Congress and the Corps

CMC FY-86 Posture Statement

by Gen Paul X. Kelley
Commandant of the Marine Corps

In supporting the FY-86 budget request before Congress, the Commandant emphasized that the United States Marine Corps will continue to provide the national defense effort a capable, ready, and flexible resource.

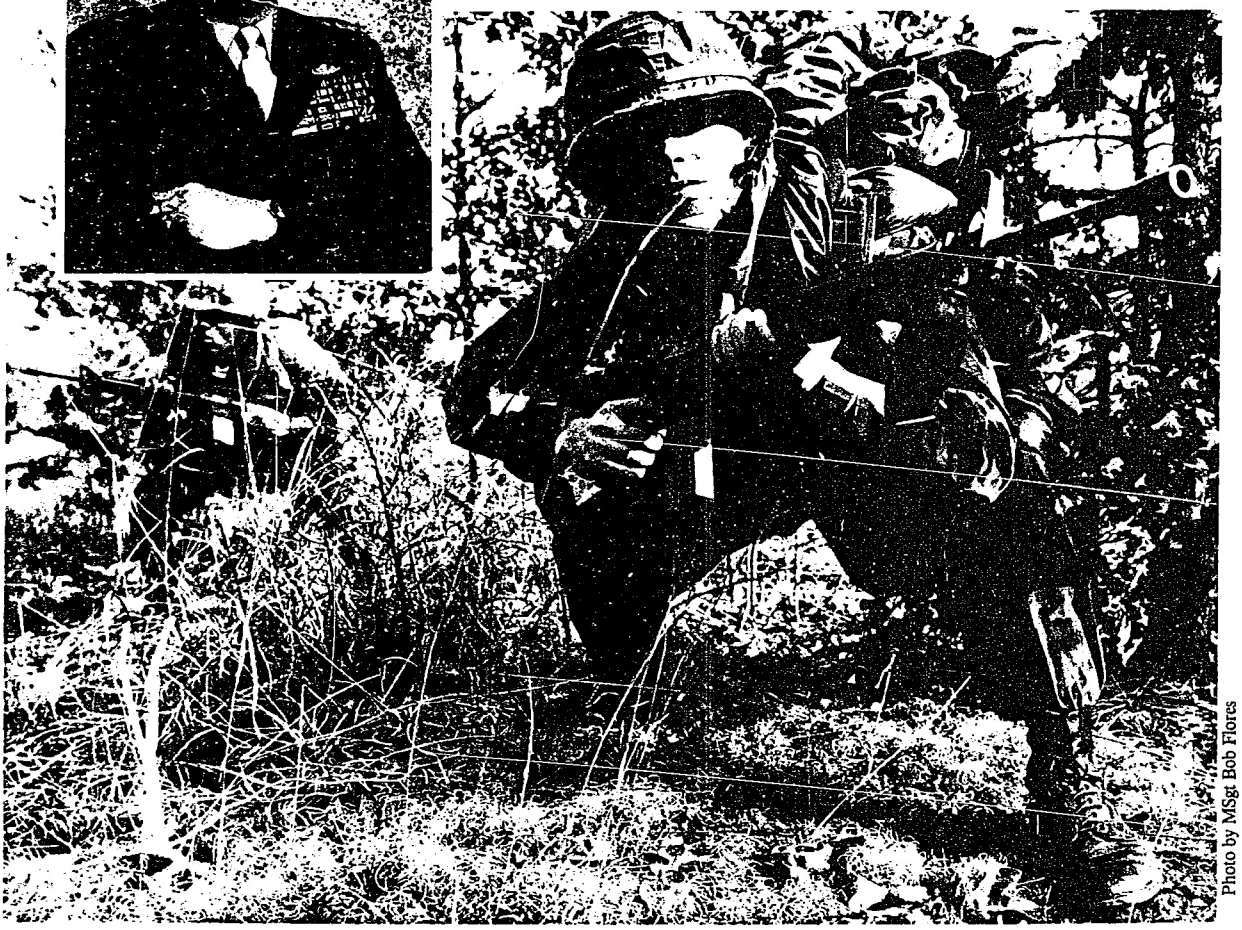


Photo by MSgt Bob Flores

Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the Committee:

It is again my privilege to report to you on the current and future posture of your United States Marine Corps.

Before I begin, I wish to thank the members of the Committee and the entire Congress for the support given to the Marine Corps during the past year. Thanks to you, our combat readiness has never been better. The Corps is well-trained, equipped, and supplied for the most demanding of assignments—from low-intensity conflict (including countering state-sponsored terrorism) to high-intensity, large-scale global commitments. With your continued support the Marine Corps will maintain and hone this readiness and our unique capability to respond to national security needs across the entire spectrum of conflict. The presence of amphibious forces, either routinely deployed or in response to a crisis, provides visible, measured support to deter or prevent escalation of a crisis in support of national policy objectives. Should subsequent force be required, Marines are prepared to rapidly provide the measured response directed.

Fiscal realities, driven by national economic priorities, will require tough Congressional decisions this year. It is

my intention, as I report to you today on the current posture of the Marine Corps, to assure you that I remain dedicated to providing sound, accountable stewardship of those resources entrusted to the Marine Corps.

I would emphasize that, measured in terms of structure, training, equipment, mobility, readiness, sustainability, and the positive attitude of the individual Marine, the Corps provides the national defense effort a capable, ready, and flexible resource.

This flexible and responsive capability is unique to the Navy-Marine Corps team. It is unique in the sense that Navy and Marine combat-ready air, ground, and sea forces are routinely forward-deployed around the world. A Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) can be tailored for any mission and will vary in size from a Marine amphibious unit (MAU) of approximately 2,000 Marines—the type employed in Grenada—to a Marine amphibious force (MAF) of about 50,000 Marines. The Grenada example demonstrates the flexibility of the maritime forces and their "no-warning" response capability.

Our vast overseas national interests are assuming an increasingly important role in the interdependent Western economic system. These interests are vital to our economic and national security. Continued Soviet military adventurism, their cynical use of surrogates, and the spread of state-supported terrorism, coupled with an increasingly complex international political environment, increase the value of forward-deployed Navy-Marine Corps forces. Through rapid repositioning, Navy and Marine amphibious forces can send a clear, controlled signal of U.S. resolve to both friend and foe.

U.S. maritime strategy reflects the maritime character of our Nation and supports protection of our legitimate national interests. The Navy-Marine Corps team works and trains together to provide the capability to establish maritime control whenever and wherever required. I can assure you that, with the support of the Congress and the American people, the Navy-Marine Corps team will continue to provide this capability.

COUNTERING TERRORISM

Because of its growing threat, early in my remarks I would like to address state-sponsored terrorism. Terrorism constitutes a new dimension in warfare which will be with us for the foreseeable future. The Marine Corps recognizes that this threat requires the development of unique skills necessary for its defeat. We have turned much of our energies toward establishing a thorough, innovative program to effectively combat terrorism. Let me tell you about our program. The objectives are to have every Marine thoroughly aware of the terrorist threat, realistically trained and educated in how to counter that threat, and armed with the best doctrine, tactics, and equipment we can produce. In addition, efforts are being made to provide our field commanders timely, accurate intelligence concerning terrorist activity and to establish the level of tight security required to deter terrorist attacks against Marine Corps installations, facilities, and deployed units.

Navy and Marine combat-ready forces are routinely forward deployed around the world.

Our program consists of a series of completed and ongoing actions that come under seven program areas. The first of these areas is *monitoring* and *coordination.* Actions in this category provide centralized control at the Headquarters Marine Corps level and each major subordinate command. We have established the agencies, focal points, and working groups required to efficiently and effectively implement the measures that make up our program, monitor their progress, and provide the field commander the assistance and expertise he may need to develop his security plan.

The second program area is the continuing *review* and *study* of the terrorist threat and of our capability to counter it. We have attempted, through a variety of efforts, to make a complete examination of what we are up against, and to make an honest assessment of our current capabilities to deal with it. It is clear that this process must be dynamic to combat a constantly changing threat, and we must remain capable of anticipating changes and quickly adjusting tactics, techniques, weapons, and threat locations.

Obviously, any ability to counter the terrorist threat must begin with accurate, timely intelligence. *Intelligence* is our third program area. Within our Intelligence Division, we have established a Terrorist Threat Section which gives us a direct interface with other intelligence agencies addressing terrorism. This section provides our commanders with the analysis, specific threat reports, and on-site assistance needed to build their local security plans. The Terrorist Threat Section attempts to identify specific threats to Marine Corps personnel or installations and provide timely information, recommendations, and intelligence assistance to the threatened command or region.

