

U.S. Marine 'Boot' Trainee Now Keeps Human Dignity

EDITOR'S NOTE: AP writer Ben Price spent 13 years in the Marine Corps and its reserve.

By BEM PRICE
PARRIS ISLAND, S. C., Nov. 10 (AP)—For probably the first time since before World War II this place looks something like what it is—a U.S. Marine Corps recruit depot, a hive of marching and counter-marching young men, stepping out proudly in their new painted helmet liners behind red guidons.

Not so long ago the recruit, the "boot," was a quivering, frightened young animal. He deliberately was stripped of all human dignity. Now he keeps his pride and some measure of his individuality.

Outside the main gate there is even a "visitors welcome" sign. As much as anything, that sign is a symbol of a revised and perhaps even finer U.S. Marine Corps.

The changes were wrought by many men, but the man who started it all was Matthew C. McKeon, erstwhile drill instructor and staff sergeant, now a private after his court-martial which ended Aug. 3.

Isle Muddy Waters
McKeon, a blond six-footer from Worcester, Mass., set off on a night disciplinary march Apr. 8 at the head of Recruit Platoon 71. McKeon led his 74 youngsters into the muddy tidal waters of Ribbon Creek. Only 68 came out.

Until McKeon's march the Marines here had lived happily in their comfortable, orderly and somewhat remote world, feeling answerable to nobody save their immediate superiors.

Armed guards at the main gate shielded them from contact with the general public. If you didn't have specific business on the base, you weren't welcome.

McKeon's march changed all that. Reporters, generals and congressmen wanted to know just how Marines were trained. The picture was not pretty.

Except for cursory officer supervision, all training was left to the noncommissioned officer drill instructors. A few of these, inept and immature, substituted brutality for leadership.

Clean House
In the aftermath of Platoon 71's night march, officers expressed ignorance of such goings-on. The Marine Corps promised to clean house. It appears to have done just that. Parris Island is a lot healthier place than it was six months ago.

This is not to say that everything here is "four-oh." Navy lingo for perfection.

For Parris Island the new order of things arrived at 4:30 p.m. May 4 in the person of Brig. Gen. Wallace M. Greene Jr., who established the new recruit training command.

Maltreatment and senseless hazing was pretty well stopped. The drill instructor who lays a hand on a recruit can be reasonably sure of a swift court-martial by officers in no mood to tolerate another spate of unfavorable publicity.

Training Extended
To reduce the pressure on both boot and DI, the training period has been extended from 10 to 12 weeks.

A new system of physical training has been introduced too. Six months ago the weak, the skinny and the fat were left in the care of the DI. He developed some novel means of making the weak strong, the skinny fat and the fat skinny.

Now the job of making trim men of stamina is turned over to a special training company. Results are remarkable.

A kid whose hips and stomach were wider than his shoulders became, in 43 days, slim, waisted, trim and erect. A kid who could barely lift a nine-pound rifle winds up handling the thing as if it were part of him.

Has to Answer
Prior to the McKeon tragedy the noncommissioned officer was kingpin here. He still is to a large extent, but while officers never get between a DI and his men, the DI now knows he has to answer for his methods if they are out of line.

Col. Robert Vance, chief of staff for the training command, a former Marine parachutist, said in an interview, "The drill instructor is transferred immediately if we even think he might become a risk."

Vance said too that the DI now has a late evening period of about an hour and a half daily which he can use as he sees fit so long as he does not exceed regulations. If a DI feels his men need more instruction in close order drill, he can break them out on the parade ground. If he feels they need more physical contact work, he can order his troops into that activity. If he believes the boys need a break, he can take them to a movie.

needs, he must tell an officer what he intends to do, where and when. The officer must go and see that he is doing it. Inspections by officers have been stepped up sharply. Not only are battalion officers constantly on duty, but Gen. Greene also has set up inspector-instructor teams to wander over the place at odd hours to see that DIs are going by the rule book.

Marine Protected in Training



PARRIS ISLAND, S. C., Nov. 10—Looking fierce behind his face guard, Pvt. John R. McCaine of Palatka, Fla., takes an on-guard position during a bayonet course at Parris Island Marine recruit depot. For extra protection he wears a football helmet and boxing gloves. (AP Newsfeatures photo).

