

ALWAYS FAITHFUL

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News and Reflections by and for Marines — and other patriotic Americans

From Your Editor

October! Can you believe it? I can't. You talk about time flying. So much to do. So little time! Well I'm sure we all have the same challenge.

Today I'm all pumped up after attending the Motivational Seminar yesterday. I needed that. I get so depressed at all the negatives the left is feeding us about Iraq. I'm just so fearful that they'll force us to give up like they did during Vietnam. This time though it won't be only Iraq that suffers it will end up being the whole world. If only "they" had a clue.

Yesterday's seminar restored my faith—especially when I listened to Rudy Giuliani and his explanation as to how right it is that we're over there. And when he told us how many countries are thankful that Gorbachev was told to "tear down this wall" by our president the applause was thunderous.

I felt so proud that it was "my" country that set all those people free. And, just think, over the years how many people we Americans have set free. It feels so good to be American. Too bad so many just don't appreciate that.

Anyway yesterday helped set my stomach free. I get more and more uptight about all this misrepresented news and the pressures exerted to bring our troops home. I get so worked up I almost get sick.

The other day I listened as an Army reserve officer, from Minnesota, called into a radio station from Iraq. The host asked him if he thought we should be over there. The officer answered: "Before I came over here I thought it was right. Now that I'm here I absolutely know it's right."

He went on to say he's never been



kissed by so many so much in his life and that he works with a full bird Colonel from Saddam's army who tells him he has never felt this free to talk — to express his opinion. Who knows better than those who are serving and risking all?

I had so much to say and I seem to have forgotten it all but I want to tell you we had a 3-day holiday this past weekend and camped in Spring Green, Wisconsin. From there we drove to visit "House On The Rock!" If I try to explain it, you won't believe it so I'll just say "see it if you get a chance!" We also met wonderful neighbors at our campsite—one was from England. They had the cutest little dog that kept stealing our firewood. That was funny. When he offered me a beer I said "sure since your dog keeps stealing my wood." Nice people. Great time together. All I have room for. Bye for now. Kale

Food for Thought

At about the time our original 13 states adopted their new constitution in 1787, a Scottish history professor by the name of Professor Alexander Tyler had this to say about "The Fall of the Athenian Republic" over 2,000 years previous to that date.

The Fall of the Athenian Republic

"A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse (generous gifts) from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, (which is) always followed by a dictatorship." "The average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been two hundred years. These nations have progressed through this sequence. From bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance, from abundance to complacency; from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence, from dependence back into bondage."

Do not allow the "left" to force us to quit on Iraq. The United States and the world's future depends on our staying.

inside...

Lynch—A Hero???
A Marine's Marine
DÉJÀ VU All Over Again

page 2
page 3
page 8

JESSICA LYNCH—A HERO???

But how does one turn down a million dollars? This is the book offer accepted by Jessica Lynch. Colonel David Hackworth, U.S. Army retired, fills us in on the real story.

JESSICA LYNCH – A HERO???

Jessica Lynch recently was awarded a Bronze Star Medal, a Purple Heart and the POW Medal. The Bronze Star Medal citation reads: "For exemplary courage under fire during combat operations to liberate Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Private First Class Lynch's bravery and heart persevered while surviving in the ambush and captivity in An Nasiriya."

A bronze star for "bravery" and "surviving in the ambush and captivity"?

The Army's official After-Action Report said she was in a vehicle that crashed while hauling butt trying to escape an enemy ambush. She was knocked unconscious and woke up at a nearby Iraqi hospital receiving special attention from some super-caring Iraqi doctors and nurses.

This was probably the first incident in U.S. military history in which an American soldier was awarded our country's fourth-highest ground-fighting award for being conked out and off the air throughout a fight.

Bronze stars citing bravery typically read: "Moving his machine gun to a forward vantage point, he covered the advance of the infantry with a heavy volume of effective fire. Repeatedly exposing himself to a devastating small-arms automatic weapons and mortar barrage ..." Or: "He voluntarily acted as point man and ... when the platoon was fired upon ... charged the enemy position ... Through his courage, determination and devotion to duty, he saved his patrol from suffering casualties and captured a prisoner who later provided important information."

It's no big surprise that I've been bombarded by thousands of angry e-mails from vets protesting this assault on our country's sacred award system.

"She wasn't wounded in action, nor did she do anything to deserve a Bronze Star," writes Arch McNeill. "We have hundreds of valiant soldiers here in the 3rd Division who far more deserve more than she received but in many cases didn't receive anything."

"I'm going to send all my awards back to the president and tell him where he can shove them," says a genuine war hero, Jack Speed, a former Army Raider.

Trust me, the troops ??" past and present ??" are unhappy.

So I rang the Pentagon and asked Col. Jeff Keane, "Why the bravery bit?"

Finally, when the standard Army propaganda drill wasn't going down, Keane told me, "It was for her bravery in the hospital."

But all this flimflam wasn't Jessica's doing. She was used right from the first ??" a frail prop in the Pentagon's public-relations campaign to sell the war to the American people and to encourage their daughters to join up and be heroes.

To keep the truth under wraps, the Army concocted another whopper: "She suffers from amnesia."

