come. In the quietness and fire of reflection you will likely see areas

where a course correction would serve you well.

As you consider where you were and where you want to go, ask yourself these questions, "What might I need to add or remove from my life in order to get to where I want to be?" and "What might I need to change about myself to make my life better?"

During this holiday season, I encourage you to step back from the hustle and bustle of the holiday and take a moment to do some self-evaluation.

Perhaps you will find that things are perfect, and you won't have to change anything. More realistically, you will probably find something that you could do better.

Once you discover those areas where you need to make an adjustment, commit to making the changes necessary for your sake and for the sake of others in your life.

Blessings to you on your journey ahead.

Leader's Forum

"Bravo Zulu to all Station recyclers!"

Col. Robert Kuckuk, Station CO

It's not often that you get to have some immediate feedback on a program. I'm happy to report, thanks to the outstanding efforts of each and every one of you, that the newly revamped recycling program is taking off! This goes for the station side and the housing side...great work everyone.

It just does my green heart good to see all our brown recycling bins lined up on the curb each Thursday morning. Thanks to everyone for helping to keep Lincolns costs under control, reduce what's going to the landfill and teaching our children a valuable lesson for the future.

On the Station side... all I can say is WOW. Our first quarter sales for FY12 is 75% of sales for all of FY11! \$57,000 in sales in the first quarter alone...and all you have to do is not throw something in the trash. The recycling program will take care of the rest. If you need recycling bins or receptacles, please call 941-7659/7454 and they will see that you get what you need.

Remember, we make money two ways when we recycle: we sell the recycled material and we don't pay pickup and tipping fees for hauling away the trash. The money we make after paying for the recycling program bills stays on the station.

So thank you...and keep at it. We'll triple the amount of paper recycled and double the amount of cardboard...at the same time we will cut in half the number of dumpsters laying around the base.

1/2 Ads



Photo by Sgt. Brian A. Tuthill, Regimental Combat Team 7

NAWA, Helmand Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan - Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew J. Jenkins and Seaman Tony E. Rodgers, both hospital corpsmen with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, demonstrate to Afghan National Army soldiers the 'Navy SEAL' carry, which allows both people to use their rifles in combat, during first aid and casualty evacuation training.



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Gino Flores, II MEF (FWD)

Afghan security forces graduates of the Combat Medical Assistant, Basic Administration and Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Courses sit alongside their coalition mentors, invited dignitaries and special guests attending a graduation ceremony at the Joint Sustainment Academy Southwest, Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, July 28. During the training ANSF soldiers learned the skills needed to sustain operations on the battlefield.



Photo by White House Pete Souza

President Barack Obama greets guests in the Oval Office before signing an executive order on the employment of veterans in the federal government, Nov. 9.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Raul Tirado

A team of 13 U.S. Marine Corps trainers assigned to the Iraqi Marine Training Team 03 gather for a photo as the last Marine team of Operation New Dawn to leave Iraq Oct. 14 here. The Marines from Camp Pendleton, Calif., are assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force deployed in May. The team spent the last several months training Iraqi marines in various tasks such as patrolling, night operations, weapons training, search and seizure techniques. IqMTT-03 will be a part of history as the last OND Marine team that left Iraq.



Photo by White House Pete Souza

Sgt. Nathan Brewer, lead instructor for an Afghan National Army drivers training course, leads a team of four other Marines who train Afghan National Army soldiers how to drive. Brewer, who licensed military vehicle drivers for Marine Air Control Squadron 1, is developing future driver training for ANA 209th Corps, which conducts missions in Afghanistan's northern provinces



Photo by Cpl. Bryan Nygaard, HQ Marine Corps
Lance Cpl. Paul Flores, a combat engineer with Alpha Company, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, and a native of Moundsville, W. Va., helps empty the sand from a dismantled HESCO barrier at Firebase Saenz, Helmand province, Dec. 14. FB Saenz is the first of several patrol bases being demilitarized by the Marines of 9th ESB throughout the month of December

MORE LEAN, STILL MEAN

By Jim Garamone
Headquarters Marine Corps

WASHINGTON — The American military will be leaner in the years ahead, but it will remain lethal and without a match in the world, President Barack Obama said at the Pentagon today.

