DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

MCO 1650.49
POG

30 NOV 2007

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1650.49

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: HULBERT TROPHY FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

Encl: (1) Biographical Sketch

1. Situation. This Order provides information and instruction regarding the subject award. The Hulbert Trophy for Outstanding Leadership is an award presented annually in memory of Marine Gunner Henry Lewis Hulbert, U.S. Marine Corps, Medal of Honor recipient, killed in action at Blanc Mont Ridge, France on October 4, 1918. While this award will be presented to an individual, its establishment recognizes the vital contributions that Marine Gunners make to the Infantry and Ground Combat Element as a whole. The enclosure is a biographical sketch of Gunner Hulbert.

2. Mission. To recognize the Marine Gunner who best exemplifies outstanding leadership, courage, and technical expertise within the Ground Combat Arms community.

3. Execution

a. Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policies, and Operations (DC, PP&O) will establish a board of senior officers to review nominees' records and make appropriate recommendations to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC). Additionally, DC, PP&O, Ground Combat Element Branch (POG) will provide liaison as sponsor of the subject award.

b. Commanding General, Marine Forces Command and Commanding General, Marine Forces Pacific, are requested to nominate one officer from each Marine Expeditionary Force using the eligibility and award criteria stated below.

c. Commanding General, Marine Forces Reserve is requested to nominate one officer from the 4th Marine Division using the eligibility and award criteria stated below.

d. Written nominations must include an official photograph of the nominee taken within six months of the convening date of the board, biographical information of the nominee, and a summary of performance supporting the nominee's qualifications for the award. Nominations should include the nominating unit's address, point of contact, and phone number.

e. Nominations shall be submitted annually to DC, PP&O (POG), to arrive no later than 31 March. One copy of each nomination shall be forwarded directly to Deputy Commandant, Manpower & Reserve Affairs (DC, M&RA) (MMSB) for file in the official records of the officers nominated.

f. The recipient will be selected by CMC.

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4. Administration and Logistics

a. Eligibility

(1) A CWO2 or CWO3, Marine Gunner (MOS 0306) serving on active duty as a Battalion Infantry Weapons Officer within the Ground Combat Element of the Operating Forces during the period of eligibility.

(2) Successive awards will not be made. Previous Hulbert Trophy recipients are ineligible to be re-nominated.

(3) Posthumous awards may be presented provided the officer nominated would meet all eligibility and award criteria stated in paragraph (4).

b. Award Criteria

(1) The officer recommended for the Hulbert Trophy should be recognized by his seniors, contemporaries, and subordinates, as the officer who most exemplifies outstanding leadership, courage, and technical expertise within the Marine Gunner Community.

(2) The officer must clearly and dramatically demonstrate the ideals of courage, resourcefulness, perseverance, and concern for the well being of our Corps and the enlisted Marines with whom he serves.

(3) The officer must exhibit officer qualities that have made an outstanding contribution to the development of esprit de corps, tactical and technical infantry weapons competence, and loyalty within the unit in which he serves.

(4) The officer, through personal example, must set the standards that all other officers seek to emulate.

(5) The award covers the calendar year immediately preceding the nomination due date.

c. Presentation. Presentation of the Hulbert Trophy will be made by the CMC, or his designated representative, at an appropriate ceremony.

(1) DC, PP&O will provide funding for the award winner and his spouse to attend the ceremony at which the award is presented.

(2) DC, PP&O will provide funding to package and ship the trophy to the award winner's unit or current home of record, should the award winner be unable to transport the trophy home after the ceremony.

5. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Total Force.

b. Signal. This Order is effective on the date signed.

R. F. NATONSKI
Deputy Commandant for
Plans, Policies, and Operations

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

GUNNER (FIRST LIEUTENANT) HENRY LEWIS HULBERT, USMC (Deceased)

A native of Yorkshire, England, Henry Lewis Hulbert enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of 31 on March 28, 1898. Upon graduation from recruit training at Mare Island, California, he was assigned to the Marine Guard, *USS Philadelphia*. Within a year of his assignment to the *USS Philadelphia*, American and British forces landed a joint force in Samoa to protect their consulates. During a clash with natives on April 1, 1899, Gunner Hulbert was a member of a small rear guard which held off attackers while the remainder of the column moved back to the beach. With two Marines killed and their Colt automatic gun disabled, the other members of the rear guard withdrew. Despite being wounded in the attack, he continued his mission, conducting a one-man delaying action that enabled the wounded men and civilians to reach safety. For his actions he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Following his service aboard the *USS Philadelphia* in 1902, Gunner Hulbert (then Sergeant Hulbert) served in a succession of billets ashore and afloat. He was awarded the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal for every enlistment period and never fired less than Expert Rifleman in his regular service rifle requalifications.

By 1917 Gunner Hulbert had attained the grade of Sergeant Major and was serving on the personal staff of Major General George Barnett, Commandant of the Marine Corps. It was also in 1917, shortly before America's entry into World War I, that Hulbert appeared before an examining board to determine his fitness for appointment to the newly established grade of Marine Gunner. On March 24, 1917, with the enthusiastic recommendation of the president of the examining board, Brigadier General John A. Lejeune, Henry Lewis Hulbert became the first Marine to don the bursting bomb insignia of a Marine Gunner.

As the United States entered World War I, Gunner Hulbert, then 50 years old, pressed his commanders to be assigned to service in a combat unit. After continued petitions he finally won the approval of MajGen Barnett and sailed for France with the 5th Marine Regiment in July 1917.

Not long after his assignment to the 5th Marines, Gunner Hulbert, was assigned as a platoon leader with the 66th Company (later C Co), 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. Wounded in his regiment's first major engagement, at Belleau Wood on June 6, 1918, Gunner Hulbert was twice cited in official dispatches for acts of bravery. On one occasion, armed only with a rifle, he single-handedly attacked German machine-gun positions where he "left seven of the enemy dead and put the remainder to flight." A second dispatch commended him for continuing to lead his platoon in attacks that routed the defenders of a series of strong points despite being painfully wounded himself.

A third act of heroism led him to be decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, one of the first Marines to be so recognized. In his official report of the month-long fighting in Belleau Wood, Army Major General Omar L. Bundy, commanding general of the 2d Division in which the 5th Marines served as part of the famed Marine Brigade, singled out Hulbert, "for his extraordinary heroism in leading attacks against enemy positions on June 6th." General Bundy concluded, "No one could have rendered more valuable service than Gunner Hulbert."

On July 17, 1918, he was appointed a temporary Second Lieutenant, and on September 6, 1918 he was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. Less than a month later during the Battle of Blanc Mont, in the Meuse-Argonne the 2d Division having seized its initial objectives fought off an onslaught of German counterattacks. On October 4, 1918, while reorganizing his unit for one such counter-attack, Gunner Hulbert was killed by fire from an enemy machinegun. For his actions during this battle, in which he continually exposed himself to enemy fire while leading his men, he was awarded the French Croix de Guirre with Palm.

Gunner Hulbert was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for his actions at Belleau Wood. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Gunner Hulbert's personal awards include the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Purple Heart (multiple awards), Good Conduct Medal, fourth award and the French Croix de Guirre with Palm.