

THE MISSION OF THE U. S. MARINE CORPS

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Since its first organization the mission of the Marine Corps has been to combine the highest of military efficiency with the highest standard of morality of any body of men in any service. Fighting men must necessarily be well trained in the use of arms, but the Marine Corps has gone further and offered with this training a chance for a more complete education if the man wishes to so apply himself.

The idea has long gone into the discard that a fighting man is a bum. Today the Marine Corps draws its men from the highest type of American manhood turned out by our public schools and colleges. In return for their services they are offered the chance to soldier, to see the world and to continue their education if they wish to do so.

As a result of this broad education of her men, the Marine Corps has at all times trained men ready to step in and fill any job an emergency might require. This makes the corps practically independent whether it be on shore duty, afloat or on an expedition to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the United States.

The Marine Corps is prepared at all times for any emergency that might arise whether it be on land, sea or air. They must be a mobile outfit that can be mustered and moved to any spot of danger in the shortest time possible. The Marine Corps then stands as the front line of defense of the United States.

The recently abandoned mail guard demonstrated the efficiency of the Marine Corps as an outfit quick to mobilize and faithful in the performance of their duties. Not a single sack of mail was lost where a Marine stood guard. Now with a great uprising in China on a scale with that of the great Boxer Rebellion, the efficiency and spirit of the Marine Corps is again being demonstrated.

The QUESTION BOX

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Sergeant, 4th Regiment: Information is requested as to whether the following remarks on muster rolls under the heading of transfers, are correct? "Transferred to.....for further transfer to.....Via. USS, or USAT.....scheduled to sail from San Francisco, Calif., on....."

Ans.: Correct entry would be "18 transferred to....." The post picking the man up for the water transportation will show the conveyance and date of sailing.

1st Sgt., Parris Island: (a) Requests information regarding apparent conflicts between the Landing Force Manual and the Training Regulations, with regard to Informal Guard Mount.

Ans: The Landing Force Manual is the only authority for ceremonies in the Marine Corps, including Guard Mount and the display of equipment; the Training Regulations are the authority for all drill and technical training.

(b) Is (5) seconds or one (1) minute the interval between guns when the National Salute is rendered?

Ans: N. R. 305 (2) states that the interval between guns in all salutes shall be five seconds and N. R. 358 (3) states that on Memorial Day, May 30, twenty-one minute guns shall be fired.

(c) How should persons not in ranks conduct themselves while a salute is being fired?

Ans: They should stand at attention and salute.

(d) By what authority do Field Musics execute a LEFT HAND salute when carrying a trumpet?

Ans: N. R. 286 (3) says that the RIGHT HAND shall be used for salute. However T. R. 75-5 (Field Musics) soon to be published may make some changes.

(e) At ceremonies, at "present arms" does the automatic rifleman with his rifle slung execute a hand salute?

Ans: N. R. 287 (2) states that a man in formation shall not salute with the hand.

1st Sgt., Iona Island: (a) Information is requested as to whether or not the Landing Force Manual is still in force, relating to the display of field equipment?

Ans.: The Landing Force Manual is still in force.

(b) T. R. 50-80 changes the first-aid pouch from the right to the left side of the cartridge belt; in this position when the equipment is displayed the first-aid pouch does not show. Does this chapter in the T. R. supersede the Landing Force Manual?

Ans: No, it does not.

(c) Par. 2 MCO No. 7, 1926, states that any leather dressing that tends to darken russet belts, etc., will not be used. Does this order apply to the russet shoes?

Ans: No, this paragraph does not apply to shoes. However, inspecting officers desire that the shoes be kept as nearly the same color as other leather equipment as possible.

(d) Will the Marine Corps ever adopt a universal filing system similar to the one the Navy uses? At the present time it is doubtful whether any two offices have the same system and when a First Sergeant joins a company he will, in most cases, change the filing system then in use and install one of his own making.

Ans: The Marine Corps contemplates the adoption of a universal filing system.

JOHN A. LEJEUNE,
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