Obama, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, detailed the new defense strategic guidance during a news conference.

“The world must know the United States is going to maintain our military superiority with armed forces that are agile, flexible and ready for the full range of contingencies and threats,” the president said.

He pledged to keep faith with service members and their families as officials use the strategy guidance to shape the Defense Department’s budget for the years ahead. The department will pare \$487 billion from its budget over the next 10 years.

“We’re also going to keep faith with those who serve by making sure our troops have the equipment and capabilities they need to succeed and by prioritizing efforts that focus on wounded warriors, mental health and the well-being of military families,” the president said.

The government also will keep the interests of America’s newest veterans in mind, Obama said, and he vowed to “keep working to give our veterans the care, benefits and job opportunities they deserve and earned.”

After 10 years of war, now is the time to build a new military to confront the challenges of the 21st century, Obama said. The Iraq mission is over, and 91,000 American troops are in Afghanistan working to turn over security responsibility there to Afghan forces.

Still, Panetta said, the world will continue to be dangerous.

“The United States still faces complex and growing array of security challenges across the globe,” he said. “Unlike past drawdowns, when oftentimes the threats that the country was facing went away, the fact is that there remain a number of challenges that we have to confront -- challenges that call for reshaping of America’s defense priorities.”

Panetta said the threats include violent extremism, proliferation of lethal weapons and materials and the destabilizing behavior of nations such as Iran and North Korea. The strategic calculus has shifted with the rise of new powers in Asia and the dramatic changes in the Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa, he noted.

All this is occurring against the backdrop of budget pressures. The secretary reiterated his belief that Americans do not need to choose between national security and fiscal

responsibility. Still, DOD will “play its part in helping the nation put our fiscal house in order,” he said.

The strategy honors four over-arching principles, Panetta said: America’s military must remain pre-eminent. The strategy must avoid hollowing out the force, must achieve balanced savings, must preserve the quality of the all-volunteer force and must not break faith with men and women in uniform or their families.

Given those principles, Panetta said, the U.S. military will remain capable across the spectrum.

From a geographic perspective, he said, while the Asia-Pacific region will be a new focus for the U.S. military, America will continue to work in the Middle East and Central Asia to ensure stability and economic prosperity.

“In Latin America, Africa, elsewhere in the world, we will use innovative methods to sustain U.S. presence, maintaining key military-to-military relations and pursuing new security partnerships as needed,” the secretary said.

The military will look to develop low-cost and small-footprint approaches to achieving security objectives, he explained. For service members, he added, this means rotational deployments and military exercises to maintain U.S. presence.

But, Panetta added, a military must be able to confront and defeat any aggressor and respond to the changing nature of warfare.

“Our strategy review concluded that the United States must have the capability to fight several conflicts at the same time,” Panetta said. “We are not confronting, obviously, the threats of the past. We are confronting the threats of the 21st century. And that demands greater flexibility to shift and deploy forces to be able to fight and defeat any enemy anywhere.

“How we defeat the enemy may very well vary across conflicts,” he continued. “But make no mistake, we will have the capability to confront and defeat more than one adversary at a time.”

Dempsey said all defense leaders worked on the new guidance, which he called “a sound strategy” that ensures the United States remains the pre-eminent military in the world while preserving the talent of the all-volunteer force.

The strategy takes into account the lessons of the last 10 years of war, Dempsey said. “It acknowledges the imperative of a global, networked and full-spectrum joint force,” he added.

The general emphasized that the military would be adopting much of the strategy even in the absence of fiscal constraints.

“Even if we didn’t have fewer resources, we would expect to change,” he said. “As a consequence, it calls for innovation, for new ways of operating and partnering. It rebalances our focus by region and mission.”



Photo by Cpl. Bryan Nygaard, 2nd Marine Logistics Group

Cpl. William Cox, an armorer at the Joint Sustainment Academy Southwest, and a native of Amory, Miss., shields himself from rocks and sand as an MV-22 Osprey prepares to take off in Zaranj, Nimroz province, Dec. 30.