A senior officer from V Corps (the unit that eventually awarded her the Bronze Star), who has asked to remain anonymous, comments that there was "tremendous pressure right from the get-go to award Pvt. Lynch a Silver Star. But the high brass here concluded, 'There was no evidence of heroism on her part,' and told the pushers to back off."

But when the propagandists conned the highly respected Washington Post into reporting on how Lynch was shot and stabbed but continued to kill Iraqis until her last round was spent, heroic stuff that would make Audie Murphy look like a slacker ??" which the Post then took several months to correct ??" other media were fast to pick up the fairy tale, and the Army was besieged by proud Americans demanding that Jessica be awarded the Medal of Honor.

Of course, many of us now know that a high-priced flack in Tommy Frank's headquarters came up with this tall tale and then duped the Post.

According to retired Marine Lt. Col. Roger Charles: "There's nothing they won't stoop to spin. The Army needed a female hero to boost female recruiting and PR efforts, so they went and invented one."

And that's the root of the problem. The elevation of Jessica to Joan of Arc status is to recruit more women, even though thousands of female soldiers couldn't deploy with their units to Iraq because of pregnancy, no sitters for single moms' multiple kids and other problems.

And poor Jessica Lynch has become the unwitting poster girl for an Army of One that's fast becoming an Army of Two ??" since apparently more than half of the women deployed to Iraq are now pregnant.

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WHAT I ASK EVERY WAR PROTESTOR I MEET!

Name me ONE country, just one, that does, and has done, more good for the world than the United States of America!

Kale

MARINE'S MARINE LAID TO REST

Dear fellow Marines and friends - I regret to inform you that our great friend, patriot, loving husband, father, grand father and great grand father, General Ray Davis, died of a heart attack today. Knox and the children are devastated and would appreciate no phone calls for a while. The end was fast and he did not suffer. We will all miss him terribly.

The Marine Corps has been in contact with the family and as we would expect that he will be afforded the heroes funeral that he so justly deserves. We do know that he desires to be buried in the soil of Georgia, his home for all these years.

*Sincerely and fraternally,
Warren Wiedhahn*

Atlanta Journal-Constitution
September 9, 2003

'Marine's Marine' Laid To Rest

By Bill Hendrick, Staff

They trooped in past the flag-draped coffin containing the body of Gen. Raymond Gilbert Davis, clad in his beloved dress blues with the blue-ribboned Medal of Honor clasped tightly around his neck.

Many of the old Marines wore their dress uniforms, too, including more than a dozen generals who traveled from Washington to pay final respects to the man who, until his death Wednesday at age 88, was the most decorated American alive.

White-haired men, some in wheelchairs and others holding canes, dabbed at tears as Davis was eulogized by retired Marine Gen. Robert Barrow, 81, who described Davis as "the finest man I've ever known, a Marine's Marine. I loved him," he said, choking with emotion.

More than 400 people packed the pews in the sanctuary and balcony of Davis' church, Conyers First United Methodist. Hundreds more watched the funeral on television screens set up in nearby churches and a city building.

Wayne Kerr, representing the family, thanked U.S. Sen. Zell Miller,

who was in the first row of pews to the right of Gov. Sonny Perdue and the left of U.S. Rep. David Scott, for nominating Davis for the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and said the general "left an example few of us can follow."

Barrow joked that had Davis been alive in "the War Between the States, William Tecumseh Sherman would have never gotten into Atlanta."

Men who had known Davis during his service in World War II, the Korean War or in Vietnam brushed at tears when two young Marines walked in slowly and stood rigidly on each side of the coffin. One faced the casket, saluted, and bent over the body, carefully removing the Medal of Honor from Davis' neck and placing it on an 18-inch red velvet sheet, held by the other serviceman.

They both saluted and marched out. The medals were transferred to a mahogany box and given to Davis' wife of 62 years, Knox Davis, at the grave site at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in College Park. The flag that had draped his coffin was presented to her by Gen. Michael Hagee, commandant of the Marine Corps. Seven riflemen fired a salute after the casket arrived, borne on a horse-drawn caisson.

Hero at Chosin

Davis, who won the nation's highest medal for heroism at the Chosin Reservoir in bitterly cold conditions, was the most decorated Marine of his generation. He was one of 94 men -- three Georgians -- to win the Medal of Honor in the Korean War. His chest-full of awards also included the Navy Cross, the nation's second highest decoration for bravery (earned at Peleliu during WWII), two Silver Stars and the Bronze Star with Combat "V" for valor.

In his autobiography, Davis told how he led about 700 Marines into what some considered a suicide mission at Chosin. Told to hold a key mountain pass to relieve a stranded rifle company and open the way to the sea for two Marine regiments, Davis led his men through eight miles of icy

terrain against overwhelming Chinese forces. Davis said a sheen of ice covered his face and the bodies of all of his men. Davis was wounded in the fighting, which lasted from Dec. 1 to Dec. 5, 1950.

The general also led a division in the Vietnam War, then retired in 1972 as assistant commandant of the Marine Corps he joined in the 1930s.

A native of Fitzgerald in South Georgia, Davis graduated from Tech High School in Atlanta and Georgia Tech. He spent his last years living in Conyers, still active when he died. He spoke often to schoolchildren and had been scheduled to make a speech Monday in Marietta.

