



PFC. WILLIAM CHOCKEY

The Headquarters battalion pall bears salute the motorcade while it goes by during retired Sgt. Maj. Ray V. Wilburn funeral at the protestant chapel aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 13. Retired Sgt. Maj. Ray V. Wilburn served 32 years of honorable and faithful service to the United States Marine Corps while taking part in World War 2, the Korean War, and Vietnam.

Combat Center Memorializes Retired Sgt. Maj. Ray V. Wilburn

COURTESY STORY

A funeral service was held in honor of Ray V. Wilburn, retired Sgt. Major, at Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery, Jan. 13, 2018. Wilburn served 31 years of honorable and faithful service to the United States Marine Corps, taking part in World War 2, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Sgt. Maj. Ray V. Wilburn was born July 1, 1919, on a small cotton farm near Wolfe City, Texas. On October 19, 1939, after two years in the Civilian Conservation Corps building fences and terraces, the 20-year-old decided he wanted something more, so he hitchhiked the 70 miles to Dallas and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps.

After graduating boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, the new Marine was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Brigade as an artilleryman. It was the start of career that would span 31 years, and included three wars and four tours at the Combat Center between 1954 and his retirement from the Marine Corps in 1971 as Force Troops Sergeant Major and the installation's Provost Marshal.



PFC. WILLIAM CHOCKEY

Gunnery Sgt. Manuel G. Martinez, company first sergeant, Alpha Company, Headquarters Battalion, Stands in front of the headquarters battalion pall bears during retired Sgt. Maj. Ray V. Wilburn funeral at the protestant chapel aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 13.

Wilburn was a sergeant attached to 3rd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment when the United States entered World War II the day after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The artillery unit, which later became the 155 Howitzer Battalion and was known as "The Forgotten Battalion" because it spent 34 straight months in the Pacific Theater, sailed on 1 July 1942 from San Diego. It was Wilburn's 23rd birthday.

A little more than a month later, I Battery, 3/10 fired the first artillery

round of a U.S. offensive in World War II – aimed at suspected Japanese snipers hidden in coconut trees near Tulagi in the Solomon Islands. Tulagi was the first of many fire-fights for Wilburn and his Marines, who also would participate in combat landings on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, and Guam. The Battalion also went ashore at Iwo Jima without Wilburn, who had been sent stateside to recover after his fifth bout of malaria.

After several months at Quantico, Virginia, Wilburn was headed back

to the South Pacific with 4th Battalion, 13th Marine Regiment when word arrived that President Harry S. Truman's decision to drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki had secured the Japanese surrender and ended the war. Not eligible to return to the States, Wilburn was sent to Sasebo, Japan, then to Nagasaki to join Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Repatriation Team. He returned to U.S. shores in 1946.

Over the next five years,

See **Wilburn A4**



LANCE CPL. ISAAC CANTRELL

Gunnery Sgt. Manuel G. Martinez, company first sergeant, Alpha Company, Headquarters Battalion, watches over the pall bearers as they fold a flag over the coffin of Ray V. Wilburn, retired Sgt. Major, at Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery, Jan. 13. Wilburn served 32 years of honorable and faithful service to the United States Marine Corps, taking part in World War 2, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Hawaii Marines depart for ITX 2-18

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. KATHY NUNEZ

Marines depart for Integrated Training Exercise 2-18 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms this week.

Marines from 3d Marine Regiment; 2d Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment; 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment and Combat Logistics Battalion 3 are to participate in ITX 2-18, making this the first iteration of the exercise that the majority of the Hawaii-based Marine Air-Ground Task



Gunnery Sgt. Egdar Martinez conducts roll call prior to the Marines' departure to Integrated Training Exercise 2-18 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Jan. 12. ITX 2-18 is the first iteration of the exercise to have the Hawaii-based Marine Air-Ground Task Force participate. Martinez is the S-1, administration, chief with Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division.

Force participates in at the same time.

"The work to bring Hawaii-based units to ITX 2-18 is significant and we will be able to exercise together at a service-level training event for the first time," said Col. Michael Styskal, the 3d Marines commanding officer. "ITX 2-18 is a chance to bring our training to another level and to test our integration."



Marines standby for their departure to Integrated Training Exercise 2-18 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Jan. 12.

As the command element for MAGTF-3, 3d Marines is in charge of conducting ITX 2-18. The exercise will test their ability to command and control the MAGTF in a simulated environment.

ITX is a routine exercise for the infantry battalions within 3d Marines, but it doesn't typically include other

See **Hawaii A4**



Marines standby for their departure to Integrated Training Exercise 2-18 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Jan. 12.