In *physical security*, our fourth program area, we have formally reviewed Marine Corps security requirements for each of our installations and units, and initiated a security upgrade of our facilities. Security enhancements include publishing a new physical security and crime prevention manual, acquiring security equipment and dogs, enhancing military police training, and preparing detailed local security and crisis management plans.

Training and *education*, our fifth area, is the cornerstone of our program to combat terrorism. An aware, alert, well-trained Marine is the key to defeating the terrorist. We have initiated actions in our formal schools and recruit depots to significantly increase instruction on combating terrorism. Additionally, we have introduced correspondence courses, video tapes, films, wargames, and mobile training teams to further enhance our training.

Through our sixth program area, we are providing the *doctrine, tactics,* and *techniques* necessary for our Marines and their commanders to fight the terrorist. Our new publications will range from policy and guidance for the commander and his staff to the "how to fight" techniques for the Marine on the ground facing the threat. In this regard, we are making full use of members of the Marine Corps Reserve who have special skills and talents in the areas of security and countering terrorism.

In our final program area, *operational capability*, we have enhanced our ability to operate in a terrorist environment by making certain organizational adjustments, particularly in our security forces, and by establishing and publishing an operational standard to evaluate our units' capabilities. Our operating forces will be provided the security expertise and equipment to enable them to conduct operations at any level of conflict, while retaining the ability to deal with the added threat of terrorist activity.

The Marine Corps is committed to defeating terrorism, rather than coping with it or "weathering it out" as a passing storm. We intend to prove to enemies that terrorism is too costly a tactic to adopt against Marines.

MODERNIZATION/ STRENGTHENING PROGRAMS

I would like to move on to more conventional and familiar matters at this point and briefly review our major modernization programs.

Amphibious Lift

The Department of the Navy (DON) has embarked upon a balanced shipbuilding program designed to meet the Defense Guidance objective of sufficient ships to simultaneously lift the assault echelons of a MAF and a MAB. The current Navy shipbuilding plan will fully meet the Marine Corps' stabilized lift requirement by FY-94.

The program for our most capable amphibious ship, the amphibious assault ship (multipurpose), "Wasp" class, is well underway. Keel laying for the USS *Wasp* (LHD 1) will be in August. The Wasp class is the linchpin to meeting overall Defense Guidance lift objectives. Accordingly, we fully support the Navy request for advance funding for three more of these superb ships.

The lead ships [dock landing ships] of the "Whidbey Island" class (LSD 41, 42, 43) are invaluable additions to the Nation's amphibious capability. USS *Whidbey Island* (LSD 41) was recently commissioned; USS *Germantown* (LSD 42) was launched in June of last year; and LSD 43, as yet unnamed, is scheduled for launch in December of this year. Three additional "Whidbey Island" class ships have been authorized, with plans for two more in this year's defense appropriations request. A derivative class of amphibious ships, based on the LSD 41 hull and optimized for cargo lift, is being developed by the Navy. Additionally, although not a new construction effort, the "Austin" class of 11 LPDs [amphibious transport docks] is scheduled for a service life extension that will provide an additional 15 years of service life for these very capable ships.

Coupled with the delivery of the LCAC, which I will address in more detail shortly, and the LSD 41s, introduction of the LHD provides the Nation's amphibious forces the opportunity to advance and further refine evolving techniques for the over-the-horizon (OTH) launch option of amphibious forces. The OTH launch will be one of the keystones of successful amphibious warfare in the future.

Strategic Mobility Enhancement

In addition to the sealift capability provided by naval amphibious shipping, a competitive, healthy merchant marine fleet is essential to the structure of a strong national maritime strategy. Although the existing merchant fleet is being modernized, its size, when considered in the context of supporting a defensive global strategy, causes concern. The Marine Corps strongly supports Congressional initiatives to expand the merchant fleet which concomitantly enhances the national capability to support projection of maritime power.

The maritime pre-positioning ships (MPS) concept, the most important and innovative of our crisis-response enhancements, is now a reality. The MPS program represents a significant new dimension in mobility, readiness enhancement, and global response. When national interests are threatened, an MPS squadron can rapidly alter course or get underway to arrive in the crisis area in a matter of days. The strength of the signal of U.S. intent and resolve can be controlled by adjusting the visibility of the MPS squadron. When directed, Marines would be airlifted to the crisis area to marry-up with their equipment and supplies to carry out a variety of missions. I am a firm believer that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and that when you have the ability to quickly move a 16,500-man Marine brigade to a crisis area, you have a ready-made prescription to prevent that crisis from escalating. MPS is just such a prescription. It provides a force of combined arms with 30 days of essential supplies, available on call. The MPS program is also a bonus for the private sector by assisting in revitalizing our shipbuilding industry and the merchant marine fleet which, in turn, enhances our sealift capability. We have already begun the loadout of the first MPS brigade. The second MPS brigade will become operational later this year and the third brigade by the end of CY-86. Construction has begun on all of the cargo ships to support the MPS program.

Beginning this calendar year, we will start exercising MPS forces. Selected elements of MPS 1 and 6th MAB intend to participate in conjunction with various fleet, allied, and JCS exercises. As our additional MPS sets become operational, the goal will be one JCS-directed exercise per MPS set each year involving in-stream and pier offload, marshaling, recall, air movement, and depreservation/represervation techniques.

An important associated initiative is the aviation logistic support ship (TAVB) program. With either of two TAVB ships available, the aviation combat element of any MAGTF will be provided more rapid intermediate maintenance support once it arrives in the area of operations. The TAVB provides vital support for both helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft, through sealift of a partial, consolidated intermediate maintenance activity to a theater of operations. This seaborne maintenance capability permits early introduction of landing force aviation, which can expedite the early release of carrier battle groups to other sea control or force projection missions, if needed.

Another strategic mobility enhancement is our pre-positioning of selected equipment and supplies in Norway. By doing this we will reduce our response time to the critical northern flank of NATO from weeks to days. The Norway force, a MAB-sized unit, is a totally integrated air-ground team under a single commander with a sustainability package specifically tailored for cold weather operations. It is a versatile, formidable force of approximately 13,000

Marines and sailors and over 150 aircraft. Since each MAB is task organized to accomplish the mission assigned, the Norway MAB meets the unique requirements of the Norway mission, and, consequently, is different from the previously mentioned MPS MAB. This Norway pre-positioning program has been designed to provide rapid deployment to an area vital to America and her NATO allies. The program itself sends a clear signal of U.S. commitment and resolve without any requirement to post a single Marine on Norwegian soil. Commitment of the MAB can be accomplished quickly with a minimum of reliance on scarce strategic airlift.

The pre-positioning necessary to make this rapid response work includes only what is mission essential and suitable for long-term storage. It is a pleasure to report that the Norway pre-positioning program is proceeding on course and remains a top defense priority for the Norwegians, who have stepped forward to provide an unprecedented level of support. Norway's contribution through host nation support has greatly reduced our total pre-positioning requirements. For example, the Norwegian unit assigned to support this MAB will include over 600 personnel and 370 vehicles.

Tactical Mobility

In addition to our strategic mobility improvements, we have made significant strides with our tactical mobility programs, several of which I would like to briefly discuss. The first one is the landing craft air cushion (LCAC). Loaded on the LSD 41 and other well-deck ships, and launched from OTH, the 40-knot-capable LCAC, in conjunction with the helicopter, will reduce the risk to ships of the amphibious force while enhancing the surprise, mass, and maneuver of the assault forces. The first LCAC has been delivered to the Navy. The initial operational capability for the first six-craft detachment, to be homeported at Camp Pendleton, CA, is 1986. A second LCAC support base is planned for Little Creek, VA. I am providing a synopsis of all our enhancement programs in Appendix I.

As a result of a service life extension program, we are both enhancing the operational capability of our LVTP7 amphibious assault vehicles and extending their useful life. A future landing vehicle tracked is being developed concurrently as the follow-on assault amphibian for the current LVT7 family when it reaches the end of its service life in the late 1990s.

Complementing the improvements in surface lift capability, Marine Corps aviation has supported the development of the MV-22A "Osprey." This tiltrotor aircraft, known earlier as the JVX, will provide speed and efficiency to the assault and will be capable of lifting ground combat troops, small tactical vehicles, and antitank units. Replacing our aging fleet of assault transport helicopters in the 1990s, the Osprey can operate at speeds of 250 knots at vastly improved ranges. The CH-53E, the most powerful helicopter in the free world, complements the Osprey by providing the required heavylift capability into the 21st century. Its 16-ton lift capacity is necessary to enhance the operational mobility of the M198 155mm howitzer, the light armored vehicle (LAV), as well as other MAGTF heavy equipment.