Full Ads

Credit Unions vs. Banks

mycreditunion.gov

If you have never belonged to a credit union, you might not be aware of how these member-owned and operated financial institutions differ from banks. Here are some points to consider:

1. Credit unions in the United States operate as not-for-profit institutions. Being a part of a credit union means supporting a community of members. In contrast, banks are corporations that seek to make a profit and have shareholders.
2. In general, credit unions offer higher savings rates, so your money grows faster. Lower rates on loans available through credit unions mean that you will owe less over the lifetime of a loan.
3. DataTrac, a financial research and technology firm, regularly provides NCUA with credit union and bank interest rate comparisons.
4. Credit unions are often recognized for customer service, and are expanding their products and services to meet the needs of the 21st century. Check with your local credit union to learn more about what is available to you.

To join a credit union, potential members must be part of a field of membership, which is typically based on one's employment, community, where one worships, or membership in an association or organization.

Top Five Hidden Home Hazards

Consumer Product Safety Commission

Whether it is an apartment, duplex or single-family residence, the home is a place that is supposed to give families a feeling of safety and security. Each year, 33.1 million people are injured by consumer products in the home. Some hazards are from products the agency has warned about for years; others come from new products and technologies. To keep Americans informed of dangers, the CPSC has identified the Top Five Hidden Home Hazards – associated with products that people may be using everyday, but are unaware of the dangers that they can cause.

1. Magnets

Today's rare-earth magnets can be very small and powerful making them popular in toys, building sets, and jewelry. As the number of products with magnets has increased, so has the number of serious injuries to children. In several hundred incidents, magnets have fallen out of various toys and been swallowed by children. Small intact pieces of building sets that contain magnets have also been swallowed by children. If two or more magnets, or a magnet and another metal object are swallowed separately, they can attract to one another through intestinal walls and get trapped in place. The injury is hard to diagnose. Parents and physicians may think that the materials will pass through the child without consequence, but magnets can attract in the body and twist or pinch the intestines, causing holes, blockages, infection, and death, if not treated properly and promptly.

2. Recalled Products

CPSC is very effective at getting dangerous products off store shelves, such as recalled toys, clothing, children's jewelry, tools, appliances, electronics and electrical products. But once a product gets into the home, the consumer has to be on the lookout. Consumers need to be aware of the latest safety recalls to keep dangerous recalled products away from family members.

3. Tip-overs

Furniture, TVs and ranges can tip over and crush young children. Deaths and injuries occur when children climb onto, fall against or pull themselves up on television stands, shelves, bookcases, dressers, desks, and chests. TVs placed on top of furniture can tip over causing head trauma and other injuries. Items left on top of the TV, furniture, and countertops, such as toys, remote controls and treats might tempt kids to climb.

4. Windows & Coverings

Children can strangle on window drapery and blind cords that can form a loop. Parents should use cordless blinds or keep cords and chains permanently out of the reach of children. Consumers should cut looped cords and install a safety tassel at the end of each pull cord or use a tie-down device, and install inner cord stays to prevent strangulation. Never place a child's crib or playpen within reach of a window blind.

5. Pool & Spa Drains

The suction from a pool drain can be so powerful that it can hold an adult under water, but most incidents involve children. The body can become sealed against the drain or hair can be pulled in and tangled. Missing or broken drain covers are a major reason many entrapment incidents occur. Pool and spa owners can consider installing a Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS), which detects when a drain is blocked and automatically shuts off the pool pump or interrupts the water circulation to prevent an entrapment.

LEAVING THE CORPS

Q's for your employer

Work Source

Washington.gov

Advancement

- Can you tell me how success in this position is measured?
- What skills would I need to be successful in this position?
- What are the opportunities for personal growth?
- What is the retention rate of people in this position?

Responsibilities

- Tell me about a typical day in this job.
- Who would I work with most closely on a day-to-day basis?
- How often can I expect to relocate during the initial years?

Being New on the Job

- What do you consider the most challenging aspect of this position for someone who is new to your organization?
- What qualities are you looking for in your new hires?
- What are your expectations for new hires?
- Could you describe a typical first assignment?
- What are the most challenging facets of the position?
- What do I need to accomplish in the next 6-12 months?

