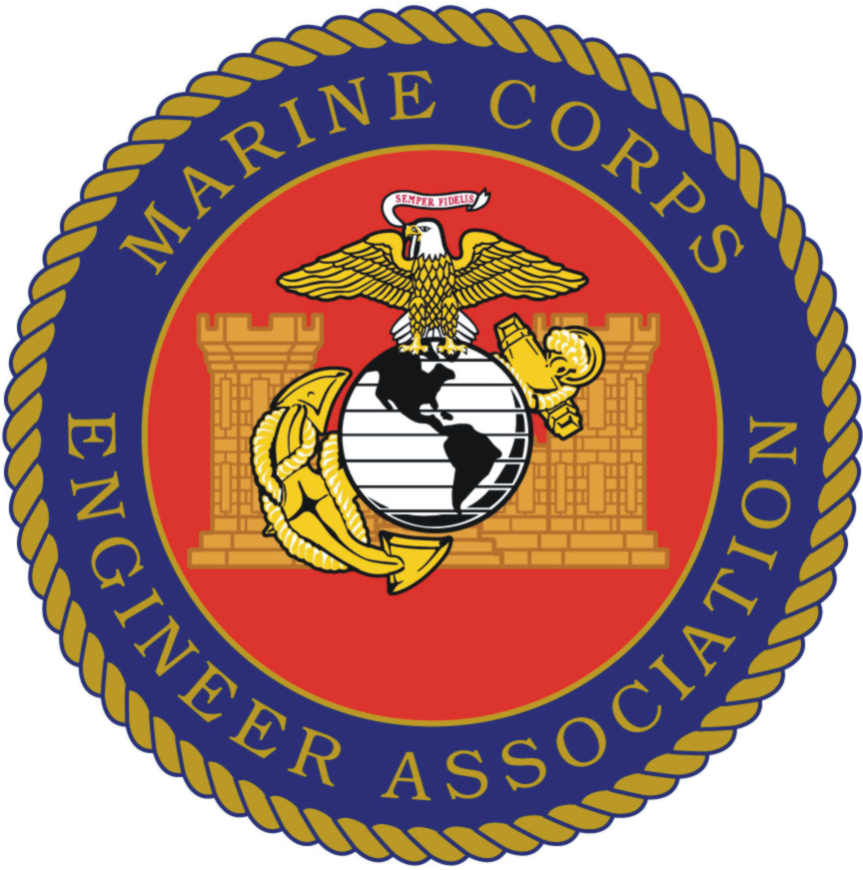
**TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REUNION**

**OF THE**

**MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION**



**JACKSONVILLE, NC**

**23-25 SEPTEMBER, 2015**



**A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS**

On the occasion of your twenty-second annual reunion, I extend my sincere

Greetings and best wishes to the members of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.

The history of Marine Corps engineers is a distinguished one. Your

warfighting prowess was first demonstrated seventy years ago during the island

hopping campaign of WWII, and then again during combat in Korea and Vietnam.

You showed your courage to the world clearing obstacles and breeching minefields

during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Engineers have served with honor

during the past decade at war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In the ever evolving future security environment, America continues to rely on

its Marines in missions ranging from humanitarian assistance to combat operations,

and our Corps, continues to rely on the bravery of our engineers and EOD technicians.

I want to offer my personal congratulations to all the award recipients-the

outstanding individual Marine Corps engineers, EOD personnel, and superb Marine

Corps organizations. All of you can be extremely proud of the recognition that you so

duly deserve.

Enjoy the camaraderie and reflect back with other members on the illustrious

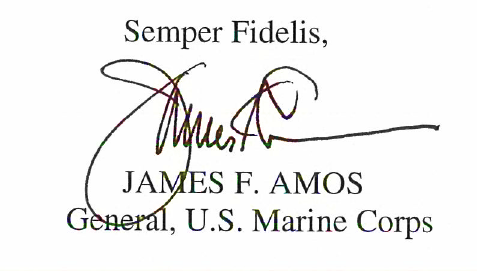
history of our beloved Corps and especially your engineer units. Take time during this

celebration to pause and remember those who have gone before you that paid the

ultimate sacrifice to ensure that we remain a free Nation.

My warmest regards and best wishes for a thoroughly enjoyable reunion this

year! I remain...



**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF**

**THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION**

Do you know if it is true there may be Marines who have never been to Jacksonville, North Carolina and Camp Lejeune? I suppose that is possible and do not doubt there are some. But for most of us, I am certain the base holds a special place in our histories. Those of us who were stationed here, attended a school here, served on TAD orders or just passed through on our way to more exotic climes and places will share a sense of “coming home.” As the location for MCEA’s 2015 annual reunion and awards program, this event provides many of us with opportunities to reminisce. And for our active duty and award recipients, this setting will once again serve as a place of honor where we celebrate present-day accomplishments of Marine Corps Engineers.

As we have since 1998, we again reunite as engineers, past and present, to hold our annual meeting and recognize the “Best of the Best” Marine Corps Engineers and EOD. These active duty Marines and units are continuing the tradition of honor, dedication and meritorious service for which our engineer MOS’s have long been distinguished. The award winners were nominated by their commanders as deserving recognition at the highest level. Competing against other nominees from around the Corps, these individuals and units were chosen.

I extend our sincere congratulations for your actions on behalf of Corps and Country. Your past and on-going effort to excel in performance of duty has the distinct characteristic of honoring not only your own service, but continuing the long heritage of those who preceded you. Your example will motivate those with whom you serve today and inspire those who will follow in your footsteps. Congratulations!

May our time together be a blessing for all of us. Engineers Up!

Semper Fi,

Charlie

Charlie Dismore

Major, USMC (Ret.)

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**Lieutenant General Frank A. Panter, Jr. - Retired**

Enlisting in the Marine Corps in August 1968, he served until 1972. This included a tour in the Republic of Vietnam with the 1st Marine Division. After graduating in 1975 from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology, he entered Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in July 1975.

Following The Basic School in 1976, Second Lieutenant Panter attended the Basic Combat Engineer Course. He then served as a Combat Engineer and Shore Party Platoon Commander, Alpha Company, 3D Combat Engineer Battalion, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii participating in several deployments throughout the Western Pacific. Transferred in July 1979 to the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia, Captain Panter served as the Commanding General's aide-de-camp until 1982. Captain Panter then served as Inspector-Instructor for Headquarters & Service Company and Assistant Battalion Inspector-Instructor, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, Portland, Oregon until 1986. He was later assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington D.C. as an Acquisition Project Officer for engineer equipment.

In 1990 Major Panter was transferred to Okinawa, Japan and served as the Operations Officer and later as the Executive Officer for 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. After being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he assumed command of the 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion. While at 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, he participate in Operation FIERY VIGIL, providing disaster relief assistance in the Philippines after the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.

In 1993, Lieutenant Colonel Panter was transferred to United States Central Command, Tampa, Florida and served as the Branch Chief, Exercise Branch, Logistics and Security Assistance Directorate (J4) and also as the Humanitarian Assessment Survey Team (HAST) Chief.