The church was full of veterans from all branches of the military. Tommy Clack of Conyers was there in his wheelchair. He lost three limbs in Vietnam. Also there were frail men who ran up and down icy hills with Davis in Korea in December 1950. Two other Medal of Honor winners were in the church: retired Marine Maj. Gen. Jim Livingston, 64, who made the trip from New Orleans, and Harvey Barnum, assistant secretary of the Navy.

Mack Abbott, head of the Atlanta chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, led a half-dozen members of his organization, to which Davis was scheduled to speak on Sept. 27.

"I loved that man, I always did," said Abbott, holding the hand of his wife, Alice. "He was the greatest Marine in history."

South Korea represented

That was a common refrain, from veterans of other nationalities, too. A contingent of South Korean Marines sat in silence in an adjacent auditorium.

Louis Lin, 72-year-old chairman of the Republic of China Veterans Association in Atlanta, was spokesman for a half dozen members of his group, which he stressed represented Taiwan, not Communist China.

"General Davis came to us on Aug. 30 and made a speech," Lin said. "It was his last speech in public. He was

GEN DAVIS—continued next page

GENERAL RAY DAVIS—cont.

our hero."

When the funeral ended, Hagee walked just behind the casket as it was carried by seven young Marines to a white Cadillac hearse. Marines lined both sides of the street, saluting as the casket was placed inside. As the hearse inched away, Boy Scouts saluted, as did elderly residents of Conyers.

"We're all just overwhelmed," said Miles Davis, one of the general's sons. Miles Davis, 57, was wounded twice in Vietnam. His Purple Hearts were pinned on by his father. "We knew he had a lot of friends," he said Monday, "but we had no idea how many and how strongly they felt about him."

Members of a group called the Chosin Few, for the place Davis made famous, drove long distances to honor him. Harry Bruce, 75, who was a Marine sergeant in those "terribly cold days," said driving from Conroe, Texas, was the least he could do.

"Thanks to General Davis, a lot of people are alive today who wouldn't have been had it not been for him," he said."

Colleagues' tributes

"He was the last of the generals, the last of the old breed." – Retired Marine Master Sgt. Eric English of Blairsville "I always enjoyed shaking his hand because I knew I was touching greatness." -- Mike Breedlove, a Conyers land planner working with a veterans foundation on a memorial to Georgia veterans "Thanks to General Davis, a lot of people are alive today who wouldn't have been had it not been for him." - Harry Bruce, 75, of Conroe, Texas, a sergeant at Chosin Reservoir in Korea, the action for which Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor—"He told you exactly what he thought. But, hell, he earned the right." -- Warren Park, Marine veteran who knew Davis through a Henry County VFW post "I loved that man, I always did. He was the greatest Marine in history." -- Mack Abbott, head of the Atlanta chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association –

Compiled by Michael Pearson and Bill Hendrick

HENDERSON FIELD

As Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands, I would like to thank the veterans and petition signers of the "Keep Guadalcanal's Henderson Field Airport Name" petition for taking the time to express their feelings about this important issue.

On July 10th, your petition was delivered to my office. This petition included the signatures of over 8,000 signers, and the print out made up hundreds of printed pages. This copy was accepted, and will remain in the government archives, for access by future generations.

I had already resolved that there would be no name change when the original name change suggestion was made. It was heartening though to see so many people supporting my stance.

Here in the Solomons, opinions were unanimous regarding this issue. Letters to the editor in our newspaper, "The Solomon Star", were unanimous in wanting to retain the name. The premiere of Guadalcanal Province also wrote me a letter, strongly urging retention of the name 'Henderson'.

The voices of the people of the Solomon Islands, and the thousands of signors to your petition and my Government are in agreement on this issue. I can assure you, that the name "Henderson" will be retained.

We in the Solomons Islands are aware of the WWII heritage all around us. We are especially respectful of the feelings of the US and Solomon Island veterans who served in our country during the Second World War. We are also aware that the struggle for the airfield was not just an American fight. Solomon Islanders fought alongside their American friends sharing many tribulations and hardships until the struggle for Henderson was finally won.

As a result of those shared hardships a special bond exists between Americans and Solomon Islanders. We therefore would be especially delighted if you could visit us here in the Solomons. Come and see Henderson and the battlefields where the 'greatest generation' fought.

Tagio too mus and 'Semper Fi'.

Sir Allan Kemakeza, Prime Minister

Maybe Kim* could still look Andy up even if it is next week, just to say hello and let him know his "NANA" was trying really hard to do something extra special for him. He will be coming home to Alabama for 3 weeks leave, but I don't know how soon that will happen. Not soon enough for me I can assure you!

Concerning the "Marine" who wrote to Andy... I didn't think that it was you, but Bobby (Always Faithful Bobby Powers) seemed to think so. I remember Andy telling me that an older "Marine" from Minnesota wrote him about every other day while the war was in progress. I do remember him mentioning the Always Faithful newsletter, so it might be someone who got his name from you. Bobby told me he had sent you Andy's overseas address. I will find out and let you know who that wonderful person is. Andy tells me he received a tremendous amount of mail and "care" packages from folks he didn't know. When I think about that it brings tears to my eyes and puts a huge lump in my throat.

My grandson has connected me to my country in a way that I have never experienced before and it makes me feel ashamed. I now chase down Marines on the streets, in shopping malls, anywhere I see one, I stop them and thank them for defending me and my country.