Tactical mobility improvements for our ground combat element focus on the acquisition and introduction of a new family of ground transport vehicles. The M939 series five-ton tactical truck features an automatic transmission that will provide improved performance while simplifying driver training and maintenance. This program will be completed during FY-87.

The 5/4-ton high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle (HMMWV) will be the primary tactical vehicle for combat and combat support units. Its functions will include troop and weapons transport; weapons platform; reconnaissance; fire support; medical evacuation; and command, control, and communications applications. This vehicle will replace most of the current 1/4-, 1/2-, 3/4-, and 5/4-ton trucks, as well as the 1/4-ton trailers. It satisfies the urgent requirement to replace current overage vehicles and eliminates severe table of equipment and war reserve deficiencies. The fielding of the HMMWV will begin this vear and continue through FY-88.

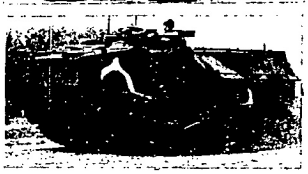
The mobility enhancements, both strategic and tactical, provide Marines the means to get to, and around, the battlefield. This is only one aspect of the improvements being made to enhance the effectiveness of the Marine Corps. I would like to turn your attention now to our ground forces.

Ground Forces

The reorganization of Marine Corps infantry battalions into more firepower-intensive units began in 1983. When reorganization is completed in May of this year, these battalions will have fewer personnel, but their organic firepower will be increased appreciably. This increase is the result of the acquisition of the improved M16A2 rifle, a new squad automatic weapon (SAW), an improved M60 machinegun, the Mk19 40mm machinegun, the M2 .50-caliber machinegun, the shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon (SMAW), and a new 60mm company mortar.

The Marine Corps' armor-defeating

GROUND MOBILITY ENHANCEMENTS



Light Armored Vehicle (LAV)

- Lightweight, flexible, agile fighting vehicle
- Firepower-intensive organization
  147 LAVs/LAV battalion (CY-88)
- Helicopter transportable
- Enhanced strategic transportability

Landing Vehicle Tracked (LVT7A1)

- Service life extension program began 1982, extends use until 1990s
- New engine, nonintegral fuel tank, all-electric weapons stations
- 327 new LVTs for MPS

Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB)

- Eliminates critical shortfall in assault gap-crossing capability
- Organic to tank battalions
- Capable of pacing with armor and AAV units

capability is also being improved in every area. Each Marine division now has twice as many TOW IIs, which are capable of defeating any known threat armor. The TOW II is equipped with a thermal night sight. The Dragon, a medium antiarmor system, which will also have a thermal night sight, is undergoing a product improvement development that was funded by the Congress beginning this year.

The LAV was developed to fill a requirement for increased firepower and tactical mobility within the Marine Corps. The LAV battalion will eventually contain eight configurations of the LAV. Six of these configurations, the LAV-25, LAV recovery, LAV mortar, LAV command and control, LAV logistics, and LAV antitank are under procurement. The other two mission-role vehicles, the LAV air defense and the LAV assault gun, are still in development.

The M60A1, the Marine Corps' main battle tank, is reaching the end of its service life. The M1A1 tank, which has been approved for service use as the replacement for the M60A1, will provide the Marine Corps state-of-the-art capability.

Our ground mine countermeasures capabilities are being upgraded with the addition of the catapult-launched fuel air explosive mine countermeasures system for the LVTP7A1, the M58 trailer-mounted line charge, the track-width mine plow for use with a tank, and the M59 mine clearance system kit used with the LVT7A1 series.

The modernization of Marine Corps artillery is continuing. All towed artillery battalions in the Active force will be equipped with 155mm howitzers by the end of the fiscal year. The new M198 howitzers have been included in the prepositioning programs. Additional procurement of M198s for the Reserves is planned for FY-86 and FY-87. These howitzers will be used to equip the direct support battalions of the Reserve division. Additional self-propelled, 155mm batteries are being activated to improve the general support artillery capability through their mobility and survivability.

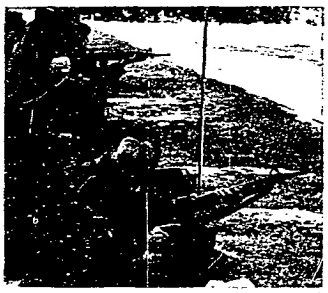
Target acquisition capability will be enhanced by the fielding of the AN/TPQ-36 counterfire radar during this year. An additional enhancement is the Navy and Marine Corps joint program for a remotely piloted vehicle (RPV) with a desired initial operational capability of FY-88. An RPV unit will be located within each division and will provide the MAGTF with an accurate, medium-range target acquisition capability.

The Marine Corps has selected the Army's battery computer system as its battery-level fire direction computer. Procurement of the Army system allows continued joint training and logistics support, as well as providing us improved responsiveness and accuracy of artillery fires.

The Marine Corps continues to improve its ability to operate in an NBC environment. The number of specially trained NBC personnel has been increased by 75 percent. Modernization is proceeding rapidly with procurement of new decontamination equipment, chemical detectors, and protective equipment. We will remain at risk, however, until improved chemical munitions are available to provide a credible retaliatory capability.

INFANTRY ENHANCEMENTS

Smaller/Firepower Intensive	• Personnel reduced at battalion level • Firepower up 25%
Improved Small Arms	• .50-cal machinegun—8 per battalion; procured FY-82 to 83 • Shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon (SMAW)—18 per battalion; procurementFY-84 to 89 • Squad automatic weapon (SAW)—68 per battalion; procurement FY-82 to 87 • M16A2; procurement FY-82 to 89 • Beretta M92SBF, 9mm pistol, replaces current pistols; procurement FY-85 to 89 (IOC FY-86) • M60E3 7.62mm machinegun; procurement FY-84 to 85 (IOC FY-85) • Mk19 40mm grenade launcher—12 per infantry battalion; procurement FY-82 to 87 (IOC FY-85)
Mortar Enhancements	• 81mm—proposed procurement FY-85 to 88 (IOC w/LAV FY-86, IOC w/other FMF units FY-89) • Lightweight company mortar deliveries completed FY-83



Secretary of the Navy was impressed with M16A2 rifle.

Aviation

Improvements in the aviation element of the Marine Corps have kept pace with the ground. With the support of Congress, the introduction of the AV-8B into the Marine Corps will continue this year. This unique aircraft is compatible with our forward-basing strategies and complements the flexible capabilities of our Marine Corps. The AV-8B eliminates the need for prepared airfields and reduces the required response time for close air support by virtue of its forward displacement. The AV-8B, with twice the range or payload of the AV-8A, builds on the proven concepts of V/STOL (vertical and short takeoff and landing).

As our first AV-8B squadron becomes operational this year, we have confirmed a pressing need for a two-seat trainer version. The largest pilot transition requirement commences in FY-87 and will continue for the next few years. The timely introduction of this trainer, the TAV-8B, is critical to the safe, efficient, and effective conversion of our remaining light attack force.

The Marine Corps, with the support of the DON, has undertaken an initiative to complement the nighttime capability of the A-6E. This attack enhancement program will be introduced first in the AV-8B and will include forward looking infrared radar (FLIR), night-vision goggles, moving-map display, and image-enhanced heads-up display. This combination of systems will enable the pilot to detect, acquire, and destroy targets previously hidden by darkness.