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New artwork adorns wall at Officers' Club

See page B1



Reprinted from the Observation Post
Jan. 19, 1968

Fishing Line Catches Marine On Other End

STORY BY SGT. H. G. MCGRATTAN

DA NANG, VIETNAM – “It sure wasn’t funny at the time, but when I look back on it I have to laugh,” said Pfc. Willard G. Wright, describing an incident during a night patrol eight miles southeast of Da-Nang.

While walking point for his squad from Co. C, 1stBn., Seventh Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Wright suddenly “felt something around his ankle.”

He froze in his tracks and looked down at his feet and saw a thin line wrapped around them. “I was standing right out in the

open on a path across a paddy dike. There was no place to hide, so I just stood there and prayed that nothing would explode.”

When nothing happened, members of Wright’s squad moved cautiously forward to see where the line led.

Because no booby trap had been detonated when Wright made contact, it was thought to be a pressure release-type of mine that would explode when he backed away from the trip wire.

“All I could do was just stand there and not move an inch while the wires were being checked out.”

Lines led into the rice paddy water at the base of the dike.

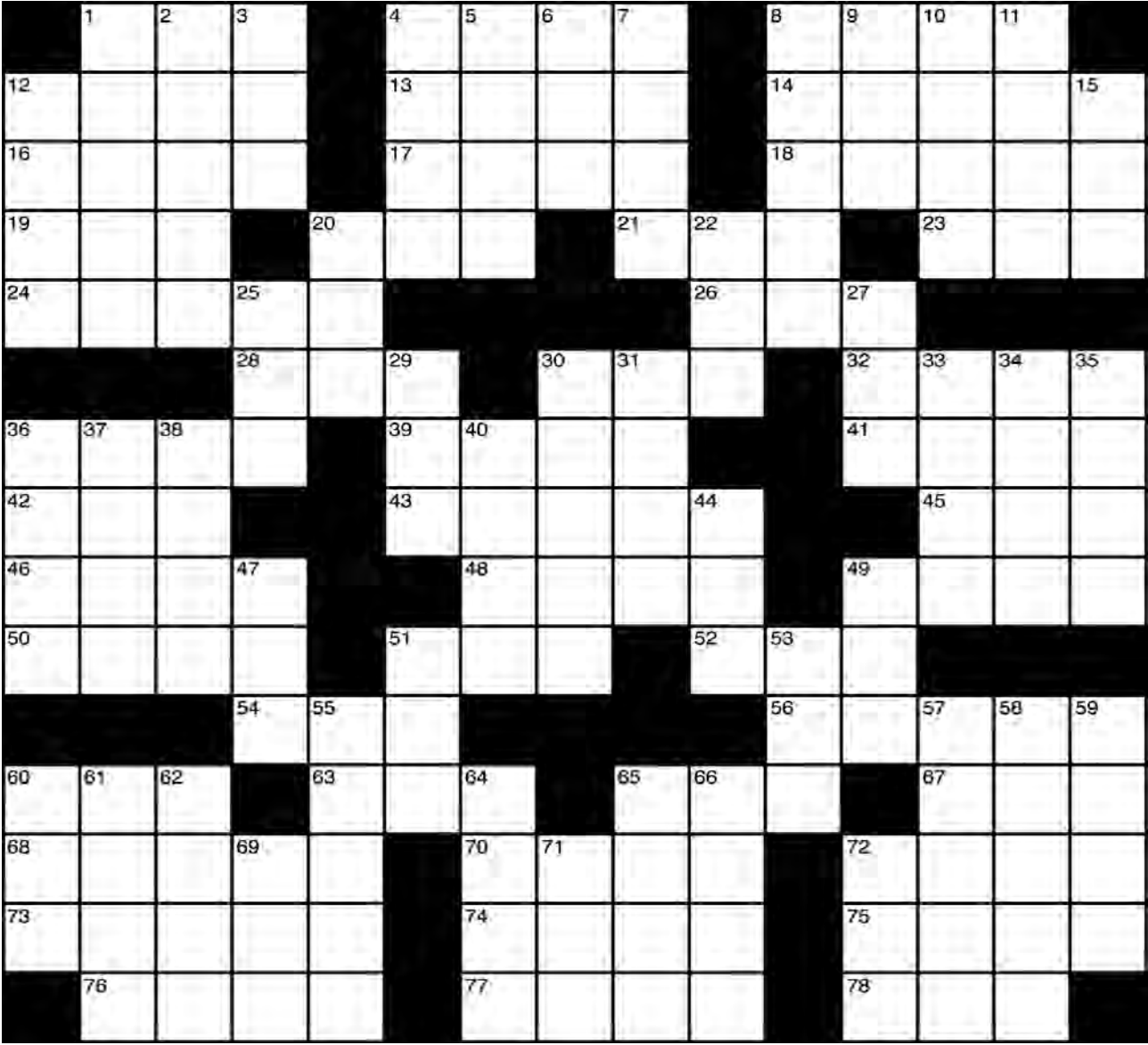
After half an hour of slow, thorough checking, a Marine found out the hard way what the line led to – he caught a fish hook in his hand.

