



River Cities News

River Cities Detachment #1090
Marine Corps League, Inc.
Evansville, Indiana

Volume 17, Issue 7
July 2020

Commandant's Corner

Jim Johnson

I hope everyone has weathered the storm of COVID-19. Things are starting to open back up and getting back to normal daily activity. (Whatever that is) We are planning on having our next Marine Corps League Det# 1090 meeting on July the 22nd at Funkhouser American Legion Post. I hope to see ALL Det#1090 members present. Our regular scheduled meetings start at 1900, however don't forget we are planning to eat before the meeting so come early and plan on eating with us.

I want to say a great big thank you and a job exceedingly well done to our Detach-

ment chaplain Bob Reutter. He has done a tremendous job during this COVID-19. There has been a lot of Marine deaths and Bob has made sure that the family of those Marines has received our folder with a prayer and our deepest condolences. Great job Bob.

If anyone (other than myself) had planned on attending the Marine Corps League National Convention in Daytona Beach, FL. Then you must change your plans. The national convention has been cancelled. If you had already sent money for hotel reservations, it will be returned ASAP.

MODD Pound #294

Bob Reutter



Calling All Devil Dogs

Woof, woof, the next Growl of the Military Order of Devil Dogs, Pound 294 will be at 1830 on Monday, July 13th. We will assemble at the American Legion Funkhouser Post 8, 6001 New Harmony Road. We will order food and commence the Growl while we wait to be served. Nominations will be on the agenda. Bring your ideas for 2020-2021 officers. If you have any ideas for fun things to do at our Growls, this will be a good time to introduce them.

Our current officers are:

Pound Keeper	Bob Reutter
Sr. Vice	Don Counts
Jr. Vice	Ray Ko
Dog Robber	Don Landers
Dog Scratcher	Tim Jones
Mad Dog	John Bryant
Dog Trainer	Melissa West
Police Dog	Kelly Williams
Barking Dog	Barb Cole
Watch Dog	Gary Burk

See all you Big Dogs on July 13th! **WOOF!!**

Detachment Officers

Commandant
Jim Johnson

Sr. Vice Commandant
John Bryant

Jr. Vice Commandant
Jack Kincaide

Jr. Past Commandant
Bob Reutter

Paymaster
Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014

Adjutant
Tim Jones (812) 454-8717

Judge Advocate
T C Shane

Chaplain
Bob Reutter (270) 314-9484

Sgt At Arms
Melissa West

Newsletter Editor
Paula Landers

Web Sergeant
Paula Landers

Lore of the Corps

Bob Reutter



New Marine Littoral Regiment, designed to fight in contested maritime environment, coming to Hawaii

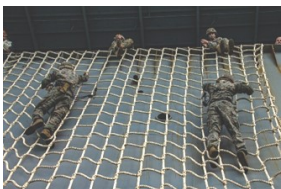
The Marine Corps is putting together a new force in Hawaii called the Marine Littoral Regiment that can operate inside a contested maritime environment and sink ships, according to Marine Corps Combat Development Command.

It's part of Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. David Berger's plans to overhaul the Corps to conduct sea denial operations, survive in a contested maritime environment and serve as a larger Naval expeditionary force.

The new littoral regiment will consist of a combat team, an anti-air battalion and a logistics battalion. The combat team will be organized around an infantry battalion and an long-range anti-ship battery, MCCDC explained.

An infantry battalion and a battery aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii will comprise the combat team, while the logistics unit will also hail from Hawaii. Elements of anti-air battalion will come from outside of Hawaii, MCCDC said.

The new Marine Littoral Regiment will be comprised of roughly 1,800 to 2,000 Marines and sailors, but the final design of the new unit is still under consideration, according to MCCDC. In comparison 3rd Marine Regiment is roughly 3,400 Marines and sailors.



Marines descend down ship cargo net in tactic reminiscent of World War II

Images of combat equipped Marines rapidly descending down cargo nets in preparation for a

beach landing hearkens back to World War II — but Marines operating in the Pacific recently just practiced a proof of concept version of the old school debarkation tactic.

From March 21 to March 28, the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and the amphibious assault ship America conducted a large-scale Guam to Okinawa, Japan, maneuver exercise. It rehearsed elements of the Corps' future plans to fight in the Pacific from sinking vessels at sea, beach landings and long-range rocket precision artillery strikes.

But included in that training was a rehash of using cargo nets to prep for an uncontested insert onto small islands across the Pacific. Marines with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines aboard the America practiced scaling down the cargo nets at Apra Harbor, Naval Base Guam, according to a news release from the 31st MEU. "This capability greatly enhances the 31st MEU's ability to conduct increasingly dynamic tactical actions and operations across the Pacific," Master Sgt. Daniel Scull, the safety officer-in-charge for the event, said in a release.