Additionally, we are eagerly anticipating completion of the A-6E upgrade to the A-6F. This program promises enhanced capability, reliability, and survivability. Improvements in engines and radar systems will provide for the introduction of AAMRAM. Reliability and

ANTIARMOR ENHANCEMENTS

Tube-Launched Optically-Tracked, Wire-Guided Missile (TOW)

- 144 TOW per division; procurement FY-80 to 86
- Phase I TOW procurement complete FY-81; 5-inch warhead and extended range to 3,750m (IOC FY-87)
- Phase II procurement began FY-81; 6-inch TOW warhead, extended range and electrical optical countermeasures
- Night sights—144 per division; procurement FY-79 to 87

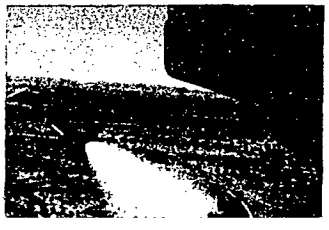
Dragon

- 8 additional per battalion; total 32 (IOC FY-84)
- Night sights—144 per division; procurement FY-79 to 82

Tanks

- M60A1—end of service life late 1980s
- FY-88 funds planned for replacement of M60A1 with M1A1
- Enhanced lethality, mobility, and survivability

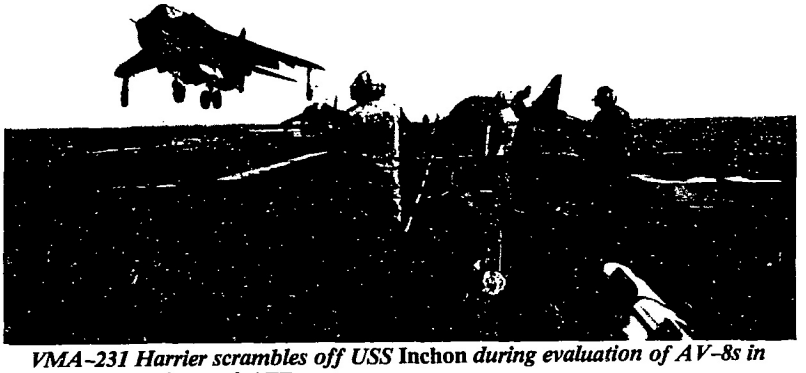
Air-Delivered Weapons



- Modern armor threat necessitates air-delivered antiarmor weapons that offer increased aircraft survivability and target lethality
- Near-term, state-of-the-art, antiarmor weapons being pursued for both fixed-wing and helicopters
- Laser Maverick—fixed-wing PGM (IOC-FY-85)
- Hellfire—helicopter PGM (IOC FY-86)
- Gator—area/area denial weapon (IOC FY-86)
- 25mm multipurpose gun—for the AV-8B (IOC FY-85)

Light Antiarmor Weapons

- Continue to participate with Army in LAW evaluation program
- Interested in most cost effective system that meets USMC requirement
- Monitor Army's M72 PIP
- Develop antiarmor round for the SMAW (IOC FY-88)



VMA-231 Harrier scrambles off USS Inchon *during evaluation of AV-8s in emergency defense of ATF.*

maintainability features designed to reduce maintenance manhours will be incorporated. Finally, heightened survivability will be achieved with increased weapons standoff, reduced systems vulnerability, and improved electronic countermeasures. This upgrade is essential to the development of enhanced deep-strike, all-weather, and reduced-visibility capabilities of Marine aviation.

The Marine Corps continues acceptance of the reliable and effective F/A-18. Our aircrews report that the F/A-18 is both a responsive and agile fighter and a highly accurate attack platform. As we continue toward our ultimate goal of 12 F/A-18 squadrons, we will convert our fourth and fifth squadrons at MCAS Beaufort, SC, this year. Concurrently, two Marine F/A-18 squadrons will deploy this year aboard aircraft carriers as part of the Secretary of the Navy's interoperability initiative.

Another fighting improvement that we are investigating is the development of a two-seat, austere, all-weather version of the F/A-18. This two-seat version will feature decoupled cockpits, navigation FLIR, heads-down display, moving-map display, and night-vision goggles.

During FY-86, we will accept the first installment of our 2-year buy of 44 AH-1T+ attack helicopters. The procurement of the AH-1T+s enables the Marine Corps to reduce existing inventory shortfalls as well as upgrade its capability. The incorporation of the T-700 engine in the AH-1T+ provides Marine attack helicopters the ability to operate anywhere in the world. The Hellfire missile system will become operational with the introduction of the AH-1T+ as well as other ordnance capabilities that include TOW, Sidewinder, and Sidearm missiles. Finally, a night enhancement capability will also be inherent with the AH-1T+. This effort includes night-vision goggles with compatible cockpit lighting.

As a result of continuing Congressional support, Marine Corps firepower in the form of air-delivered ordnance has improved. Laser Maverick procurement continues with a funding request for 1,500 missiles in FY-86. This missile provides an effective air-delivered, ground or air target-designated laser munition required in the close air support role. Also, procurement of the Hellfire missile will provide extraordinary point target accuracy and increased platform survivability. The significant stand-off range increase over our present capabilities enhances the

ARTILLERY ENHANCEMENTS

Conversion to M198 	• New improved structure transition began in FY-83; procurement FY-79 to 82 and FY-86 to 87 • 105mm howitzer reduction of 162; 155mm howitzer increase of 192
Additional 155mm (Self-Propelled)	• Increase of 30 tubes—3 batteries by FY-86; total 5 batteries by FY-89
Addition of Target Acquisition Batteries	• One each in FY-85, 87, and 88
Precision Guided Projectiles	• Modular universal laser equipment (MULE)—procurement FY-82 to 85 (IOC FY-86) • Copperhead—procurement programmed (IOC FY-86)
Family of Scatterable Mines (FASCAM)	• Area denial artillery munition (ADAM), anti-personnel mines and remote antiarmor mine (RAAM) antitank mines—procurement FY-81
Battery Computer System	• Procurement FY-86 (IOC FY-87)

AVIATION ENHANCEMENTS

TACAIR 	• AV-8B—responsive, effective CAS • A-6F—effective all-weather, deep-strike medium bomber • F/A-18—superior fighter/bomber, force multiplier • AH-1T+ —improved attack helo, T700 engine, Hellfire capable • CH-53E—free world's most capable heavylift helicopter
Weapons	• Laser Maverick—PGM for CAS • Hellfire—Antiarmor helo delivered PGM • I^2R Maverick—deep air support weapon
RDT&E	• MV-22A (Osprey)—self-deployable, medium-lift assault transport with strategic and tactical implications • Helo development—T700 enhanced engine for AH-1T; Hellfire MOD for AH-1J/AH-1T Cobras; helo night-vision enhancements.
Airspace Command & Control and Missiles	• AN/TYQ-23—command and control of airspace, aircraft, and missiles. • I HAWK—Medium range antiair missile. • Stinger—shoulder-launched surface-to-air missile
Reserve Modernization	• A-4M—light attack aircraft to Reserves as AV-8B enters Active component. • F-4N/S—superb fighter/attack aircraft.

survivability of the launching platform. Another low-cost initiative for the attack helicopter and AV-8B force is the Sidearm antiradiation missile, which is achieved by retrofitting existing AIM-9C missiles with an antiradiation guidance group.

Marine Corps aviation experienced a banner year in 1984. We flew more hours than any year since the Vietnam War, and our safety record was the best it has ever been. In addition to replacing many of our aircraft with more capable and reliable planes, we are flying more hours safely.

Naval Surface Fire Support

Naval surface fire support (NSFS) continues as a vital component of the naval power projection equation. Future concepts will not diminish the need for adequate NSFS. Support of tactical options ranging from OTH launch to the more conventional assault may require certain naval surface fire support systems to be able to hit targets at ranges in excess of 100 kilometers.

The present inventory of NSFS platforms is deficient both in range and lethality due to heavy dependence on 5-inch guns. Accordingly, the Marine Corps strongly supports several improvements which are directed at enhancing NSFS, such as the reactivation of all four "Iowa" class battleships and the continuation of the semiactive laser guided projectile program through full production.

Command and Control

New systems that will assist the Marine on the battlefield are in various stages of development and fielding. They will provide the Fleet Marine Force commanders with automated command and control support to cope with the increased tempo and complexity of the modern battlefield. Our philosophy is to use computers to relieve the Marine of repetitive, routine tasks; to perform certain tasks and calculations more quickly and accurately; and to organize, file, and present information to support decisionmaking.

One of these systems is the position location reporting system (PLRS). PLRS is an automated, tactical, command and control system that provides the user with accurate, real-time position location and identification information. The Marine integrated fire and air support system (MIFASS) is another one of our important tactical command and control systems. Through MIFASS, the Marine commander is provided auto-

mated support in the integration of supporting arms with the ground scheme of maneuver.

These command and control systems will serve to enhance the coordination of our Navy-Marine Corps team. Our first major step in this direction is the permanent installation of these Marine Corps systems on the "Wasp" class amphibious assault ships. Not only will these tactical command and control systems support the landing force commander, but they will also be capable of providing up-to-date tactical information to the task force commander. Consideration is being given to including the permanent installation of Marine Corps tactical command and control systems in the "Blue Ridge" class ship improvement program.