During 1997, he was transferred to Naples, Italy, where he served as the Military Assistant and Senior Special Assistant to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Naval Forces Europe / Commander, Allied Forces Southern Europe.

In July 1998, Colonel Panter was transferred to United States Atlantic Command, Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the Deputy Chief and later Chief of the Current Operations Division, Operations Directorate (J3). During August 1999, Colonel Panter was transferred to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing and served as the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Inspector until assuming command of Marine Wing Support Group 27, which he commanded for two years.

From July 2002 until August 2003, Brigadier General Panter served as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Warfighting Lab in Quantico, VA and the Vice Chief, Office of Naval Research.

In September 2003, he assumed command of the 3rd Marine Logistics Group. During this tour he commanded the Combined Support Group-Sri Lanka, Operation UNIFIED ASSISTANCE, which was responsible for U.S. military tsunami disaster relief assistance in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Also during this tour, Brigadier General Panter deployed forces to Pakistan for earthquake disaster relief efforts as well as commanding the U.S. forces in Indonesia for earthquake disaster relief operations.

During August 2006, Brigadier General Panter was transferred to Headquarters, Marine Corps where he assumed duties as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics (Plans, Policy and Strategic Mobility).

From 2007 to 2009, Major General Panter served as the Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea and Assistant Chief of Staff for Strategy and Plans, U/C/J-5, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and United States Forces Korea.

Lieutenant General Panter's last assignment on active duty was Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics, Washington, DC.

Lieutenant General Panter is a graduate of the United States Army's Advance Engineer Officer's Course, the Marine Corps' Command & Staff College, the Naval War College and the Air Force's Air War College (nonresident). He has a Master of Education degree in Secondary Mathematics and a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

**2015 MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS**

AWARD WINNER UNIT

COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER 1STLT. JOSEPH A. GARCIA 2D CEB

COMBAT ENGINEER SNCO GYSGT MATTHEW W. CORNETT 8TH ESB

COMBAT ENGINEER NCO SGT ERICK GONZALEZ 2D CEB

COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE CPL BRENTNIEMA B. SERQUINA 2D CEB

ENGR EQUIPMENT OFFICER CWO4 WAYNE D. DUREE 1ST MAINT BN

ENGR EQUIPMENT SNCO SSGT JUSTIN M. BLAISDELL 2D CEB

ENGR EQUIPMENT MARINE LCPL ANDREW T. SHEPHERD 2D CEB

UTILITIES OFFICER CWO4 MICAH S. BUTLER 9TH ESB

UTILITIES SNCO GYSGT STEVEN D. CHAPMAN 9TH ESB

UTILITIES NCO CPL JOSEPH A. GRAVES 2D MAINT BN

UTILITIES MARINE LCPL LANE V. MCMILLAN 1ST CEB

BULK FUEL OFFICER CWO3 CHAD M HENTZEL 1ST MAW HQS

BULK FUEL SNCO SSGT ANDREW L. WALTER MWSS 171

BULK FUEL NCO SGT JONATHAN A. HOWLEY 7TH ESB

BULK FUEL MARINE LCPL SOPHIA GARCIA 9TH ESB

EOD OFFICER CWO2 DREW B. JORDAN 9TH ESB

EOD TECHNICIAN SGT JACOB J. MIERKOWSKI 9TH ESB

COMBAT ENGINEER BN 2D CEB

ENGINEER SPT BN 8TH ESB

MWSS ENGINEER COMPANY ENGR CO, MWSS 172

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**FIRST LIEUTENANT JOSEPH GARCIA**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS A 2D PLATOON COMMANDER, MOBILITY ASSAULT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION FROM 1 MARCH 2014 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2015. FIRST LIEUTENANT GARCIA’S PROFESSIONALISM, KNOWLEDGE, AND INITIATIVE WERE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF HIS PLATOON, AND THE BATTALION AS A WHOLE DURING THIS PERIOD. WHILE SERVING IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 14-2, HE LED 26 ROUTE CLEARANCE MISSIONS, WHICH CLEARED 1,550 KILOMETERS IN SUPPORT OF 11 NAMED OPERATIONS. DURING THIS TIME, HIS PLATOON IDENTIFIED, INTERROGATED AND REMOVED THREE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES AND WAS ENGAGED BY THE ENEMY WITH DIRECT FIRE WEAPONS ON TWO OCCASIONS. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, HIS LEADERSHIP AND CALM DEMEANOR PROVED CRITICAL TO MAINTAINING HIS PLATOON’S FOCUS ON THE MISSION. UPON RETURN FROM DEPLOYMENT, FIRST LIEUTENANT GARCIA LEVERAGED HIS DEPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE AND FOCUSED HIS EFFORTS ON TRAINING JUNIOR MARINES NEW TO HIS PLATOON. IN A FIVE MONTH PERIOD, LIEUTENANT GARCIA PLANNED, COORDINATED, AND EXECUTED SEVEN PLATOON-LEVEL EXERCISES INCLUDING THE COORDINATION AND EXECUTION OF EMBARKING A BUFFALO AND HUSKY ONBOARD AMPHIBIOUS SHIPPING VIA SURFACE CONNECTORS, FOR THE FIRST TIME. FIRST LIEUTENANT GARCIA’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

## The MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

COMBAT ENGINEER STAFF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**GUNNERY SERGEANT MATTHEW CORNETT**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS LOGISTICS CHIEF AND LEAD ADVISOR FOR COMBINED CORPS ADVISOR TEAM, BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS GROUP-AFGHANISTAN, MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE-AFGHANISTAN AND FIRST SERGEANT FOR COMPANY B, 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 2D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, FROM 1 APRIL 2014 THROUGH 31 MARCH 2015. WHILE SERVING AS THE LOGISTICS CHIEF, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT PERSONALLY ACCOUNTED FOR AND IDENTIFIED 871 ITEMS IN NEED OF RETROGRADE TO INCLUDE A FULL INVENTORY OF SIX FORTY-FOOT IDO CONTAINERS, EIGHT QUAD CONS, AND FOUR STORAGE BUILDINGS. HE WAS ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY ACCOUNT FOR AND REMOVE ALL GEAR WITHIN A MONTH ENSURING AN EFFICIENT RETROGRADE PLAN AND NO BREAK IN OPERATIONAL TEMPO WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY MANAGING ALL LOGISTICS FOR THE 212-MAN ADVISOR TEAM TO INCLUDE BRITISH AND AMERICAN MILITARY, CONTRACTORS, AND LINGUISTS. GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT ALSO SERVED AS THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR FOR THE COMBINED CORPS ADVISOR TEAM AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MENTORSHIP OF AN AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY’S EXPLOSIVE HAZARD REDUCTION AND COUNTER-IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE COURSES. HE SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED A “TRAIN-THE-TRAINER” COURSE ALLOWING THE AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY TO CONDUCT THEIR OWN TRAINING AND OPERATE MORE SAFELY IN A HIGHLY KINETIC IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE AREA. HE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS TRAINING THEM IN SEVEN DIFFERENT SUBJECTS. ONCE REDEPLOYED, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT WAS SELECTED TO SERVE AS THE FIRST SERGEANT FOR COMPANY B. UTILIZING HIS EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THE SUCCESS OF THE COMPANY IN HIS ROLE AS THE FIRST SERGEANT, AS WELL AS A COMBAT ENGINEER STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER. HE HAS BEEN CRUCIAL TO THE OPERATIONAL PLANNING FOR TWO COMPANY LEVEL TRAINING EXERCISES. REGARDLESS OF BILLET, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT IS A STEADFAST AND TRUSTWORTHY STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER WHO LEAVES A LASTING IMPACT ON THOSE HE COMES IN CONTACT WITH. GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

