

MARINE CORPS — CONNECTION —

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TIP OF THE SPEAR

NEW U.S. MARINE UNIT TRAINS WITH FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION



Marines with Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force (SP-MAGTF) Crisis Response spent Oct. 28 to Nov. 1 near Camp des Garrigues, France, training with Legionnaires from France's 2nd Foreign Infantry Regiment. The week-long bilateral event was the first between the groups and served to establish professional, working relationships between the allied nations. The event culminated as Marines and Legionnaires took to the skies in an MV-22B Osprey, landing just outside a fenced-



in compound utilizing the fighting and communication skills they developed throughout the week. "It was a great week - the U.S. has a long and valued history

with France and we hope we can get together with them for follow on training," said Capt. Kyle Stuart, an MV-22B Osprey pilot with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 162, SP-MAGTF Crisis Response.

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Lance Cpl. Nathan Green shares his rations with locals after a beach assault October 25. The last engagement, set in Cameroon, allowed the U.S. Marines and Sailors of Africa Partnership Station 13 ample time to focus on the basics of combat medicine, assorted combat techniques and tactics, martial arts and more. Still, the most important thing the Marines and Sailors built was relationships with the local populace. *(Photo by Sgt. Marco Mancha)*



IN THE NEWS

MARINE TRAINING UNIT FINISHES LAST AFRICAN ENGAGEMENT



U.S. Marines and Sailors with Africa Partnership Station (APS) 13 wrapped up their final joint engagement after months of training along the West African coast, focusing on the basics of combat medicine, assorted combat techniques and tactics and martial arts in Cameroon. The training all led to an amphibious beach landing in which U.S., Spanish and Cameroon Marines assaulted a beach where role-playing enemy forces awaited their arrival. "At first, I had to really work with the [Cameroon] Marines, but they stayed engaged and asked multiple questions which made for a successful training cycle. They were really listening to what we were saying, and took it seriously," said Sgt. Weston Revak, who led the exercise. [Read more](#)

SCOUT SNIPER AWARDED NAVY CROSS



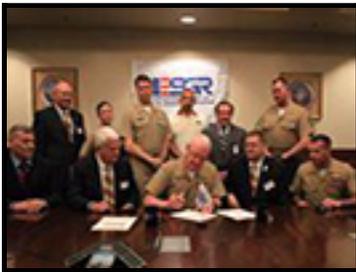
Sgt. Joshua Moore received the Navy Cross Nov. 1 for his heroism while serving as a scout sniper in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, March 14, 2011. On that day when all the shooter-observer teams with Moore's section came under attack, he cleared the area of two grenades and then, under heavy machine gun fire, left the compound to aid the wounded and provide security. The Marines were able to suppress the enemy forces, evacuate the wounded and return to the patrol base. Four other Marines were awarded medals at the ceremony, to include a Bronze Star Medal with combat distinguishing device, and Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals with combat distinguishing devices. [Read more](#)

CORPS TESTING SOLAR-POWERED ALTERNATIVES



Marine and Navy researchers are looking at ways to reduce the weight of water and batteries troops are responsible for carrying. This month, they tested a concept called Marine Austere Patrolling System, with a built-in solar panel and a water filtration system. The solar panel charges and recharges a central battery whenever the sun is out. Then, when they need power, whether there's sun or not, the battery provides it. And rather than carry pounds of water, the individual can take water from a local river and run it through the filter, making it safe to drink. [Read more](#)

MARFORRES COMMANDER SUPPORTS GUARD, RESERVE



Lt. Gen. Richard P. Mills, commander of Marine Forces Reserve and Marine Forces North, signed a statement of support for the Guard and Reserve Oct. 29. The statement signifies the commander's intent to support Reserve Marines and Sailors with their civilian careers, supporting the mission of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The statement of support equips managers and supervisors with the tools they need to effectively manage employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve and to continually recognize and support the country's service members and their families in peace and conflict. [Read more](#)

JAPANESE ENHANCE PARTNERSHIP WITH CORPS



Members of the Japan Self-Defense Force are teaming with U.S. Marines on more exercises to boost that country's amphibious operations capabilities. The training includes scout swimming, boat handling, loading amphibious vehicles, and navigation skills for amphibious operations and emergency helicopter landings at sea. The training is a result of an April 2012 agreement to enhance security and defense cooperation between the two countries. "These joint exercises between Japan and the United States contribute significantly to maintaining and enhancing joint-response capability, and efforts are being made to enrich

the contents of exercises," said Cmdr. Takashi Inoue, deputy director of public affairs for Japan's Joint



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

NOVEMBER 6, 1854

The morning report showed the Marine Corps totaled 63 officers and 1,389 enlisted men.



SEMPER PARATUS

12-YEAR-OLD BOY JOINS FAMILY OF MARINES WITH SPECIAL 'HONORARY' STATUS



Ethan Arbelo, a 12-year-old who was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor last year, was named an Honorary Marine Oct. 31, during a ceremony at the headquarters of the 4th Marine Assault Amphibian Battalion in Tampa, Fl. "Based on what I know, his prognosis is a tough one, and if this can help him hang in there and fight the fight better, that's what we wanted to do," said Gen. Robert Neller, commanding general of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central Command, who presented Arbelo with the proclamation. Arbelo has several relatives who have served in the Corps, including his mom, and it was his dream to continue the tradition.

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THE CORPS REPORT

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!***



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