I'll let you know when I hear from Andy.

May God bless and keep you now and always.

Becky Hannah

**Kim Busch flew to Camp Pendleton to be one of the greeters welcoming home the Marines from Iraq. Andy is Becky Hannah's grandson*

A DAY OF LEISURE

As usual, a very fine issue Kale. Thanks. A day of leisure, my coffee and my copy of "Always Faithful", what else could I ask for. Enjoyed the articles on the 23 non-marines. Hard to imagine Americans, as they were, could make that choice. Wonder sometimes, of the many that are still missing, how many made the same bad decision, and just disappeared.

Chuck Tucker

SECOND MARINE DIVISION MEMORIAL SERVICE

*Memorial Meditation - 26 August 03
by Captain Allen C. Allen, USN, Force
Chaplain, Marine Forces Atlantic*

What we do here this day may be the finest thing we do in our lives if we do it right. For we have come not only to remember and honor 26 fellow Marines who died in service to the Corps and the country - we come to set ourselves right in the face of death and loss - to reach out and let the truth of eternity touch us in this time and this place - to acknowledge that in our grief and loss that we are a part of a Divine reality beyond our understanding.

We will remain faithful, always. We must grieve the loss of these Marines - honesty and truth demands it. It is a sad and tragic day when the nation loses her young defenders, the Corps loses it's warriors and families give up their sons, fathers, husbands, uncles, grandsons and nephews. We honor our fellow Marines with our prayers and presence this evening. We pray for comfort for these families and offer our condolence.

Marines are not saints; in fact they are very often lavishly outrageous sinners. But Marines are heroic at the core simply because they have chosen for a period of time to place others before themselves. Marines know all there is to know about service and sacrifice - they are illustrious warriors with a rich heritage of noble service to the cause of freedom - we honor our dead today not to make them saints, but to acknowledge their spirit of sacrifice and service.

Winston Churchill observed, "At any moment in history the world is in the hands of two percent of the people, the excited and the committed."

Marines are counted among the committed - Semper Fidelis - Always Faithful - is more than a slogan - it is a commitment, it is a daily challenge - on the eagle, globe and anchor semper fidelis is inscribed on the streamer held in the beak of the eagle - but more importantly at Paris Island, San Diego and Quantico it is embossed on the margin of the heart of each Marine.

"Always" is a long time because it is

every time there is a challenge. "Always" is a long time for it is for now and forever. Keeping faith is an all seasons kind of commitment. One cannot be faithful every now and then. It is full time, life time commitment... even unto death.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants."

For well over 200 years Marines have made sure that it is mostly the blood of tyrants that is shed to protect our liberty.

But you know better than most that the currency of freedom is blood. The money minted for use in our nation's commerce may be dollars and cents - but the coin of the realm in the land of the free and the home of the brave is the blood of her sons and daughters.

For 227 years Marines have bled to death, starved to death, burned to death, frozen to death, drowned and crashed to their deaths for this nation and the cause of liberty and freedom.

For 63 years 2nd Marine Division Marines have paid the price. These 26 Marines that we memorialize today join 3,052 second MarDiv Marines killed in action and 42 MIA's.

Remote and distant places have a deep and abiding meaning because of the price paid there to defend freedom here. Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, Okinawa, Beirut, Iraq are important places on this side of the globe because 2nd Division Marines bled and died there to protect those that breath and live here.

The spirit of the Corps binds us to the past; "Always Faithful" means keeping faith with those who have gone before us. Freedom is not now nor has it ever been free. These young men we honor today join a silent Division of Marines who have preserved for us this land with their life blood.

The currency of freedom is sweat - General George Patton said, "A pint of sweat saves a gallon of blood." Even though he was in the Army, he was right.

You know well the reality - the more

you sweat the less you bleed, the more you train the better you fight. The will to win is the will to work.

Patton may not have gotten it right ounce for ounce, but there is a direct correlation between the two. "Always Faithful" means that in a land that is increasingly undisciplined you must be more so. There is no substitute for guts; and fortitude is developed through constant, steady and focused training.

Napoleon observed, "Morale is to material as 2 is to 1." And even though he was a Frenchman, he was right.

Warriors can, in fact, do more with less if morale is high. You know better than most, Esprit de Corps, the spirit of the Corps, has always seen us through hard times with less - but warriors of the richest nation in history now facing global and shadowy threats should not have to do more with less to protect their nation.

It is unacceptable, it is unconscionable that military training be sacrificed to save dollars when it is so very clear that reduced training dollars means less sweat expended in training issues in more blood expended on the battle field.

The significant power of diplomacy and the fine art of statecraft are possible only when a free nation has warriors trained, equipped, well lead and willing to fight for the cause of the nation. The wily old politician in DC with the bad comb over is deeply in debt to the young warrior citizen with a high and tight in the field here at camp. This land is not about perks and privileges; it is about service and sacrifice. Nowhere is the essence of our national heritage more present than right here, right now.

As we honor these Marines we acknowledge the ineffable aspiration of the human spirit for freedom...but we also acknowledge that the commitment to remain "Always Faithful" requires the national courage and will to equip and train the brave and faithful.

