On 30 June 1950, FMF Headquarters Pacific received a message from the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) asking, “How soon can you sail for combat employment in the Far East: (a) A reinforced battalion; (b) a reinforced regiment?” The force operations officer, Col Krulak, dispatched the reply to the CNO: “(a) 48 hours; (b) five days, including a Marine aircraft group.” This information was forwarded to Adm C. Turner Joy, commander of Naval Forces Far East, who offered a Marine brigade to Gen MacArthur. MacArthur, who had just completed an inspection of the crumbling frontlines in Korea, enthusiastically accepted the offer.

On 2 July 1950, the Chief of Naval Operations directed that a reinforced Marine regiment with supporting air assets be assembled for immediate embarkation for Korea.

THE BRIGADE

At the end of the Second World War the First Marine Division found itself at Camp Pendleton, California. There the Division was maintained in nearly a cadre status. The War Department was busily engaged in a process of downgrading the U. S. military forces. The manpower strength of the U. S. Marine Corps had been reduced to a small fraction of its wartime numbers. President Truman, and many in the War Department, talked of eliminating the Corps entirely and giving its mission to the Army. Most of the Division’s units were under strength.

The division was manned by only one of its authorized three infantry regiments, the 5th Marines.

(Continued on next page)
The infantry battalions of the 5th Marines were manned by only two of their authorized three rifle companies, and each rifle company was manned by only two of the authorized three rifle platoons. As a result, on the eve of the Korean War, the 5th Marines had only 1,800 of its 3,900 authorized men.

The First Provisional Marine Brigade (1950), with its Marine Air Group 33 aviation components, totaled 6,534 men. Although the three infantry battalions of the 5th Marine Regiment each had only two rifle companies, it had in addition, taken from the skeleton 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, several auxiliary units: the division’s Signal, Motor Transport, Medical, Shore Party, Engineer, Ordnance, and Tank Battalions each furnished one company to the Brigade; Detachments from the Service Battalion, Combat Service Group, Reconnaissance, and Military Police Companies, the 1st Amphibian Tractor Company, and Amphibian Truck Platoon were also parts of the Brigade. The 1st Battalion, 11th Marines, with three firing batteries, was attached to provide vital supporting artillery.

The United States Marine Corps, to its great credit, assembled the 1st Brigade from its meager units worldwide in less than a week after it was requested.

Brigadier General Edward A. Craig, the senior officer at Camp Pendleton, was assigned to command the Brigade.

DETACHMENT RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

The Company that emerged from World War II as Reconnaissance Company, Headquarters Battalion, First Marine Division was reduced to a single platoon on 15 June, 1948 in the post-war frenzy to reduce the size of the U. S. military. At the time of its reduction the Company was commanded by 1st Lieutenant James A. MacDonald.

The one-platoon Reconnaissance Company often trained at Camp Del Mar, a sub-camp of Pendleton which was located seaside.

A second unit, commanded by Captain Kenneth Houghton, also trained at Del Mar. Known then by outsiders as “The Special Submarine Company”. This unit, which was actually Able Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, was given the mission of developing a discipline for inserting and extracting Marines from submarines. The background for the mission centered upon the tragic experience of the Second Raider Battalion during its raid on Makin Island during the Second World War. Several Marines were left ashore and were captured by the Japanese. The captives were murdered by beheading.

On 22 March 1949 the single platoon of Reconnaissance Company was merged with one platoon from the Special Submarine Company to form a two platoon reconnaissance unit.

Reconnaissance Company, now consisting of two platoons, was commanded by 1st Lieutenant John Alexander with 1st Lieutenant Ralph Crossman as Executive Officer.

The first and second platoons forming the new Reconnaissance Company were led, respectively, by 2nd Lieutenant Dana Cashion with TSgt John W. Slagle as Platoon Sergeant and Lt. R. E. Sullivan with TSgt Ernest L. DeFazio as Platoon Sergeant.

On 8 March 1950 Captain Kenneth Houghton assumed command of the 1st Marine Division Reconnaissance Company. 1st Lieutenant Ralph Crossman remained as Executive Officer.

The outbreak of the Korean War occasioned a further reorganization of the Reconnaissance Company. Lt. Sullivan went to D Company 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines as Platoon Commander and was replaced in Reconnaissance Company by 2nd Lieutenant Donald Sharon.

The Platoon formerly commanded by Sullivan formed the cadre for the Detachment Reconnaissance Company, 1st Provisional Marine Brigade under Captain Kenneth Houghton.

When the First Provisional Brigade of 1950 was formed, Houghton assumed command of a 37 man detachment consisting of his most experienced Reconnaissance Marines. Those not selected for the detachment were ordered to remain in the Headquarters Battalion of the First Marine Division under the command of Lieutenant Philip D. Shutler with Lieutenant Dana B. Cashion as Executive Officer.

(Continued on next page)
The Detachment Reconnaissance Company embarked on the USS Horace A. BASS (APD-124) at San Diego, California and sailed on 14 July 1950. The original destination of the Brigade was Japan where staging and training were to take place but the situation on the Pusan Perimeter deteriorated and they were redirected to Pusan. While in route to Korea the Recon Marines were subjected to a rigorous schedule of classes and physical conditioning.


On 25 July, Craig flew to Korea and reported to Lieutenant General Walton H. Walker, the Commanding Officer of the Eighth U. S. Army in Korea. The Brigade would become an element under the command of the Eighth Army when it arrived in Korea.