"Under the cover of darkness, specially-equipped Marine elements can debark onto a landing craft and insert uncontested onto small islands in the Pacific," he said.



The Corps is axing all of its tank battalions and cutting grunt units

Goodbye tank battalions and bridging companies, the Corps is making hefty

cuts as the Marines plan to make a lighter and faster force to fight across the Pacific to confront a rising China.

As part of Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. David Berger's plan to redesign the force to confront China and other peer adversaries by 2030, the Marines are axing all three of its tank battalions, and chucking out all law enforcement battalions and bridging companies, according to a news release from Marine Corps Combat Development Command.

The Corps is also cutting the number of grunt battalions from 24 to 21, artillery cannon batteries from 21 to five and amphibious vehicle companies from six to four, according to the release. Aviation is taking a hit too, the Marines plan to cut back on MV-22 Osprey, attack and heavy lift squadrons. The Marines also plan to reduce the number of primary authorized F-35B and F-35C fifth generation stealth fighters per squadron from 16 to 10, according to MCCDC.

The Corps says overall, it expects a reduction of 12,000 personnel across the force over the next 10 years.

Note: Information for the above articles gathered from the Marine Corps Times

(news@marinecoprstm.com)

Marine Corps History

Gary Burk

The Battle of Saipan

June 15 – July 9, 1944 (part one)



The Allied invasion fleet embarking the expeditionary forces in Europe was launched. The U.S. 2nd Marine Division, 4th Marine Division, and the Army's 27th Infantry Division, commanded by Lieutenant General Holland (Howling Mad) Smith, defeated the 43rd Infantry Division of the Imperial Japanese Army, commanded by Lieutenant General Yoshitsugu Saito. The loss of

Saipan, with the deaths of at least 29,000 troops and heavy civilian casualties, precipitated the resignation of Prime Minister of Japan Hideki Tōjō and left the Japanese archipelago within the range of United States Army Air Forces B-29 bombers.

The bombardment of Saipan began on 13 June 1944. 15 battleships were involved, and 165,000 shells were fired. Seven modern fast battleships delivered 2,400 16 in (410 mm) shells, but to avoid potential minefields, fire was from a distance of 10,000 yd (9,100 m) or more, and crews were inexperienced in shore bombardment. The following day the eight older battleships and eleven cruisers under Admiral Jesse B. Oldendorf replaced the fast battleships but were lacking in time and ammunition.

The landing began at 07:00 on 15 June 1944.

More than

300 LVTs landed 8,000 Marines on the west coast of Saipan by about 09:00. Eleven fire support ships covered the Marine landings. The naval force consisted of the battleships

Tennessee and California, cruisers Birmingham and Indianapolis and destroyers Norman Scott, *Monssen*, *Coghlan*, *Halsey Powell*, *Bailey*, *Robinson*, and *Albert W. Grant*. Careful artillery preparation — placing flags in the lagoon to indicate the range — allowed the Japanese to destroy about 20 amphibious tanks, and they strategically placed barbed wire, artillery, machine gun emplacements, and trenches to maximize the American casualties. However, by nightfall, the 2nd and 4th Ma-



rine Divisions had a beachhead about 6 mi (10 km) wide and 0.5 mi (1 km) deep. The Japanese counter-attacked at night but were repulsed with heavy losses. On 16 June, units of the U.S. Army's 27th Infantry Division landed and advanced on the airfield at Ås Lito. Again the Japanese counter-attacked at night. On 18 June, Saito abandoned the airfield.



The invasion surprised the Japanese high command, which had been expecting an attack further south. Admiral Soemu Toyoda, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN), saw an opportunity to use the A-

Go force to attack the U.S. Navy forces around Saipan. On 15 June, he gave the order to attack. But the resulting battle of the Philippine Sea was a disaster for the IJN, which lost three aircraft carriers and hundreds of planes. The garrisons of the Marianas would have no hope of resupply or reinforcement.

Without resupply, the battle on Saipan was hopeless for the defenders, but the Japanese were determined to fight to the last man. Saito organized his troops into a line anchored on Mount Tapotchau in the defensible mountainous terrain of central Saipan. The nicknames given by the Americans to the features of the battle — "Hell's Pocket", "Purple Heart Ridge" and "Death Valley" — indicate the severity of the fighting. The Japanese used many caves in the volcanic landscape to delay the attackers, by hiding during the day and making sorties at night. The Americans gradually developed tactics for clearing the caves by using flamethrower teams supported by artillery and machine guns.

The operation was marred by inter-service controversy when Marine General Holland Smith, unsatisfied with the performance of the 27th Division, relieved its commander, Army Major General Ralph C. Smith. However, General Holland Smith had not inspected the terrain over which the 27th was to advance. Essentially, it was a valley surrounded by hills and cliffs under Japanese control. The 27th took heavy casualties and eventually, under a plan developed by General Ralph Smith and implemented after his relief, had one battalion hold the area while two other battalions successfully flanked the Japanese.

