



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

OCTOBER 2008

This is an exciting time to be a Marine Engineer. The current operational climate in support of the Global War on Terrorism has firmly reinforced the need for Engineers throughout the MAGTF. As I write this we have Engineers forward deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan with all elements of the MAGTF. Whether it involves Route Clearance Operations, FOB construction, runway repair, or simply providing power and water Engineers have never before been more relevant to the Warfighter. Engineers in both OIF and OEF are making things happen. The Marine Corps recognizes the need for engineers as evidenced by the Engineer occupational field increases associated with the 202k plus up. We are operating in a time of great monetary support of the military and we need to ensure that we position ourselves with equipment and technology that will serve us in the future when money becomes tight again. The Marine Corps has been using UNS and UUNS as the primary procurement method for a long time. I expect to see a resurgence of the Expeditionary Force Development System process as we move into the future.

In many of his recent speeches, General Conway has stated he wants to get back to an expeditionary mentality and he has a strong interest in the concept of Seabasing. Engineers will play a key role in future Seabasing as well as amphibious operations. This newsletter contains 2 interesting articles on the MAGTF Mine Countermeasures Master Plan and an update on doctrine. I want to remind you that this newsletter is your forum to voice your thoughts and opinions; I encourage all of you to let your voice be heard.



*Col Steve Heesacker
Director, ECOE and
Commanding Officer,
Marine Corps
Engineer School*

**Semper Fi, and
Engineers Up!**

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FUTURE MINE COUNTERMEASURES (UPDATE)

BY Tom McCloud

The advent of mines on the battlefield can be traced back over 2,000 years. From engineer “sappers” digging tunnels to place charges beneath enemy fortifications to the high-tech systems used on modern battlefields, mines have always created uncertainty and impaired the initiative of vastly superior armies. The continuous evolution of mines is driven by defenders’ needs to economize and protect forces from the attack of a superior adversary. As a result, Mine Countermeasures (MCM)

are critical to offensive forces and should be planned for in advance of facing a threat. As the preeminent military force in the world, the U.S. can expect the use of mines against its forces to continue to increase in both sophistication and volume. The Marine Corps’ success in combating this threat is heavily dependent upon the implementation of a coordinated, coherent, and supportable MAGTF MCM Plan.

Since mines are a common obstacle to all modeled defenses, threat mines remain a significant challenge to the Navy and Marine Corps conduct of Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare (EMW) from the stern gate, over the water, across the beach, and onto objectives ashore. Although it is preferable to bypass obstacles, having the ability to conduct amphibious operations across the littoral is a critical capability that ought not to be forfeited to the enemy. Marine forces crossing a beach must be delivered on or beyond the beach in a manner that allows their deployment and subsequent employment ashore. Even when the Naval Service achieves its goal of a sea-based ship-to-objective expeditionary fighting force, certain forces, equipment, and supplies will have to physically cross the beach since there will likely not be enough airlift and surface maneuver space to go entirely over and around landing beaches fouled by very shallow water (VSW), surf zone (SZ), and beach zone (BZ) mines and obstacles.

The Navy assumes responsibility for conducting MCM operations from the stern gate into the beach zone. In the BZ, a Navy-to-Marine Corps transition of primary MCM responsibilities takes place, generating a requirement that the Navy and Marine Corps MCM capabilities and tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) complement each other seamlessly across the littoral. Finally, the Marine Corps has responsibility for MCM efforts from the beach exits to objectives ashore and must ensure mobility for the MAGTF around or through mines and obstacles employed individually or as part of an integrated and defended defensive barrier plan.

Although current planning, programming and budgeting efforts have been developed to overcome deficiencies in the VSW, SZ, and BZ areas, our nation’s ability to project power in a littoral mine environment depends on supporting specific programmatic choices among historically underfinanced MCM programs. Additionally, the Marine Corps’ MCM capability ashore must complement the TTPs and systems employed by joint and coalition forces.

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CONGRATULATIONS

FY09 RECRUITING STATION COMMANDING OFFICER SLATE

Maj Dienhart-Stabile and Capt Nash.(1302)

COMMAND SCREENING SELECTIONS

MARADMIN 421/08: Col Command Screening results:

ERMER, DANIEL P.	2171	MCLB BARSTOW
JOHNSON, JAY E.	1251	HQSVC BN QUANTICO
OTTIGNON, DAVID A.	4443	MWSG-37
THOMA, ALAN L.	1599	HQSVC BN MARFORPAC
WILLIAMS, TERRY V.	8027	MCLB ALBANY

MARADMIN 420/08: LtCol Command Screening results:

