



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
BOX 788100
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA 92278-8100

1700
RM

MAR 07 2016

LETTER OF INSTRUCTION 12-16

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: 2016 BISHOP NEAL BUCKON'S PASTORAL VISIT

Encl: (1) Biography of the Most Reverend Bishop Buckon
(2) Itinerary for the Visit of Bishop Neal Buckon, Archdiocese for the Military

1. Situation. Bishop Neal Buckon currently serves as the Military Archdiocese Vicar for the Western Region, overseeing Catholic Pastoral care for 95 installations in 18 western states, see enclosure (1). Bishop Buckon will be visiting the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) and the base Catholic Chapel 18-21 March 2016. The Catholic Chapel Staff will host Bishop Buckon's annual visit.

2. Mission. Conduct a Pastoral visit to Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Chapel and celebrate Masses with the MCAGCC Community; meet with pastoral council, confirmation candidates, Knights of Columbus, liturgical ministers, military personnel, unit commanders, their senior enlisted.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. The Religious Ministries Catholic Chapel Staff will provide Bishop Neal Buckon with accommodation, food, entertainment, and arrange meetings with various Catholic groups onboard the Combat Center.

(2) Concept of Operations. In accordance with enclosure (2), from 18 March 2016 through 21 March 2016, the Bishop will execute various functions and meetings aboard the Combat Center. This is not geared specifically toward Catholic leaders, but those who lead Catholic Marines.

b. Subordinate Element Missions

(1) Assistant Chief of Staff (AC/S) Religious Ministries. Provide oversight and necessary resources to support Catholic Chapel staff hosting the visit. Extend an invitation to MCAGCC tenant unit commanders to attend a working breakfast with the Bishop at 0700 on 21 March 2016.

(2) AC/S G-3. Solicit for, and confirm the availability of, an O5-O6 Escort for the Bishop, preferably of the same faith, to assist the Bishop in executing his itinerary.

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(3) AC/S G-5. Provide photography support and additional Public Affairs support, as appropriate.

(4) Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School. Request support for a six Marine working party to assist at the Catholic Chapel during the Bishop's visit.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) The point of contact for coordination and facilitation of events is Ms. Alice-Ann A. Patu, Catholic Coordinator of Religious Education, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Chapel, MCAGCC, Twentynine Palms, at (760) 830-6456 or alice-ann.patu.ctr@usmc.mil.

(2) The Chapel Advisory Committee will prepare and submit the after action/lessons learned report to the Chapel Pastoral Committee. Promote and solicit volunteer recruitment through church bulletin announcements during Mass and advertisement banners.

(3) The Chapel Social and Meal Committee will coordinate food, beverages, and working parties to setup ahead of functions and cleanup after functions. Trash and recycle items will be collected in appropriate containers.

4. Administration and Logistics. Directives issued by this Headquarters are published and distributed electronically. Electronic versions of Combat Center letters of instruction (LOI) can be found at <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G1Manpower/AdjutantOffice/LOI.aspx>.

5. Command and Signal

a. Command. This LOI is applicable to all active duty, reserve, installation civilian personnel, invited civilian guests, family members, and retirees.

b. Signal. This LOI is effective the date signed.


J. F. HARP
Chief of Staff

Distribution: A

Biography of The Most Reverend Neal J. Buckon

His Excellency, Neal James Buckon, is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. He is the son of John and Rita Buckon. He graduated from Gesu Elementary School and Cathedral Latin High School. Bishop Buckon holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from John Carroll University in Cleveland, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Cleveland State University, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy from Borromeo College of Ohio in Cleveland. Bishop Buckon holds a Masters of Divinity Degree and a Master of Arts Degree in Church History from Saint Mary's Seminary in Cleveland, Ohio. Following his graduate theological studies he was ordained a priest in May of 1995 for the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio and assigned to a parish in the city of South Euclid. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, selected him to become the Titular Bishop of Vissalsa and serve as an Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. He was ordained a bishop on February 22nd, 2011.

In May of 1975 he was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate and appointed as a Regular Army Officer and served in both the Infantry and Transportation Branches of the United States Army. After serving on active duty for seven years, he resigned his commission, traveled the world (visiting over one hundred countries), and entered into the ministry. While in the Seminary, he served in the United States Army Reserve as a Chaplain Candidate and was subsequently accessioned into the United States Army Chaplain Corps in 1996.