More about the Organization

- Why is this position available?
- What are your department's major projects in the coming year?
- What is the work environment like?
- What makes your organization different from its competitors?
- What are your organization's strengths and weaknesses?
- How would you describe your corporation's personality and management style?
- Why did you join the organization? Why have you stayed with the organization?

Cervical Health Awareness Month 2012

ASHA/NCCC Press Release

RTP, NC — Modern medicine has given us unprecedented tools to prevent cervical cancer, and the American Social Health Association (ASHA) and the National Cervical Cancer Coalition (NCCC) call for all women to have greater access to life-saving screening tests and vaccines.

Each year in the U.S. approximately 12,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer, and more than 4,000 die as a result. The true tragedy of the disease is that cervical cancer screening tests and vaccines exist that can prevent virtually every case.

In both the U.S. and around the world, the disease disproportionately impacts poor women. ASHA President and CEO Lynn B. Barclay says that in addition to not having access to health care, women often lack awareness about cervical cancer. "Science has put us in a remarkable position to protect women from cervical cancer, but technology is only half the battle," Barclay says. "It's imperative we continue efforts that not only promote greater access to health care, but that we also inform women about cervical cancer and the marvelous means we now have to prevent this disease."

2012 will see ASHA/NCCC focus strongly on increasing uptake of cervical cancer vaccines. "Fewer than half of girls and young women who are eligible for these vaccines have completed the three-dose series, so increasing vaccine uptake is a priority for us," Barclay says a key to getting more "needles in arms" is to reach out to healthcare providers in addition to the general public: "Especially for parents, having the family doctor or nurse endorse a vaccine is often crucial. With this in mind, we're developing additional cervical cancer information and counseling tools designed specifically for front-line healthcare providers."

ASHA/NCCC address the challenges of cervical cancer prevention by offering numerous programs that include national advocacy, publications, and interactive services that provide education and support for patients, families, and health professionals. For more visit us online at www.ASHAst.org and www.nccc-online.org/index.html.

The American Social Health Association (ASHA) is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1914 to improve the health of individuals, families, and communities, with a focus on educating about and preventing sexually transmitted infections.

ASHA's educational web sites include: www.ASHAst.org, www.iwannaknow.org, and www.quierosaber.org.

Full Ads

Origins of the Marine Corps Mess Night

Ret. Lt. Colonel Merrill L. Bartlett

The Marine Corps officers' introduction to anything resembling today's mess night came through service at sea. Until 1914, wine messes were part of the wardrooms of the ships of the fleet. When that great prohibitionist moralizer, Josephus Daniels, took up the portfolio of Secretary of the Navy in 1913, he argued that officers should not be granted a privilege denied enlisted Sailors and Marines. While the rum ration (later changed to whiskey in 1806) had been a tradition of the Age of Sail, the practice ended in the American Navy in 1862. During the tenure of Secretary John D. Long (1897-1902), the Department of the Navy even prohibited the sale of alcohol to enlisted men at stations ashore. But alcohol continued to be available to officers in their wardroom messes, a privilege that affronted Daniels' egalitarian principles. When no one took the indefatigable and determined Daniels seriously on the matter, he suggested that alcohol and drunkenness prevailed among the officers of the fleet and seriously impaired its efficiency. Daniels grew fond of relating the tale of a young officer who never drank before entering the Navy, where his messmates taught him a fondness for the loathsome habit. Predictably, the young man became a drunkard, and Daniels vowed to end what a later generation would surely call substance abuse.

Now, the specious argument of the Secretary of the Navy found acceptance and received Presidential approval. Thus, the infamous General Order No. 99 prohibiting the consumption of alcoholic beverages aboard the ships of the U.S. Navy came into being and remains in effect to this day. Throughout the fleet in 1914, however, officers expressed outrage. In the battleship Washington, Captain Edward W. Eberle hosted a riotous dinner for his officers, each course of which came

doused heavy with some form of an alcoholic beverage. Wardrooms throughout the fleet in 1914 witnessed a variety of "going dry" commemorations, liberally punctuated with witty soliloquies that demeaned the character of the pompous Secretary of the Navy. Sailors and enlisted Marines alike expressed umbrage upon learning that alcoholic beverages were no longer available to them at canteens ashore. Daniels had become increasingly convinced that most disciplinary problems in the naval services resulted from excessive consumption of alcohol.

