

TIP OF THE SPEAR

MARINES WIN FOURTH TITLE AT WARRIOR GAMES



The Marine Corps has officially established a winning dynasty at the 2013 Warrior Games, taking top honors for the fourth year in a row. The 50 Marines who comprise the team took home 93 medals. The Army placed second with 81 medals. The annual event came to a close May 16 at the Olympic Training Center and U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. More than 200 wounded military athletes converged this week for the games, giving them the opportunity to compete in archery, shooting, track and field, wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, cycling and swimming, while simultaneously bonding

with those in similar life situations. The Chairman's Cup for the top performing service branch has been jokingly nicknamed the Commandant's Cup because of the Marines' winning streak since its inauguration in 2010. "We walked out of there last year and the chief of Army pulled me aside and said, 'That's the last time the Marines are gonna win,'" said Gen. James Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps. "I just looked at him and laughed." [Read more](#)

Also Read: All Marine Team Defending Title

Also Read: Marines Sweep Shooting Competition



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Each year, the Warrior Games presents the Chairman's Cup to the service team who takes the most medals at the competition. The Marines have taken home the cup every year since the inaugural games in 2010. Here's a look at what they did to prepare this year. *(Video by Senior Airman Tony Coronado)*



IN THE NEWS

MARINES TRAIN FOR EXPANDED EMBASSY GUARD PROGRAM



There aren't many people who would voluntarily be pepper-sprayed, but at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., individuals training to be part of the Marine Security Guard are doing just that. In preparation to protect U.S. embassies around the world, the Marines endure a face full of pepper spray and must immediately complete a course that involves various defensive obstacles. The embassy guard training also includes one-on-one defensive tactics and weapons familiarization. The Corps will be almost doubling the number of its members posted at embassies and consulates worldwide over the course of the next three years. [Read more](#)

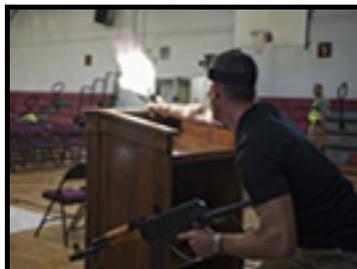
THREE STAR ADDRESSES MARINE ROLE IN ASIA-PACIFIC



Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck, commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), spoke to Marines and Sailors May 6-8 at all-hands briefs across Okinawa, Japan, about crisis response and bilateral and multilateral training. Glueck highlighted III MEF's ability to respond rapidly and efficiently to natural disasters as they continue to conduct exercises throughout the Pacific region. "We have really raised the bar in terms of our abilities as a crisis response force over the past couple of years due to your efforts," he said. "I am highly confident in our ability to respond tonight if a crisis were to occur in our area of operations." [Read](#)

[more](#)

MARINES PREPARE FOR SCHOOL-DEFENSE AT QUANTICO



There has never been a shooting at a U.S. Defense Department school and the Marines are training to ensure it never takes place. Bombs, blood, dozens of gunshots, billowing smoke, screaming teenagers, bodies sprawled on the gym floor -- all fake -- were part of the first school shooting exercise held May 9 at Marine Corps Base Quantico. Pete Russett, who ran the drill, said its planning had been spurred in part by the Newtown, Conn., school massacre in December that claimed 26 lives.

[Read more](#)

CAL FIRE AND MARINES PREP TO COMBAT WILDFIRES



Marines paired up with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection May 9 to participate in the 6th annual Wild Land Fire Fighting Exercise. The exercise involved using fire buckets attached to the Navy and Corps' helicopters to collect lake water and extinguish simulated fires. "It's huge to know that we have the surge capabilities from the military here in southern California," said Chief John Winder, assistant deputy director with Cal Fire. "It's truly a model that is being looked at nation-wide as a means for the military to help their local communities." [Read more](#)

'A WARRIORS' EDUCATION' HIGHLIGHTS DIVERSITY



Marine Corps Recruiting Command (MCRC) kicked off a new social media campaign, 'A Warriors' Education,' May 8 to align with Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, building on the importance of self-betterment through education and professional success. The campaign highlights the stories of two active-duty Asian-American Marine officers -- 1st Lt. David Pham and 1st Lt. Oliver David. "Marines are warriors, and through recruit training, Officer Candidates School, formal schools, continuing education programs, and experience as Marines they receive 'A Warriors' Education,'" said Eric Lindsay, strategic marketing specialist at MCRC.

The campaign will run until June 7. [Read more](#)

COMMANDANT VISITS ARM TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT



Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos visited Army Sgt. Brendan Marrocco, May 8 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. Marrocco is the first patient to successfully undergo a bilateral arm transplant. He was injured while driving a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle in 2009, when an anti-armor explosive-formed projectile tore through the driver's door, resulting in all his limbs being amputated.



Amos met the soldier in 2009 when he was at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. "I just remember him saying, 'If I could only get one hand, my life would be changed forever,'" said Amos.

[Read more](#)

CALIFORNIA MARINES PROTECT ENDANGERED TORTOISE



Marines at Twentynine Palms, Calif., were prepared to charge a hill in a training exercise a few months ago when they were stopped in their tracks by an unexpected visitor -- the Mojave desert tortoise. The tortoise, which can weigh 10 pounds and live to be more than 50 years old, is an endangered species. The Marines are helping to ensure its survival with support from natural-resource specialists and scientists on the base. The tortoise is just one of 420 threatened and endangered species on about 28 million acres of federally managed military land managed by an army of biologists and scientists. [Read more](#)



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

MAY 15, 1862

Corporal John Mackie became the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor. He was commended for service in the USS Galena during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff, which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.



SEMPER FI

NEW SCHOOL BUILDING TO HONOR MARINE RAIDERS



During World War II, veteran Chuck Meacham Sr. volunteered for the Marine Raiders, and today he is working to memorialize them. The Marine Raiders were specialized units formed to fight in the first ground offensives against the Japanese in the South Pacific. In recent years Meacham has journeyed to the Solomon Islands, where the Raiders fought their fiercest battles, setting the stage for construction of a school building that will serve as a memorial to the Raiders. It will be built this summer on Tulagi, where the Raiders first came ashore as part of the Guadalcanal campaign. [Read more](#)

OUR MISSION

*In the words of Lt. Gen. Victor H. "Brute" Krulak, "The United States does not need a Marine Corps...the United States wants a Marine Corps." As America's Expeditionary Force in Readiness, the Marine Corps is deployed across the globe, standing ready to respond to any crisis. The Marine Corps Connection is your one-stop source for the latest Marine Corps news and is published weekly by the Division of Public Affairs at Headquarters Marine Corps. **Stay connected to your Marines!***





EMAIL US



MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.

Official U.S. Marine Corps Newsletter