Soon, other squad members began finding hooks at the tends of the lines they were searching out.

The fishing line was pulled out of the water and checked out. Apparently a fisherman had thrown it in during the day and forgot to pull it in before he went home for the night.

“After I had been standing there for 20 minutes, I was getting pretty tired,” admitted Wright. “It sure was a long time to stand there for nothing – there weren’t even any fish on the lines!”

CROSSWORD



- Across**
1. Pull by a rope or other device.
4. Grounder that bounces high.
8. Large, scholarly book.
12. Source of artistic inspiration.
13. Old, silver Spanish coin.
14. Pass into use.
16. Nearly horizontal passage from the surface into a mine.
17. River in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
18. Middle point between two extremes.
19. Federal department responsible for energy policy.
20. Electromagnetic pulse.
21. Major strategic headquarters of NATO.
23. Abbreviation for senator.
24. Made a mistake.
26. Edge tool used to cut and shape wood.
28. Sheep’s cry.
30. Acronym for Ammunition Supply Point.
32. Prolonged periods of time.
36. Having only superficial plausibility.
39. Term of reproach used by the Greeks of Constantinople.
41. Arrange in stacks.
42. Acronym for Automatic Warning System.
43. Follow something.
45. Leading unit moving at the head of an army.
46. Acronym for Low Energy Laser System.
48. Telephone disc.
49. Sell from place to place.
50. Imperfectly articulate.
51. Fictional planet within the Star Wars universe.
52. Garland of flowers.
54. Possess something.
56. Polishing material made of potter’s clay that has failed in baking.
60. Title of a knight or baronet.
63. Artificial language that is a revision of Esperanto.
65. Colorant.
67. Fifth sign of the zodiac.
68. Wrapping paper made from pulp processed with a sulfur solution.
70. Conforming to definitive criteria.
72. Quiver.
73. One of the three main styles of Greek architecture.
74. Eighth month of the civil year.
75. Shrub source of indigo dye.
76. Approaching.
77. Virologist who developed the vaccine against poliomyelitis.
78. Loud harsh noise.
- Down**
1. Luxemburgian industrialist and inventor Henri __.
2. Flexible twig of a willow.
3. Soaked.
4. Crowd to capacity
5. Collection of things in an untidy pile.
6. Only solo album by Skip Spence.
7. Humble request for help.
8. Regularly spaced in time.
9. Bee Gees’ 16th studio album.
10. State of disorderliness.
11. German actor Eduard __.
12. Produced by a manufacturing process.
15. Acronym for European Employers’ Network.
20. Acronym for European Dairy Association.
22. Upper part of a column that supports the entablature.
25. Gradually decline in size.
27. Cook in a microwave oven.
29. Took in food.
30. Elevation of voice now called metrical accentuation.
31. Gull-like jaeger of northern seas.
33. Transfer possession.
34. Impressive, energetic style.
35. Cause to go somewhere.
36. Feeling of bitter anger.
37. Angolan monetary unit.
38. Abbreviation for islands.
40. Cause the ruin of.
44. Extension at the end and at right angles to the main building.
47. Acronym for Security Police Officer
49. By way of.
51. “Abbey Road” song.
53. Sooner than.
55. Lefteye flounder of the genus Arnoglossus found around China and New Zealand.
57. Russian pancake of buckwheat flour and yeast.
58. Fictional character from Middle-earth legendarium.
59. Fee for use.
60. Oncogene, identified in avian carcinoma.
61. Golf club with a relatively narrow metal head.
62. Wife of a rajah.
64. Bustards’ genus.
65. Consisting of two parts.
66. Draw tight.
69. Mediterranean fruit tree.
71. Shag rug made in Sweden.
72. Small amount.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Claire Adelaide Daly
Dec. 4, 2017
Born to Michael and Melissa Daly

Leonidas Robert Edgar Fields
Dec. 6, 2017
Born to Elijah Fields and Delarina Welby Fields