BAIN, JAMES H.	7612	1302 3D CBT ENGR BN
FAHY JR, THOMAS M.	3541	1302 MWSS-373, MWSG-37
FRIETZE, PHILLIP N.	7495	1302 7TH ENGR SPT BN
KRAMER, DAVID P.	2653	1302 I-I, 4TH CBT ENGR
WYLIE, JAY D.	9272	1302 CLB-13

MARADMIN 486/08: FAO Board results

DUVALL JR, JOHN P.	8477	O4 1302 092 PERSIAN
MORGAN, JOHN C.	0365	O3 1302 1FA TAGALOG

ADP/ SEP results (see MARADMIN 435/08):

HEROD, DONALD J.	8021	O3 1302 151 8825 NPS SEP 2009
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PUB CREATION TIME DESIRED TO BE CUT IN HALF
BY
Glenn Gerichten

Marine Corps Engineer Center of Excellence, Capabilities Branch, Doctrine Section Update:

The Marine Corps' Doctrine Development process currently involves up to 39 separate steps. During the developmental life cycle for a brand new pub, these steps can take as long as 3.2 years to complete. Lieutenant General Flynn, the new CG for MCCDC, has recently tasked the Combat Development Directorate (CDD) with finding a way to reduce the developmental life cycle to just 18 months. We will provide an update when more is available regarding this important initiative. The CDD is responsible for operation and maintenance of the Corps' Doctrinal Publication web site, located at <https://www.doctrine.quantico.usmc.mil>. The site requires Common Access Card (CAC) identification card authentication for admission/full access. The site provides useful links to other service, allied and joint doctrinal publications.

Working in collaboration with the CDD, Naval Warfare Development Center (NWDC) and the Army's Maneuver Support Center (MANSCEN), the Marine Corps Engineer Center of Excellence's Doctrine Section has completed a review of thirty-seven existing doctrinal publications that encompass all engineer functional areas. During this review, several Army Field Manuals were identified for nomination as dual service publications. By seeking designation under dual service application, the Marine Corps Engineer Community is able to leverage Army resources (funding and manpower) to perform and accelerate the pace of publication development and routine maintenance. Another benefit of dual designated publication status is their global availability via Army Knowledge On-Line (AKO).

For registered Marine users, AKO permits internet access to these valuable resources without the requirement for CAC ID card interface. This can be very helpful to those operating from deployed sites without CAC enabled computers. Marines requesting an AKO account must have an Army sponsor. The sponsor must already have an active AKO account.

The Doctrine Section is currently working on the revision of MCWP 3-17.3 (MAGTF Breaching Operations) to incorporate the doctrinal employment of the Assault Breacher Vehicle (ABV) during amphibious operations. To support this effort, the section participated in 2d CEB's New Equipment Team (NET) training for the ABV (8-11 Sep 08).

Looking for a new billet?

The MCES is looking for qualified instructors to fill essential billets.

For information, please contact

Capt Eric Martindale at

910-450-7329 or

Eric.J.Martindale@usmc.mil.

For ECOE openings, please contact

James Cole at 910-650-9252 or

James.Cole@usmc.mil.

**MUST HAVE LINKS**

- www.lejeune.usmc.mil/mces/MCES-Website/index.htm
- www.marcorengasn.org
- www.usmc.mil
- www.sempertoons.com

Upcoming Joint Engineer Operations Course dates:

*****Only 3-5 quotas per course!***

<i>Course #</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Host</i>
0901	17-21 Nov	Quantico, VA	USMC
<i>POC is Maj Wylie at: jay.wylie@usmc.mil or at (703) 695-9022 DSN: 225</i>			

SAME events

Note that EVERY graduate of the Combat Engineer Officer Course and the Utilities Operations Chiefs Course (for CY2007 and beyond) receive a free 1 year membership to SAME.

<http://www.same.org/files/public/MEMBERIMapplication.pdf>

M03ACC2 Combat Engineer Officer Course (01-03)- enter code MCCEOC, apply as Young Member.

M0313G2 Utilities Operations Chief Course (E6-E9)- enter code MCUOCC, apply as NCO Member.

Oct 21-23, 2008- Missouri/ Texoma Regional Conference- Omaha, NE

<http://www.sameomaha.org/Regional%20Conference%20Files/Schedule.html>

Looking for additional training/PME/ or TAD trips? Check out:

<http://posts.same.org/ProfDevNewsletter>

LOTS OF OPPURTUNITIES TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND!