## The MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

COMBAT ENGINEER NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**SERGEANT ERICK GONZALEZ**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON GUIDE, ROUTE CLEARANCE PLATOON 1, MOBILITY ASSAULT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. AS LEAD HUSKY OPERATOR, SERGEANT GONZALEZ LED 12 ROUTE CLEARANCE MISSIONS AND ENSURED UNIMPEDED MOBILITY FOR 6 DIFFERENT BATTALIONS IN REGIONAL COMMAND SOUTHWEST. HE SUPPORTED 8 DIFFERENT NAMED OPERATIONS BY CLEARING MORE THAN 1,000 KILOMETERS OF TERRAIN LADEN WITH IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. HIS TECHNICAL SKILL ENABLED THE REMOVAL OF THREE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES FROM THE BATTLEFIELD AND ENSURED THAT NO FOLLOW-ON UNITS WERE ATTACKED BY EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS. ON 27 JUNE 2014, HE VISUALLY IDENTIFIED A REMOTE CONTROLLED IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE, ENABLING ITS EXPLOITATION AND REDUCTION. HIS LEADERSHIP AS THE PLATOON GUIDE ENSURED THE PLATOON’S CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FULL MISSION READINESS. HIS DRIVE FOR CONSTANT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LED TO HIS ENROLLMENT AND SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER SCHOOL’S URBAN BREACHER COURSE. HE SUBSEQUENTLY UTILIZED THESE SKILLS WHILE LEADING THE WAY IN THE CONDUCT OF AN INTERNAL PLATOON URBAN BREACHER COURSE. SERGEANT GONZALEZ’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

## The MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**LANCE CORPORAL BRENTNIEMA SERQUINA**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS LEAD DISMOUNTED SWEEPER, GENERAL SUPPORT PLATOON, SUPPORT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. LANCE CORPORAL SERQUINA’S TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND STEADFAST DEVOTION TO MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT WERE INSTRUMENTAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PLATOON. LANCE CORPORAL SERQUINA DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 14.1-14.2 WHERE HE SUPPORTED MULTIPLE INFANTRY COMPANIES IN BOTH 1STBATTALION, 2D MARINE REGIMENT AND 1ST BATTALION, 7TH MARINE REGIMENT, PROVIDING A VITAL ROLE IN THE CLEARANCE OF 25 COMPOUNDS OF INTEREST THROUGHOUT HELMAND PROVINCE. LANCE CORPORAL SERQUINA PROVED TO BE KEY IN THE COMPLETION OF 15 FORCE PROTECTION OPERATIONS ABOARD CAMP LEATHERNECK AND CAMP SHORABAK. THIS INCLUDED THE REINFORCEMENT OF 5,600 METERS OF CONCERTINA WIRE FENCE, THE CONSTRUCTION OF 6 GUARD TOWERS AND 17 CREW SERVED WEAPON FIGHTING POSITIONS, THE INSTALLATION OF 635 FEET OF DIRECT FIRE AND BLAST MITIGATION HESCO WALLS, THE STABILIZATION OF 115 CUBIC YARDS OF SOIL, AND THE REPAIR OF AN ENTRY CONTROL POINT, ALL IN PREPARATION FOR THE TURNOVER OF CAMP LEATHERNECK TO AFGHAN FORCES. LANCE CORPORAL SERQUINA’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

The MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**chief warrant officer FOUR WAYNE DUREE**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER, ENGINEER MAINTENANCE COMPANY, 1ST MAINTENANCE BATTALION, COMBAT LOGISTICS REGIMENT 15, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. DURING THIS PERIOD, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FOUR DUREE’S PROACTIVE APPROACH TO EXPEDITIONARY LOGISTICS AND SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESSFUL RETROGRADE AND BASE CLOSURE FROM THE REGIONAL COMMAND (SOUTHWEST) AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. HE SPEARHEADED THE LOGISTICAL COORDINATION TO POWER CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS 600 ACRES ON CAMP LEATHERNECK CALLED THE “GREEN ZONE” BY CREATING EIGHT SMALL, MANAGEABLE POWER GRIDS. HE EMPLOYED LARGE GENERATORS AND THE EXISTING HIGH VOLTAGE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ALLOWING CAMP LEATHERNECK THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO SUSTAIN THE LAST 30 DAYS OF OPERATIONS ENSURING THE REGIONAL COMMAND (SOUTHWEST) COMMANDING GENERAL MAINTAINED COMMAND AND CONTROL UNTIL THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT. ADDITIONALLY, HIS SOLE ACTIONS WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CAMP BASTION ROLE II HOSPITAL, WHICH INCREASED CAPACITY BY ADJUSTING THE MEDICAL FACILITY’S LAYOUT TO MATCH EVOLVING MISSION REQUIREMENTS ENTAILING TWO OPERATING ROOMS, AN INTENSIVE CARE AREA, AND AN INPATIENT WARD. HIS HARD WORK PROVED TO BE INVALUABLE DURING A CRITICAL PERIOD IN THE RETROGRADE PROCESS AS THIS ENSURED THE ROLE II HOSPITAL MAINTAINED THE “GOLDEN HOUR” MEDICAL CAPABILITY THROUGHOUT THE BATTLESPACE AND MAINTAINED EXPEDITIONARY MEDICAL READINESS FOR MORE THAN 8,000 COALITION PERSONNEL. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FOUR DUREE’S EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONALISM, PERSONAL INITIATIVE, AND LOYAL DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

The MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING the

ENGINEER EQUIPMENT STAFF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER

OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**staff sergeant JUSTIN BLAISDELL**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON SERGEANT, OPERATIONS PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION (FORWARD), MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE-AFGHANISTAN, FROM APRIL 2014 TO SEPTEMBER 2014 IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND A PHYSICAL MISSION OFFICER FOR ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 2D MARINE DIVISION, FROM SEPTEMBER 2014 TO MARCH 2015. STAFF SERGEANT BLAISDELL’S RELENTLESS WORK ETHIC, ATTENTION TO DETAIL, AND SUPERIOR LEADERSHIP RESULTED IN THE REMEDIATION OF 400 METERS OF PROTECTIVE BERM, THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SIX KILOMETER GREEN ZONE PERIMETER WALL OF MORE THAN 2,000 BARRIERS, REDUCTION OF 24 PRE-ENGINEERED BUILDINGS COMPRISING AN ENTIRE LIFE SUPPORT AREA, AND THE REMEDIATION OF THE CAMP LEATHERNECK ASH PIT. HIS DEDICATION TO THE MISSION AND TO LEADING MARINES DIRECTLY RESULTED IN MOVING 70 THOUSAND CUBIC YARDS OF ASH AND 150 THOUSAND CUBIC YARDS OF SOIL, THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF 120 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MISSIONS TOTALING 389 EQUIPMENT HOURS, AND 598 MOTOR TRANSPORTATION MISSIONS THAT MOVED MORE THAN 7 MILLION POUNDS OVER A CUMULATIVE DISTANCE OF 28,098 MILES. AS THE PHYSICAL MISSION OFFICER HE DEVELOPED A PHYSICAL TRAINING AND HIKING PLAN FOR 205 MARINES. HIS METICULOUS PLANNING RESULTED IN THE EXECUTION OF 12 CONDITIONING HIKES AND THE EXECUTION OF DAILY PHYSICAL TRAINING GREATLY IMPROVING THE COMPANY’S COMBAT FITNESS READINESS. STAFF SERGEANT BLAISDELL’ S NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PERSONAL INITIATIVE, AND LOYAL DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MARINE OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**LANCE corporal ANDREW SHEPHERD**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS TOOL ROOM NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER, PUBLICATIONS NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER, CALIBRATIONS NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER, MAINTENANCE PLATOON, MOBILITY ASSAULT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. LANCE CORPORAL SHEPHERD’S EXPERTISE, DEDICATION TO DUTY, AND PROFESSIONALISM WERE AN INTEGRAL ASSET TO THE SUCCESS OF THE BATTALION’S MAINTENANCE AND READINESS. LANCE CORPORAL SHEPHERD WAS APPOINTED TO THREE KEY BILLETS WITHIN THE MAINTENANCE SECTION OF THE REMAIN BEHIND ELEMENT OF MOBILITY ASSAULT COMPANY. HIS TIRELESS WORK ETHIC AND DEDICATION TO DUTY LED TO A SUCCESSFUL FIELD SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS OFFICE INSPECTION WITH NO FINDINGS IN ANY OF THE THREE SECTIONS HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING. THROUGH HIS TIRELESS WORK ETHIC, HE MAINTAINED ACCOUNTABILITY OF OVER $1.2 MILLION WORTH OF TOOLS AND SPECIAL TOOLS. AS THE PUBLICATIONS NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, LANCE CORPORAL SHEPHERD CREATED AND MAINTAINED A PUBLICATIONS LIBRARY ENCOMPASSING 12 PRINCIPLE END ITEMS. AS THE CALIBRATIONS NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, LANCE CORPORAL SHEPHERD RECOGNIZED THE NEED AND CREATED A STAGGERED SYSTEM FOR 62 CALIBRATED ITEMS TO BE INDUCTED IN SUCH A WAY FOR THE ITEMS TO BE CALIBRATED WHILE SUPPORTING THE OPERATIONAL TEMPO OF MAINTENANCE PLATOON. LANCE CORPORAL SHEPHERD’S PERSONAL INITIATIVE AND LOYAL DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

UTILITIES OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**chief warrant officer FOUR MICAH BUTLER**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS UTILITIES PLATOON COMMANDER, UTILITIES PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM APRIL 2014 TO MARCH 2015. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FOUR BUTLER HAS LED, MENTORED, AND TRAINED OVER 80 MARINES ACROSS FOUR SECTIONS AND SIX DIFFERENT MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTIES. HIS OVERSIGHT IN UTILITIES PLANNING FOR 13 DIFFERENT UNITS AND 67 EXERCISES IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS ACROSS THE PACIFIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY RESULTED IN OPTIMAL SUPPORT WITH AND FROM DESIGNED POWER GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION GRIDS, OVER 140 MARINES AND 780 EQUIPMENT ITEMS. IN ADDITION, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT OF 843 UTILITIES EQUIPMENT ITEMS VALUED AT OVER 17,000 DOLLARS AND MAINTAINING AN AVERAGE EQUIPMENT READINESS LEVEL OF AT LEAST 96 PERCENT. DURING THE FY15 FIELD SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS OFFICE INSPECTION, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FOUR BUTLER RECEIVED NO FINDINGS OR SIGNIFICANT DISCREPANCIES IN HIS REPORTING AND RECEIVED AN OUTSTANDING SCORE OF 99.5 PERCENT IN OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE READINESS. AS A TESTAMENT OF HIS FORWARD THINKING AND UNMATCHED INITIATIVE, HE REPRESENTED III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, AND THE UTILITIES FIELD DURING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MAINTENANCE SYMPOSIUM, MARITIME PREPOSITIONING FORCE CONFERENCE, AND THE MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND-EXPEDITIONARY POWER SYSTEMS CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO GAIN ESSENTIAL PERSPECTIVE ON INITIATIVES AND CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER EQUIPMENT AND UTILITIES FIELDS. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FOUR BUTLER’S VAST KNOWLEDGE, PROFESSIONALISM AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

UTILITIES STAFF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**GUNNERY sergeant STEVEN CHAPMAN**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS WATER SECTION CHIEF, UTILITIES CHIEF, AND UTILITIES MAINTENANCE CHIEF FOR ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FROM APRIL 2014 THROUGH MARCH 2015. AS WATER SECTION CHIEF, GUNNERY SERGEANT CHAPMAN WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR 45 MARINES AND 334 EQUIPMENT ITEMS VALUED AT MORE THAN 12 MILLION DOLLARS. HE ENSURED EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL READINESS BY DIRECTING 24 PERIODS OF INSTRUCTION, SUPERVISING 668 EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS AND THE COMPLETION OF 287 PREVENTIVE AND CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES. IN SPRING OF 2014, HE DEPLOYED TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH KOREA AS THE UTILITIES CHIEF FOR FREEDOM BANNER AND PROVIDED 63 DAYS OF 24-HOUR SUPPORT FOR A BASE CAMP OF 1,150 PERSONNEL AT GWANGYANG PORT. IN SUPPORT OF PHILIPPINES BILATERAL EXERCISE 2015, HE DEPLOYED TO THE PHILIPPINES AS THE ENGINEER CHIEF WHERE HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR 27 UTILITIES, BULK FUEL, HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL MARINES, AS WELL AS MORE THAN 70 ENGINEERS AND UTILITIES EQUIPMENT MARINES PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR APPROXIMATELY 2,000 MARINES. AS THE UTILITIES MAINTENANCE CHIEF, GUNNERY SERGEANT CHAPMAN OVERSAW THE CONDUCT AND DOCUMENTATION OF PREVENTIVE AND CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE FOR 843 UTILITIES EQUIPMENT ITEMS, VALUED AT MORE THAN 17 MILLION DOLLARS. HE SUPERVISED 74 MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL OF SIX DIFFERENT MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTIES AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING 721 MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES. HE OVERSAW THE PLATOON’S FIELDING OF THE NEW ADVANCE MEDIUM MOBILE POWER SOURCE GENERATORS, WHICH INCLUDED COORDINATION AND RECEIPT OF 96 GENERATORS AND SUPERVISING MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS AND MODIFICATION INSTALLATIONS. GUNNERY SERGEANT CHAPMAN LED FIELD SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS OFFICE PREPARATION EFFORTS FOR UTILITIES BY LEADING MORE THAN 14 CLASSES ON MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES AND CONDUCTING INSPECTIONS OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS FOR 10 FUNCTIONAL AREAS. HIS EFFORTS RESULTED IN NO FINDINGS AND AN OVERALL SCORE OF 99.5 PERCENT. GUNNERY SERGEANT CHAPMAN’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