Gracie Lena Martinez
Dec. 7, 2017
Born to Jose and Alondra Martinez

Maddox Amberson May
Dec. 7, 2017
Born to Ryan and Sylvia May

Noel Abraham Realivazquez Lee
Dec. 10, 2017
Julia and Brian Lee

Eliana Grace Miller
Dec. 11, 2017
Born to Spencer and Marisela Miller

Adriana Vayda McKay
Dec. 13, 2017
Born to Dyresha and Michael McKay

Alejandro Diaz
Dec. 15, 2017
Born to Korina and Alejandro Diaz

Levi Michael Smith
Dec. 20, 2017
Born to Stephen and Alaina Smith

Konnor Max Hardenburgh
Dec. 21, 2017
Born to Brittany and Cody Hardenburgh

Jacklyn Emma Veia
Dec. 23, 2017
Born to Brianna and Ryan Veia

Asher Michael Jones
Dec. 25, 2017
Born to Aaron and Jessica Jones

Jeremiah Caleb Dorsey
Dec. 29, 2017
Born to Jeffery and Mercedes Dorsey

Maier Carla Deskin
Dec. 31, 2017
Born to Justin and Nang Hirsch Deskin

SUDOKU

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Last week’s answers

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OFF-LIMITS ESTABLISHMENTS

- MCWest off-limits establishments guidance prohibits service members from patronizing the following locations. This order applies to all military personnel.
Off Limit Establishments as of Oct 25, 2016
 - Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
 - STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
 - Puff’s Tobacco, 57063 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
 - Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
 - NYPD Pizza, 260-262 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs
 - Sam’s Smoke Shop, 16520 West Main Street, Barstow
 - Teazer’s Bar & Grill Nightclub, 14269 Seventh Street, Victorville
 - Angelo’s Kars, 222 & 226 S. Coast
- Highway, Oceanside
 - Denny’s Parking Lot, 692 E Street, Chula Vista
 - Burger King & McDonald’s, 28th Street (parking lots), San Diego
 - Club Mustang, 2200 University Avenue, San Diego
 - Club San Diego, 3955 4th Avenue, San Diego
 - Get It On Shoppe, San Diego
 - Main Street Motel, 3494 Main Street, San Diego
 - Trolley Stations, Palomar Street & San Ysidro, San Diego
 - Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar Street, San Diego
 - Dream Crystal, 1536 Highland Avenue, National City
 - Sports Auto Sales, 1111 National City Boulevard, National City

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

Roberto

Palm Desert, Calif. Corpsman, explosive ordnance technician, Advanced Training Center

MONASTERIOS

> **My childhood growing up was** unique. Both of my parents were teachers, which meant they taught students from all different backgrounds and I was fortunate because I was able to experience a lot of different cultures. Another part of them both being teachers meant that they both had summers off. So until about age 10 I would spend every summer in Venezuela, which is where my father is from.

> **My parents ended up getting** divorced when I was around 11 and my mom became a single mother of two kids. We were left with almost no money when my father left so I had to take over as the man of the house, which made me grow up really fast.

> **I have one younger sister.** Until I was about 17 we fought constantly but that's because we're about two and a half years apart and we were always close enough yet far enough in age that we weren't ever really relating on the same things. But sooner or later we reached a point where we realized that we are both young adults and now we're really close. We also bonded over our parents' divorce.

> **I try to be a really solid** dude in terms of morals because all I saw growing up was single mom with crappy husbands or ex-husbands. Almost my entire family is made up of single moms. That was something that really influenced me and made me think that I had to try hard to be a good guy.

> **By the time I reached my** sophomore year of high school, I didn't care about grades because I'd already decided I was going to join the military. With my mom being a teacher she obviously thought grades were important so it was always a struggle there.

> **My decision to join the Navy** stemmed from my original plan to become a firefighter. I was part of a training program for high school students at Station 55 in Palm Desert, [Calif.] that was really interactive. The one thing I noticed after a couple of months there was that every single firefighter was prior service and until that point I hadn't considered the military as an option.

> **I've always preferred a** physical challenge to a mental challenge. I was tired of the school system and I wanted to do something else. A few of the guys at the station told me their reasons for joining



the Army or the Navy or the Marine Corps and, after hearing their stories, I knew I wanted to join the military.

> **I decided the only way I was** going to join the military was if I became the best. I learned about Navy Seals and I started getting ready for the process to go to Navy boot camp while also waiting to get processed to go to BUD/S. After about a year of waiting with little progress, I went to my recruiter in search of an alternate route.

> **I asked him what my options** were for a really physically demanding [military occupational specialty] and he told me about green side corpsman. I looked into it and learned about the medical background. I knew from that moment that I was going to be a [Fleet Marine Force] corpsman. I was going to be with the Marines.

> **I worked really hard in Corps** school, which allowed me more leeway when it came to choosing to work in a hospital or in the field with the Marines. Luckily I had a high enough [grade point average] where they let me go with the Marines, but they sent me to the Combat Center.

> **When I got to the fleet I was** stationed with 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance battalion. While there, I trained with the Marines and I learned what they did in addition to improving on my medical skills.

> **Currently, I'm with** Explosive

Ordinance Disposal Advanced Training Center. I am only the third corpsman to have this job because it didn't exist in our unit until just a few years ago. I go wherever the Marines do and because they are all senior ranking Marines I've learned a lot from them.

> **Throughout my career, I was** lucky enough to have awesome leaders who didn't let the little things slide. I've definitely developed leadership skills and one of the things I've learned from the military is that I want to be my own boss.