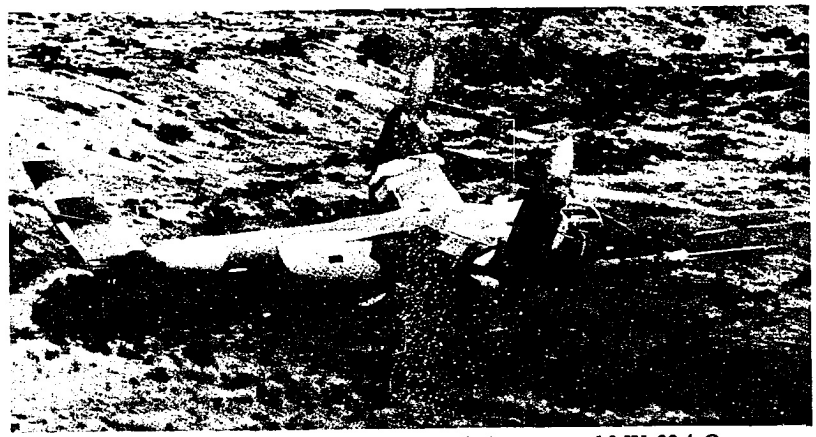
The deployable force automated services center (DFASC) is designed as the solution to the operational deficiency inherent in large-scale automated data processing support for MAB or MAF units when deployed. The new DFASC will be transportable by current Military Airlift Command aircraft, as well as Marine Corps trucking and Navy shipping, and will be provided to each of the existing MAFs and the 4th Division-Wing team.

This year's budget contains a proposal for a tactical air operation center, TYQ-23, an important centerpiece for our air command and control modernization program. The unique, modular construction of the TYQ-23 allows it to be tailored to the size of the aviation combat element of the MAGTF. Utilizing increased automation, the TYQ-23 decreases response time and requires fewer personnel. All of the reliability initiatives demonstrated in TYQ-23 support will increase MAGTF responsiveness and mobility.

Intelligence

The thrust of the Marine Corps' intelligence efforts logically focuses on the timely support of power projection. Our operational requirements have been validated by the fleet commanders and the OPNAV Staff. CinCPacFlt's Maritime Air-Ground Intelligence Cell serves as a useful prototype for this support, because it responds to the needs of deployed MAGTF commanders by providing appropriate level, all-source intelligence.

Our ability to produce and disseminate all-source intelligence to tactical commanders is developing rapidly under the Marine air-ground intelligence system (MAGIS). The intelligence analysis center, the "heart" of MAGIS, became operational this year. Other systems being developed include the all-source imagery processor, a soft-copy imagery exploitation system that exploits electro-optical, infrared, and radar imagery in near real-time from tactical and national sources. Our signals intelligence and electronic warfare systems will be modular, transportable, and semiautomated. They will intercept, identify, locate, and jam threat signals from both airborne and ground based platforms as well as analyze and report intelligence information from tactical and national sources.



JVX medium-lift assault transport has recently been named MV-22A Osprey.

We remain dedicated to improving the ability of tactical commanders to exploit national intelligence capabilities through the Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities Program (TENCAP). TENCAP assists in developing the systems, procedures, and force structure required to accomplish this vital function. It also educates and exercises our operational commanders in accessing those national systems that complement the tactical reconnaissance and surveillance assets organic to MAGTFs operating around the world.

Marine Corps membership on such national-level committees as the National Foreign Intelligence Board, the National Foreign Intelligence Council, the Intelligence Management Coordination Group, the Defense Reconnaissance Support Program Review Panel, and the Critical Intelligence Problems Committee, has greatly enhanced our participation in national-level intelligence forums.

Combat Service Support

We are continuing to restore and enhance the ability of our force service support groups (FSSGs) to support and maintain amphibious operations at all levels of MAGTF configuration. Increasing the manning level of the FSSGs represents the culmination of our Combat Service Support Restoration Plan, which will have elevated the FSSG manning of wartime requirements from a level of concern in FY-80 to a healthy level by FY-88. I might add that these enhancements are being applied to our Reserve component combat service support force as well as to the Active component.

The Marine Corps' implementation of the DOD Acquisition Improvement Program focuses on readiness and improved support to the Fleet Marine Force. We have increased emphasis on integrated logistics support system designs that are reliable, maintainable, and supportable. This approach enhances combat service support by producing better weapons and equipment. Our strategy in the acquisition cycle includes the use of proven systems, adequate "front end" test resources, and integrated support requirements.

The Marine Corps Standard Supply System, or M3S, is being designed to provide a single supply system within the Marine Corps, encompassing both the wholesale and retail functions for the Fleet Marine Force and the Supporting Establishment. It will replace four existing systems and will essentially combine their distinctly separate functions into one system.

The Marine Corps' Field Logistics System (FLS) improves our strategic mobility and sustainability by concentrating on the development of needed material in configurations that are compatible with the requirements of container ships. Not only will we be more assured that available merchant shipping is used effectively, but also, by implementing the FLS modularization concept, a greater flow of material

across an unimproved beach can be realized.

To assist in the offload of containers from merchant fleet ships, we are in the process of procuring and fielding the lightweight amphibious container handler (LACH). The LACH, which has been operational since FY-84, is a towed, straddle-lift carrier designed to remove containers and tactical shelters from beached landing craft and place them on trucks for further transport to inland combat service support areas. The LACH can also be dismantled and transported to inland areas for routine container handling.

The logistics vehicle system (LVS) consists of a powered front-body unit and four rear-body trailer-type variants. This vehicle system will be capable of carrying standardized containers and heavy cargo and will provide a necessary and significant improvement in tactical mobility while achieving a more supportable logistical vehicle fleet. The LVS is expected to be operational during FY-85 with a total of 1,400 in service by the end of FY-88.

An area of immediate concern is that we do not presently have hospital ships to provide the medical support needed where our forces are employed, ready when the first casualty occurs. To correct this deficiency, the Navy has embarked on a program to provide dedicated afloat medical support for our forces through the hospital ship program, which will provide 2 "San Clemente" class tankers converted into hospital ships with 1,000 beds each. Initial operating capability is scheduled for May 1987 and February 1988.

The rapidly deployable medical facility (RDMF), which is currently afloat in the Indian Ocean, is the first facility to be acquired by the Navy in recent years that is dedicated to treating, holding, and returning patients to duty within the theater. The RDMF and the 11,250-bed fleet hospital program will provide the bed space and treatment capability to reduce the logistics requirement for medical evacuation out of the theater and, consequently, reduce the demand for experienced, combat Marine replacements.

The Marine Corps has improved its medical capabilities through the acquisition of medical equipment and consumables to support each of the three MAFs. This support is designed to have the capability to be phased ashore, built up, and consolidated consistent with the tactical situation.

An increase in the number of medical personnel assigned to operational units provides enhanced medical care. These additional physicians, medical planners, and hospital corpsmen ensure that the required medical support is planned for and available at the time needed.

Consistent with our efforts to establish a warfighting capability through MPS brigades, we will pre-position the medical equipment and supplies necessary to support each of the MPS brigades.

As a force-in-readiness, the Marine Corps must be capable of rapidly deploying to respond to crises or contingency situations. Presently, we plan our embarkation process manually; however, we are currently developing an automated information system, called the Computer-Aided Embarkation Management System (CAEMS), which will function on a microcomputer and use state-of-the-art graphics features. This system will enhance the Marine Corps' capability to combat-load ships and aircraft with each MAGTF's complement of supplies and equipment by providing automated embarkation load plans. We envision this system as an improvement to our current standard embarkation management system. Upon implementation, CAEMS will work in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force Computer-Aided Load Manifesting (CALM) which is a prototype, automated, aircraft load planning system.

High mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle (HMMWV) replaces several vehicles currently in inventory.

MANPOWER

At this point, I wish to draw your attention away from our hardware-related programs and discuss our singularly most important program—Marines and their families.

I continue to be awed by the character, quality, and commitment of the men and women performing the difficult missions assigned to Marines. While all of the matters discussed thus far have a high priority, nothing has a higher priority than continuing to enlist and retain quality young people who are among the finest in America.

Total force accessions in FY-84, in addition to surpassing our goals, included 95 percent high school graduates—3 percent above last year—and better than 96 percent who achieved scores in Categories I-III in the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT).

I am particularly pleased that the distribution of bright, self-disciplined young Marines to our combat units is approaching that of our technical and logistical units.

Our recruiting successes of the past five fiscal years are the result of four factors:

- First, a spirit of patriotism that exists among young Americans desiring to serve their country.
- Second, the dedicated noncommissioned officers assigned as recruiters in the neighborhoods and small towns across the Nation.
- Third, favorable economic and demographic conditions.
- And, most importantly, Congressional support in providing the required resources.

