



Treasure Valley Detachment
Marine Corps League

Detachment No. 878

Semper Fi Gazette

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Editor: Ken Johnson, If you have questions or anything to add please call me at 208-440-0881 Email: kenj7@clearwire.net.

Kuna Flag Day Parade

Detachment Leadership

Commandant:

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362 Rimview Dr.
Boise, ID 83716

Senior Vice Commandant:

Rich Erickson 208-562-0498

Junior Vice Commandant:

Arnie Strawn 208-454-8295

Judge Advocate:

Bob Smith 208-939-2582

Adjutant/Paymaster

Ralph Elston 208-853-7344

Chaplain

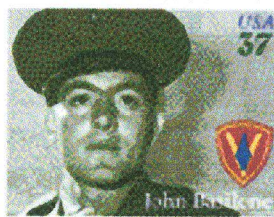
Bill Johnson 208-384-1844

Regular Business Meeting for March, will be held at 19:00 hours June 15th, and will be held at the Idaho Military History Museum. The next meeting is June 15th.

Happy Hour (10:00 AM) for all Marines, their wives and guests Come early and get a good seat, the 3rd Saturday of every month. This month will be June 17th, at Quinn's on Vista Ave. for a trial run. July, August, and September the Breakfast will be at Mikes. At the September Business meeting we decide where we will have the monthly breakfast. The rest of the Saturday's of every month is devoted to the Koffee Klatch at 8:30 AM for all Marines and their guests. Koffee Klatch is held at Mikes Restaurant: Hillcrest Shopping Center on the corner of Overland and Orchard.

DISTINGUISHED MARINES

(From the Marine Corps History & Museums Division, www.history.usmc.mil) **Part 2 of 2**



Lieutenant General Lewis "Chesty" Burwell Puller, Born 26 June 1898, at West Point, Virginia, the general attended Virginia Military Institute until enlisting in the Marine Corps in August 1918. He was appointed a Marine Reserve second lieutenant 16 June 1919, but due to the reduction of the Marine Corps after World War I, was placed on inactive duty ten days later. He rejoined the Marines as an enlisted man on the 30th of that month, to serve as an officer in the Gendarmerie d'Haiti, a military force set up in that country under a treaty with the United States. Most of its officers were U.S. Marines, while its enlisted personnel were Haitians.

After almost five years in Haiti, where he saw frequent action against the Caco rebels, General Puller returned to

the United States in March 1924. He was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant that same month, and during the next two years, served at the Marine Barracks, Norfolk, Virginia, completed the Basic School at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and served with the 10th Marines at Quantico, Virginia. He was then detailed to duty as a naval aviator at Pensacola, Florida, in February 1926.

In July of that year, the general embarked for a two-year tour of duty at the Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor. Returning in June 1928, he served at San Diego, California, until he joined the Nicaraguan National Guard Detachment that December. After earning his first Navy Cross in Nicaragua he returned to the United States in July 1931, to enter the Company Officers Course at the Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia. He completed the course in June 1932, and returned to Nicaragua the following month to begin the tour of duty which brought him his second Navy Cross.

In January 1933, General Puller left Nicaragua for the west coast of the United States. A month later he sailed from San Francisco to join the Marine Detachment of the American Legation at Peiping, China. There, in addition to other duties, he commanded the famed "Horse Marines." Without coming back to the United States he began a tour of sea duty in September 1934, as commanding officer of the Marine Detachment aboard the USS *Augusta* of the Asiatic Fleet. In June 1936, he returned to the United States to become an instructor in the Basic School at Philadelphia. He left there in May 1939, to serve another years as commander of the *Augusta's* Marine detachment, and from that ship, joined the 4th Marines at Shanghai, China, in May 1940.

After serving as a battalion executive and commanding officer with the 4th Marines, General Puller sailed for the United States in August 1941, just four months before the attack on Pearl Harbor. In September he took command of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, at Camp Lejeune. That regiment was detached from the 1st Division in March 1942, and the following month, as part of the 3d Marine Brigade, it sailed for the Pacific theater. The 7th Marines rejoined the 1st Marine Division in September 1942, and General Puller, still commanding its 1st Battalion, went on to earn his third Navy Cross at Guadalcanal.

The action which brought him that medal occurred on the night of 24-25 October 1942. For a desperate three hours his battalion, stretched over a mile-long front, was the only defense between vital Henderson Airfield and a regiment of seasoned Japanese troops. In pouring jungle rain the Japanese smashed repeatedly at his thin line, as General Puller moved up and down its length to encourage his men and direct the defense. After reinforcements arrived he commanded the augmented

force until late the next afternoon. The defending Marines suffered less than 70 casualties in the engagement, while 1,400 of the enemy were killed and 17 truckloads of Japanese equipment were recovered by the Americans.

After Guadalcanal the general became executive officer of the 7th Marines. He was fighting in that capacity when he won his forth Navy Cross at Cape Gloucester in January 1944. When the commanders of two battalions were wounded, he took over their units and moved through heavy machine gun and mortar fire to reorganize them for attack, then led them in taking a strongly-fortified enemy position.

In February 1944, General Puller took command of the 1st Marines at Cape Gloucester. After leading that regiment for the remainder of the campaign, he sailed with it for the Russell Islands in April 1944, and went on from there to command it at Peleliu in September and October 1944. He returned to the United States in November 1944, was named executive officer of the Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Lejeune in January 1945, and took command of that regiment the next month.

