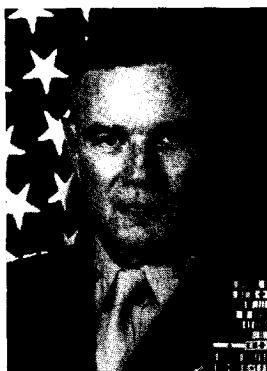


NEWS

Wilhelm To Be CinC



LtGen Charles E. Wilhelm has been nominated for promotion to general and will replace Gen Wesley K. Clark, USA, as the commander in chief (CinC) of the U.S. Southern Command. Gen Wilhelm is currently serving as commander, Marine Forces Atlantic/CG, II MEF.

General Officer Change

The President has nominated the following officer for promotion to lieutenant general and reassignment as indicated:



Michael J. Byron
U.S. Rep to NATO
Mil Committee

It has been a little over 1 year now since the Corps selected General Dynamics Land Systems Divisions to build its advanced amphibious assault vehicle (AAAV) that will replace the current AAV7A1 assault amphibious vehicle (MCG, Jul96, p. 8). Since that time Congress added \$20 million to the FY97 AAAV budget that allowed the Corps to build a second prototype for testing purposes. Recently the AAAV successfully com-

MCDP 1 Approved

On 20 June 1997 the Commandant signed *Marine Corps Doctrinal Publication (MCDP) 1, Warfighting*. *MCDP 1* replaces *FMFM 1, Warfighting*, as the Marine Corps' capstone doctrinal publication. It provides the authoritative basis for how Marines fight and prepare to fight, and defines a way of thinking that guides our approach to duty.

Since *FMFM 1* was first published in 1989, it has had a significant impact both inside and outside the Marine Corps. In effect it has changed the way Marines think about warfare. However, doctrine is not stagnant—it evolves based on new operational experiences, advancements in theory, and the changing face of war itself.

MCDP 1, with a foreword by Gen A.M. Gray—the architect of *FMFM 1*—retains the spirit, style, and essential message of the 1989 document. The majority of the text has been carried forward from the original *Warfighting* with only minor revisions. The

new publication contains three major enhancements:

- First, the description of the nature of war has been expanded both to emphasize war's complexity and unpredictability and to widen the definition of war to account for the expanding forms of conflict in the modern world.
- Second, the descriptions of the styles of warfare have been clarified.
- Third, important maneuver warfare concepts such as commander's intent, main effort, and centers of gravity/critical vulnerabilities have been refined.

Marine units will soon receive their initial allocation of *MCDP 1* via the Marine Corps Publications Distribution System (MCPDS). Additional copies may then be ordered from MCPDS or via the Doctrine Division internet homepage at <http://ismowww.mqg.usmc.mil/docdiv> or <http://138.156.107.3/docdiv>. □

Hornets Leave Aviano

Marine All-Weather Fighter/Attack Squadron 224 (VMFA(AW)-224), VMFA (AW)-332, and VMFA(AW)-533 have concluded their deployments to Aviano, Italy. The three F/A-18D Hornet squadrons have supported Operation DECISIVE EDGE (now DELIBERATE GUARD) over Bosnia in 6-month rotating deployments since July 1993, utilizing Aviano Air Base, Italy as their base of operations.

Once the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff made the decision to no longer maintain the F/A-18Ds forward-deployed (VMFA(AW)-224), the most recently deployed of the three squadrons, returned to MCAS Beaufort, SC. Its 250 Marines returned on 7 June, 4 months after beginning what was expected to be a standard 6-month deployment. Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 31 (MALS-31) also returned from Aviano to MCAS Beaufort.

VMFA(AW)s-224, -332, and -533 flew

over 19,000 sorties during their 4 years of participation in the Aviano deployment. As part of the redeployment, MALS-31 packed up and shipped back nearly 275 tons of equipment, including 26 mobile maintenance facilities. A 40-Marine detachment from Marine Wing Support Squadron 273 still remains at Aviano providing bulk fuel, messing, and other support for the remaining personnel from VMAQ-3. The EA-6B Prowler squadrons will continue to participate in DELIBERATE GUARD, as will their maintenance and support personnel. □



Photo by Antony Platt

AAAV Update

pleted its first System Design Review (SDR) in which all performance requirements—to include launching 25 miles from shore, traveling more than 25 knots in water, and 45 mph on land—were executed. The SDR also determined that the AAAV design can accommodate all planned major subsystems, including the weapons station and sighting systems housings.

The AAAV will ultimately be equipped

with a forward-looking infrared sensor (FLIR) capability to facilitate night navigation on both water and land and assist in acquiring targets at night. In addition to FLIR, the AAAV will have a Global Positioning System navigation aid built into the driver stations used by the vehicle commander and infantry commander. Thus it will be possible to locate the vehicle's position on moving map display screens at the three stations. □