Phone Union Extends Pact

PORTLAND, Nov. 10 (AP)—The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. and the Oregon Communications Workers of America agreed today to extend their expiring work contract until Nov. 14.

The two sides have been attempting to negotiate a new contract, to replace the one expiring at midnight tonight, for more than a month.

The company reported it had offered the 6,000 workers wage increases ranging from \$2.50 to \$5.00 a week.

The union is asking, however, that pay be upgraded for workers in smaller Oregon towns. A spokesman for the union said the company refused to upgrade any

towns and that the money offer "increases the spread between towns."

Neuberger Asks Ike to Work for High Dam Project

PORTLAND, Nov. 10 (AP)—Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.) urged the Eisenhower administration today to change its power policy and work for a high federal dam at Hells Canyon.

The senator said the review of power policy which the administration indicated would be made, as a result of the election, should

include abandonment of the "partnership" program with private utilities.

If the U.N. intends to keep this police force permanently along the Suez Canal this means Nasser is being asked to accept something he has vowed to fight to prevent—international control of the Suez Canal. Since he nationalized the canal company last July 26 Nasser has insisted that international control of the canal would violate Egyptian sovereignty.

Another Problem
The U.N. international police force raises another problem. Egypt has accepted this force as a means of enforcing a cease-fire and insuring withdrawal of British-French and Israeli forces from Egypt. When the U.N. established the force, however, it was charged with keeping the canal open for shipping.

By WILTON WYNN
BEIRUT, Lebanon, Nov. 10 (AP)—Did Gamal Abdel Nasser win or lose the battle of Suez?

At the moment, the British-French-Israeli agreement to cease-fire and withdraw troops is hailed by the Arabs as a victory for Egypt's President. By holding his people together in the face of attacks by three armies, Nasser has sent his already widespread popularity to new heights. The international support he won—particularly from the Soviet Union and the U.N. General Assembly—has convinced many Arabs Nasser emerged stronger than ever.

But as the situation clarifies, the picture may not appear so rosy in Arab eyes.
May Be Weaker
If reports are true that Egypt's air force has been virtually wiped out, Nasser's army will be far weaker vis-a-vis Israel than before the fighting began.

Nasser May Lose Prestige In Arab World

Editor's Note—The writer of the following dispatch is one of the AP's veteran correspondents in the Middle East. He has traveled widely in the area from his post at Cairo and just now is in Beirut, one of the Middle East's vital listening posts.

in four days thanks to the army." Mrs. Golda Meir, the Israeli foreign minister, told a wildly cheering meeting of the Mapai (Labor) party.

Mrs. Meir declared some of the captured equipment "was so secret it has not been displayed even in the countries of origin."

She did not identify the countries of origin, but other officials have said much of the seized material came from the Soviet Union and her satellites.

Mrs. Meir accused Russia of "sowing seeds of hatred and aggression in this part of the world in the hope of reaping the fruits of wrath."

She accused President Nasser as "the Fascist dictator of Egypt." She added: "We have said all along that Nasser is a threat to the world—that he is the man who will cause World War III."

But no one would listen. No one believed us. Others believed it was better to come to terms with Nasser. Some still believe this fiction.

A high Israeli government official gives this preliminary accounting of material seized in the Sinai campaign: Seven thousand tons of ammunition which can be used for small arms, artillery and planes; more than 100 tanks; more than 1,000 military vehicles of American, British and Russian make; a complete mobile radio station; nearly 200 artillery pieces; huge military stores including spare parts for tanks and vehicles; tents, uniforms and military housekeeping equipment; three fuel depots with 7 1/2 million liters of fuel. A liter is slightly over a quart.

On the debit side Israel lost Col. Assaf Simhoni, commander of the Sinai campaign. Jordan turned over to Israel the bodies of Simhoni, Lt. Col. M. Dromi and pilot Benjamin Gordon—all shot down when their plane, apparently off course, flew over the Jordan town of Aljoun Wednesday.

