

بَرَاون سَايد اوت

Brown Side Out

... serving the I Marine Expeditionary Force during OPERATION DESERT STORM

VOL. 2, ISSUE 14

April 3, 1991

2nd MarDiv. on point in Kuwait

BY SGT. FRANK LEYHEW
2ND MARINE DIVISION

KUWAIT CITY—“We are a dagger pointed at the heart of Saddam Hussein,” said Col. Larry Schmidt, commanding officer of 8th Marine Regiment.

Schmidt will command the regiment (minus, rein) that will remain in Kuwait as 2nd Marine Division begins its withdrawal from occupied territory near Kuwait City.

The regiment will include headquarters elements from both Headquarters Battalion and 8th Marines. The ground troops will consist of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marines, a reserve unit from New Orleans. Supporting elements will include tanks, light armored infantry, recon and a detachment from Truck Company.

Although Schmidt describes the Marines mission in Kuwait as a “quieting presence,” he is quick to point out that the Marines will not be idle. “People in the rear have said they feel sorry for us because we’re

remaining here. But we will get much more training here than we would sitting back in the tent camp. So we’re happy to be here,” said Schmidt.

According to Schmidt, the Marines will be conducting several types of training while here. “We just opened a small arms range and we’re expecting to open an indirect fire range soon,” he said. One of the complexes will be used for military operations in urban terrain training, the colonel added.

“We’re also working with the air wing pretty close. We’ll be doing fast-roping, rappelling and assault training with them,” added Schmidt.

The Marines have also been involved in some small-scale civil affairs programs such as helping to clean up some of the areas left decimated by the Iraqi military. Schmidt is

quick to point out, however, that large scale civil affairs programs are not part of the Marines’ mission.

While no deadline has been set for the regiment to return to Camp 15, Schmidt feels that after the official cease-fire is signed, the Marines may be ordered to withdraw from the area.

“Once it’s signed, we may stay here but my guess is no,” he said. “We have no time limit. With the support we have here, we could stay indefinitely. It’s whatever the U.S. Government decides,” added Schmidt.

“People needn’t feel sorry for us, we’ve got a lot to do here,” he said.



Sgt. Earnie Grafton

A Marine with 2nd Bn., 4th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, watches the flank from a bunker once occupied by Iraqi soldiers on the outskirts of Kuwait City.

Questions have arisen regarding the health effects of petroleum fire smoke during and after the ground campaign in the Kuwait Theater of Operation. While this is a disaster without precedent, current information suggests that there is little reason to assume that there is increased risk for chronic disease resultant from such brief smoke exposures.

Asthmatics and others with pre-existing pulmonary conditions, as well as the very young and very old, may have some increased acute respiratory problems. There is generally not a deep lung problem because particle

size is too large. Should entry into high smoke concentrations in oil fields be required, the gas mask and hood can be used to provide protection.

Restriction of physical activity when smoke levels are increased, sleeping in tents or indoors and staying as far as possible and upwind from burning wells are all suggested.

Oil contact with skin and mucous membranes can cause irritation and efforts should be

directed at limiting such exposures by eating and sleeping under cover and staying covered with sleeves down and headgear on while

outside in smoke-affected areas. Clothes should be changed after an exposure to “oil rain” and laundered before re-use. Rashes and respiratory complaints should be reported to medical department representatives.

Unless there are current health complaints related to the smoke, there is no reason to make health record entries for purposes of documentation. Rather, commanders should document service periods and locations in the KTO with Page 11 entries in OQR and SRB. the existence of the smoke hazard is a matter of record.

For more information on proper documentation procedures, Marines and silors should contact administration and medical personnel. Additional guidance can be found in a message from the I MEF Surgeon DTG 170843Z Mar 91.

Oil Smoke Hazards Studied

Weapons stockpile created for training

BY CPL. W.J. BALZER
I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

KUWAIT CITY—The war with Iraq is over. The Iraqi hordes have been turned back and Kuwait is once again free. Marines have begun the pleasant chores associated with the trip home. They’re packing their seabags; cleaning their gear; and loading ships with LAVs, trucks and...T-62 tanks?

The Iraqi tanks being loaded are part of a program begin March 9, through which the Marine Corps will create a stockpile of foreign weaponry, according to Maj. Richard M. Lake, G-2, I MEF.

“This is an ideal place for our purpose because of the wide variety of weaponry available,” said Lake. “Saddam never met a weapon he didn’t like. He bought something from everybody.”

According to Lake, his unit is looking for a little of everything to include uniform items, small arms, anti-aircraft guns, self-propelled artillery and tanks.

“The Marine Corps asked various commands what they wanted and gave me a shopping list from that,” he said. “I don’t know if we’ll get everything but we’ll definitely get enough for our purposes.”

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Warfighting

Editor's Note: The following column is reprinted from FMFM 1 Warfighting. It is a continuing column to provide information and professional military education.

Because we have long enjoyed vast numerical and technological superiority, the United States has traditionally waged war by attrition. However, Marine Corps doctrine today is based on warfare by maneuver.

Combat Power

Combat power is the total destructive force we can bring to bear on our enemy at a given time. Some factors in combat power are quite tangible and easily measured, such as superior numbers, which Clausewitz called "the most common element in victory." Some may be less easily measured, such as the effects of maneuver, tempo, or surprise; the advantages established by geography or climate; the relative strengths of the offense and defense; or the relative merits of striking the enemy in the front, flanks, or rear. And some may be wholly intangible, such as morale, fighting spirit, perseverance, or the effects of leadership.

It is not our intent to try to list or categorize all the various components of combat power, to index their relative values, or to describe their combinations and variations; each combination is unique and temporary. Nor is it even desirable to be able to do so, since this would lead us to a formulistic approach to war.

Concentration and Speed

Of all the consistent patterns we can discern in war, there are two concepts of such significance and universality that we can advance them as principles: concentration and speed.

Concentration is the convergence of effort in time and space. It is the means by which we develop superiority and the decisive time and place. Concentration does not apply only to combat forces. It applies equally to all available resources: fires, aviation, the intelligence effort, logistics, and all other forms of combat support and combat service support. Similarly, concentration does not apply only to the conduct of war, but also the preparation for war.

Effective concentration may achieve decisive local superiority for a numerically inferior force. The willingness to concentrate at the decisive place and time necessitates strict economy and acceptance of risk elsewhere and at other times. To devote means to unnecessary efforts or excessive means to necessary secondary efforts violates the principle of concentration and is counterproductive to the true objective.

Since war is fluid and opportunities fleeting, concentration applies to time as well as space. We must concentrate not only at the decisive location, but also at the decisive moment. Furthermore, physical concentration — massing — makes us vulnerable to enemy fires, necessitating dispersion. Thus, a pattern develops: disperse, concentrate, disperse again.

Speed is the rapidity of action. Like concentration, speed applies to both time and space. And, like concentration, it is relative speed that matters. Speed over time is tempo — the consistent ability to operate fast. Speed over distance, or space, is velocity — the ability to move fast.