U p c o m i n g K e y E v e n t s :

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
1-3 Oct 08	T&R Manual Conf Part B	ECOE , MCBCL
6-10 Oct 08	LOD IPT for Scraper Replacement	Quantico, VA
20-24 Oct 08	GCE COAG	Quantico, VA
21-24 Oct 08	USMC MRAP MP&T IPT	Stafford, VA



Korea's Peninsula Engineer Conference 2009:

The Combined Forces Command (CFC) and US Forces Korea (USFK) announce the 2009 Peninsula Engineer Conference (PEC) to be held from Wednesday, February 4th through Friday, February 6th 2009, in Seoul, South Korea. Hosted by the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), registration will be open soon for 300 participants on a first-come, first serve basis.

This year's theme is *Transforming Korea*. USFK is presenting speakers with the latest updates on Transformation to US. Korea Command and the Korea Relocation Plan. The 2009 PEC will feature a tour to the site of the future USKORCOM Headquarters and "Humphreys Hub" near Pyeongtaek. Participants will view engineer updates on the USFK Theater Master Plan, KRP Construction, and Combat Engineering. The 2009 PEC will also include an Engineer Ball and other traditional military and social events.

Those interested in attending may contact Mr. Tom Brady at USFK Engineers, email thomas.m.brady@korea.army.mil, or call commercial +82-2-2791-3260 (DSN 315-723-3260). For more details, see <http://posts.same.org/korea/>.



**U R G E N T C H A N G E S t o F M 3 - 3 4 . 2 1 4
(u n c l a s s i f i e d)**

Formula Correction <<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/12327778>>

An error with one of the formulas in FM 3-3.214, Demolitions and Explosives, has been identified and requires immediate notification. The issue concerns a standard equation, the Hopkinson Equation, which is the formula for fragmentation distance and overpressure value occurrence distances determination.

THIS formula IS used to calculate Minimum Safe Distance

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A number of emerging programs require supported to make MCM a functional component of EMW by 2015 and beyond. The Marine Corps' current MCM Programs of Record and the U.S. Navy's Assault Breaching System (ABS) will address some of the MCM capability gaps. For example, the Coastal Battlefield Reconnaissance and Analysis (COBRA) system sensor has Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance & Targeting Capabilities (ISR&T) and can detect and localize minefields and obstacles in the surf zone and beach zone; and the JDAM Assault Breaching System (JABS) with Precision Delivered JDAM Tail kits of Counter Mine/Counter Obstacle (CMCO) Warheads and Counter Mine System (CMS) has a day-and-night capability and is effective against mines and obstacles in the surf and beach zones. However, the comprehensive "family of systems" that provides a credible and tactically effective countermeasures capability must be resourced through continued science and technology (S&T) initiatives in order to build the technological base necessary to feed the POM Process and field MCM capabilities to the operating forces. Ultimately, MCM must become a MAGTF issue not just an Engineer challenge. To ensure Marine Corps-wide implementation, the MCM Master Plan will instill a MAGTF approach to this complex problem by ensuring that DOTMLPF solutions are integrated, coordinated, and synchronized across the Navy/Marine Corps team.

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

Join our upcoming
Engineer
Community
Gatherings!

WHO: All service personnel who serve(d) with USMC Engineer, Bulk Fuel, Topo or EOD Organizations.

WHEN & WHERE:

2008: 15-18 Oct. in Oceanside, CA.

2009: 13-16 Oct. in Las Vegas, NV.

2010: 20-25 Oct. in Alexandria, VA.

WHY: We desire having all active duty & reserve personnel, as well as engineer and other related associations, plan their reunions to co-locate with us at the 'Crossroads of our Corps'.

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER:

Covers all the events over the last year and the many updates on our different projects. View or download the 52 page colorful document at: <http://www.marcorengasn.org/id6.html>.

WEB SITE: Request any suggestions or feedback on how to improve our site be provided to the MCEA webmaster.



FOR INFORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PLEASE VISIT:

WWW.MARCORENGASN.ORG

OR CONTACT MCEA AT:

P.O. BOX 322, ASHVILLE, NY 14710

PHONE: 716-763-5655

EMAIL: FRANTZKD@ALLTEL.NET

MCEA *MEMBERSHIP*

BENEFITS

- *Very affordable dues for yearly, multi-year & lifetime membership* • Access to members' roster and capability to locate and reconnect with Marines and Sailors from former units
- *Annual reunion with opportunity to interact with veterans as well as active/reserve duty personnel, corporate members and "best of the best" award recipients* • Availability of the MCEA Financial Assistance Fund
- *Subscription to MCEA newsletter*
- *Notification of employment opportunities especially in the DoD and civilian engineering community* • *Capability to interact daily with other members via email & receive updates from MCEA* • *Unlimited access to web site* • *Access to history, lineage and other information about USMC engineer units*
- *Availability of unique Ship's store items*
- *Discounts on Military Historical Tours, Inc* • *Special partner association pricing on Marine Corps Association membership.*

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

The Marine Corps Engineer Association Assistance Fund has provided monetary assistance to three of our Marine engineer families to date. It is inspiring to know that, with your help, we have the potential to help so many more in the future.