Marines, the currency of freedom in tears. You know better than most the tears of separation, good bye tears,

SERVICE—continued on page 6

THE VAMC POEM I TRIED TO DO

Always Faithful WWII Corpsman Jim Fackler took the bull by the horns and made what I wrote into a very readable poem. Now you can copy it and send it to the VFW and DAV hierarchy and to your Congressman.

HOW SHORT OUR MEMORIES

Years ago the world was sick
With the scourge of Communism.
We fought that plague on many fronts
In spite of protest and passivism.

They marched the streets and rallied
In response to Commie urges.
Deluded they were saving lives,
They inspired Hanoi's surges.

They faked illness or burned their cards;
Some even fled our shores.
But they were worthless cowards;
Should be Americans no more.

Wellstone, Berrigan and Fonda
Were leaders in their strife.
They gave comfort to the enemy
At the cost of many lives.

They despoiled our fighting forces
With their treasonous betrayal.
Ho Chi Min applauded
Their sympathy portrayal.

Fonda went to Hanoi
To deride imprisoned fliers.
She caused much pain and anguish
And became a famous liar.

Berrigan incited youngsters
And pacifists alike;
Trespassed military areas,
Claiming righteous psyche.

Wellstone was a teacher
Of far left policy.

He protested, was arrested;
He lived a fallacy.
He ran for Senate office;
Swore to just run twice.
He broke that oath when Party
Said, "It's close, you must run thrice."

He opposed the resolution
To protect our glorious flag.
Voted against the military
And clung to his liberal tag.

He wanted to curry favor,
When he wanted to run again,
With the vets he had insulted,
And caused so many pain.

We cannot forgive his treatment
Of our brave fighting men;
And those who served through ages
Have been insulted by his feign.

Halls of the V A Med Center
Are hallowed with the memories
And deeds of those who battled
To defend our liberties.

His tragic death was no great loss
To the veterans he denied.
To link his name with veterans
Insults all who fought and died.

faith with family and loved ones...our national heritage of freedom is encrusted white with the salty tears of the faithful...and the loved ones of the faithful.

If the currency of freedom were only issued in the denomination of blood, sweat and tears it would be ok. We would still prevail.

But there is more:
The currency of freedom is faith.

Faith is a gift of grace from God. We keep it alive within us even though we rarely understand it; this gift sees us through.

St. Paul says it well: "But we have treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

We are afflicted in every way - but not crushed; perplexed but not driven to despair

Persecuted but not forsaken
Struck down, but not destroyed...so we are always of good courage...for we walk by faith and not by sight."

Always Faithful "Semper Fi" means that we keep the faith with a future we cannot see because we trust the God that holds the future.

The central truths of faith are simply:
That we are not delivered from the trials of life. But they do not overcome us.

We live by faith and not by sight.
What we believe is more powerful than what we see.

So as we honor these Marines for whom the full price of blood, sweat and tears has been exacted, we commit again to remain faithful always.

Semper Fi Marines.

2nd Marine Division Memorial
Meditation 26 August 03

SERVICE—continued from page 5

tears shed at the piers and airfields of North Carolina. Morehead City tears. Tears that wet the pillows of a thousand dark lonely nights across the land; bitter tears of grief and loss, tears of stark fear in dangerous places around the globe...the emotional cost is enormous, beyond calculation and accounting.

"Always Faithful" means keeping

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911**


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IT'S DÉJÀ VU ALL OVER AGAIN

Blast from the past. Learn your history!

When you read the 1945 Reuters article below, I believe you will have a greater appreciation for what Yogi meant when he said "Deja Vu all over again." **Administration In Crisis Over Burgeoning Quagmire**
August 12, 1945

WASHINGTON DC (Reuters) President Truman, just a few months into his young presidency, is coming under increasing fire from some Congressional Republicans for what appears to be a deteriorating security situation in occupied Germany, with some calling for his removal from office.

Over three months after a formal declaration of an end to hostilities, the occupation is bogged down. Fanatical elements of the former Nazi regime who, in their zeal to liberate their nation from the foreign occupiers, call themselves members of the Werwolf (werewolves) continue to commit almost-daily acts of sabotage against Germany's already-ravaged infrastructure, and attack American troops. They have been laying road mines, poisoning food and water supplies, and setting various traps, often lethal, for the occupying forces.

It's not difficult to find antagonism and anti-Americanism among the population--many complain of the deprivation and lack of security. There are thousands of homeless refugees, and humanitarian efforts seem confused and inadequate.

In the wake of the budding disaster, some have called for more international participation in peacekeeping.

A Red Cross official said that, "...the German people will be more comfortable if their conquerors weren't now their overlords. It makes it difficult to argue that this wasn't an imperialistic war when the occupying troops in the western sector are exclusively American, British and French."

The administration, of course, claims that, given the chaos of the recent war, such a situation is to be expected, and that things will improve

with time. As to the suggestion to internationalize the occupying forces, the administration had no official comment, but an unofficial one was a repetition of the quote from General McAuliffe, when asked to surrender in last winter's Battle of the Bulge--"Nuts."

In an attempt to minimize the situation, a White House spokesman pointed out that the casualties were extremely light, and militarily inconsequential, particularly when compared to the loss rates prior to VE Day. Also, the attacks seem to be dying down with each passing month. But this statement was leaped upon by some as heartless, trivializing the deaths and injuries of young American men.