Both forms are genuine sources of combat power. In other words, speed is a weapon. Superior speed allows us to seize the initiative and dictate the terms of combat, forcing the enemy to react to us. Speed provides security. It is also a prerequisite for maneuver and for surprise. Moreover, speed is necessary in order to concentrate superior strength at the decisive time and place.

EOD teams clear shore, city 600,000 explosives uncovered

SAUDI ARABIA (Cent News) — Explosive ordnance disposal troops from six nations have cleared away almost 600,000 pieces of Iraqi explosives in Kuwait since the suspension of the Gulf War.

Teams from the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have focused a large part of their mineclearing effort on the country's shoreline, according to Jacqueline Porth, a U.S. Information Agency, Security Affairs correspondent.

Iraqi soldiers spent much of their seven-month occupation fortifying Kuwait's beaches with trenches, gun-emplacements, bunkers and vast minefields, in anticipation of an allied amphibious assault that never came.

The teams have succeeded in clearing two fortified beaches so far.

The teams have also found unmarked Iraqi minefields surrounding residential areas, and on nearby Failaka Island, where more than 6,000

Kuwaitis hope to return.

However, the largest concentrations of mines and barriers have been discovered not on land, but in the waters just off Kuwait. There, Iraqis hid lines of concertina wire in shallow areas in hopes of shredding the legs of allied attackers.

Farther out, metal pipes, spikes and strings of barbed wire protrude through the water. One French EOD technician said the Iraqis planned to electrify the wire, and designed the spike barriers to stop hovercraft from delivering troops to the shore.

Some officials believe there may be as many as three million pieces of munitions in the country.

To lessen the likelihood for accidents, the Kuwaiti government has been distributing leaflets at hundreds of police and military checkpoints to alert people to the dangers of the mines.

Officials say clearing Kuwait and its beaches of the Iraqi mines and barriers could take as long as a year.

The triumph, the achievement

LOS ANGELES TIMES (FAX) — Great armies are well-led and well-motivated. The Union Army, once Gen. Grant took command; the U.S. army in World War II; and Napoleon's Grande Armee are famous examples of such armies. The army of Iraq under Saddam Hussein obviously is not.

Or, more precisely, was not. For by the time the coalition forces under the operational command of Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf were finished, the Iraqi army was a shell of its former self. As President Bush said in announcing suspension of allied military operations, "Iraq's army is defeated."

The Reputation: But until the army had been engaged, much of what is now known about that military was unknowable, until it was tested in combat. It was its fearsome reputation — trained, after all, by the Soviets, battle-tested and hardened after eight grueling years of war with Iran and triumphant from its cruel but effective blitzkrieg into Kuwait — that preceded it into combat. And it was a formidable fighting force — one of the largest and best-equipped in the world, after the armies of the United States, the Soviet Union and China.

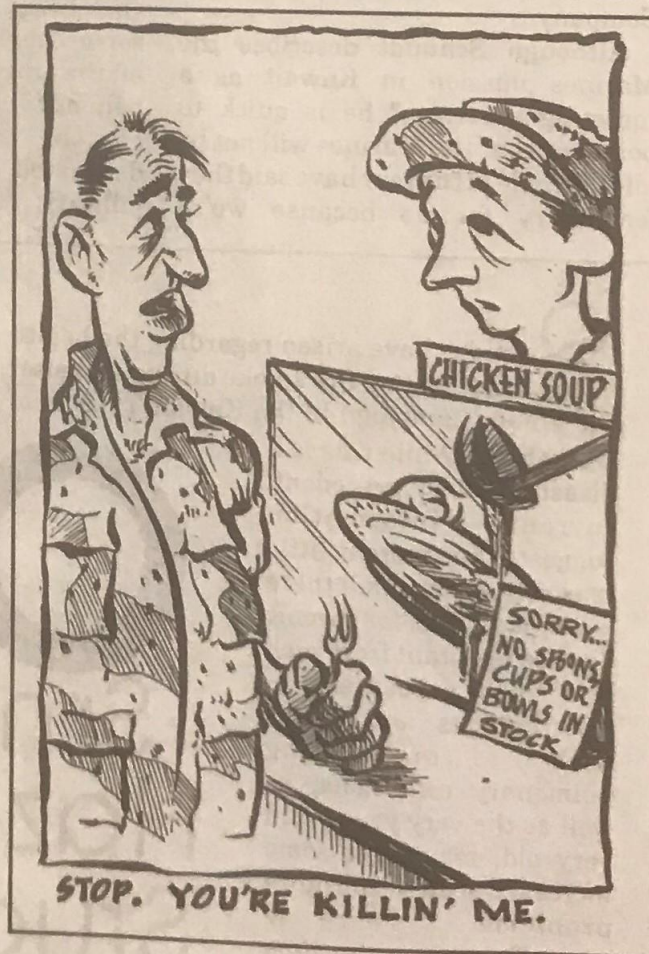
But the army utterly crumbled in the face of the well-conceived, well-planned and rather precisely executed campaign of the coalition forces. Is this all-but-complete victory a case of nothing more than a paper tiger meeting a real one? Is it possible to overestimate the magnitude of the U.S.-led military achievement? It's true that the Iraqi army is led by one of the most overrated military leaders in history — commanded by an uncaring, inept, cruel, despotic and craven dictator. What army in the world — under such pathetic leadership — could possibly perform at a high level? No amount of high-tech weaponry can compensate for the lack of leadership, the failure of moral sustenance.

The Achievement: For all this, the victory of the coalition forces remains remarkable and extraordinary. Transported thousands of miles from their home bases, set down in a desert with an inclement environment and in a country with a completely alien culture, the forces of the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy — in an alliance with regionally indigenous Arab forces — devastated the enemy. All the credit for this must go both to the leadership that laid out a clear plan of

victory, and to the troops on the ground, in the air and on Gulf waters who followed that leadership. This textbook game plan — in both its conception and execution — will no doubt be studied by aspiring generals in military academies throughout the world for a long time to come.

And the results will be applauded by freedom-loving people throughout the world. An evil tyrant has gotten a necessary dose of justice. A collective security effort, under the legal sanctions of the United Nations has acted decisively to cut a huge menace down to size. The world owes the men and women of the armies of this coalition a great debt and deepest gratitude. The great wrong of August has been righted by the men and women of February.

Corpstoon



Sgt. Charles Grow

Brown Side Out

... serving the I Marine Expeditionary Force during OPERATION DESERT STORM

This Marine Corps funded newspaper is an authorized publication for I MEF Marines and sailors during Operation Desert Storm. The views and opinion expressed within are for informational purposes and in no way shall be considered directive in nature or reflective of DoD policy. All photographs are official USMC or DoD prints unless otherwise indicated. Photographic support provided by I MEF Combat Camera.

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News

Pentagon may get Bahrain site for future

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon is close to an agreement to move a "forward" headquarters of the Central Command from Tampa, Fla., to Bahrain, U.S. and Bahrain officials said. Moving the headquarters to the Persian Gulf has been a Pentagon goal for years, but Arab leaders have resisted, media reports said.

White House says it won't get involved in Iraqi unrest

WASHINGTON — The United States has no intention of becoming directly involved in the unrest in Iraq but will shoot down helicopter gunships attacking rebel positions if the aircraft threatened allied troops, the White House said recently.