- The Fund was created as a result of the long-time desires of the Marine Corps Engineer community. A vote of the MCEA general membership at the Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, North Carolina in October 2005 caused the creation of The Marine Corps Engineer Assistance Fund. This is your dream!

- Your donation is tax deductible. The Marine Corps Engineer Association Assistance Fund is a subsidiary of the MCEA and is incorporated in the state of North Carolina. As such, it is a charitable organization exempt from federal income taxes under 501(c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code.

- 100% of your donation goes directly to support eligible members of the Association and their families-not one cent pays for salaries, wages or overhead expenses. The MCEA is a totally volunteer organization and any expenses incurred relate directly to the functioning of the Association. You can be assured that every penny of your donation will be used to provide financial support to assist eligible, needy and well-deserving recipients.

- All of our financial support goes to support eligible applicants. The eligibility requirements are posted on our web site at www.MarCorEngAsn.org. The Assistance Fund was founded to assist those in need as identified by you, our members.

- The Assistance Fund awards are announced at the MCEA Annual Meeting each year.

We can do so much more to help less fortunate members of our community throughout the year. I hope you will choose to contribute to the MCEA Assistance Fund. The Fund was created by you because you know the need and we desperately need your help to sustain this initiative.

Semper Fi and God Bless, Hank Rudge, Col USMC (Ret), Vice President

(Please detach and return the bottom portion with your donation)

The MCEA Assistance Fund, PO Box 322, Ashville, NY 14710

YES!! I want to assist our engineer brethren in need. Enclosed, please find my tax-deductible contribution, payable to the MCEA Assistance Fund for:

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$_____

Check Enclosed (payable to the MCEA Assistance Fund) Please do not send cash!

My Name: _____

My address: _____

My e-mail: _____

My phone: _____

SUBMISSION POLICY

• *The Operational Engineer* will be published on a quarterly basis. The intent is to make this useful to the entire Engineer community. We want to get your thoughts, suggestions, and ideas. Our basic policy is to fulfill the stated purpose of *The Operational Engineer* by providing a forum for open discussion and a free exchange of ideas relating to the U.S. Marine Corps and military capabilities.

• **Commentary on published material:** Submit promptly. Comments normally appear as letters 3 months after published material. Be brief.

• **Feature articles:** Normally 750 to 1,000 words, dealing with topics of major significance. Ideas must be backed by hard facts. Evidence must be presented to support logical conclusions. In the case of articles that criticize, constructive suggestions are sought. Footnotes are not necessary, but a list of any source materials used is helpful. The Marine Corps Engineer School will call upon the operational units to provide specific commentary on issues that have relevance to the education of the occupational field.

• **Ideas and Issues:** Short articles, normally 200-300 words. This section can include the full gamut of professional topics so long as treatment of the subject is short and concise.

• **Letters:** Limit to 100 words or less. As in most newsletters, letters to the editors are an important clue as to how well or poorly ideas are being received. Letters are an excellent way to correct factual mistakes, reinforce ideas, outlining opposing points of view, identify problems, and suggest factors or important considerations that have been overlooked in previous articles. The best letters are sharply focused on one or two specific points.

• The best advice is to write the way you speak. Organize your thoughts. Cut out excess words. Short is better than long. Submissions may be sent via regular mail and should include a hard copy of the manuscript and a disk with the manuscript in Microsoft Word format. Photographs and illustrations must be in TIFF, JPG or EPS format (300dpi, 5x7 inches, color preferred) and must not be embedded in the article. Please attach photos and illustrations separately. You may include the text of the article where the photos are to be placed. Include the authors full name, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address. Email to: matt_fletcher@emainc.com and mail to: *The Operational Engineer*, Center of Excellence, PSC Box 20069, Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0069. Any queries may be directed to the editorial staff by calling 910-450-5017.

****This is your voice to the community. The ECOE is looking for your input on all issues. If you have suggestions on content and format for *The Operational Engineer*, please send them to matt_fletcher@emainc.com. Our goal is four issues a year at the beginning of each quarter. If your command has a particular maintenance tip on how to repair or fix any and all commodities for Engineer Related Equipment, please forward a validated process for dissemination to the entire occupational field.****