UTILITIES NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**corporal JOSEPH GRAVES**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT REPAIR SPECIALIST, SPECIAL OPERATIONS TASK FORCE WEST, 1ST MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS BATTALION, MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS REGIMENT, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS FORCES, SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND FROM APRIL 2014 TO MARCH 2015. DURING THIS PERIOD CORPORAL GRAVES PERFORMED HIS DUTIES IN AN EXEMPLARY AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL MANNER AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS HAD A LASTING IMPACT ON OPERATIONAL AND MISSION READINESS IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL COMBAT OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN. CORPORAL GRAVES’ UNWAVERING COMMITMENT, ATTENTION TO DETAIL, AND EXCEPTIONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE UTILITIES FIELD ENABLED HIM TO COMPLETE THE TIMELY SETUP OF THE ENTIRE BASE CAMP UTILIZING 123 ITEMS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT WITH MONETARY VALUE OF APPROXIMATELY TWO MILLION DOLLARS. CORPORAL GRAVES WAS ASSIGNED A VARIETY OF DEMANDING TASKS THAT REQUIRED LONG ARDUOUS HOURS, OFTEN UNDER CHALLENGING CONDITIONS IN AN AUSTERE ENVIRONMENT. EACH TIME HE ROSE TO THE OCCASION, ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY AND DISPLAYED VERSATILITY TO ENSURE MISSION SUCCESS BY REPAIRING GENERATORS AND ESTABLISHING POWER GRIDS. UPON HIS RETURN FROM DEPLOYMENT, CORPORAL GRAVES WAS IMMEDIATELY ASSIGNED AS THE TRAINING NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER IN ENGINEER MAINTENANCE COMPANY, 2D MAINTENANCE BATTALION. HIS DIRECT INFLUENCE WILL BE SEEN FOR YEARS AS HIS MANAGEMENT OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM HELPED THE COMPANY TO INCREASE ITS EFFICIENCY IN TRACKING MARINES’ CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS TRAINING AND READINESS EVENTS THROUGH THE USE OF THE MARINE CORPS TRAINING INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. DURING CORPORAL GRAVES’ TIME AS THE TRAINING NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, HIS INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS INCREASED THE COMPANY’S OVERALL TRAINING READINESS BY TWENTY PERCENT WITHIN THE FIRST MONTH ALONE. HIS VERSATILITY, INITIATIVE, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY ARE COMMENDABLE AND ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

UTILITIES MARINE OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**lance corporal LANE MCMILLAN**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS GENERATOR MECHANIC, UTILITIES PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. LANCE CORPORAL MCMILLAN EXECUTED SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT EXCHANGES WITH THE 7TH IRAQI ARMY DIVISION TO FIX AND MAINTAIN THE GENERATORS POWERING THEIR COMBAT OPERATIONS CENTER, ENABLING COMBAT OPERATIONS AND OPTIMAL COMMAND AND CONTROL FOR THE UNIT. ADDITIONALLY, HE USED HIS SUPERIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE UTILITIES FIELD AND WORKED OUTSIDE OF HIS PRIMARY MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY BY INSTALLING AND OPERATING OVER 25 GENERATORS AND INSTALLING INTERIOR WIRING WHICH PROVIDED POWER TO OVER 175 COMPARTMENTALIZED HOUSING UNITS THAT BILLETED OVER 640 PERSONNEL. HE WAS ALSO INSTRUMENTAL IN POWERING THE COMBINED AID STATION, DINING FACILITIES, BASE DEFENSE OPERATIONS CENTER THAT ULTIMATELY ENABLED COMBAT OPERATIONS IN THE COMBAT OPERATIONS CENTER. LANCE CORPORAL MCMILLAN’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

BULK FUEL OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**chief warrant officer three CHAD HENTZEL**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS FUELS OFFICER ASSISTANT PLANS OFFICER, AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT DEPARTMENT, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE HENTZEL RELENTLESSLY IDENTIFIED AND PROVIDED SOLUTIONS TO ALL 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING’S FUEL REQUIREMENTS, MADE IMPROVEMENTS TO MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE OPERATIONS PLANS, AND COORDINATED REDISTRIBUTION OF FUEL EQUIPMENT ACROSS III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. HE SOUNDLY GUIDED AND MENTORED THREE SENIOR FUELS OFFICERS AND 129 ENLISTED FUEL PERSONNEL WITHIN THE FUELS BRANCHES, ORGANIC TO TWO MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRONS AND ONE MARINE WING SUPPORT DETACHMENT. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE HENTZEL EXPERTLY PLANNED AND COORDINATED THE DEPLOYMENT OF OVER 430 FUEL PERSONNEL AND OVER 190 PRINCIPAL END ITEMS IN SUPPORT OF 37 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING EXERCISES. HIS ACTIONS DIRECTLY LED TO THE TOTAL THROUGHPUT OF OVER 14.6 MILLION GALLONS OF FUEL TO OVER 10,000 SORTIES AND GROUND EQUIPMENT. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE HENTZEL SERVED AS A WATCH OFFICER AND SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT FOR THREE KOREAN THEATER OF OPERATION’S COMBINED MILITARY COMMAND AND CONTROL EXERCISES. HE PLANNED AND CALCULATED THE FUEL REQUIREMENT OF OVER 72.6 MILLION GALLONS OF FUEL TO SUPPORT OVER 105,000 SIMULATED SORTIES. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE HENTZEL OBTAINED OVER 213 PRINCIPAL END ITEMS, WORTH OVER $2.2 MILLION, FOR TWO MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRONS’ AND ONE MARINE WING SUPPORT DETACHMENT AT NO COST TO 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING. HIS ACTIONS AND LEADERSHIP WERE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCREASE OF 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING’S FUEL EQUIPMENT SUPPLY READINESS FROM 85% TO 98% IN ONLY A FEW MONTHS’ TIME. HIS EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE HAD A PROFOUND INFLUENCE THAT WILL HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE OPERATIONS PLANS, AND THE UTILITIES AND BULK FUEL COMMUNITIES FOR YEARS TO COME. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE HENTZEL’ S TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY, INFLUENCE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