"We don't intend to involve ourselves in the internal conflict in Iraq," spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters.

Fitzwater said the use of the helicopters against insurgents violated the spirit of the order by President Bush stopping the fighting but was not "covered by the terms of the cease-fire" reached by Iraq and the allied commanders. He said the understanding on helicopters "was a side oral discussion, nothing in writing."

The remarks by Bush's spokesman signaled, in effect, that the United States would not enter the turmoil that erupted shortly after the Gulf War ended in February.

Oil slick clean up continues along coast

SAUDI ARABIA (Cent News) — The waters of the Northern Arabian Gulf may soon be free of the once-massive oil slick started by Iraqi forces to hamper a possible coalition amphibious assault on Kuwait. Cleaning up the beaches that were blackened by the oil, however, will still take up a lot of time.

The slick, which at one time was more than 35 miles long and 10 miles wide, has been confined to an area just north of Jubail, according to Jerry Gaines, an economic officer at the United States Embassy in Riyadh. The Saudi government, assisted by coalition members, including a team led by the U.S. Coast Guard, estimate they will have much of the oil out of the water by May 1, he said.

The slick was started by Iraqi forces Jan. 19 at the Mina Al Ahmadi Sea Island Terminal in Kuwait. The act of environmental terrorism led to millions of barrels of oil being pumped in to Gulf waters by way of an oil outlet manifold.

Watch for fraudulent fund-raisers back home

WASHINGTON — Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps is warning service members to be aware of fraudulent fund raising by telephone solicitors claiming to represent the Marine Corps League, and asking for cash donations to support the Marines in Operation Desert Storm.

The Marine Corps League is not conducting such a fund-raising drive,

according to Headquarters. The Marine Corps League requests that any Marine or family member contacted by these fund-raisers call the league executive director or adjutant paymaster, (703) 207-9588.

Baghdad shuffles top government posts

MANAMA, Bahrain — President Saddam Hussein shuffled his Cabinet March 23, as he struggled to contain insurgencies in northern and southern Iraq.

There was no indication that the Cabinet changes alter Hussein's on power, and in Washington, President Bush said they were insignificant because "Saddam Hussein still appears to be calling the shots." But the moves to elevate the only Shiite Muslim in a senior position in the government. Some Arab officials here said the move could be meant as a gesture to the country's restive Shiite majority.

The government changes came amid reports of rebel gains in the north, where Kurdish fighters were said to be advancing into areas with Arab majorities, including the regions largest city, Mosul.

In a further blow to Baghdad, the Iranian Government confirmed that it would confiscate the Iraqi military planes that took refuge in Iran during the Persian Gulf War, saying the planes would be partial compensation for damage suffered by Iran during its war with Iraq.

The development underlined a rapid deterioration of Iraqi-Iranian relations. The Tehran Government followed a neutral course during the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, but is widely believed to be supporting the Shiite insurgency that sprang up in southern Iraq after Baghdad's defeat in the war.

Baghdad radio said the new government is to be headed by Saadun Hamadi, who had been deputy prime minister, Hamadi, a Shiite Muslim, will have the title of prime minister.

Tariq Aziz, who had been foreign minister, was named to one of two deputy prime minister posts. Interior minister Ali Hassan al-Majid retained his present post.

The three men are central figures of the ruling Baath Party and are viewed as among the closest aides to Saddam.

Reenlistments under scrutiny due to cutbacks, reductions

BY CPL D. SCOTT FULLER
2ND MARINE DIVISION

SAUDI ARABIA — As most all Marines probably know by now, the Marine Corps is currently facing major manpower cutbacks in the upcoming months. And many of these cutbacks will be made before Oct. 1.

As a result, Marines whose current enlistments are coming to an end, and wish to continue their career in the Corps, need to see their unit career planner before it's too late.

According to Capt. David Millush, 2nd. Marine Division Career Planner, it would be best if Marines completed their reenlistment prior to their departure from Southwest Asia. "If Marines approaching their EAS don't get a signed commitment soon, they'll be subject to discharge whether they want to reenlist or not. And this goes for all enlisted Marines from private to sergeant major."

Capt. Millush said that there just isn't enough room in the Marine Corps for everyone who wants to reenlist and those who wait may not get a chance to remain. Another factor to consider, Millush explains, is today's declining economy back home. "Marines need to take a serious look at the civilian opportunities available to them."

"Since last June, more than one and a half million civilian jobs ceased to exist; 450,000 Americans lost their manufacturing jobs. Factories and businesses are closing down everywhere, which affects more and more people every day. Because there are no guarantees in our economy, Marines are going to have an increasingly difficult time finding jobs once they get out."

Marines have to make a choice now, Millush said while the reenlistment opportunities are still out there. The school seats and duty station choices are going to disappear fast and many Marines won't get what they want. "Reenlistment is a decision that they must make now or a decision will be made for them soon."

Key provisions in the draft U.N. Security Cease-Fire Resolutions

■ Iran and Kuwait would have to respect the inviolability of the international boundary agreed upon in a 1963 treaty signed by both nations.

■ Iraq would be liable for damage, including environmental, resulting from its invasion and occupation of Kuwait. A fund drawing from Iraq's oil revenues would be created to pay claims by Kuwait, other nations and their citizens and corporations.

■ The United Nations would provide military observers to monitor a demilitarized zone reaching six miles into Iraq and three miles into Kuwait. U.N. deployment would allow allied troops to withdraw.

■ Iraq would have to destroy its

chemical and biological weapons and ballistic missile systems, and foreswear future development or acquisition of these arms and of nuclear arms. Nuclear materials that could be used for weapons would be destroyed or removed by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

■ An arms embargo would remain in effect "until a further decision is taken" by the Security Council.

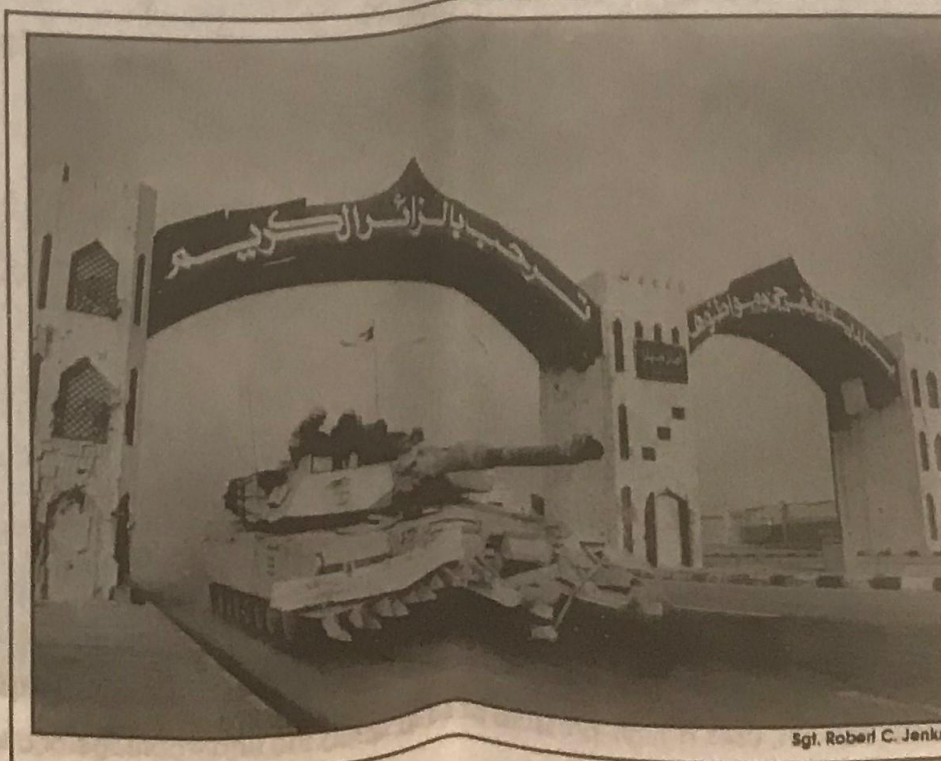
■ The Security Council's ban on trade would remain in effect until Iraq has complied with the disarmament provisions.