Many critics back in Washington seem now to be prescient, with their previous warnings of just such an outcome a little over a year ago.

One congressman said that "...it's time to ask whether the German people are better off now than they were a few months ago. Yes, a brutal dictator has been deposed, but at least the electricity and water supply were mostly working, and the trains running on time. After years of killing them and destroying their infrastructure with American bombs, it seems to me that the German people have suffered enough without the chaos that our occupation, with its inadequate policing, is bringing."

It's not clear how much support the Werwolf has among the populace, who may be afraid to speak their true minds, given the fearfully overwhelming "Allied" presence in the country. But it is possible that, like the guerrilla forces themselves, the people have been inspired by Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels' pre-victory broadcasts, and those of Radio Werwolf.

"God has given up the protection of the people . . . Satan has taken command." Goebbels broadcast last spring. "We Werewolves consider it our supreme duty to kill, to kill and to kill, employing every cunning and wile in the darkness of the night, crawling, groping through towns and villages, like wolves, noiselessly, mysteriously."

While no new broadcasts of Goebbels' voice have been heard since early May, no one can be certain as to whether he is alive or dead, and continuing to help orchestrate the attacks and boost morale among the forces for German liberation. As long as his fate, and more importantly, that of the former leader Adolf Hitler himself, remains unresolved, the prospects for pacifying the brutally conquered country may be dim.

Although Grand-Admiral Donitz made a radio announcement of Hitler's brave death in battle to the beleaguered German people on the evening of May 1, some doubt the veracity of that statement, and there has been no evidence to support it, or any body identified as the former Fuehrer's. Rumors of his whereabouts continue to abound, including reported sightings as far away as South America, and many still believe that he is hiding with the "Edelweiss" organization, with thousands of Wehrmacht troops, in a mountain stronghold near the Swiss border.

Many have criticized flawed intelligence for our failure to find him, causing some, in the run-up to next year's congressional elections, to call for an investigation.

A staffer of one prominent Senator said, "For months, starting last fall, we were told by this administration that Hitler would make a last stand in a 'National Redoubt' in Bavaria. General Bradley diverted troops to the south and let the Russians take Berlin on the basis of this knowledge. But now we find out that there was no such place, and that Hitler was in Berlin all along. And now we're told that we can't even be sure of where he is, or whether he's alive or dead."

For many, marching in the streets with signs of "No Blood For Soviet Socialism," and "It's All About The Coal," this merely confirmed that the administration had other agendas than its stated one, and that the war was unjustified and unjustifiable.

General Bradley's staff has

DÉJÀ VU *continued on page 8*

THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS FROM IRAQ

From: Unapologetically
PRO-Coalition News

"Will of the (Iraqi) people!"

[To the press, Chirac, UN, DNC ~
it's NOT your country. Iraq belongs to
Saddam's survivors.]

What Iraqis Really Think ~
9/10 First serious int'l survey of the
Iraqi people

"We will not forget it was the U.S.
soldiers who liberated us from
Saddam," said Abid Ali, an auto repair
shop owner in Sadr City last month --
and our research shows that he's not
unrepresentative.

...Evidence of the comparative
gentleness of this war can be seen in
our poll. Less than 30% of our sample
of Iraqis knew or heard of anyone killed
in the spring fighting. Meanwhile, fully
half knew some family member,
neighbor or friend who had been killed
by Iraqi security forces during the
years Saddam held power.

Perhaps the ultimate indication of
how comfortable Iraqis are with
America's aims in their region came
when we asked how long they would
like to see American and British forces
remain in their country: Six months?
One year? Two years or more? Two
thirds of those with an opinion urged
that the coalition troops should stick
around for at least another year.

We're making headway in a
benighted part of the world. Hang in
there, America.

An email message someone
received from Iraq.

Dear XXXXXXX,

I'm the one who should thank you
very much for your lovely email! It is
great to know that there are people in
the world who do not know you and do
not need to care about you, yet their
kindness and humanity spread across
continents wide to bring back hope in
our frail souls giving us the energy we
need to carry on and never give up no
matter how hopeless the situation
seem. God bless all the brave men and
women who sacrificed their lives to
help us, and God bless all those who
are continuing to do their best to make
Iraq a democratic and free nation.

Amen.

You know, liberty may be such a
simple word and can be taken for
granted in many places around the
world, but the truth is: there is nothing
more precious than the sense of being
free...it is simply indescribable! The
day Saddam's infamous statue fell
which marked the end of the tyrant's
reign, was arguably the happiest day of
my life. It was a dream come true...and
at times, even dreaming of getting rid
of that thug was difficult. He ruled with
an iron fist, a phony religious pretense
and a diabolic plan to devalue every-
thing that had a value, especially
knowledge and science. I could go on
forever describing some of his
atrocities and crimes, many of which
are too bad to be believed! But I am
not going to bore you with that. I just
wanted to thank you for your kind
words and prayers. Please spare some
for the American soldiers who are
unfortunately still being under attack
from Saddam loyalists. I pray for their
safety and happy return home.

I also appreciate very much your
efforts to "find the truth" as we too
suffer from all the negative media
cover which makes Iraqis more
frustrated and reflect a bad image of
the country. I assure you, most Iraqis
are hard-working people who just want
to rebuild their country and forget the
dark era of wars, hate and tyranny and
work on a new democratic Iraq where
we can live in peace and harmony with
all the civilized nations of the world.
We now have our golden opportunity
and we won't let anybody take it away
from us.