> **When I get out, I will try to** pursue my own business. I will surround myself with people who also want to be a part of this business and if I can make something that's my own and be in charge of it, it will be the greatest thing.

> **I have been accepted into** Salem State University. I will be pursuing an undergraduate degree in business administration, but I'm more interested in the graphic design program. I'm trying to enter a job field that I enjoy and getting into that industry would be so awesome. I'm obsessed with movies, comic books and pop culture in general, so why not pursue a job that is part of that community.

> **My interest in pop culture stems** from my love of a good story. As a little kid when I was first shown movies like Star Wars or The Mummy, films that were big productions, I was never scared of the monsters because I was more

fascinated about the special effects that created the monster. I've always watched movies with a sense of wonder and thought about the behind the scenes of how they made it happen.

> **I have a great affinity for** tattoos. On my mom's side of the family, everyone is either a mechanic, a construction worker or a biker. The few uncles, great uncles and cousins I have are all tattooed from the neck down so I always found it normal that people got tattoos on their body. When I joined the military, I started learning the history of tattoos and I learned that it used to be a thing that only ex-cons or sailors got tattoos.

> **I actually fell in love** with tattoos because of the roots and culture that they have in the Navy. I love the history behind traditional artwork like mine but I also love when someone makes something unique. It's similar to making movies; you're putting someone's ideas into action and bringing them to life.

> **I would definitely say the** need for confidence is one of the most memorable lessons I've learned while being here. Growing up, I was really self-conscious and I think the military can teach a lot of people how to develop gumption.

> **I didn't realize until** I developed self-confidence that Theodore Roosevelt's quote, "speak softly but carry a big stick", holds true in the way I conduct myself as a corpsman. The quote really resonates with me because one of my seniors always used to say, be the quiet professional.

> **Because of that mentality,** you never want to underestimate people. You never know who might be the best leader.

> **I think that's definitely helped** me out in situations that become frustrating because I can approach them in a calm and relaxed manner. I think it's what ended up making me good as a corpsman, because I strive to be the guy who's calm in the midst of chaos.

> **Something I've tried to** pass on to the corpsmen in my old unit was not to be afraid of rank. Respect is a two-way street and they should never be afraid to ask a question or speak up for themselves.

> **I think I can take all of** those lessons into the civilian world. Those are easily things that I can build on because there's no one who is ever going to stop me from speaking my mind.

Interviewed and photographed by Cpl. Medina Ayala-Lo

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Wilburn From A1

Wilburn served at multiple duty stations, including McAlester, Oklahoma; Japan; and Dallas, Texas. When the Korean War started in June 1950, he was sent to Camp Del Mar, California, to set up a school to train artillerymen before they deployed to join the 11th Marine Regiment, which was already in country. In 1951, it was Wilburn's turn to deploy to Korea, with 2nd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment. He returned stateside briefly a year later, then headed to Japan.

In August 1954, Wilburn began his first tour at the Combat Center, then known as Marine Corps Base, Twentynine Palms. He served with two units during his four years here: 1st 8-inch Howitzer Battery and 1st 155 Howitzer Battalion.

That tour also marked the end of Wilburn's days as a bachelor. When a young woman by the name of Irma Kojundzich caught his eye at a dance in Yucca Valley, he was smitten, and the two married December 21, 1957, at the Protestant Chapel on base. Together, they raised two daughters, Stephanie and Sharon, and today they are the proud grandparents of five and great-grandparents of 10.

Wilburn's second tour of the Combat Center was with

the 1st 155 Gun Battery, from 1962-65. During this third tour, 1966-67, he helped form the 9th Communications Battalion. From there, he joined 1st Medical Battalion, deploying with the unit to Vietnam in 1967. He returned to the Combat Center in 1968, spending his final three years in the Marine Corps here before retiring on March 4, 1971, after 31 years, four months and 15 days on active duty.

The Wilburns chose to stay in Twentynine Palms after leaving the Marine Corps. He worked for the local newspaper, The Desert Trail, for several years, handling circulation and advertising. To this day, the couple remains active in both the military and civilian communities here. Sgt. Maj. Wilburn regularly speaks to Marines about his experiences in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and the couple are fixtures at Marine Corps Balls and base events, as well as at community events in town. In 2003, Sgt. Maj. Wilburn was chosen by the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce to serve as Pioneer Days Grand Marshal, and Mrs. Wilburn was chosen to serve in the same capacity in 2016.

Sgt. Maj. Wilburn passed away on Jan. 2, 2018, at the age of 98 years old.



LANCE CPL. ISAAC CANTRELL

Marines render a rifle salute at the funeral ceremony of Ray V. Wilburn, retired Sgt. Major, at Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery, Jan. 13. Wilburn served 32 years of honorable and faithful service to the United States Marine Corps, taking part in World War 2, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.