■ Iraq would have to declare that it will not "commit or support" international terrorism or allow terrorist groups to operate from its territory.

■ Iraq would be called upon to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross in repatriating Kuwaitis and others detained during the war.

Correction

On the front page of the Brown Side Out, March 20, 1991, Bravo Co., 4th Tank Bn., was incorrectly identified as a Marine reserve unit from Tallahassee, Fla., The company of M1A1 tanks is home-based in Yakima, Wash.



Sgt. Robert C. Jenks

Wash Down

BY CPL. B.W. BEARD
1 MARINE DIVISION

SAUDI ARABIA — As the retrograde continues and thousands of Marines anticipate their reunion with family and friends, one operation continues: the washing of virtually every piece of equipment deployed to Southwest Asia during the past seven months.

Four wash points have been established here by the 1st Force Service Support Group to rid the Marine Corps' ground equipment of foreign soil. According to agricultural inspector, HMI Barry Mallen, the large amounts of soil that have collected on the equipment house a number of parasites and insects possibly harmful to the United States' agriculture.

Wash Down Site-1 is designed for the cleaning of all the Marine Corps' tracked vehicles and heavy equipment before their embarkation on transportation to CONUS or Maritime Prepositioning Ships.

Due to the number of vehicles and their size, thousands of gallons of water are required each day at this site. "The water is drawn from a Saudi irrigation pipeline into 13 water bladders capable of holding more than 320,000 gallons," said Capt. Bill Sorfleet, WDS-1 officer-in-charge. "Here the water is chlorinated to kill any germs or bacteria that may be present and reduce the chances of infection to the leathernecks exposed to the water."

From the bladders, the chlorinated water is pumped to a main line that runs parallel to the 36 individual wash stations. Branching lines extend from the main line at each wash station and join to a commercial pump that is responsible for the increased water pressure needed to remove the

Marines rid equipment of desert and dirt of war

layers of Arabian Desert soil that have accumulated on the equipment. A 1 1/2 inch hose extends from the pump to a nozzle similar to a fire hose.

"Our job is to get the water to the nozzle and then it's the responsibility of the individual units to clean their gear," said Sorfleet.

Twenty-four-hour operations are ongoing with approximately 60 Marines operating the system during each eight-hour shift. They are to ensure

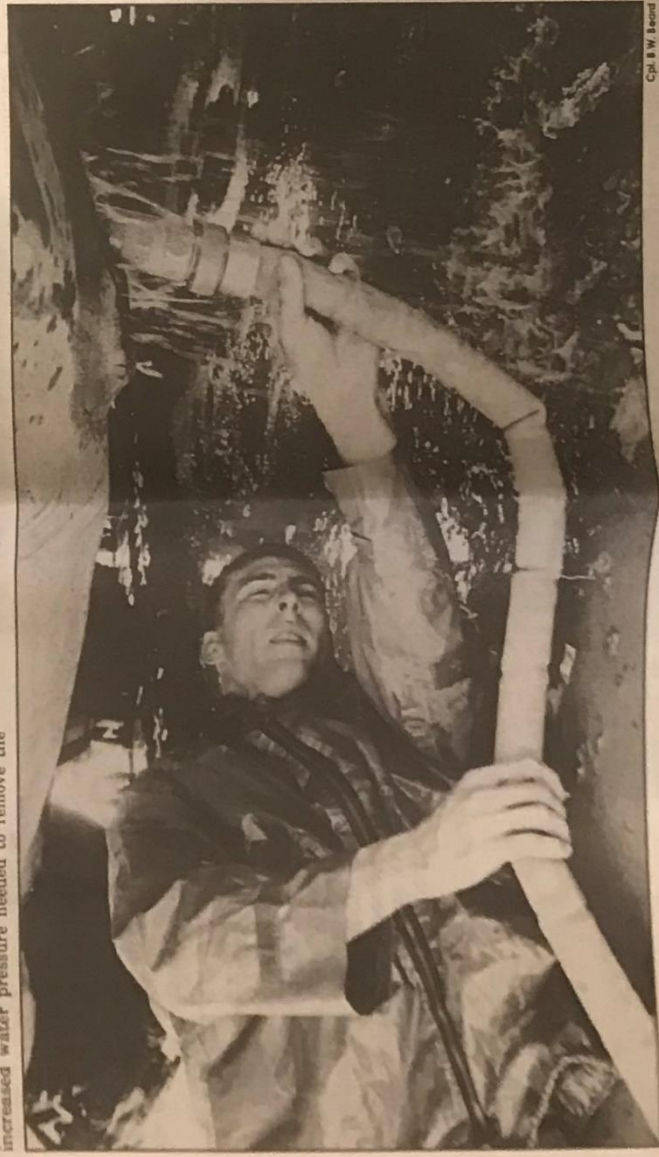
each cleaning station is provided with sufficient water pressure and that the system is maintained for follow-on units, according to Sorfleet.

As Marines direct the pressurized stream of water over every inch of the vehicle, inside and out, inspectors make their rounds checking for hidden soil. "Twenty Marines and corpsmen have been 'deputized' as agricultural inspectors after passing a written exam that followed a two-day instructional period," said Mallen.



Cpl. B.W. Beard

Cpl. Rodney Rathke washes down the inside of the turret.



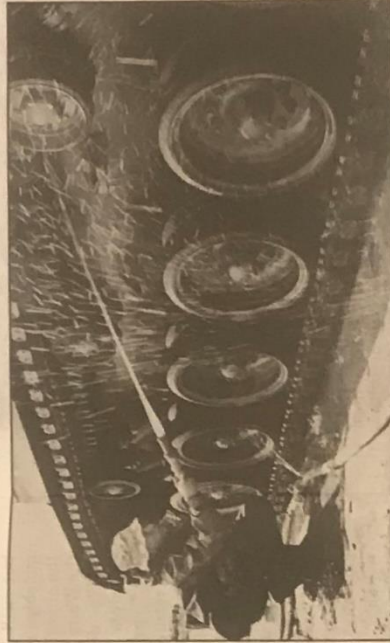
Cpl. B.W. Beard

Cpl. Rodney Rathke, 1st Tank Bn., 1st Marine Division, uses a high-pressure hose to scrub the undercarriage of a tank.