In August 1946, General Puller became Director of the 8th Marine Corps Reserve District, with

Happy Birthday to the Ladies: Melba Butler, Priscella Dunn, Barbara Elston, and Nancy Grigsby.

AUXILIARY NEWS

TREASURE VALLEY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY #408

TVDMCL Auxiliary Leadership

President: Theresa Nakashima

208-672- 8642

Senior VP: Sherry Meade

208-377-3806

Junior VP Melba Butler

208-343-4093

Judge Advocate: Donna Schumaker

208-286-0680

Treasure Valley Marine Corp Auxiliary Meeting

No Auxiliary minutes for May.

EVENT HORIZON

- Kuna Flag Day Parade June 10th.
- Regular Business Meeting, June 15th, at 19:00 Hrs.
- Breakfast at Quinn's June 17th.

The Business Meeting in June will be held at the Idaho Military History Museum 4040 W. Guard St., Bldg. 303;

on the Southwest corner of Gowen Field. The meeting will be at 17:00.

The Boise Veterans Day Parade Committee is looking for Volunteers to put up flags before parade and to take them down after the parade. Contact Pat Coonrod for more information 208-378-9436.

Kuna Flag Day Parade will be held in down town Kuna and we were asked to Participate. If you want to march with the league members be there behind the Mormon Church at 10-10:30 in the morning.

If your rated at the VA for a 100% service connected disability you can get a pass that can get you and your party in your vehicle into State Parks for reduced fees. The veteran will receive the following perks; the basic fee for a campsite in which the veteran is camping will be waived. This waiver does not include hookups, reservations, group accommodations, etc. Free motorized vehicle entrance to our parks. Parks will issue qualified veterans a current vehicle passport free of charge. If the veteran wishes to purchase a permit for a second vehicle, they can for \$5. The following types of identification is needed: A card issued for medical reasons by the Veterans Administration showing that the veteran's disability is 100% service connected, A letter from the Veterans Administration that the veteran's disability is 100% service connected, or have a disabled veteran license plate on their vehicle that has been issued by the Idaho Transportation Department. You can also go to the Idaho State Department of Parks and Recreation with a letter from the VA with 100% rating on it and get a Veterans Pass. The Idaho State Department of Park and Recreation is at 5657 Warm Springs Ave, Boise.

The 4th of July Parade will be at 6:30 Tuesday; we will meet on 10th and Jefferson.

From the Marine Corps League Website

VA Information Stolen

Posted by: Admin on Monday, May 22, 2006 - 10:29 PM EST

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has recently learned that an employee, a data analyst, took home electronic data from VA, which he was not authorized to do. This behavior was in violation of our policies. This data contained identifying information including names, social security numbers, and dates of birth for up to 26.5 million veterans and some spouses, as well as some disability ratings. Importantly, the affected data did not include any of VA's electronic health records nor any financial information. The employee's home was

burglarized and this data was stolen. The employee has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation.

Appropriate law enforcement agencies, including the FBI and the VA Inspector General's office, have launched full-scale investigations into this matter. Authorities believe it is unlikely the perpetrators targeted the items because of any knowledge of the data contents. It is possible that they remain unaware of the information which they possess or of how to make use of it. However, out of an abundance of caution, VA is taking all possible steps to protect and inform our veterans. VA is working with members of Congress, the news media, veterans service organizations, and other government agencies to help ensure that those veterans and their families are aware of the situation and of the steps they may take to protect themselves from misuse of their personal information. VA will send out individual notification letters to veterans to every extent possible. Veterans can also go to www.firstgov.gov to get more information on this matter. This website is being set to handle increased web traffic. Additionally, working with other government agencies, VA has set up a manned call center that veterans may call to get information about this situation and learn more about consumer identity protections. That toll free number is 1-800-FED INFO (333-4636). The call center will be open beginning today, and will operate from 8 am to 9 pm (EDT), Monday-Saturday as long as it is needed. The call center will be able to handle up to 20,000 calls per hour (260,000 calls per day). Secretary of Veterans Affairs R. James Nicholson has briefed the Attorney General and the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, co-chairs of the President's Identity Theft Task Force. Task Force members have already taken actions to protect the affected veterans, including working with the credit bureaus to help ensure that veterans receive the free credit report they are entitled to under the law. Additionally, the Task Force will meet today to coordinate the comprehensive Federal response, recommend further ways to protect affected veterans, and increase safeguards to prevent the reoccurrence of such incidents. VA's mission to serve and honor our nation's veterans is one we take very seriously and the 235,000 VA employees are deeply saddened by any concern or anxiety this incident may cause our veterans and their families. We appreciate the service our veterans have given their country and we are working diligently to protect them from any harm as a result of this incident.

*"A ship without Marines is like a garment without buttons."
(Admiral David D. Porter, USN, 1863.)*

GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND IN GOD WE TRUST

TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



Ken Johnson, editor
3005 Turning Leaf St.
Caldwell, Idaho 83605

Semper Fi

Business Meeting at the Military History Museum

Corner of Orchard and Gowen Rd.

&

Breakfast at Quinn's

1005 S. Vista Ave. Boise