His previous Infantry assignments include serving as Rifle Platoon Leader and Weapons Platoon Leader with the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, 1st Armor Division, Erlangen, Germany; and Battalion S4 and Company Commander with the 3rd Battalion, 19th Infantry, 24th Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia. His Transportation Corps assignments include serving in Mannheim Germany as a Platoon Leader and Company Operations Officer with the 28th Transportation Battalion; and as a Platoon Leader and Transportation Officer in the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the Allied Command Europe, Mobile Force (Land) (AMFL) (including deployments to Denmark, England, and Norway). His Chaplain assignments include serving as the 2nd Psychological Operations Group Chaplain in Cleveland, Ohio (including a deployment to Bosnia); the Division Artillery (DIVARTY) Chaplain for the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia; the Army Central Command – Saudi Arabia (ARCENT-SA) Chaplain in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; the Division Engineer (DIVENG) Chaplain for the 1st Armored Division, Giessen, Germany; the Engineer Brigade Chaplain and Senior Catholic Priest for Task Force Baghdad, Iraq (OIF-1); the Deputy Garrison Chaplain in Heidelberg, Germany; the Garrison Chaplain of the Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill, Oklahoma; the Chaplain for Catholic Ministry, Multi National Corps – Iraq (MNC-I); and the 18th MEDCOM Command Chaplain in Yongsan, Korea. He served his last assignment as the Eighth United States Army (EUSA) Chaplain for Current Operations & Catholic Chaplain in Yongsan, Korea. He retired from the Army on 31 December 2010. Bishop Buckon is currently serving as Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio's Vicar for the Western Region, overseeing Catholic Pastoral Care at 95 Military Installations in 18 States.

His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal (2 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Bishop Buckon is the Episcopal Moderator of the Military Council of Catholic Women. He is a member of the Board of Directors of John Carroll University. He is a Knight Commander of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; and a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus.



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
CATHOLIC CHAPEL
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MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
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(760) 830-6456

Subject: ITINERARY FOR THE VISIT OF BISHOP NEAL BUCKON, ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY

In Party: None

Purpose: Pastoral visit to Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Chapel; Meet with Pastoral Council, Confirmation Candidates, Knights of Columbus, Liturgical Ministers, Military Personnel, and also to celebrate Masses with the MCAGCC Community.

Escort Officer: Colonel Andrew Kennedy, Commanding Officer, TTECG

Vehicle plans: (1) POV
(2) Veh Plan 2

Date/Time

Friday, 18 Mar 16

Remarks

1600	Arrive MCAGCC Twentynine Palms from home in San Diego	POV
1600-1610	En route to VIP parking lot at Bldg. 1561 to park his vehicle (Note: Met by Col Kennedy)	POV
1610-1650	Executive time	
1650-1700	En route to the Catholic Chapel	
1700-1810	Lenten Soup Supper – Everyone is invited	
1810-1830	Last Supper Reenactment with the Casts	
1830-2000	Living Stations of the Cross	
2000	Return to quarters and remain overnight	Veh Plan 2

Sat, 19 Mar 16

0715-0730	En route to Catholic Chapel with Col Kennedy	Veh Plan 2
0730-0800	Mass – Everyone invited	
0800-0930	Breakfast with Young Adults in St. Francis Room	
0930-1000	Meet with Father Jovy	

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1000-1030	Meet with Seminarian Ted Drennan	
1030-1200	Executive time	
1200-1215	En route with Col Kennedy to Twentynine Palms Inn	Veh Plan 2
1215-1330	Lunch at Twentynine Palms Inn with Col. Kennedy, Father Jovy, Seminarian Ted Drennan	
1330-1645	Executive time	
1645-1900	En route to Col Kennedy to Lincoln Club House for Dinner with Chapel Volunteers & Guests	
1900	Return to quarters and remain overnight	

Date/Time

Sun, 20 Mar 16 (Palm Sunday)

Remarks

0815	En route to Catholic chapel with ...	Veh Plan 2
0830	Meets with Confirmation Candidates in Guadalupe Room Photographs with candidates immediately following the meeting in the Sanctuary	
0900	Rosary (Chapel front lawn)	
0930	Mass (begins on Chapel front lawn)	
1115	Brunch with parishioners in St. Francis Room	
1230-1300	Meet with Knights of Columbus in Guadalupe Room	
1300-1330	Meet with Parish Advisory Council	
1330-1600	Executive time	Veh Plan 2
1600-1610	En route to Catholic Chapel	
1610-1630	Meet with Fr. Dennis Legaspi (Diocese of San Bernardino-Vicar Forane, Low Desert Vicariate)?	
1630-1650	Rosary	
1700-1815	Mass	
1815	Dinner with Marines, Sailors and the Community in St. Francis Room	
TBA	Return to quarters and remain overnight	

Enclosure (2)

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Mon, 21 Mar 16

Remarks

0650-0700	En route to Catholic Chapel	
0700-0745	Breakfast with Senior Officers and Staff NCO's in the St. Francis Room	
0745-0800	En route with Col Kennedy to CG's Office	
0800	In-call with CG	
0830	En route with Chaplain Lee to RMD	Veh Plan 2
0835	Meeting with Chaplain Lee	
0900	En route with Chaplain Lee to Catholic Chapel	Veh Plan 2
0905	Executive Time, Preparation for Mass	
1100	Mass at Catholic Chapel	
1145	Checked out of Billeting and executive time at Catholic Chapel	
1200	Depart base for home	Veh Plan 1

Enclosure (2)