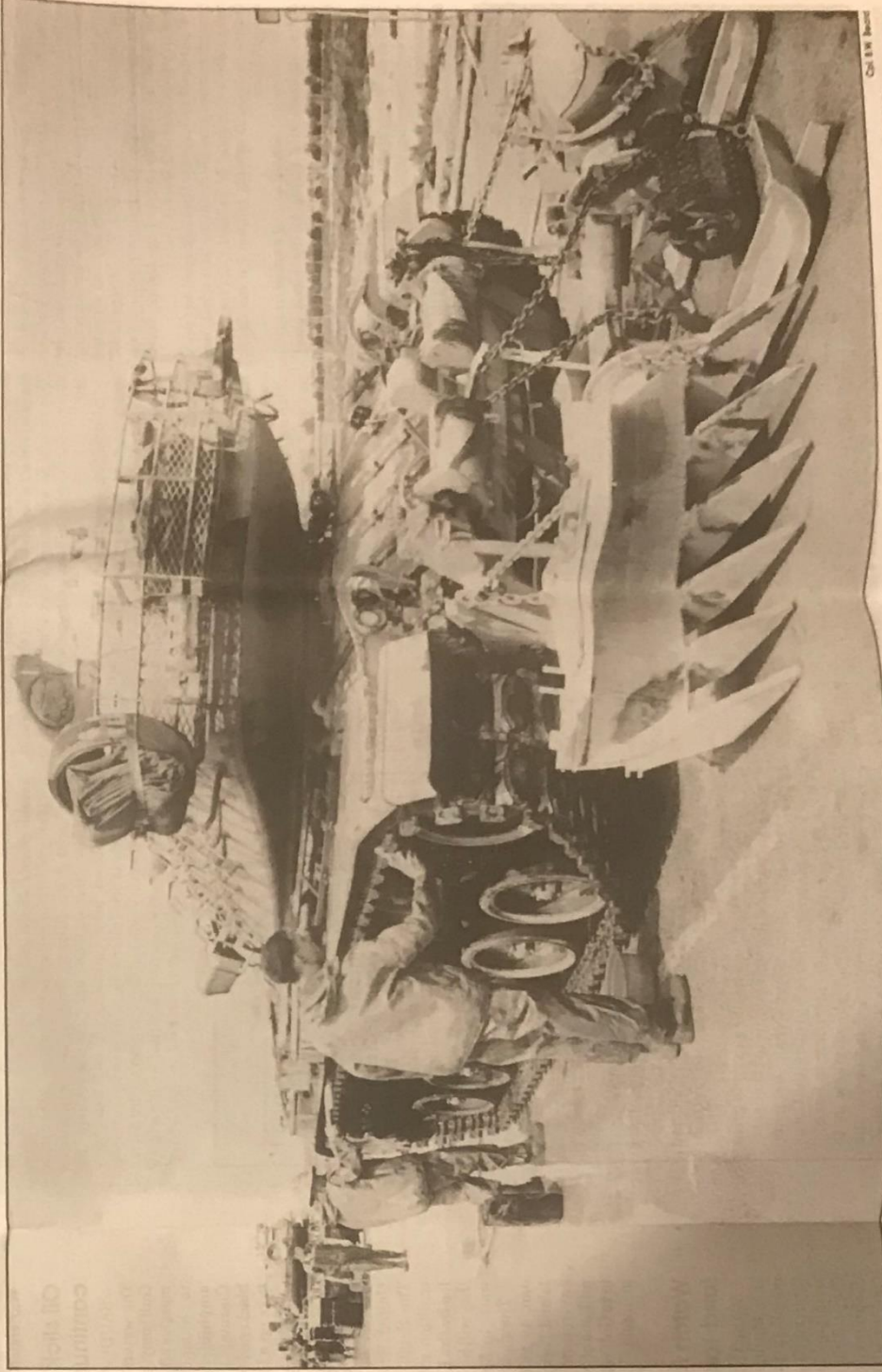
Cpl. B.W. Beard

Cpl. Jeffery Wright, 1st Tank Bn., 1st Marine Division, scrubs an M60A1 tank wheel.



Cpl. B.W. Beard

LCpl. Benny Centeno, 1/1, sprays the support rollers.



Cpl. B.W. Beard

Marines clean an M60A1 tank at one of 36 wash points at Wash Down Site-1. Approximately 250 pieces of heavy equipment and tracked vehicles are washed daily.

1st MarDiv. advances 100 kilometers, 100 hours

BY CPL. STEVE NELSON
1ST MARINE DIVISION

SAUDI ARABIA — Bypass, collapse and defeat were the 1st Marine Division's marching orders for the ground offensive launched here Feb. 24 to liberate Kuwait.

Considering the division advanced 100 kilometers in 100 hours and secured its final objective within three days, there can be no doubt the orders were carried out. The division was broken down into eight task forces which had distinct missions. Two task forces were foot mobile, augmented by trucks and TOW missile systems; two were tank and armor mechanized, one was composed of light armored infantry, and one was artillery, providing indirect fire support. Complementing the division's punch was a helicopter assault force and a "mock" task force used primarily for deception tactics.

According to LtCol. Ray Cole, division operations officer, the assault actually began two days before "G" Day (the first day of the ground war) when the division moved its two foot-mobile task forces, Grizzly and Taro, into Kuwait Feb. 22.

By the night of the 23rd, the ground pounders had crossed the border and infiltrated the first Iraqi line of defense. When the Marines gained an upper hand through harassment by artillery fire, enemy soldiers surrendered and walk southward through their own line of defense. Using night vision optics, Marines observed where enemy soldiers passed through Iraqi minefields which enhanced breaching efforts in clearing lanes for follow-on forces.

By the early morning hours of G-Day (Feb. 24), Grizzly and Taro had made it through the first defensive belt and guarded the east and west flanks which enabled the two mechanized and armored forces, Ripper and Papa Bear, to explode through and press on to the second defensive belt 10 to 15 kilometers north of the first. Between the belts, Grizzly and Papa Bear both took scattered tank and artillery fire. Just beyond the second belt the Marine assault forces engaged Iraqi tanks, armored personnel carriers, and infantry-manned bunkers.

The division's initial objective was the Al Jaber Airfield. By 5 p.m., it was isolated by elements of Task Force Ripper with Papa Bear and Task Force Shepard; with the LAI screening force forming lines of defense south and west of the burning Al Burqan oil field.

Throughout the first night, the task forces received artillery fire and learned from enemy prisoners of war that the Iraqi forces may stage a counter attack from their location within the huge oil field. In the early morning hours of the 25th, Marine artillery pounded suspected Iraqi positions inside the oil field. The barrage forced enemy troops to abandon their position from the oil field. They were immediately engaged by Marine forces; primarily Papa Bear and Shepard.

For the next two days the Marines pressed northward beneath overcast skies filled with oily black smoke from the hundreds of burning oil wells. At times the smoke became so thick, it actually eclipsed the sun during daylight hours.