We are closely monitoring our near- and long-term recruiting capabilities. Economic forecasts and demographic projections seem to indicate that there could be a change in future enlisted recruiting quality. We expect to continue to achieve the numerical goals, but our analyses indicate the potential for a sharp downturn in the percentage of AFQT Category I-IIIA enlistments beginning in FY-86 and continuing through FY-90. This downturn could ultimately affect our capabilities and systems throughout the Marine Corps.

Officer accession programs also continue to provide intelligent and enthusiastic young people prepared to shoulder the future leadership responsibilities of

our Corps.

We completed a banner year in total reenlistments during FY-84. Through our retention of well-qualified enlisted Marines, the leadership and experience in the force rose substantially. These reenlistments resulted in considerable monetary savings by reducing the need for replacements requiring training. The combination of good retention and a vigorous lateral movement program among occupational fields contributed to a reduction in skill imbalances. It must be stressed, however, that the Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program remains the most significant factor in retaining trained and experienced Marines in hard to fill skills. Thus far, the success realized in FY-84 continues in FY-85.

By the end of FY-86, our manpower plan calls for an end strength of 199,500—a modest increase of 1,200 over the FY-85 level. The net requirement for additional Marines is primarily associated with ongoing weapons and equipment modernization and enhancement programs. Concurrently, the net result supports our overall goal of maintaining a high level of personnel readiness.

I wish to highlight a particular manpower problem that we need your help to correct—the shortage of field grade officers. The Defense Officer Personnel Management Act (DOPMA) field grade ceilings, coupled with high and stable retention rates, are preventing the Marine Corps from meeting the promotion timing window for the grade of major as intended by Congress and our programmed requirement for 500 additional officers in this grade. I wish to emphasize that this grade relief request will not increase the active duty strength of our officer corps.

The comprehensive flag and general officer legislation is also of great significance. In addition to permitting us to properly staff important internal and joint billets, we believe this legislation will provide the control over flag and general officer numbers desired by Congress and will offer the Services a stable set of expectations for structuring key leadership requirements.

As I travel throughout the Corps listening and talking to our Marines, I continue to be impressed by the strong, consistent support furnished by the silent partners—the Marine family. Our families rely on institutional support—a fair and reliable compensation system, medical care, commissaries, and exchanges—in order to bear the hardships of essentially maintaining two family units.

COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT ENHANCEMENTS

Logistic Vehicle System (LVS)	• Four rear body units; container hauler wrecker, dropside cargo with crane, 5th wheel • Off road mobility • 60-inch fording capability • Replaces aging vehicles such as 10-ton and other assets together with various trailers and dolly converters • Fielding commences 3d Qtr FY-85
High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV)	• Enhanced TOW carrier • Weapons Platform for Mk19 40mm • Replaces 8MT vehicles/trailers in Marine division • Replaces all communication vehicles • 26,000 current Marine Corps vehicles/trailers replaced by about 14,000 HMMWVs (IOC FY-85)
Commercial Utility Cargo Vehicle (CUCV)	• Replaces the M880 • Three body variants: utility, cargo, and shelter carrier
5-Ton Truck M939	• Replaces current overaged 2½- and 5-ton tactical fleets • Five configurations • Prime mover for M198 Howitzer
Field Logistic System (FLS)	• Exploits the benefits of containerization • Designed around international dimensional standards • Reduces manpower, system costs, and shipping space requirements • Five major subsystems • Enhances logistics support system and readiness posture
Medium Girder Bridge	• Lightweight, hand-erectable, easily transportable, and rapidly employable girder type bridge of welded aluminum alloy • 100-foot spans or 162-foot spans with link reinforcement set • 8 bridges per company (hand-erectable by 4- or 6-man teams)

Today's military compensation system is a complex, multidimensional support system—one made up of pay, benefits, reimbursements, incentives, and retirement. Military pay is the basic foundation that touches every Marine. The trend over the last few years has been to base pay increases on retention and recruiting successes, not on economic reality. I remain committed to achieving pay comparability for all Marines—comparability that maintains military pay at a level that is equitable and competitive with the private sector.

Benefits and reimbursements support the foundation of the compensation system. Normally nonheadline areas, benefits and reimbursements became the center of attention this past year. We must collectively stabilize the benefits of the military compensation system enjoyed by all Service members that specifically provide for the reimbursement of costs inherent in permanent-change-of-station moves.

The current retirement system continues not only as a powerful career incentive, but also as a force management tool, because the pool of retirees eligible for recall to active duty supports mission readiness in the total force. It is one of the key ingredients of the entire compensation system and should not be changed.

While compensation issues are im-

portant, the well-being of Marines and the soundness of the family environment directly affect retention of quality personnel. Many initiatives, beyond compensation, are planned to improve the well-being of our families. Programs designed to enhance family relationships lead to more effective and happier families. This benefits both the Marine Corps in particular and society in general.

In the event of mobilization, many families will need assistance during the transition from Reserve and retired status to Active duty. To assist with this transition, Marine Corps casualty/family assistance teams—established in over 75 locations throughout the country—are tasked with providing information to families and reporting and processing casualty notifications as they occur.

Another personnel-related matter is BAQ/VHA allowances. While we appreciate your efforts to improve BAQ/VHA entitlements, Marines in certain areas are still concerned with finding adequate housing for their families because, as the cost of housing increases, these Marines find themselves unable to obtain satisfactory housing within their BAQ/VHA allowances.

An additional concern of Marines for their families is military medical and dental care, an integral part of the Marine's total benefit package. I fully support DOD's initiative to provide a Dependent Dental Program.

Morale, welfare, and recreation must be viewed as important, although intangible, elements in retention and readiness. Nonappropriated funds support the majority of our recreation programs, and we continue to emphasize the judicious use of these funds.

The concerns just addressed take on additional importance as we continue steady progress in our effort to increase the number of accompanied tours on Okinawa. Currently, there are over 1,300 command-sponsored Marine families there. This number, which is tied to the availability of family housing, will increase by 225 in FY-85 and FY-86. Combined with the expanding Unit Deployment Program (UDP), the accompanied tour program continues to reduce unaccompanied tours overseas, reducing costly permanent-change-of-station moves and increasing personnel stability in Okinawa-based units. Our goal continues to be accompanied tours for all career Marines and dependent-restricted tours for all first-term Marines. Stability afforded by the UDP and longer accompanied tours directly enhances readiness. We are convinced that the impact on family morale and retention of quality career Marines will be of benefit for years to come.

One personnel area in which we have experienced considerable progress is our substance abuse program. Early in 1982, we implemented new programs to eliminate the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol in our Corps, and, according to a recent survey, these programs are working. Drug abuse has dropped by one-half from the 1980 level. Per capita consumption of alcohol is down by one-third, and the number of heavy drinkers is down by one-half since 1980. We continue to actively pursue our goal of nontolerance of drug use and alcohol abuse. We continue to deglamorize the use of alcohol and encourage those who elect to drink to do so wisely. Leadership, education, urinalysis, discipline, treatment, and rehabilitation are the basics of our success.

Another important personnel area is the increased importance of women in the Marine Corps. During the last decade, while end strength remained relatively stable, the number of women on active duty nearly tripled to 643 officers and 8,550 enlisted. We recently completed a comprehensive review of the classification, assignment, and deployment policies for enlisted women. The primary goal in this review was to ensure combat readiness of our MAGTFs. The review established that enlisted women should continue to serve in 35 of 39 occupational fields and that the enlisted woman population should increase from the present 8,550 to about 10,500. Women will continue to serve throughout the Fleet Marine Force and supporting establishment in time of peace and during war.

Marine Corps policy provides for full utilization of our vital civilian personnel. Employment of civilian personnel permits more effective manning of the Fleet Marine Force; enhances training, readiness, and sustainability; provides continuity in operations; and provides specialized experience that is not otherwise available within the military structure. Our civilian personnel are employed in a wide variety of professional, technical, and administrative functions.

In concluding my remarks on manpower, I wish to say that leadership re-

Woman Marine population should increase from the present 8,550 to about 10,500 in the year ahead.