LANCE CPL. ISAAC CANTRELL

Sgt. Rafael Fernandez, SPINTCOMM Operator, Headquarters Battalion commands a rifle squad during the funeral ceremony of Ray V. Wilburn, retired Sgt. Major, at Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery, Jan. 13.

Hawaii From A1

III Marine Expeditionary Force units stationed in Hawaii.

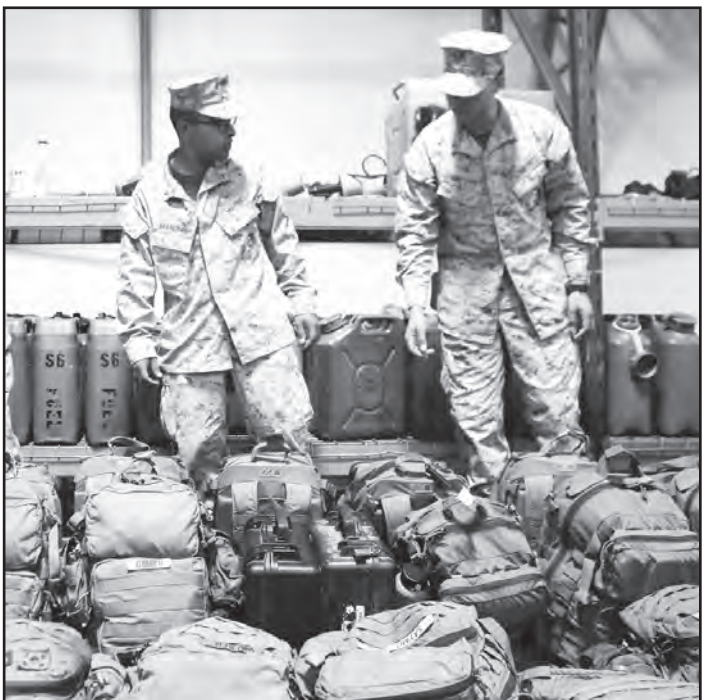
"CLB-3 has not participated in ITX for almost 10 years," said Lt. Col. Bolivar Plusas, the CLB-3 commanding officer. "This will be the first time that we are deploying most of the Hawaii-based MAGTF to ITX and composite with other units to successfully conduct training."

CLB-3, 1/12, 2/3 and 3d Marines with its Combat Assault Company often train together in the Hawaii training areas to include the Pohakuloa Training Area on the island of Hawaii and in various locations across Oahu. However, their participation in ITX allows the Tactical Training Exercise Control Group based in MCAGCC Twentynine Palms to assess the MAGTF's combat readiness and ability to successfully accomplish any mission.

"Simply put, the training environment at ITX cannot be replicated anywhere else in the Marine Corps," Plusas said.




Gunnery Sgt. Justin Keeling conducts roll call prior to the Marines' departure to Integrated Training Exercise 2-18 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Jan. 12.



Marines stage gear prior to their departure to Integrated Training Exercise 2-18 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Jan. 12.

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Around the Corps ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Ullr Shield: MACG-28 4 Mile Hike

Photos by Lance Cpl. Cody Rowe



Marines assigned to Marine Air Control Group 28 conduct a conditioning hike during exercise Ullr Shield on Fort McCoy, Wis., Jan. 13, 2018. Ullr Shield is a training exercise designed to improve 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's capabilities in extreme cold weather environments.



Marines assigned to Marine Air Control Group 28 conduct a conditioning hike during exercise Ullr Shield on Fort McCoy, Wis., Jan. 13. Ullr Shield is a training exercise designed to improve 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's capabilities in extreme cold weather environments.



Marine Pfc. Cody Randol, a small arms technician assigned to Marine Air Support Squadron 1, catches his breath after a conditioning hike during exercise Ullr Shield on Fort McCoy, Wis., Jan. 13.

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‘The Cutting Edge’ welcomes new battalion sergeant major

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE
CPL. MARGARET GALE

Sgt. Maj. Michael E. Cedeno, off going sergeant major, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., relinquished his post as battalion sergeant major to Sgt. Maj. Brian E. Anderson, incoming sergeant major, 1/7, MCAGCC, at the commanding general’s lawn during a post and relief ceremony aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 11, 2018.

Cedeno was born in Victoria, Tx, and started his Marine Corps career on April 24, 1995. He enlisted as a basic radio operator and reported to 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N. C. Throughout his career in the Corps, Cedeno has called many duty stations home and participated in multiple deployments across the world.

In May 2002, he attended the drill instructor course at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. After completion of the course, he served six cycles as a drill instructor and two cycles as a senior drill instructor. In January of 2015, Cedeno assumed the post as battalion sergeant major for 1/7.

Throughout his career, Cedeno received many personal awards, including, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with four gold stars and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with one gold star. Cedeno is married and has two sons with his wife, Amanda Hoelter, and looks forward to starting a new life.