The division had planned on good weather conditions and a northwest wind throughout the attack phase. Ironically, just the opposite occurred and actually worked in the division's favor.

"The environmental conditions had more of an effect on him (Saddam) than on us," said Cole. "It didn't slow us down at all. We can fight well in the dark. In fact, every night we had movement taking place. We were bound and determined to use the smoke and darkness against this guy because we have better night vision capabilities."

Another capability the division exploited was



Sgt. Robert C. Jenks

Marines with the 1st Marine Division get resupplied by a CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter at the Kuwait International Airport.

deception or ambiguity operations: making the enemy think he was beaten well before the battle was fought.

"Everything was geared toward the mind of the enemy commander and the will of his men to fight," Cole said. A number of methods were used to "fake out" and confuse the enemy to where he didn't know when an attack was going to happen or where. They were also used to frustrate the enemy and helped to break down morale.

The 37-day aerial bombardment of Iraq and Kuwait was the first step in breaking down the morale of Iraqi soldiers. Quick "in and out" artillery and LAI raids on the border also kept the enemy guessing when coalition forces were actually going to begin their ground attack. Recordings of tank noises were also broadcast through large amplifiers to simulate the presence of a large company or battalion-size contingent of advancing armor.

"We read in some Iraqi logbooks we found that commanders were 'seeing' attacks and hearing heavy armor movement when we weren't even there," Cole said. "One thought he was under attack when there was no attack. A few thought they were defeated even before the 24th.

"What we did before the battle to shape the mind of the enemy commander worked very effectively."

Another key element to the division's success was the speed of the attack. In order to bypass, collapse and defeat, Cole said maintaining a fast tempo in their advance was imperative.

"Our commander wanted speed and major force movement behind the enemy to make him quit," said Cole. Because the attack was hard and fast, some of the smaller enemy positions were even passed up in order to keep advancing at such a quick pace. "If you want to maintain that quick tempo, you must keep moving. If we would have taken the time to fight everybody in every hole, that would have slowed us down. We took a chance on speed and won.

"Going through as fast as we did made every action they took irrelevant; especially when we were behind them already," Cole continued. "If you go where he (the enemy) isn't and then get behind him, their morale is beaten to nothing and you're going to have a lot of EPWs, which was the case here."

With support from air assets firing upon the enemy in front of them, the division quickly approached its next objective — Kuwait International Airport. Roughly a day before their arrival, the battleship Wisconsin fired her 16-inch guns on that position, making the division's task of taking the airport an easier one. Although they met some resistance in the outlying areas of Kuwait City, the Marines were able to seize their objective and establish lines of defense outside the city.

One myth put to rest by the 1st Marine Division was the inability of the M-60A1 tank to battle the T-72, Iraq's top-of-the-line tank.

One was concerned

about us having to fight the T-72s," said MGen. Mike Myatt, 1st Marine Division commanding general. "Well, we defeated those T-72s with our M-60s and only lost two tanks (with no fatalities) which were taken out of action by mines. It was just a matter of our people knowing how to use their equipment and fighting smart."

Assisting tanks in the route were Marines manning TOW missile systems both on the ground and from airborne attack helicopters.

All total, the division destroyed 265 T-55 and T-62 tanks, 55 T-72s, 155 armored personnel carriers, seven ZSU-23 air defense vehicles, three artillery batteries, and two multiple rocket launcher batteries. Over the course of the first three days, approximately 8,000 EPWs were taken. The exact number of Iraqi dead or wounded is not yet known.

On the 1st MarDiv's side, five Marines were killed, 40 were wounded, and two tanks and one amphibious assault vehicle were damaged.

"It's my belief that he (Saddam) fought us like he fought Iran," said BGen. Thomas Draude, assistant division commander. "But we didn't fight like the Iranians. We used combined arms, maneuvered, and took every opportunity to seize all openings. We learned from Iraqi logbooks that they believed the American soldier did not like to travel in the desert on foot. But we did and we surprised them. With our air to help us out, he just couldn't handle it."

Salvage from Page 1

To assist him in his task, Lake has about 15 Marines loaned to him from various units. "The team is made up of tankers, EOD techs, motor 'T' drivers and others," he said. "The various MOSs should compliment each other well to allow us to accomplish our mission."

The team is attempting to get equipment in as good condition as possible, however, most of the vehicles left behind were left because of engine trouble. Having very little training with the equipment, the Marines are using trial and error to get the vehicles running.

"They try anything they can and somehow they get them running," said Lake.

The equipment will be used for a variety of things, according to Lake. Some will be lawn ornaments at various units around the Corps. Some will go to the Marine Corps Museum and unit museums, and some will be used for training aids.

In the past, the Corps has had to go to great expense to send a few individuals to other services' schools to learn about foreign weapons. The weapons acquired here will allow the Corps to train their own people, according to Lake.

"What we're doing here should allow us to have many more Marines trained to use the foreign weapons that may be found on any battlefield," Lake explained.



Cpl. Steve Nelson

Amphibious assault vehicles from the 1st Marine Division pull line charges toward the breaching points along the border during the ground war.

Light Strike Vehicles blast into combat

New 'Rat Patrol' packs desert punch

BY CPL. J. JONAH COHN
1ST FSSG

SAUDI ARABIA — Operating in the harsh, sandy clime of Operation Desert Storm forced Marines to be creative. The 1st Force Reconnaissance Battalion showed its expeditionary spirit by implementing the use of Light Strike Vehicles.

At first glance, they look like ordinary dune buggies, but a closer look reveals a third seat, a .50 caliber machine gun and an M-60 mounted on the vehicles. The modifications were made keeping in mind the tasks of a recon team.

"They drive great. You hit a bump and just keep on going," said HM2 Marshal McClanahan, a special operations technician who is a gunner and fills in as a corpsman. "It's like driving a race car."

The vehicles were received about a month prior to the commencement of the ground war. Navy SEALs gave classes to the two teams that would be using the "buggies", and they trained with the LSV's at Thunderbolt Range.

Each team consisted of two three-man crews — a driver, "A" driver/vehicle commander and gunner — that were able to communicate with one another through the headsets in their helmets. Members of the team

spoke highly of the machines' usefulness.

"They're made for moving fast on rough terrain. It's not the most comfortable ride, but they'll go faster than anything else out there," Sgt. Michael Thurmond said.

The LSV's cost \$62,000 each, fully equipped. Its 4-speed engine delivers 150 horsepower. The specially designed muffler costs a few horsepower, but makes up for it in stealth.

"Another advantage is how quiet they are. You can't do a patrol in a HMMWV because you can hear them from as far away as 2,000 meters. You have to be within 80 meters to hear the LSV's."

The machines were so quiet that the teams had passed by Saudi units and they never knew of their presence.