COMBAT ENGINEER ENHANCEMENTS

Improved Counter Mine

- **M58 trailer-mounted line charge system—assault minefield breach capability for tank and engineer battalions (IOC FY-85)**
- **M59 mine clearance system kit—assault mine breach from surface zone and inland for AAV battalions (IOC FY-85)**
- **M60 track width mine plow—assault minefield breach capability for M60 tank (IOC FY-86)**
- **Catapult-launched fuel air explosive (CATFAE) will provide an amphibious on-the-move countermine capability to neutralize pressure/tilt-rod mines in surf zone and ashore (IOC FY-91)**
- **Vehicle magnetic signature duplicator (VEMASID)—projects magnetic field causing magnetic mine fuse logic to activate and harmlessly detonate mines ahead of vehicles (IOC FY-90)**

quires special emphasis. I will continue to insist that Marine Corps policies and programs continue to produce and reinforce sound leadership. Whether in a peaceful barracks setting or in a tense crisis situation, your Marines deserve leaders who are competent, dedicated, and professional; to these principles we are committed. Americans historically have always responded to strong, fair leadership. The Marine Corps develops leaders willing to accept responsibility for the mission and for people. Our policies are designed to create stability at the battalion and squadron level, and they stress teamwork and unit esprit in order to maintain high morale and superior readiness. Our emphasis on quality Marines produces individuals prepared to respond to the leadership challenge.

MARINE CORPS RESERVE

The Marine Corps Reserve is charged with providing the capability for rapid expansion of the force during a national emergency. Today, the Reserve is an integral partner, providing substantial peacetime contributions, as well as wartime capabilities. These forces present a vital, added dimension to the Marine Corps' ability to respond to crises.

The Marine Corps has a mobilization capability that is second to none among the Services. Trained units and pretrained individuals can be quickly assimilated from the Reserve into a total war effort. Provisions have been made to augment or reinforce Active commands with a great range of capabilities, from individual combat or support units to an entire Reserve MAGTF. In a maximum effort the Reserve will provide almost one-third of the manpower and a broad range of combat assets, to include 100 percent of the civil affairs capability, 67 percent of force reconnaissance assets, 40 percent of the tanks, 33 percent of the heavy artillery, 33 percent of the antiaircraft missile capability, and 30 percent of light-attack aviation.

From a purely manpower perspective, mobilization of pretrained Marines from the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) has become increasingly refined. The procedure for identifying grade and skill requirements is fully automated, as is the flow process that directs the individual to a vacancy in his gaining command. A preassignment program identifies certain reservists whose presence is time-sensitive and issues "hip-pocket" orders directing them to a particular post within the first few hours of mobilization. This accurate, timely expansion of the force with qualified individuals and organizations is an essential dimension to Marine contingency planning and may be a critical dimension to success on the battlefield.

The wealth and depth of experience and expertise in the Reserve are impressive. Combat experience alone, still high among prior-service, career reservists, is an asset to be skillfully retained and utilized. The Marine Corps has also developed a program to take advantage of skills developed in the business world. Mobilization training units, currently composed of 900 officers and 100 staff noncommissioned officers in the IRR, are focusing their expertise on special projects for 18 operational sponsors in 35 states. The technical credentials and completed projects of these Marines are being catalogued for future reference.

Over the years there has been a changing character in the Active/Reserve relationship. Once viewed primarily as a source of pretrained individuals, the Selected Marine Corps Reserve trains today as highly effective combat organizations. Units are tied to Active commands in contingency planning. This concept of Reserve reinforcement is now being expanded to include provisions for a Reserve MAGTF.

Total Force equipment modernization and structure growth for the Reserve are carefully planned and orchestrated. In concert with Active forces, Reserve units will receive the major, new ground equipment and weapons systems being introduced into the Marine Corps inventory. Along with equipment modernization, numerous structural changes are occurring, to include activation of the remainder of the 4th Medical and 4th Dental Battalions, an LAV battalion, a target acquisition battery, and the reorganization of infantry and direct-support artillery battalions. In FY-85, the Marine Corps will activate its first Selected Marine Corps Reserve unit in Anchorage, AL. This unit will provide opportunities to take advantage of extensive Alaskan training areas and to conduct operations in a genuine arctic environment. Growth and modernization of Reserve aviation are also proceeding according to plan. A third fighter squadron was activated in 1984, and plans are being made for an additional KC-130 squadron in 1986. "Frontline" aircraft released from the Active force as it transitions to new systems are being placed in the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing. This should not imply that the Corps is satisfied with this level of Reserve upgrade. These aircraft are aging, and there are acknowledged shortages, especially in attack helicopters and aerial refuelers. Marine acquisition plans are addressing these shortages and are effecting system modernization by transitioning Reserve squadrons immediately following the Active force upgrade to such aircraft as the F/A-18 and MV-22A. The Marine Corps now intends to upgrade all Reserve fighter and some attack squadrons to the F/A-18.

Manpower and equipment are only a portion of the readiness equation. It is training that cements the relationship and transforms the individual Marine and his unit into combat power. Mobilization training, essential in the Reserve, is routinely tested with a system of "no-notice" mobilization tests which ensures these capabilities are maintained. During POWDER RIVER 84, which was essentially a command post communications exercise at the JCS level, the Marine Corps actually moved units and individuals to their gaining commands through designated stations of initial assignment. Some of these units and individuals also participated in actual exercises overseas.

Combat training in the Reserve has taken a new direction, and home centers are no longer the focal point. In 1984, 25,000 Marine reservists trained in exercises around the world from Puerto Rico to Korea. The Active/Reserve training relationship is beginning to mature, and the direction is sound. The Corps will continue to pursue increased Reserve integration into major Active force exercises.

Evidence of the success of the Corps' Total Force training policies can be readily seen by the fact that a Reserve squadron, VMFA-112 in Dallas, competing with all Active and Reserve fighter squadrons, was designated the Marine Corps' Fighter Squadron of the Year for 1984. Additionally, in August, the first brigade-sized Reserve landing since the Korean War was conducted.

The Marine Corps has substantial capability in its Reserve. Marrying their civilian pursuits with the needs of the Service, these "Citizen Marines" are a great source of pride in peacetime and, if called upon, will be an indispensable source of strength for the national defense as part of the Marine Corps Total Force.

APPROPRIATION/AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
($ IN MILLIONS)

APPROPRIATION TITLE	FY 1985	FY 1986	FY 1987
Military Personnel, Marine Corps	4,967.1	5,217.4	5,297.6
Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps	271.8	290.0	306.0
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps	1,650.9	1,667.4	2,035.8
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve	58.8	61.6	66.9
Procurement, Marine Corps	1,836.7	1,726.8	2,182.6
Marine Corps Stock Fund	34.9	42.7	63.0

END STRENGTH AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
(# IN THOUSANDS)

CATEGORY	FY 1985	FY 1986	FY 1987
Active Duty End Strength	198.3	199.5	201.7
Selected Reserve Average Strength	40.2	41.9	43.6
Civilian Personnel End Strength (USMC Portion of DON Request)	21.7	22.1	22.5
Average Military Student Training Load, Active	20.3	20.8	21.6
Average Military Student Training Load, Reserve	3.4	3.8	3.6

OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

In my report last year I stated that the Marine Corps' top operational priority was readiness. I would like to reiterate that the operational readiness of our Fleet Marine Force units to respond rapidly throughout the entire spectrum of conflict continues to be the Marine Corps' top priority. Our emphasis on readiness is apparent in the array of MAGTFs that are fully combat ready and prepared for immediate contingency deployments.

The combat readiness and ultimate capability of our units are dynamic and perishable commodities dependent on manning by qualified personnel, sufficient combat and combat support equipment; realistic training; and, perhaps most important, the Marine Corps' uncompromising standards of leadership. In each of these areas we have continued to improve. A balanced, intensive, challenging training program integrates personnel and equipment in realistic training exercises conducted throughout the world. The effectiveness of this training is measured by the Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation System. This demanding regimen periodically measures the performance of Fleet Marine Force units against standards established for all aspects of contemporary warfare. The final ingredient of the readiness equation, leadership, continues to be unmatched. Increased tour length for battalion commanders has improved commandership. Emphasis on professional education for young leaders has enhanced the performance and stability of our forces.