Prior to Daniels's meddling, formal dinners—probably resembling something like a mess night—occurred infrequently in various wardrooms. Major General George Barnett recalled such an affair while serving in the San Francisco in 1897. Barnett had just reported aboard, having caught up with the cruiser in the harbor of Smyrna, and found the evening's entertainment most enjoyable. Perhaps concluding that the new commanding officer of the ship's Marine Detachment thought the elaborate dinner a regular occurrence, a Navy officer admonished Barnett: "We don't do this every night, you know!" Colonel Heintz remembered something like a mess night (but without alcoholic beverages) while serving in the battleship Idaho as a midshipman in 1936; a fife and drum section marched through "officers' country" playing "The Roast Beef of Old England" to summon the officers to dinner.

Ashore, Marine Corps officers came together in formal dinners at times. 2ndLt Earl H. "Pete" Ellis recalled a farewell dinner for a group of officers departing Cavite during his first tour in the Philippines in 1902.

**For full story, visit
www.tecom.usmc.mil**

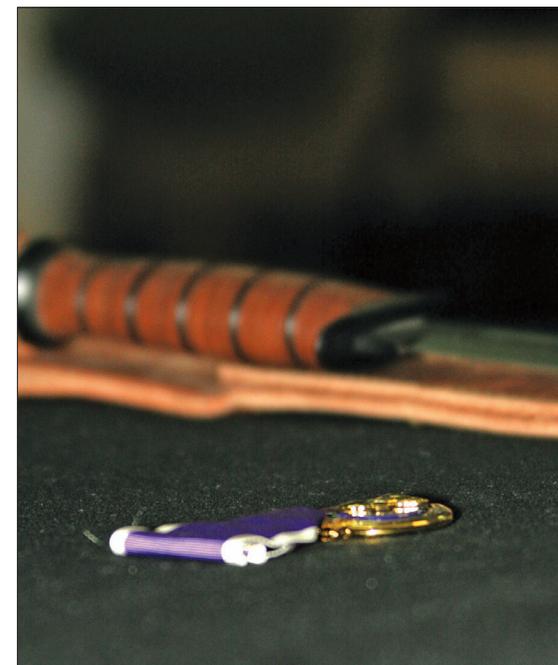


Photo by Lance Cpl. James B. Hoke

A Purple Heart and a bayonet sit on a table, dedicated to the Marines who came before and had fallen, at the field mess night at Al Asad, Iraq, July 1, 2011. Being a tradition that has lived since the days of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, mess night is a banquet laced with ceremony and laughs for Marines to honor and recognize the Marines who came before them, as well as to build onto their own camaraderie.

1/2 Ads

Gateway Park Review

Sgt. Daniel Malta
Desert Warrior

Yuma can be an overwhelmingly hot place to live, so finding a place to cool off during the summer months is key.

Nestled away underneath the Ocean to Ocean bridge, right on the Colorado River, you'll find Gateway Park.

The park, which had a 4 million dollar renovation in 2007, still looks brand new, with clean facilities and beautiful landscaping.

There's plenty of barbeque pits and a few gazebos to hold birthday parties and other events. The water is beautiful and does not get any more than waist deep. With plenty of real-estate in the area, finding a place for you and your family shouldn't be hard.

Besides the occasional litter bug, the water and surrounding areas are clean and free of any hazards.

The park is rarely crowded and offers the perfect amount of shade to escape the hot Yuma sun.

The location is close to Main St. and the Territorial Prison, so planning a nice day downtown and at the river is the perfect way to spend your weekend.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Malta

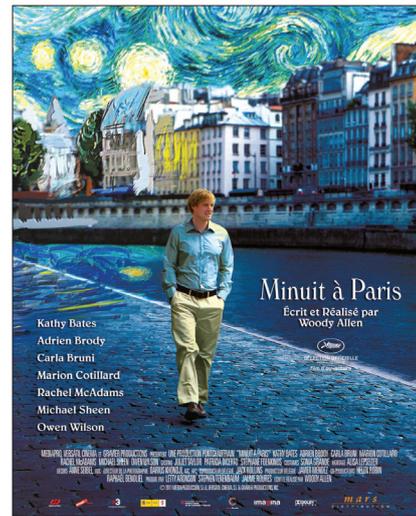
Three great films you probably didn't see in 2011

Sgt. Daniel Malta
Desert Warrior

This past year, there were three great films that were sadly missed by many.