God bless you all, and thanks
again.

Yours, Ahmad Al-Attar

~~~

## **Gassed town has no doubts on US claims [of Iraqi WMD's] ~ 9/15**

...They lined the route of his convoy,  
mixing the traditional Kurdish dress of  
puffed trousers and wide belt with the  
fatigues of peshmerga fighters.  
Women in black headscarves carried  
flowers or pictures of their loved ones.

Children issued smart military

salutes while the crowd held aloft  
portraits of US President George W.  
Bush and banners emblazoned with:  
"Our liberators are welcome," "We love  
America" or "Thank you President  
Bush".

The chief US diplomat spent several  
emotionally wrenching hours here,  
visiting a small monument built to mark  
the tragedy surrounded by 1,000  
gravestones on the edge of the town.

At a ceremony with hundreds of  
relatives of those who perished from  
the town of 40,000 people, Powell  
stood flanked by US civil administrator  
Paul Bremer and Kurdish leaders Jalal  
Talabani and Massud Barzani.

Powell toured a memorial museum  
housing a vast collection of photo-  
graphs, many of them showing children  
struck down dead in the street as the  
toxins engulfed the town. The walls  
were etched with the names of the  
5,000 dead.

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## DEJÀ VU *continued from page 7*

protested that this is an unfair  
criticism—that the strategic decision  
made by General Eisenhower was  
driven by many factors, of which  
Hitler's whereabouts was a minor one,  
but this hasn't silenced the critics,  
some of whom have bravely called for  
President Truman's impeachment,  
despite the fact that most of these  
decisions were made even before he  
became president in April.

But some have taken the criticism  
further, and say that failure to get Hitler  
means a failed war itself.

"Sure, it's nice to have released all  
those people from the concentration  
camps, but we were told we were  
going to war against Hitler, even  
though he'd done nothing to us,"  
argued one concerned anti-war  
Senator. "Now they say that we have  
'Victory in Europe,' but it seems to me  
that if they can't produce the man we  
supposedly went to war against, it's a  
pretty hollow victory. Without this man  
that they told us was such a great  
threat to America, how can even they  
claim that this war was justified?"



## DO WE KNOW WHAT L'Esprit du Corps MEANS?

Hello:

I am a former Marine (1972-74/E-4; Hon. Discharged 1980/E-6). My late uncle, John "Jack" Hoffman, was an enlisted Marine in the Pacific during WW II. After he died I was presented with some of his personal war time effects which I treasure.

Uncle Jack served with other heroic Marines on Tinian and other combat locations. In his personal effects was this typed letter from another Marine presumed to be a war time friend of his, which Uncle Jack had apparently kept neatly folded.

I believe this letter, by Marine Pvt. Charles B. Griffin, is as relevant today as it was then to our brave Marines serving our grateful Nation:

Do you know what "L'Esprit du Corps" means? It is easy to translate - The Spirit of the corps - but it is so hard to live up to.

I am a Marine, one of the many so called cold-blooded, hard-fighting, rugged men who are blended into a fighting unit unparalleled in the history of fighting men. Caesar's Legions, Napoleon's famous Royal Guard, or Alexander the Great's conquering Greeks never put a body of men into action who are comparable to the valiants who comprise the Marine Corps. But oddly enough, I am writing in severe condemnation of those who lead it and not in praise of the gallant Corps.

I write here of so called cold-blooded, hard-fighting, rugged Marines. An outsider cannot possibly conceive how utterly false two of those three superlatives are. True, we are hard-fighting, but then so is everyone who seeks the preservation of his life. A savage, cannibalistic bestiality in the survival of the fittest is caused by the ecstatic desire to live. So true enough we are hard-fighting, but we are definitely not cold-blooded, nor are we rugged. On the contrary, we are warm, if not hot-blooded.

Being Americans, we were taught from childhood to love and respect our fellow man, we have developed an air of friendliness and love to all mankind. The reason that we are not

rugged is that either we live as beasts or perish. We do none other than adapt ourselves to the conditions which are prevalent. When necessity demands ruggedness, we must at all costs adapt the only course open to us. I sum up my arguments by saying: "We cannot possibly be cold-blooded or rugged because we are human beings, we were born of woman, suffered the pangs of grief and pain, enjoyed and reveled in happiness, we were reared by the teachings of our Divine God, educated by the doctrine of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and until now, lived smugly behind those unalienable rights of man - The Bill of Rights.

If I am straying from the point, it is only because I am trying to impress upon you the bitter falseness of the suggested superhuman capabilities of the Marines. Like you, he enjoys seeing the dawn of a new day and dreads dying so young, and believe me, we are young. Our lives are still in front of us, and though now the screen of the future is dismal and uncertain, we too laugh when happy, cry when hurt, and love someone dear to us.

Is this ghastly war worth the price all of us have paid in blood, sweat and tears? We, who once were young and gay, but now are crushed in mind and body, ask ourselves: "Is it worth the price?" If you ask any one of us, we would answer: "Yes, it is worth the price. No sacrifice is too great if it means the ultimate victory of our way of life, if it means that civilization and culture will survive the fire of destruction that has consumed the earth."