Author: Next Month - The final battles and the end of active resistance.

Executive Meeting Minutes

Tim Jones



Marine Corps League River Cities Detachment #1090

Executive Board Meeting Minutes for 24 June 2020

Call to Order: Commandant Johnson called the Executive Board meeting of the River Cities

Detachment to order at 1800. Meeting necessary due to Covid-19 cancelling MCL meetings in March-May.

Roll Call of Officers: Commandant Jim Johnson, Sr. Vice John Bryant, Judge Advocate TC Shane, Paymaster Don Landers, Adjutant Tim Jones, Sgt. Of Arms Melissa West and Chaplain Bob Reutter were present. Jr. Vice Jack Kincade was absent. Detachment Food Booth Chairperson Paula Landers was also present.

Action Items: Replacement of Jr. Vice: Jack Kincade has missed 4 meetings (Nov-Feb). His position was declared vacant by Commandant Johnson. Tim Jones nominated Melissa West for Jr. Vice. Seconded by Bob Reutter. Vote was unanimous.

Meetings: Devil Dogs will start growls on 13 July 20 at 1830 at Funkhouser Post. Marine Corps League meetings will begin meetings on 22 July 20 at Funkhouser Post at 1900.

Food Booth: Paula Landers was called by Fall Festival street chairman and informed that a booth site was available. Booth slot 116 is in the area next to Franklin St Tavern. Cost is \$43/booth foot—total \$688 for the week. This cost would be shared equally between Auxiliary and Detachment. Deposit is due by 28 June 20 so decision is necessary. Vote taken to accept booth slot—vote was unanimous.

Finance audit: Audit will be done after the Executive Board meeting.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1915. The next Marine Corps League meeting will be the 4th Wednesday of the month, 22 July 20 at Funkhouser.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Jones
Adjutant

Support our Sponsors
They help make this Newsletter possible

SEMPER FI!

Mike Mitchell

Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090



06/2021

Compliments of
Joe and Kathy Filipczak

Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090

12/2020

Compliments of
Gary Burk, Life Member
OPTIMIST CLUB OF EVANSVILLE
DOWNTOWN

Friend of Youth Since 1921

07/2020

Place Your Ad Here

In Memory of
Marine Tommy Collins
And Deceased
Detachment Members



Semper Fi

Our prayers for our nephew who was recently deployed. May God bless all of our service members, protect them, and give them strength to carry on, Amen!

Roy & Carolyn McWilliams



05/2021

09/2021

Support our Sponsors
They help make this Newsletter possible



In memory of Detachment #1090 members who have gone on to guard the streets of Heaven.



2019

Jasper Marshal
 Bill Bitter
 Pat Dillback
 (Associate Member)

04/2021

***Compliments of
 Casey Canfield***

*Life Member
 River Cities Detachment #1090*

01/2021

***Compliments of
 Bob and Linda Reutter***

*Life Members
 River Cities Detachment #1090*

06/2021

DAVID L. JONES
djones@joneswallace.com 420 Main Street, Suite 1600
 Telephone (812) 402-1600 P.O. Box 1065
 Facsimile (812) 402-7977 Evansville, IN 47706-1065

JONES • WALLACE
 ELEVATING LAW



08/2020

**Compliments of the
 Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



Southern Belles Unit 441

10/2020

***Compliments of
 John and Judy Bryant***

*Life Member
 River Cities Detachment #1090*

05/2021

River Cities Detachment 1090
 Marine Corps League Inc.
 P. O. Box 6581
 Evansville, IN 47719-0581

www.mclrivercities.org
 mclrivercities@gmail.com

Once a Marine, Always a Marine



Non Profit
 US Postage
 PAID
 Permit #1151
 Evansville, IN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

National changed the due date,
 so that everyone is
 paying at the same time.

Dues for 2020 - 2021
 Before August 1st - \$25
 After August 1st - \$35

Initial Membership Dues are \$35

Mail your annual membership fees to:

River Cities Det. #1090
 Attn: Membership
 PO Box 6581
 Evansville IN 47719-0581

The Detachment and Devil Dogs
 will be holding meetings at:


American Legion, Funkhouser Post 8
 6001 New Harmony Road
 Evansville, IN 47720

Semper Ji

July 2020

Inside this issue:

Commandant's Corner	1
MODD Pound 294	1
Lore of the Corps	2
Marine Corps History	3
Executive Board Minutes	4
Newsletter Boosters	5
Life Membership	5
Sponsors	6-7
Event Calendar	8

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for August 2020 are due NO LATER THAN July 22, 2020 There are No Exceptions to this deadline.			1	2	3	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 MODD Growl 1830 Funkhouser	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 River Citries Det #1090 1900 Funkhouser	23	24	275
26	27 Southern Belles #441 6:30 p.m. AmVets #84	28	29	30	31	