"Midnight in Paris"

A wonderfully quirky film that transports you and Owen Wilson (Wedding Crashers) into the 1920's, where life in Paris was simply sublime. The spot-on cast portrays famous writers and artists of the past with an amusing and almost comedic twist. This film is definitely the best thing to ever come from Woody Allen.



"50/50"

Few movies attain the emotion they set out for and even fewer these days manage to make us laugh out loud, yet this manages both. This film somehow blends comedy into a deeply moving story about the uncertainty of life while battling cancer. If I wasn't laughing, my wife was crying. Joseph Gordon-Levitt (Inception) and Seth Rogen (Knocked Up) do such a great job with this film, you might wonder why more people don't attempt this drama-comedy blend.



"Detective Dee and the Mystery of the Phantom Flame"

With all the kicks and punches you'd expect from a martial arts film, this movie also manages an extremely engaging mystery with all the necessary plot twists. The mythical world of Detective Dee is extremely colorful and will have you slobbering over the beautifully designed sets. Don't let subtitles keep you from this spectacularly bold film.



HOUSEHOLD GOODS SHIPMENT/STORAGE

Distribution Management Office

Distribution Management Office (DMO - formerly TMO) urges everyone who is in receipt of orders and planning a move to start the move process immediately.

All personnel in receipt of orders (PCS/Seps/Ret) and plan to have a government contracted moving company ship or store their household goods will need to visit the Defense Personal Property System (DPS) self-counseling program at www.move.mil to create their individual account (User ID and Password). All 'How To' instructions are located on the website.

Once your application is completed and submitted in DPS, you MUST contact our office at (928)269-2311 to schedule a date/time to turn-in forms and attend a mandatory Counseling Session. All forms will be signed at conclusion of session.

* Please do NOT walk-in to turn in forms, as counselors may not be available to readily assist.

*Exception: Personnel on CONUS PCS orders who have previously utilized DMO to ship property need not attend Counseling Session - they may turn-in signed forms at DMO Front Desk.

Once all counseling session/signed documents are completed, DMO will award the shipment to a Transportation Service Provider (TSP). DMO will email all TSP and destination DMO contact information to the personal email address that you provide in DPS.

*All shipments are awarded based on date application is received, regardless of requested service date - during peak season (Apr - Sep) that means your requested service dates may not be available as contractors have daily capacity limits.

All personnel planning to perform a Personally Procured Move (PPM - formerly 'DITY move') are required to provide a copy of their orders to DMO (via email, fax or in person). Upon review of orders and completion of an inventory form, a PPM self-counseling instruction packet will be provided.

*Shipments/PPMs CANNOT be processed until SIGNED APPLICATION FORM(s) are provided to DMO - DPS will advise you to Print/Sign/Turn-In form upon completion of each application

*Our Freight Section has a scale available free of charge for those executing a PPM move. It's located in warehouse Bldg 324, behind DMO building; their phone number is (928)269-2744 for appointments.

DMO is located in Bldg 328W (upstairs) above ServMart, just inside the North Gate.

Phone Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30 - 4:30 (Closed for training on Thursdays at 1 p.m.)

If you require any assistance with the self-counseling program, please contact our office at (928)269-2311. The Learning Resource Center, with computers, is next to DMO and can be used from 8:00 - 4 p.m. Mon - Fri.

Voting Made Easier!

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Primary elections have started, and you can vote in them. If you or your family members have not submitted a registration or absentee ballot request [Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)] to your home State, you should do so ASAP. Even if you have voted absentee in a recent election, you should submit an FPCA again this year as many States require annual submission - don't assume your registration or absentee ballot request from the 2010 election is still valid.