“I want to welcome Sgt. Maj. Anderson and Christina to the team,” Cedeno said. “You’re a part of something special over here. I am excited to see what you bring to the table.”

Anderson was born and raised in Pheonix, Ariz., and started his career as a United States Marine in January, 1999. He was meritoriously promoted to private first class upon graduation of recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Training San Diego, Calif., and then reported to the School of Infantry West, Calif., to become a rifleman for the Corps.

In June of 1999, Anderson reported for duty with 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., and from there started a streak of meritorious promotions throughout his career, as well as his numerous deployments and duty stations. Anderson deployed to Iraq in support of Iraqi Freedom twice with both 3/1 and 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Anderson trained to become a combat



Sgt. Maj. Michael E. Cedeno, off going sergeant major, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., Sgt. Maj. Brian E. Anderson, incoming sergeant major, 1/7, MCAGCC, and Lt. Col. Erick T. Clark, commanding officer, 1/7, MCAGCC, salute the colors during the pass and review during the post and relief ceremony at the commanding generals lawn aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 11. During the ceremony Cedeno relinquished his post as sergeant major to Anderson.

instructor in January of 2010 and served as the company gunnery sergeant of the infantry training battalion. In January of 2018 he received the orders to serve as the battalion sergeant major for 1/7.

Personal awards Anderson has received throughout his Marine Corps career are the, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with a gold star in lieu of second award, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon with gold star in lieu of second award and a meritorious service medal, which he received during the ceremony. Anderson has two children with his wife, Christina.

“Marines and sailors of 1/7, I am truly excited and blessed to serve as your battalion sergeant major,” Anderson said. “I promise to give you everything I have. I only ask that you do the same thing for the Marines and sailors next to you.”



Sgt. Maj. Michael E. Cedeno, off going sergeant major, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., receives the meritorious service medal for outstanding service for 1/7 during the post and relief ceremony at the commanding general’s lawn aboard the Ground Combat Center Jan. 11.

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Artist donates sculpture to Combat Center

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. ISAAC CANTRELL

The Officers' Club hosted a dedication ceremony for a new sculpture at their establishment Jan. 9, 2018. The sculpture was gifted by Claudio D'Augustino, a sculptor who has created many Marine Corps-related pieces for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif.

In 1997, D'Augustino, was commissioned by MCRD San Diego to create a piece to commemorate more than 75 years of recruit training in San Diego. D'Augustino viewed the creation of the sculpture, "Marine Recruit," as a way to give back to the military community and thank them for their service.

In the years to follow, D'Augustino created several more Marine-related pieces, such as a drill instructor bust, a bust of Gen. John A. Lejeune and his most recent piece, a sculpture of the Marine Corps emblem, which was donated to the Combat Center.

"I was able to work on [my latest] sculpture on board MCRD San Diego, and hearing the drill instructors and seeing the Marines go through training inspired me," D'Augustino said. "Once you step on to a Marine Corps base, you can feel the sacrifices that have been made and you get the sense that you're doing things for the United States. By working on base, I was able to feel those emotions and make this sculpture happen."

Lt. Col. Larry Warfield, assistant chief of staff, Marine Corps Community Services, and the senior manager of the Officers' Club, spoke at the dedication ceremony.

"When I look at Claudio's sculpture, I can hear the echoes of Marines and sailors who have come through the Combat Center and dedicated their lives to the service," Warfield said. "John F. Kennedy said ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country. What that means is that we are in service to our country, whether you're a United States Marine or a citizen."

D'Augustino expressed his gratitude to everyone who made the event possible, and said that the whole experience felt very surreal to him.

"Donating this sculpture is a dream come true for me, and knowing that it has been placed in this building makes me happy because this piece is in good hands," D'Augustino said. "I'd like to thank everyone who made this moment possible and everyone on base who participated to make this happen."



Claudio D'Augustino stands in front of his sculpture during a dedication ceremony at the Officers' Club aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 9. The sculpture was donated to the Combat Center during the ceremony to express D'Augustino's appreciation for members of the armed services.



A Combat Center patron admires a sculpture by Claudio D'Augustino during a dedication ceremony for the sculpture at the Officers' Club aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 9. The sculpture was donated to the Combat Center during the ceremony to express D'Augustino's appreciation for members of the armed services.

Claudio D'Augustino speaks during a dedication ceremony for his sculpture at the Officers' Club aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 9. The sculpture was donated to the Combat Center during the ceremony to express D'Augustino's appreciation for members of the armed services.




Claudio D'Augustino's sculpture hangs on the wall of the Officers' Club aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 9. The sculpture was donated to the Combat Center during a dedication ceremony to express D'Augustino's appreciation for members of the armed services.