TRAINING

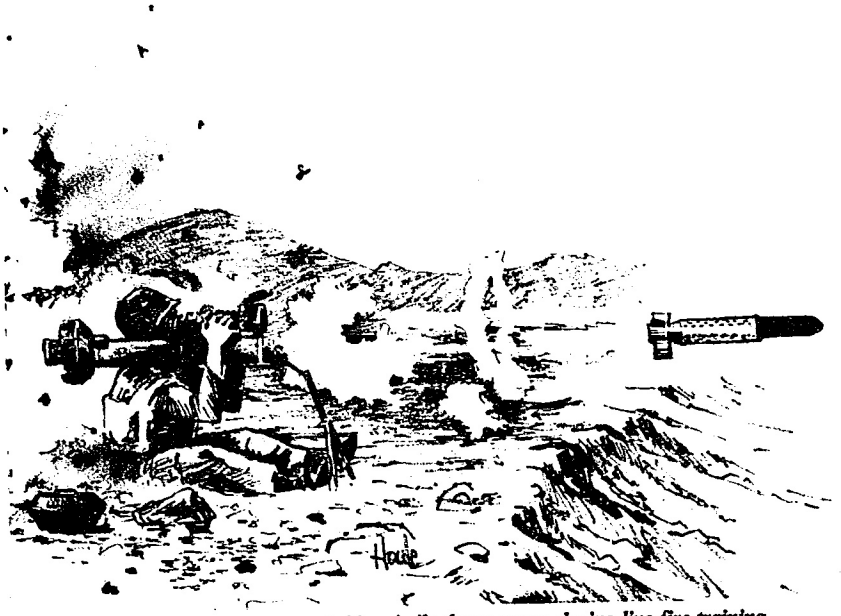
The Marine Corps' training goal is to provide Marines realistic, challenging training that prepares them to accomplish all assigned missions and tasks. In an effort to be more efficient and effective in achieving this goal, the Marine Corps is accelerating the development of collective and individual training standards for use within the operating forces and supporting establishment. The ability of unit commanders to achieve combat readiness by demonstrating high standards has long been

the hallmark of Marine Corps training. From large scale amphibious exercises down to the training of individual fighting skills required for small unit tactics, the word is clear for both Regular and Reserve Marines: "Train as you would fight."

Since FY-80, the number of major exercises in which the Marine Corps has participated has more than doubled. Concurrently, increases in the size of our exercises have resulted in more Marines receiving mission-oriented training on a more frequent basis. These training deployments away from home bases have also provided additional opportunities for training in varied terrain and climatic conditions that approximate those in potential contingency areas of the world. Typical Marine Corps training exercises are designed to accommodate small units as well as the largest MAGTFs.

Eight Active and two Reserve battalion-sized, air-ground training exercises, which include live-fire events, are conducted annually at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA. In addition, one Reserve and nine Active battalions conduct mountain and cold weather exercises annually at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, CA. Combined arms exercises, along with all mission-oriented training, are constantly refined and provide valuable lessons learned, which are regularly incorporated into the latest developments in doctrine, tactics, and equipment. The desert and mountainous environments at Twentynine Palms and Bridgeport, respectively, provide climate and terrain that parallel geographic areas of concern to the Marine Corps. The maneuver areas at Twentynine Palms permit integration of live ordnance for all of the weapons systems employed in the Marine Corps. Similarly, about 140 Marine aircrews train each year at a specialized tactics and weapons squadron at Yuma, AZ, and not only provide a cadre of tactical experts at their units but also help to refine aviation tactics, doctrine, and equipment.

Small unit training is the keystone of successful large unit operations. Annual Marine Corps-wide competition among rifle squads, advanced tactical training for aircrews, and frequent performance testing of battalions and squadrons provide the appropriate link between specialized training for individuals and the desired operational readiness of air-ground forces.



Reserve Dragon gunner sends his missile down range during live-fire training.

Our individual Marines are proud, disciplined, proficient, and loyal. "Semper Fidelis" is more than a motto; it is a way of life. Such motivation is molded and directed by the finest teachers in the world, beginning with our drill instructors at the recruit depots and continuing with our staff noncommissioned officers and officers in the Fleet Marine Force. Professional military education and skill progression training are provided at appropriate junctions of grade and billet assignments to develop the many facets of a military professional.

As the art of modern warfare becomes more sophisticated and prone to rapid change, the Marine Corps must take full advantage of new technology to modernize training programs and methods. In this regard, we shall use the products of technology with judgment and precision. Flight simulators have long been recognized and used to supplement actual flight training. Maintenance simulators are being developed and utilized to increase student learning at significant cost savings. Since there is no substitute for live-fire exercises, sufficient quantities of ammunition must continue to be provided for that purpose. Simulation devices are being developed which will enhance the skills of riflemen; tank, TOW, Dragon, and Stinger gunners; and artillery and mortar forward observers. Additionally, other devices are being developed which will enhance the skills of commanders and their staffs in tactical decisionmaking, command and control, and fire support coordination.

Application of automated data processing technology to training management procedures is expected to achieve a significant decrease in the amount of time required to accurately develop training standards for new weapon systems and tactics; to improve the capability of commanders to plan, budget, and allocate training resources; and to evaluate all training programs in a timely fashion. We have established internal procedures to ensure that the development of such training programs and methods coincides with the procurement of each new weapon system. Joint service review of technology for training purposes is required to eliminate duplication of effort and is enthusiastically supported by the Marine Corps.

We are not, however, going to forsake a well-trained Marine Corps to achieve a low-cost training program. While we are making use of the best that technological advances can provide in the area of training support, the Marine Corps remains dedicated to maintaining a fully capable and highly trained combat force ready to perform in any contingency. It is to that end that all of our training effort is directed.

FORWARD DEPLOYMENTS

Our forward posture worldwide, in support of national policy, allows us to respond to any international crisis when directed by the National Command Authority.

II MAF is the major operational command on the east coast and continuously has a MAU forward-deployed in the Mediterranean Sea. II MAF also deploys elements to the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea. The 28th MAU, for example, makes periodic deployments to the Caribbean to demonstrate United States presence while the 26th MAU makes an annual deployment to Norway.

III MAF is forward-based in Japan and Hawaii and deploys the 31st MAU in the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. Beginning in February 1985, I MAF, based at Camp Pendleton, will deploy a MAU to the Western Pacific, supporting III MAF with its MAU commitment.

Our three MAFs can also provide air alert battalions which give us the capability to rapidly reinforce our forward-deployed units should the need arise. Additionally, in an effort to improve the overall combat capabilities of the Navy-Marine Corps team, the superb aviation interoperability initiative which began last year will accelerate. FY-86 will witness the first two of four Marine A-6E squadrons assigned to deployed carrier air wings. Two Marine F/A-18 squadrons will already be aboard. U.S. Navy A-7 squadrons will concurrently deploy to WestPac in support of Marine ground forces on a continuing basis. This highly successful mutual support initiative, which began last year, has been an overwhelming success. It promises to vastly improve the flexibility and effectiveness of your naval forces.

While deployed, these MAGTFs conduct operations and training exercises designed to improve the Marine Corps' ability to operate with the other Services and our allies. We train hard so that when called on, we will be prepared. We will continue to be ready, whether we are providing humanitarian assistance or executing a contingency mission.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The financial resources we are requesting for FY-86 will support the requirements and programs discussed throughout this statement. This budget increases our readiness by fully implementing the MPS strategic mobility enhancement program, by continuing the modernization of our battlefield equipment for the Active and Reserve forces, and by narrowing the gap toward our targeted sustainability objectives.

A summary of financial resources by appropriation and authorization request which makes up the Marine Corps' FY-86 budget to support the programs and requirements discussed during this statement is displayed in the accompanying table.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm the commitment of your Marine Corps to jealously guard the trust and confidence of the Congress and the American people. You can be assured that with the improved weapons, mobility, sustainability, and command and control assets provided, soundly led, properly trained, quality Marines will be ready to respond when called. The Marines, as America's Force-in-Readiness, provide the flexibility to enter the spectrum of conflict at any point and produce the required results.

As Marines, we have the unique capability, unmatched anywhere in the world today, to make a forcible entry from the sea with a fully integrated, mission-oriented, combined arms, self-sustaining air-ground team. We enable our country to keep the qualitative edge needed to provide a decisive, flexible, credible response by amphibious forces in global crises.

Together, we prepare for the call that may or may not come—the call to "Land the Landing Force!" As Marines, we do not determine when or if that call will come. I can assure you, however, that, with your support, we are ready and will remain ready to respond to that call. At the same time, we continue to share the hope that the call will not be sounded.

In light of Soviet policies and unprecedented military growth, the need for the United States to be able to establish maritime superiority has never been greater. Because of your support, we continue to improve our amphibious capability, and needed modernization programs are now well underway. With continued support, we will provide the maximum defense for each dollar invested in the Marine Corps.

For 209 years, Marines have served this Nation well and faithfully. I assure you, that tradition will continue.

Thank you. USMC

Quote to Ponder:

Combat Effectiveness

"[In war] weapons play a decisive but not necessarily determining role. It depends to a great extent on how those weapons are integrated into the military force structure, the tactics developed for their employment, and the ability of the opposing side to develop suitable countermeasures. Moreover, superior technology deployed in inadequate numbers means nothing, and superior weapons improperly used are as likely as not to precipitate defeat."

—Daniel Goure