Most of the patrols they ran were at night to avoid detection. "If we find somebody, we need to get the heck out of there. The idea is to find them before they find us," Thurmond said. But just in case, they carry AT4's, LAW's, grenades, smoke and demolition — everything they would carry on a foot patrol, only more. The drivers say the LSV's have few mechanical problems as long as they keep up the maintenance. Most



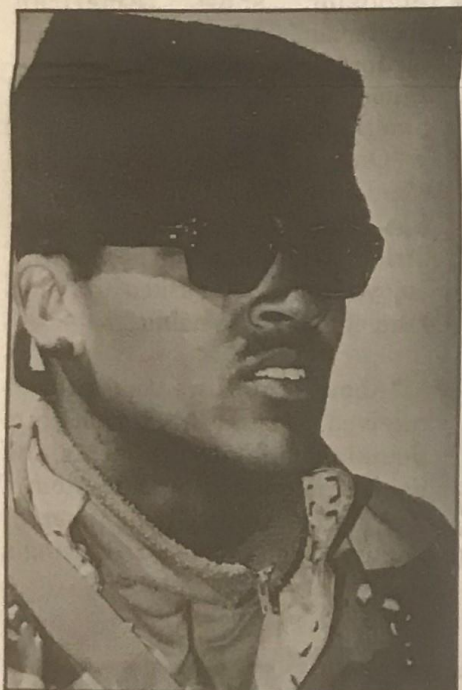
Cpl. C.J. Schindler

Light Strike Vehicle Marines dismount their vehicle after making an assault through the breach. The LSV muffler system makes the vehicle so quiet, some Iraqi soldiers never heard them coming.

difficulties are driver error.

During the war, the first team provided flank security for LAVs going into Kuwait City while the second team performed patrol operations along the border. Other applications were possible, but weren't tested because the offensive ended so quickly.

"From the little bit we've seen, I think this is just the tip of the iceberg," said LtCol. Michael A. Brooks, commanding officer of 1st Force Recon Bn. "We're anxious to get them back to Camp Pendleton to try them out there. There are a lot of different terrains that we might be able to use these on."



SSgt. Kenneth R. Pettigrew

LCpl. David F.B. Burney III is a SAW gunner with Charlie Co., 1/6, 2nd Marine Division.

SAW gunner uses street smarts

Motor City Marine's confidence pays off

BY SSGT. KENNETH R. PETTIGREW
2ND MARINE DIVISION

KUWAIT CITY — At 21 years with an obvious amount of Detroit street smarts, LCpl. David F.B. Burney III seems strangely comfortable with an automatic weapon. It is a confidence borne in combat.

An M-249 squad automatic weapon gunner with 3rd Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, this young man arrived in Saudi Arabia last fall. He, like the other members of his battalion, expected to be spending six months in Okinawa. Instead, the unit was sent to Southwest Asia.

This leatherneck, serving as the machine-gunner for his squad, has at his disposal a 200-round drum full of 5.56mm death. In a pinch, he can insert an M-16 magazine.

"The first day of the ground war, we were a little bit nervous...we didn't know what was going to happen," he said. Heading out toward the breach "about 03-something," he was in about the first or second AAV behind the tanks.

He said his squad felt cramped in the amtrac, ready to go out and assault a trench. There weren't many small-arms engagements, as Iraqi soldiers were surrendering en masse. The surrenders had, of course, inherent problems.

One problem was that some soldiers weren't trying to surrender — they just wanted to kill Marines. In a bizarre, martyr-type of heroism, they were human sacrifices.

A Marine from his unit searched one of the EPWs, who had a bomb on him. "He was loaded. They believe in sacrificing themselves for Allah. It was a little bit of C-4 (plastic explosive), say no more than a pound. When the Marine searched him, it went off. I don't know what happened to the Marine," he added, his expression becoming somber.

But Burney learned his lesson. He handled about 100 EPWs (Enemy Prisoners of War), but he had them search each other. This is a lesson not learned in the Motor City.

'Silent Death'

During the ground war, an M1A1 tank from the 2nd Tank Bn., 2nd Marine Division, speeds across the open desert after bursting through the obstacle belts south of Kuwait City.



Sgt. Earnie Grafon

Fly tier goes buggy

BY SSGT. KENNETH R. PETTIGREW
1 MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

SAUDI ARABIA — In the 1969 movie "M*A*S*H," LtCol. Henry Blake was involved in many things to pass the time. He engaged in womanizing, drinking champagne, illegally betting on football games ... and tying flies. The last activity was as incongruent in a combat activity as the others; it was ludicrous because he had nowhere to go fishing in war-torn South Korea.

Scott A. Johnson was in high school when the movie was released. Subconsciously, it might have affected this petty officer 1st class when he packed his bags in mid-December for Operation Desert Shield, en route from Camp Lejeune, N.C., to the Persian Gulf area. The dental technician chose to pack his fly-tying equipment along with his military gear.

Why would an apparently rational man tie flies in the middle of the desert? "When I tie flies, I think about the cool streams that I've been fishing on, and about the fish that I've caught. It's almost like I can remember every single fish I've ever caught on a fly," 36-year-old Johnson said. He does it to get away from the daily pressure of being career counselor for Consolidated Navy Personnel Office, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

Johnson is a highly extroverted man who smiles easily and laughs heartily at his remarks when he finds them funny. His blue eyes blend easily with the speckles of gray in his brown hair and mustache. At 5 feet 8 inches he is not a physically dominating person, but nevertheless he makes his presence known.

He does this by being jocular and loquacious ... he simply talks a lot. Not that he's boring. Johnson's the kind of guy who'll give you a five-minute explanation as to why the citizens of his hometown of Petersham, Mass., purposely mispronounce the town's name.

Ask him about fly tying, and he'll probably begin with a brief history of the art. "If you read some of the books, fly tying usually dates back to the 1200s. People in medieval Europe were actually fly fishing for salmon," said Johnson, who has a bachelor's degree in history.

"In most cases," Johnson continued, "what a person is trying to do with a fly is imitate something out of nature, whether it be a small minnow, a little salamander or an

insect like a mayfly. But some flies are attractors, made attractive by their coloration to fish such as salmon, bass or trout.

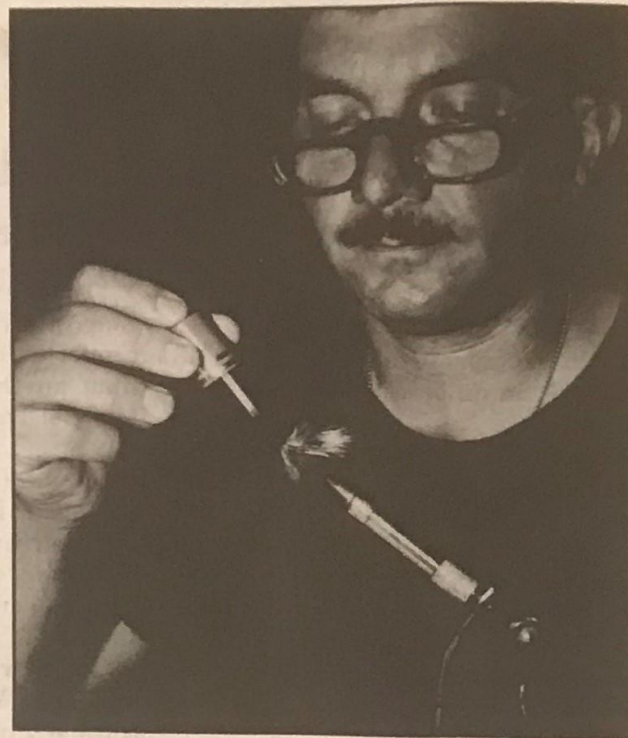
The flies are usually categorized into wet or streamer flies, and dry flies. "With wet flies," Johnson explained, "what you want to do is simulate some type of movement. You cast out, and after the wet fly has gone underneath the water, some people like to give a long, steady pull on their fly line as they retrieve it. Some like to give a little darting action to make it jerk a little."