BULK FUEL STAFF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**STAFF sergeant ANDREW WALTER**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS MAINTENANCE CHIEF, FUELS BRANCH, AIRFIELD OPERATIONS COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 171, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 12, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. STAFF SERGEANT WALTER METICULOUSLY SUPERVISED AND MANAGED THE MAINTENANCE OF OVER 250 PRINCIPAL END AND TAMCN ITEMS TO INCLUDE SL-3 VALUED AT OVER $10,400,000. HE EFFICIENTLY MAINTAINED OVER 95% MATERIAL READINESS, WHICH ENSURED THAT FUEL EQUIPMENT WAS CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING CLASS III REQUIREMENTS FOR EIGHT EXERCISES, WITHOUT ANY OPERATIONAL PAUSE. COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING SUBORDINATES, HE CONCEIVED, FORMULATED, AND TAUGHT NINE SPECIFIC AIR BASE GROUND DEFENSE CLASSES TO THE COMPANY, WHICH DIRECTLY LED TO INCREASED OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND COMBAT READINESS, AND ENSURED THE SQUADRON’S ANNUAL MISSION ESSENTIAL TASKS WERE COMPLETE. STAFF SERGEANT WALTER ALSO SUPPORTED FOUR FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT MISSIONS AT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI WHICH ISSUED 9,249 GALLONS OF AVIATION FUEL TO SEVERAL UNITED STATES NAVY AND MARINE CORPS SH-60 AND MV-22 AIRCRAFT. DURING EXERCISE FORAGER FURY III, HE EXECUTED THE DUTIES OF THE SQUADRON FUEL CHIEF, A BILLET NORMALLY ASSIGNED TO A MASTER SERGEANT. HE FLAWLESSLY SUPERVISED AND ACCOUNTED FOR THE ISSUANCE OF 71,976 GALLONS OF JP-8 FUEL DURING ALL AVIATION AND GROUND REFUELING OPERATIONS, WHICH PROVIDED SUPPORT TO 11 INDIVIDUAL GROUND AND AVIATION UNITS, TO INCLUDE THE UNITED STATES NAVY’S HELICOPTER SEA COMBAT SQUADRON 25 DURING SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS FOR A MARINE LOST AT SEA. STAFF SERGEANT WALTER’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

BULK FUEL NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**SERGEANT JONATHAN HOWLEY**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ASSISTANT BULK FUEL CHIEF, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION-1, FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. DURING DEPLOYMENT TO AFGHANISTAN, IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 14.2, SERGEANT HOWLEY SUPERVISED THE TRANSFER OF FUEL FROM THREE STEEL TANKS TOTALING 1,000,000 GALLONS INTO EIGHT 210,000 GALLON COLLAPSIBLE FUEL BLADDERS AT THE BULK FUEL INSTALLATION (BFI), ABOARD FORWARD OPERATING BASE LEATHERNECK. THIS TRANSFER REQUIRED SERGEANT HOWLEY’S TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITIONAL FUEL DISPENSING SITE WHICH ADDED 10,000 GALLONS OF DISPENSING CAPACITY, INCREASING THE BFI’S EFFICIENCY BY FIFTY PERCENT. THE BFI WAS ABLE TO DISPENSE A TOTAL OF 1,185,546 GALLONS OF FUEL TO 3,376 VEHICLES. SERGEANT HOWLEY’S ADVANCE TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY IN THE EMPLOYMENT OF TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS WAS PARAMOUNT TO ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY’S MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT. HIS STRONG WORK ETHIC AND ABILITY TO LEAD FROM THE FRONT BY TEACHING HIS MARINES MADE HIM AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 1, REGIONAL COMMAND (SOUTHWEST), AND THE BULK FUEL COMMUNITY. UPON RETURNING FROM AFGHANISTAN IN NOVEMBER 2014, SERGEANT HOWLEY’S PERSISTENT AND THOUGHTFUL LEADERSHIP AS PLATOON GUIDE, FIRST PLATOON, BULK FUEL COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, ENSURED THE SUCCESS OF THREE BULK FUEL FIELD EXERCISES. HIS ORGANIZATION AND CLARITY OF THOUGHT HELPED FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE HIS MARINES WERE ABLE TO GAIN PROFICIENCY IN THEIR MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY. SERGEANT HOWLEY’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

BULK FUEL MARINE OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**lance corporal SOPHIA GARCIA**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HER DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS 1ST FIRE TEAM LEADER, 2D SQUAD, 1ST PLATOON, BULK FUEL COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM APRIL 2014 TO MARCH 2015. LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA’S VAST KNOWLEDGE, PROFESSIONALISM, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY DIRECTLY RESULTED IN THE RECEIPT, TRANSFER, AND STORAGE OF 4,467,550 GALLONS OF JP-5 WORTH 16,529,935 DOLLARS. SHE CONTRIBUTED TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF A TOTAL OF 2,121,362 GALLONS OF JP-5 TO 10 SQUADRONS IN SUPPORT OF 38 FIXED WING AND ROTARY AIRCRAFT THAT WERE ON ROTATION. LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA’S TECHNICAL ACUMEN AND WILLINGNESS TO LEARN DURING THIS PERIOD EXCEEDED THE EXPECTATIONS OF A BULK FUEL MARINE. HER LEADERSHIP ATTRIBUTES ARE DIRECTLY REFLECTED IN THE 1500 HOURS THAT SHE SPENT TRAINING AND DEVELOPING HER PEERS AND SUPERIORS AT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA AS PART OF HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON. LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA WAS HAND SELECTED TO SUPPORT EXERCISE COBRA GOLD 2015 AND PROVIDED 2,386 GALLONS OF JP-8 TO 35 TACTICAL VEHICLES, FOUR GENERATORS, AND THREE COOKING BURNERS FOR THE MESS HALL. HER DEDICATION AND EFFORT DURING THE EXERCISE ENSURED THAT THE COMMANDER’S INTENT WAS ACCOMPLISHED AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE MISSION. LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA’S INITIATIVE, STRONG WORK ETHIC, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HERSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**chief warrant officer two dREW JORDAN**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON COMMANDER, EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, FROM APRIL 2014 TO MARCH 2015. DISPLAYING SUPERB TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND LEADERSHIP, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO JORDAN LED HIS PLATOON IN THE CONDUCT OF OPERATION RENDER SAFE 14, ACHIEVING A REMARKABLE REDUCTION OF OVER 600 UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE ITEMS GROSSING OVER EIGHT TONS NET EXPLOSIVE WEIGHT FROM POPULATED AREAS IN AND AROUND BOUGAINVILLE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO JORDAN WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR 17 OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC COMMAND IN SUPPORT OF III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE THEATER SUPPORT COOPERATION EVENTS. MISSIONS ALSO INCLUDED SUPPORT TO DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION ACCOUNTABILITY AGENCY AND VERY IMPORTANT PERSONS PROTECTION SUPPORT ACTIVITY. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO JORDAN HAS MADE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS IN BUILDING PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC COMMAND. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO JORDAN’S CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUE TO ESTABLISH THE MARINE CORPS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL AS THE PREEMINENT EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL FORCE. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO JORDAN’S PROFESSIONALISM, INITIATIVE, AND SELFLESS DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