Israel increased the number of Egyptian planes it claimed shot down to 12, including 8 Soviet MIGs. Israeli losses were listed as one jet plane, one Piper Cub and one Harvard Trainer. Israeli casualties were put at 150 killed, 600 wounded and 20 missing as against 3,000 Egyptians killed and 7,000 taken prisoner.

Military sources in Israel claimed a squadron of Soviet-manned MIG17 jet fighters—between 18 and 24 planes—has moved into Syria. These informants said also that between 10 and 15 Russian built Ilyushin bombers were flown to Saudi Arabia by Egyptian crews before the British-French air attack wrecked a large part of the Egyptian air force.

Israel was said by one high official to have realized three goals in its Sinai campaign: to dramatize the eight-year state of war with Egypt and to open up the question of a peace settlement to the world; to forestall an Egyptian attack on Israel; to open the blockaded port of Elath at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba to shipping.

The official said Israel failed to open the Suez Canal to Israeli shipping, or to eliminate attacks by fedayeen (Arab commando) bands.

The bands were reported active Saturday on Israel's borders for the third day in a row. Israeli officials believe they are Egyptians who fled into other Arab states from the Sinai Peninsula.

Israel Army Grabs \$50 Million in Egypt Arms

By ALLAN JACKS

TEL AVIV, Israel, Nov. 10 (AP)—Israel claimed today its lightning Sinai campaign netted a vast store of Egyptian tanks, vehicles and munitions valued at approximately \$50 million dollars.

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Check-Room Tips Add to Hat Prices



NEW YORK, Nov. 10—The cost of a hat goes up as it is retrieved at the checking counter at the Sheraton-McAlpin Hotel in New York. Hat check tips add up to enough to affect the sales of men's hats, in the opinion of some bitter hat makers in Danbury, Conn. (AP Newsfeatures Photo).

Hat Check Girls Blamed for Hatlessness of Nation's Men

By RENE CAPPON

DANBURY, Conn., Nov. 10 (AP)—Mention hat check girls to a Danbury hatter and you're likely to see mad.

Hats are to this New England town what steel is to Pittsburgh. And rightly or wrongly, the practice of impounding men's hats for ransom is widely regarded here as a factor in the plight of the ancient industry.

"In the lifetime of the average hat," growled one processor, "you pay 10 times its price checking it in night clubs, theaters, and restaurants."

In Danbury hat-manufacturing goes back to 1780. It still proudly calls itself the nation's hat city and bareheaded salesmen are likely to find themselves ostracized. Yet only 25 per cent of Danbury's work force is engaged in hat-making or allied pursuits today compared with 75 per cent 15 years ago.

From 1947 to 1954, according to U.S. census figures, the number of hat plants in the country

dropped from 136 to 90. The word summing up the hatters' grief is "hatlessness," a condition long endemic among American males and one that Danbury considers an affront to nature and common sense. For years industry brains churned overtime to lick the problem.

They strove to indoctrinate hatless men that their habit was unhealthy. They cited findings by Army researchers that wearing a hat in winter actually keeps your feet warm. They tried to suggest that women, deep down, don't care for bareheaded men.

Success was moderate at best. It's only lately that hatmakers began gathering hope from a trend toward greater style-consciousness among men.

Today the industry makes a slightly over a million dozen felt hats annually, about half the production of pre-World War 1 days. Danbury's economy weathered the decline because it prudently turned to other industry but its first love is still the hat.

Long-Time Peanut Vendor Plans Voyage

NEW YORK, Nov. 10 (AP)—Peanut vendor John Courtsoffins, 79, is taking a vacation after nearly a half-century of selling his wares outside Columbia University.

A familiar sight to students and faculty alike since 1908, he's taking a five-month vacation to his native Sparta in Greece. "I'll be back here in business," he vows, "but I want to see the old place again."

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Soviet Calendars List 1st President
MOSCOW, Nov. 10 (AP)—George Washington and U. S. Communist party Secretary William Z. Foster are the only Americans mentioned on Soviet desk calendars for 1957. On the calendar's Feb. 23 sheet Washington's birthday is noted with the observation that his motto was "Live in friendly relations with all countries" and he warned against "burdensome alliances."