Lt. Col. Larry Warfield, assistant chief of staff, Marine Corps Community Services, speaks during a dedication ceremony for a sculpture by Claudio D'Augustino at the Officers' Club aboard the Combat Center, Jan. 9. The sculpture was donated to the Combat Center during the ceremony to express D'Augustino's appreciation for members of the armed services.

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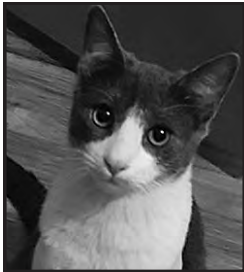
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- **CHOOSE** reusable items, such as substituting cloth towels and sponges for paper towels; glass/ceramic dishes for paper/plastic plates and cups; and reusable storage containers for disposable plastic bags.



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- **REPURPOSE** old items, such as converting plastic containers into a bird feeder or piggy bank; aluminum cans into a planter or vase; and t-shirts into a tote bag or quilt.



DONATE

- **DONATE** unwanted clothing, appliances, furniture, electronics, and toys to charitable organizations, or give them to a friend or neighbor.



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- **USE** recycled products whenever possible. When purchasing items, check the package for recycling symbols. You will be completing a recycling cycle and initiating a new one.



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5:30 p.m. — Just Getting Started PG-13		Wednesday — Jan. 24
7:30 p.m. — Roman J. Israel PG-13	Sunday — Jan. 21	6:30 p.m. — Last Showing: Last Flag Flying R
10:00 p.m. — Pitch Perfect 3 PG-13	12:00 p.m. — Ferdinand (3-D) PG	Thursday — Jan. 25
Saturday — Jan. 20	2:30 p.m. — Jumanji: Welcome To The Jungle (3-D) PG-13	6:30 p.m. — Last Showing: Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri R
12:00 p.m. — Ferdinand (3-D) PG	5:00 p.m. — Roman J. Israel PG-13	Friday — Jan. 26
2:30 p.m. — Star Wars: The Last Jedi (3-D) PG-13	7:30 p.m. — Last Flag Flying R	5:30 p.m. — Just Getting Started PG-13
5:40 p.m. — Jumanji: Welcome To The Jungle (3-D) PG-13	Monday — Jan. 22	7:30 p.m. — Jumanji: Welcome To The Jungle (3-D) PG-13
8:00 p.m. — Just Getting Started PG-13	6:30 p.m. — Pitch Perfect 3 PG-13	10:00 p.m. — Pitch Perfect 3 PG-13
	Tuesday — Jan. 23	

The Classifieds

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Any interested person in the community who would like to discuss this application, please contact Rafayna Naquib, Grant Writer, with Save the Children at rnaquib@savechildren.org.

The deadline for application submission is January 26. The application will be available for review after submission upon request.

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California State law requires that contractors, builders, and landscapers who perform work for \$500 or more, including materials and labor, must be licensed. License numbers should be so indicated in their advertising.

Family child care providers are required by

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Please refer questions to Contractors State License Board, 1250 East Cooley Drive, Suite 200, Colton, CA 92324

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HOMES FOR SALE 201



2 homes for one low price! Front home 2 bedroom 1 bath, rear home 1 bedroom 1 bath Large desert landscaped lot fully fenced. \$139,000 Morongo Valley Karen Lowe Realtor 760-333-5197 MLS JT17268381

LOTS & ACREAGE 201

LAND FOR SALE VISIT
www.basinwidefoundation.com

For sale - .50 acre lot, zoned multi family at NW Corner Alta Loma & Lomita, Joshua Tree. Price \$40,000. Owner will carry, Contact Jim Corbett 949-497-1167 email: james.f.corbett@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE WANTED 135



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ROOMS FOR RENT 223

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HELP WANTED 300

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Combined Technical Services will host a job fair 8-10 Jan 2018, from 0800-1700. Location: San Bernardino County, Third District Supervisor - Joshua Tree Offices, 63665 Twenty-nine Palms Hwy, Joshua Tree, CA. Positions needed: General Clerks, Computer Operators, Mechanics, Supply Technicians Dates of employment: 17 Jan to 22 April. Will work overtime and weekends. Candidates are required to bring the following: resume, driver's license, social security card, voided check or a letter from the bank with the account number and routing number. Walk-ins are welcomed.

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Executive Director, Joshua Tree National Park Association. \$50-60,000 DOE. Send resume before February 15 to Marian@joshuatree.org

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APT. & DUPLEXES 200

HELP WANTED 300

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E-mail Resumes to: umc29palms@gmail.com or mail to: United Methodist Church of Twentynine Palms P.O. Box 236/6250 Mesquite Springs Road 29Palms, CA 92277

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Medical office seeking experienced Front Office worker. Must have excellent customer service and organizational skills. P/T position. Fax resume 760-366-0500.

WORK WANTED 310

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LEGAL SERVICES 414

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INSTRUCTIONAL 425

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HELP WANTED 300

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