A dry fly is made to sit upon the surface film of the water. "It's light, but it's made to displace the surface tension of the water," he added. Silicone is sprayed on the feathers so they remain dry, because once they become wet the fly sinks.

His fly-making equipment includes a Thompson vice to hold the hook, thread, a little pair of scissors, and pliers. Additionally, he uses different material to form the "feathers."

"I can provide a lot of my own supplies," he said, "as I do a lot of hunting." He's the complete hunter, as he not only eats the meat of the game he kills, he uses its fur for flies. Whitetail deer hair is fine the way it is, but he dyes black the tails of gray squirrels. Johnson also buys equipment from suppliers. "I purchase bear hair, muskrat, chicken feathers, and this here [taking something out of his tackle box] is a calf tail. ... It's from a little cow that isn't using it any more."

The actual process from bare hook to a complete fly with a feather threaded onto it takes about 15-20 minutes. He figures he's made about 50-60 flies since he's been in-country.



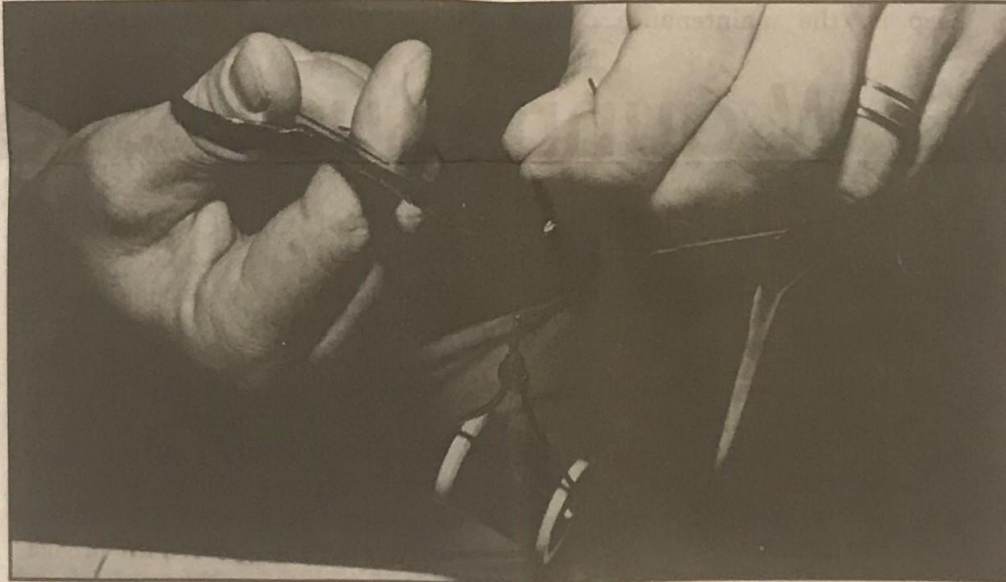
SSgt. Kenneth R. Pettigrew

Petty Officer 1st Class Scott A. Johnson

Just like insects are often named after the people who discovered them, flies are sometimes identified by the fishermen who introduced them. "I have invented some of my own flies. I have not given them any special names. I did invent a little fly to look like a minnow, and I just called it Scotty's Fly [laughter]."

He's been involved in this hobby about eight years. "If you could look at the first flies I ever tied, you could definitely tell I was a beginner. But I've received a compliment from my grandfather, who's been tying flies for over 30 years. He said he thinks I tie better than he does," Johnson said, beaming.

Johnson is quick to give compliments to others who share his pastime. He saw President Jimmy



SSgt. Kenneth R. Pettigrew

The art of flytying has made its way to the desert of Saudi Arabia through the skills of Petty Officer 1st Class Scott A. Johnson.

Carter and his wife Rosalyn on the television show "American Sportsman." Carter was shown reeling in a 29-pound sea run salmon on a fly rod. The show got him thinking.

"One day at work I was wondering, 'Geez, I wonder what he was using.' So I wrote him a nice little letter, telling him how much I enjoyed the show. I asked him what kind of fly he was using.

"About four weeks later I received a letter back from him thanking me for my comments, and hand-written down on the bottom of the letter was 'double-tapered, floating fly line, size 8 rod, using a Rusty Rat fly size 6.'"

BAT Team examines war's triumphs and failures

BY CPL. J. JONAH COHN
1 MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

SAUDI ARABIA — For most Marines here, the hard part is over. While they clean their equipment and prepare it for the greatly anticipated trip home, the Battle Assessment Team has barely begun its arduous task.

That task — to collect information on critical warfighting issues — keeps the 73 Marines scattered about Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and aboard amphibious ships with the 4th and 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigades, more than busy.

The team was task organized for this mission, according to Col. Clifford L. Stanley, head of the Battle Assessment Liaison Team. Some people volunteered when they heard about it, and others were sought out because of their expertise in certain subjects. They arrived in country with 18 people, realizing that they were

woefully undermanned and received more personnel from the Combat Replacement Regiment comprising a variety of military occupation specialties.

Now they're collecting raw data to be sent to the Marine Corps Combat Development Center in Quantico, Va. That's where large support teams will compile the information to begin making analysis.

"The Battle Assessment Team grew out of the existing lessons learned system. The war represented a once-in-a-generation opportunity to review our equipment, organizations, and doctrine in the light of actual combat experience. The Warfighting Center wanted to take maximum advantage of this opportunity, and this project is the result."

The initial plan called for Marines of the team to be married up with combat units during the war and gather information while it was still being generated. However the

advanced party arrived shortly before the war started, and the main party not until after it was over.

"But because we have so many eyes of people who were involved in battle we'll be able to get the information from them," Stanley said.

"We're trying to catch those people while they're still in theater. We've gone directly to units to interview people and even have teams stationed at the airport handing out questionnaires.

"We're trying to discover where we've made mistakes, and where we've done well. What's worked and what hasn't," Stanley said.

The colonel pointed out that it's not a witch hunt to blame people for mistakes.

"This is not a contest where we're saying one Battalion did better than another Battalion. The purpose isn't to evaluate how one person or one unit did but to try to help the Marine Corps in the future."

The team is investigating every facet of the deployment from how efficient LVSs were to how well sights worked on different targeting systems. Nothing is exempt from their scrutiny.

"This war was a test case," Stanley said. "It's the first time a lot of things have been used while deployed on such a large scale. This information is going to be important not only during upcoming budget talks, but also in the direction that the Marine Corps takes in the future. Where do we go? Should we be general forces? Should we be more specialized? Those are hard questions."

Although he was hesitant to draw conclusions about the information collected thus far he did offer one value judgment.

"I think the troops are outstanding. I can't say enough about them. It's like being a born-again Marine, so to speak, to see the quality of our troops here."