If you were to ask my answer, it would simply be: "Back home there is a dear lady that I call Mother, for whom I would deem no sacrifice too great. I offer my life so that her remaining days may be serene and placid, so that when God calls her into His domain, she will leave this earth a free woman, who has not been subjugated to torture and anguish. There is too, at home, a dear sweet wife whom I worship and whom I would rather see dead than alive and within the clutches of the sexual maniacs who defile and

desecrate sacred womanhood. It is for her that I am a member of the Armed Forces. I will protect with my life, if need be, her chastity and purity and insure her a life of freedom and happiness."

*Written by Charles B. Griffin, Pvt., USMC*  
Submitted by: Mr. Douglas "Robin" Barker

Thanks to Becky Hannah and  
Always Faithful Bobby Powers

## MOTIVATION

September 23rd I attended an all-day Seminar, titled Stay Motivated, at the Target Center (8 AM - 5 PM) in downtown Minneapolis. It also was running simultaneously at the Civic Center (9 AM - 6 PM) with the speakers shuttled between the two arenas.

The motivators, among others, included: Zig Ziglar (who recommended me to the National Speaker Assn. Several years ago), Tom Hopkins, Mr. Pelluzzo (I forgot his first name), Goldie Hawn, Joe Montana and Rudolph Giuliani (he was wonderful).

Much good information and motivation were spread to the audience. But what stuck with me most were the five points Mr. Pelluzzo (former CEO of Microsoft) spoke about. I'm passing them along because if you use these (and/or pass them on to your children and grand children) you will certainly enhance your (their) careers.

1. Always strive to make a difference!
2. Take on tough assignments! Be persistent! Risk is good
3. Be self aware -- be open to feed back-- - Don't be defensive and be coachable
4. Find a Coach (someone who knows you personally and understands business)
5. Always maintain integrity --Important how you win -- Putting people first -- Be up front in how you conduct yourself.

Be hard headed but soft hearted!  
Believe in people and treat them with respect!

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**OCTOBER 2003**

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## **DOD Approves use of Ceremonial Bugle**

The Department of Defense has approved the use of the ceremonial bugle as an alternative to the recorded version of Taps played on stereo at military funerals. The decision was made based on positive survey results from a six-month test of the bugle.

The ceremonial bugle consists of a small cone-shaped device inserted deep into the bell of a bugle that plays an exceptionally high-quality rendition of Taps that is virtually indistinguishable from a live bugler. The department worked with private industry to invent the bugle.

Missouri was selected to test the bugle because of its well-established state-run military funeral honors program. The test was conducted from Nov. 2002 to May 2003. Fifty prototype bugles were distributed to military units and other authorized providers of funeral honors, such as veterans'

service organizations.

During the test, family members and honor guard members were surveyed to gauge the dependability and acceptability of the ceremonial bugle. The resulting data indicated that the system is reliable and endorsed by over 96 percent of the families surveyed.

The ceremonial bugle will be offered to families as an alternative to the pre-recorded Taps played on a stereo, but will not be used as a substitute for a live bugler when one is available. Live buglers will continue to play at veterans' funerals whenever available.

The Department of Defense provides military funeral honors free of charge to thousands of veterans' families each year. The ceremonial bugle is intended to enhance the dignity of military funeral honors. These honors demonstrate the nation's deep

gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have honorably served their country. The ceremonial paying of respect is a final tribute to their service.

### **PATRIOTISM MESSAGE**

I listened to your CD. Thank you for sharing your work with me. You have a wonderful and stirring speaking voice, and the music enhances the power of your message. You remind us, correctly, that we should never forget how much others have sacrificed in the line of duty and defense of our freedoms. You are clearly carrying on the important work that the living must do on behalf of those other soldiers who can no longer, and you do it with such vigor and effectiveness. You should feel proud of this work you do.

Sincerely, Dr. Craig Roth, VAMC

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## Marine and patriotism buttons available at the Always Faithful website



### MARINES ARE ALWAYS FAITHFUL Tees

The T shown at left, with God Bless America also on front and Marines are Always Faithful and [always-faithful.com](http://always-faithful.com) on the back, are available for \$12.50 each including shipping. Add \$2.00 for XX-Lg; \$3.00 for XXX-Lg and \$4.00 for XXXX-Lg.

Regular sizes available Medium, Large and X-Lg.



**Button sample**

GO U.S.A.

## Our PATRIOTISM CD

This is the new CD which I'm offering free (but please send \$2 for postage and packaging) to anyone who will bring it to a school for students to listen to; and/or to an old soldiers home; and/or a veterans hospital; and/or to a military historical museum that would have it there for visitors to listen to; and/or to a veterans meeting; and/or to a radio station - of course after listening to it yourself first. I'm sure you'll be impressed with it. WLITE Studios did a really good job.

I'm sure that the patriotic message is one you agree with and also you'll agree that you'd like every American to hear the message. It totally supports our sacrifices and the ultimate sacrifices many of our buddies made.

The CD also includes several poems that Have appeared in Always Faithful. All presentations include a musical background - "The Battle Hymn of the Republic!" If you'd like a copy please let me know.

If you'd like a copy for your own personal library the cost is \$10.00 and includes shipping and packaging.

Thanks for helping get the message out and, Semper Fi, Kale