SSGT WILLIAM CALLAHAN MEMORIAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TECHNICIAN

OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**sergeant JACOB MIERKOWSKI**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING AS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAM LEADER, 3RD PLATOON, EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, FROM APRIL 2014 TO MARCH 2015. SERGEANT MIERKOWSKI DISPLAYED EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP, PROFICIENCY, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY WHILE FILLING A STAFF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER BILLET AS AN EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAM LEADER. SERGEANT MIERKOWSKI LED HIS TEAM IN THREE JOINT SERVICE MULTINATIONAL THEATER SUPPORT COOPERATION EVENTS IN THE PACIFIC. HE ALSO LED HIS TEAM IN SUPPORT OF TWO MISSIONS, ATTACHING TO COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION-4 AND PROVIDING SUPPORT TO 2D BATTALION, 9TH MARINES, 3D BATTALION, 3D MARINES, AND 3D BATTALION, 12TH MARINES. SERGEANT MIERKOWSKI ENSURED HIS TEAM’S SAFETY THROUGHOUT THE EXECUTION OF MULTIPLE LIVE FIRE TRAINING EVENTS WHILE ALSO CLEARING AND DESTROYING OVER 80 UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE ITEMS TOTALING OVER 900 POUNDS OF NET EXPLOSIVE WEIGHT. HE FURTHER PROVIDED COUNTER IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE INSTRUCTION TO OVER 250 MARINES, INCREASING THEIR UNIT READINESS AND SURVIVABILITY. HIS WILLINGNESS TO ADAPT AND ABILITY TO PERFORM IN ANY SITUATION SETS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE FOR EVERY EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL MARINE TO EMULATE. HIS LEADERSHIP AND PROFICIENCY NOT ONLY SERVED AS A SOURCE OF MENTORING AND MOTIVATION TO FELLOW MARINES, BUT SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF THE COMPANY’S MISSION SUPPORTING OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC AREA OF OPERATIONS. SERGEANT MIERKOWSKI’S INITIATIVE, STRONG WORK ETHIC, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

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THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGINEERING OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF 2D MARINE DIVISION FROM 1 APRIL TO 31 MARCH 2015. THE BATTALION SHOWCASED ITS VERSATILITY AND MULTITASKING ABILITY WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORTING THE SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE-CRISIS RESPONSE, MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT, AND CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES BASED ALERT FORCE. DURING THIS PERIOD, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION COMPLETED A COMBAT DEPLOYMENT IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 14.2 WHERE THEY PROVIDED SUPERB CLOSE COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT IN SUPPORT OF BOTH SUSTAINED SECURITY AND KINETIC OPERATIONS. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION PROVIDED ROUTE CLEARANCE SUPPORT TO THE MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE, 31ST GEORGIAN LIGHT INFANTRY BATTALION, 23D GEORGIAN LIGHT INFANTRY BATTALION, COMBAT SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT BATTALION-13, BRITISH MANEUVER BATTLE GROUP, AND SPECIAL OPERATION TASK FORCE WEST OPERATIONS. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION MARINES CLEARED MORE THAN 7.000 KILOMETERS OF ROUTES WHILE ENSURING SAFE AND EFFICIENT MOBILITY THROUGHOUT 120 MISSIONS. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION DEMONSTRATED OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE, ESPIRIT DE CORPS, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DEVELOPING MARINES AND SAILORS MORALLY, MENTALLY, AND PHYSICALLY. ENGINEER TRAINING AREA 9 AND 10 STAFF PROVIDED 1,016 HOURS OF TRAINING TO 945 MARINES FROM 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION AND 12 OTHER UNITS WITHIN II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. THE TRAINING INCLUDED 2 SAPPER LEADERS COURSES AND 19 DEMOLITION RANGES. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION’S PERFORMANCE, BOTH IN COMBAT AND GARRISON, IS EXCEPTIONAL IN EVERY REGARD AND A TRUE TESTAMENT TO 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION’S OVERALL SUCCESS DURING THIS PERIOD.**



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE AND EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE IN PROVIDING GENERAL ENGINEERING IN SUPPORT OF II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (MEF) AND 2D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP (MLG) FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. DURING THIS PERIOD, THE BATTALION PROVIDED TACTICALLY AGILE AND OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIVE GENERAL ENGINEERING AND EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL FOR MARINE FORCES EUROPE, AFRICA, CENTRAL, AND SOUTH, AND JOIN TASK FORCE-NORTH, ALL WHILE SUCCESSFULLY CONTINUING ITS SUPPORT TO II MEF AND 2D MLG. THE MARINES AND SAILORS OF 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION WERE FORWARD DEPLOYED IN CONUS AND AROUND THE GLOBE SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE INITIATIVES OF COMBATANT COMMANDERS, AND RESPONDING TO THE DIRECTIVES OF II MEF AND 2D MLG. THE BATTALION WAS TIRELESS IN ITS DEDICATION TO PERSONAL AND EQUIPMENT READINESS TO REMAIN PREPARED TO DEPLOY MARINES AND EQUIPMENT IN SUPPORT OF NUMEROUS OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES IN CONUS AND AROUND THE WORLD. THE BATTALION CONDUCTED TWO SUCCESSFUL JOINT TASK FOR-NORTH MISSIONS TO ASSIST THE UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL IN COUNTER NARCOTIC AND COUNTER ILLEGAL ALIEN OPERATIONS. FURTHERMORE, THE BATTALION PROVIDED ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR NUMEROUS UNITS IN II MEF AND THOROUGHLY PLANNED AND PREPARED ENGINEER DETACHMENTS FOR DEPLOYMENTS IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL PURPOSE MAGTF-CRISIS RESPONSE-SOUTHCOM, SPECIAL PURPOSE MAGTF-AFRICA, AND THE BLACK SEA ROTATIONAL FORCE. 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION CONDUCTED NUMEROUS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL VERY IMPORT PERSON PROTECTION SUPPORT ACTIVITY MISSIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY OF STATE, AND FOREIGN DIGNITARIES TO INCLUDE THE MONTH LONG UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION FULFILLED AND EXCEEDED ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE RAPID AND RESPONSIVE GENERAL ENGINEERING FOR II MEF. THE POSITIVE, GLOBAL IMPACT OF THE MARINES AND SAILORS OF 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON THE BATTALION, THE MARINE CORPS, AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

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THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE

MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON, ENGINEER COMPANY

OF THE YEAR AWARD TO

**ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172**

FOR SERVICE SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING:

**SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGINEERING OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 36, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. DURING THIS PERIOD, ENGINEER COMPANY PROVIDED HEAVY EQUIPMENT, UTILITIES, AND GENERAL ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR 15 SEPARATE EXTERNAL OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES FOR UNITS THROUGHOUT UNITED STATES PACIFIC COMMAND. THE COMPANY OVERSAW THE MAINTENANCE AND EXPANSION OF SIX LANDING ZONES ON OKINAWA TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO OPERATIONS OF NOT ONLY 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING BUT ALSO III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND MARINE FORCES PACIFIC. MARINES FROM THE COMPANY CONSTRUCTED ONE SCHOOL BUILDING IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, WORKING HAND-IN-HAND WITH PHILIPPINE ENGINEERS TO STRENGTHEN MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS. HEAVY EQUIPMENT PLATOON SUPPORTED OVER 1200 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT REQUESTS, WHILE SAFELY TRANSPORTING 47 MILLION POUNDS OF CARGO. UTILITIES PLATOON PROVIDED BASIC LIFE SUPPORT AND TASKED MULTIPLE MARINES FOR SEVERAL EXERCISES IN THE PACIFIC REGION WITH NO ACCIDENTS. ENGINEER COMPANY MAINTENANCE READINESS REMAINED AT AN AVERAGE OF 92 PERCENT DURING THIS PERIOD, DESPITE SUPPORTING THE MYRIAD OF SQUADRON DEPLOYMENTS AND FIRST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING’S LZ MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES. THE DRAFTING AND SURVEYING SECTION CONDUCTED HIVE VISIBILITY AIRFIELD SURVEYS FOR 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING AND MARINE FORCES PACIFIC. THE COMPANY CONDUCTED LIVE FIRE RANGES AND DIVERSE TRAINING EXERCISES FOCUSED ON PROFICIENCY IN MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTIES AND BASIC MARINE CORPS SKILLS. THE POSITIVE GLOBAL IMPACT OF ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172, THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON THEM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

**THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS**

THE MISSION OF same IS To provide education and support to the engineering components of the military and uniformed services and other federal, state and local government agencies responsible for the nation’s infrastructure, and to advance the partnership between government and the architecture, engineering and construction industry in the interest of national security.

One of the Society’s goals is to recognize the accomplishments of members of the military engineer community.  SAME is proud to sponsor two awards for outstanding performance by Marine Corps engineers and to support the Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) Awards Banquet by paying for the dinner for all awardees and their guest.  The Marine Corps engineers are a vital part of the joint engineer community and have excelled in the recent military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.  Congratulations to all the award winners, the award nominees, and the individuals who took the time to nominate our warriors for this recognition.

**2015 USMC ENGINEER OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

**Presented to**

**FIRST LIEUTENANT JOSEPH A. GARCIA**

**FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS A PLATOON COMMANDER, MOBILITY ASSAULT COMPANY, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION FROM 1 MARCH 2014 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2015. FIRST LIEUTENANT GARCIA’S PROFESSIONALISM, KNOWLEDGE, AND INITIATIVE WERE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF HIS PLATOON, AND THE BATTALION AS A WHOLE DURING THIS PERIOD. WHILE SERVING IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 14-2, HE LED 26 ROUTE CLEARANCE MISSIONS, WHICH CLEARED 1,550 KILOMETERS IN SUPPORT OF 11 NAMED OPERATIONS. DURING THIS TIME, HIS PLATOON IDENTIFIED, INTERROGATED AND REMOVED THREE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES AND WAS ENGAGED BY THE ENEMY WITH DIRECT FIRE WEAPONS ON TWO OCCASIONS. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, HIS LEADERSHIP AND CALM DEMEANOR PROVED CRITICAL TO MAINTAINING HIS PLATOON’S FOCUS ON THE MISSION. UPON RETURN FROM DEPLOYMENT, FIRST LIEUTENANT GARCIA LEVERAGED HIS DEPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE AND FOCUSED HIS EFFORTS ON TRAINING JUNIOR MARINES NEW TO HIS PLATOON. hE IS A TRUE WARRIOR-SCHOLAR AND GIFTED LEADER WHOSE DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTS CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

**2015 USMC ENGINEER SNCO OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**PRESENTED TO**

**GUNNERY SERGEANT MATTHEW W. CORNETT**

**FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS LOGISTICS CHIEF AND LEAD ADVISOR FOR COMBINED CORPS ADVISOR TEAM, BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS GROUP-AFGHANISTAN, MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE-AFGHANISTAN AND FIRST SERGEANT FOR COMPANY B, 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 2D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP. WHILE SERVING AS THE LOGISTICS CHIEF, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT PERSONALLY ACCOUNTED FOR AND IDENTIFIED 871 ITEMS IN NEED OF RETROGRADE TO INCLUDE A FULL INVENTORY OF SIX FORTY-FOOT IsO CONTAINERS, EIGHT QUAD CONS, AND FOUR STORAGE BUILDINGS. HE WAS ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY ACCOUNT FOR AND REMOVE ALL GEAR WITHIN A MONTH ENSURING AN EFFICIENT RETROGRADE PLAN AND NO BREAK IN OPERATIONAL TEMPO WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY MANAGING ALL LOGISTICS FOR THE 212-MAN ADVISOR TEAM. AS THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR FOR THE COMBINED CORPS ADVISOR TEAM HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MENTORSHIP OF AN AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY’S EXPLOSIVE HAZARD REDUCTION AND COUNTER-IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE COURSES. HE SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED A SUCCESSFUL TRAIN THE TRAINER COURSE ALLOWING THE AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY TO CONDUCT THEIR OWN TRAINING AND OPERATE MORE SAFELY IN A HIGHLY KINETIC IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE AREA. HE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS TRAINING THEM IN SEVEN DIFFERENT SUBJECTS. ONCE REDEPLOYED, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT WAS SELECTED TO SERVE AS THE FIRST SERGEANT FOR COMPANY B. UTILIZING HIS EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THE SUCCESS OF THE COMPANY IN HIS ROLE AS THE FIRST SERGEANT, AS WELL AS A COMBAT ENGINEER STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER. HE HAS BEEN CRUCIAL TO THE OPERATIONAL PLANNING FOR TWO COMPANY LEVEL TRAINING EXERCISES. REGARDLESS OF BILLET, GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT IS A STEADFAST AND TRUSTWORTHY STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER WHO LEAVES A LASTING IMPACT ON THOSE HE COMES IN CONTACT WITH. GUNNERY SERGEANT CORNETT’S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.**

**OUR MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION EXPRESSes OUR genuine APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING CORPORATE MEMBERS, THEIR REPRESENTATIVES and our sponsors FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT OF OUR ENGINEER BROTHERHOOD.**

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**BOB GIASSON, director business development**

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**BILL STRANG, PRESIDENT/CEO**

**MCEA EXTENDS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO MIRIAM CARLSON, WIFE OF OUR TREASURER, FOR HER PERSONALIZED DESIGN OF OUR SHIRT LOGOS AND TO BELLE MAR INK AND THREAD FOR THE GENEROUS DONATION OF A PORTION OF THE COST OF THE GOLF SHIRTS BEING PRESENTED TO THE AWARD RECIPIENTS.**

**Gunny's Wise Words**

By T.G. Hill, GySgt USMC, (Ret)

**1. Wait until you have stood on the yellow foot prints.  
  
2. Wait until your Senior DI calls you a Marine for the first time.  
  
3. Wait until the first time you Qualify Expert.  
  
4. Wait until you get your Blood Stripes.  
  
5. Wait until the first time an enemy round goes by and you still do your job.  
  
6. Wait until you say Semper Fi in a firefight.  
  
7. Wait until the Commandant cries at your bedside.  
  
8. Wait until you close the eyes of one of your own.  
  
9. Wait until the President's message is read at your retirement.  
  
10. Wait until Saint Peter says well done Marine.  
  
Even then you might not have the right, if you have not really understood what it means to be a Marine!**

**"Be now the shield for evermore, from every peril to OUR CORPS!"**

**God Bless**

Insert QualSpt.pdf here





WWW: MARCORENGASN.ORG