You may also use the form to update your mailing and email addresses which are crucial to ensure you receive your ballot quickly. Since many Uniformed Service members are highly mobile, you and your family members should submit a new FPCA whenever you move or are transferred, as well as upon deployment or returning from deployment. Your unit and installation voting assistance officers can remind you of this, and assist you in this process.

Everything you need is on the FVAP web portal at <http://www.fvap.gov/map.html>. State registration requirements vary greatly so click on your State on the map and follow the instructions to register and request an absentee ballot. Some States allow submitting the FPCA by email or fax in lieu of regular mail.

Help spread the word - pass this on to spouses, voting age dependents, other military voters, and overseas voters. Sign up for State-specific election information at <http://www.fvap.gov/contact/subscription.html>. You can add or delete subscription items at any time and have the option to password protect your account. Your contact information will only be used to deliver the requested information or to give you access to your profile and subscriptions.

And if you've submitted an absentee ballot request, but still have not received that ballot at least 30 days before the election, go to FVAP.gov's online back-up ballot system to find out your federal candidates, fill out the back-up ballot, and get complete submission instructions. You can access this online back-up ballot system at <http://www.fvap.gov/map.html>, and then select, "Get My Ballot Now".

If you're still having problems, FVAP's call center is available at 1-800-438-8683, DSN 425-1584, or at vote@fvap.gov. You can also reach out to your Installation Voting Assistance Officer at (928)269-3609 or your Unit Voting Assistance Officers within each Squadron.

Devil Dogs show their skills on the track, field and court

Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet
Desert Warrior

Whether it be Michael Jordan, Steve Young or Babe Ruth, we all grew up adoring our favorite athletic idol. Every young, American child dreams of being the next great sports-superstar. For some it's the fame, for others the money and still others just the dream of success.

While all these rewards are wonderful, the richest reward for most athletes, and the reason they stick with the sport for so long, is the love of the game itself.

While life as a U.S. Marine and the job that life entails take priority, opportunities for the superstar athlete in all of us endure. Becoming a member of an All-Marine team and competing against the other armed services, and other countries, is a chance to experience the life of the athletic professional.

Participating on an All-Marine team was, "one of the best experiences ever in my 14 years in the Marine Corps," said former Gunnery Sgt. Frank Timke.

Timke, now a fitness coach at the station gym, tried out and made the cut for the All-Marine softball team. He loved camp and relished in seeing where his skill lies in comparison to his competition.

"I thought I was at the top of my game but wasn't," said Timke.

However, he said his performance drastically improved through the training and instruction provided at the camp. The training will forge any participant into a more skilled athlete and help to unleash untapped potential.

"You'd be surprised what kind of player you can be," said

Timke. "You have to constantly perform."

If a Marine was on the team in years prior, that grants no advantage for selection in subsequent years.

"(The recruiters for the All-Marine teams) do a very good job of getting away from that 'who you know' mentality," said Timke.

The selection process used to stem off of regional competitions held on the East and West Coasts and overseas, but do to budget cuts it now works off resume submission, said Walter "Ski" Sosinski, the MCCS athletic director here. To apply go to www.usmc-mccs.org/sports and download the sports application.

The application needs to be signed by an individual's commanding officer, noting that they will be able to be away from duty and not impact mission accomplishment, according to Ski.

"(Players) usually come from an extensive background," said Ski. "They've either been playing in high school or college, or they've picked the sport up in their first few years of their career in the Marine Corps and just excel at it."

If a resume proves noteworthy, players then participate in tryouts for the all-Marine team camp. With enough skill, the athlete spends 17 days playing among other Marines before making the cut and moving on to the armed services competition, which lasts another 10 days. Marines who show enough skill against the Army, Navy and Air Force are then selected for the all-armed services team and will spend three to four weeks playing teams from other militaries around the globe.

For further information regarding joining an all-Marine team contact Ski at the MCCS athletics office by phone at (928)-269-2383 or by email at sosinskiw@usmc-mccs.org.



Photo by Cpl. Jenn Calaway

Number 32 from the All Marine Corps Team dunks over the Army team at the Armed Forces Championship held at Paige Fieldhouse, April 12. The Tournament brings together the best players in each service to compete for bragging rights and the chance to compete in the Worlds Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

1/2 Ads