At Pusan General Craig awaited the arrival of the Brigade. Although he had been given no mission by the Eighth Army command he wanted the Marines to be prepared to deploy immediately upon arrival. To that end he sent a message to the Brigade commanders while they were still at sea to insure that the Marines would not be delayed from moving out when they debarked.

Craig's message was not delivered. Brigade commanders arrived at Pusan on 2 August 1950 with no stated mission. Ammunition and rations were not issued at sea as Craig intended. Once ashore the Marines were delayed by the issuing of ammunition, rations and water.

The Detachment Reconnaissance Company was issued seven jeeps and four trailers (intended for organic equipment which was kept in rear echelon) and three mounted .50 caliber machine guns by the Army. The machine guns were never employed against the enemy.

The Brigade moved west to Masan where it was placed in Eighth Army reserve and then to a position approximately one mile west of Changwon astride the Masan-Pusan road where it took up defensive positions.

On 6 August the Marine Brigade was attached to the Army’s 25th Infantry Division and ordered to counterattack the advancing 6th North Korean People’s Army near Chindong-ni in concert with the Army’s 5th Regimental Combat team as “Task Force Kean”. During the period from 6 to 12 August the Detachment Reconnaissance Company screened the Brigade’s flanks, manned outposts at night, and formed the point element during movement.

On 6 August the enemy managed to get a battalion behind Task Force Kean’s lines and established a blocking position which cut the road to Masan. On 7 August the 3d Battalion, Fifth Marines led an assault on the position and struggled for three days in concert with two battalions of the 24th Infantry Regiment and Army artillery before successfully removing the blocking position.

H Company of the 3d Regiment, Fifth Marines suffered 16 killed and 36 wounded. At least half of 3/5’s casualties during the battle are attributed to the oppressive Korean summer heat.

THE SACHON AMBUSH

On the morning of 12 August, the 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines was ordered to advance forward through the 2d Battalion and form an advance guard for the Brigade’s assault on Chinju.

15 men from the Detachment Reconnaissance Company under command of Captain Kenneth Houghton formed the point element one mile in front of the advance guard. OY aircraft and a helicopter from Observation Squadron VMO-6 scoured the flanks of the moving column.

Shortly after noon the point was four miles from Sachon nearing the small village of Changallon. The point was passing through a valley with rice paddies flanked by high ground.
ENCLOSED (1) TO ANNEX "NAN"

2. Campbell, Hubert E.: Unpublished manuscript "A Chronology of the First Marine Division Reconnaissance Company in Korea"
3. Campbell, Hubert E.: Draft manuscript furnished for the book “Elite—First Reconnaissance Company of the Korean War”
A young recruit bolted from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot and ran across a runway at next-door Lindbergh Field early Thursday before being arrested by Harbor Police, authorities said.

“It’s happened before,” said Harbor Police Sgt. Brad Hizer.

The Marine suffered multiple lacerations and his uniform pants were snagged off him by the razor wire topping the airport security fence, Hizer said.

An airport control tower worker reported about 6:20 a.m. that a man was running across a runway toward Gate 6 and got into a janitor’s van to hide, airport spokeswoman Diana Lucero said.

She said it appeared the man came from the direction of the Marine recruit depot, which abuts the west end of the airport off North Harbor Drive. Harbor Police got the man into custody by 6:27 a.m., Lucero said.

“No airport operations were impacted whatsoever,” Lucero said. “This happens maybe once every other year.”

Hizer said his officers turned the recruit over to military police and he likely would be treated for his cuts at a hospital.

Officials at the recruit depot issued a statement saying the recruit reported for duty on Monday and was going through initial processing. He had not begun recruit training.

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with elevations reaching 600 feet on either side of the road. Houghton was wary of the terrain and was scanning it with a watchful eye.

Just as the village of Changallon came into view the men in the lead reconnaissance jeep saw two enemy soldiers hurriedly seeking cover in the village (Point A on the map). The Marines began firing at the fleeing North Korean soldiers.

Almost immediately the point was taken under fire by enemy machine guns on the high ground on their right flank (Point B on the map). The enemy had uncovered a perfectly laid ambush and revealed their intention prematurely by a lack of fire discipline. Company B behind the point came under heavy weapons and machine gun fire at the same time from their front and both flanks (Points B,C,D,E and F on the map).

The terrain for the ambush had been carefully selected by the enemy. The tanks were confined to the road by the rice paddies on each side and the Marines were able to find only scant cover by diving into the paddies and a few roadside ravines.

Houghton saw immediately that his lightly armed Recon men were both outgunned and outnumbered and were in need of immediate help. He called for assistance as the point began to receive fire from both flanks and right rear.

Captain John Tobin, the Commander of B Company, who was now under fire from all quarters, responded that he was sending one of his platoons and two tanks to reinforce the point.

(Continued on next page)
Tobin then used a tank radio to contact Lieutenant Colonel George R. Newton, the 1st Battalion Commander, to request an air strike on the enemy positions as his men hunkered down in the rice paddies. Tobin sent a runner back to his Third Platoon with instructions to send an ambulance and stretcher bearers to Houghton at the point. He then ordered the remaining three tanks forward as soon as the air strike lifted.

The initial fire fight lasted for more than four hours. The tanks, unable to leave the road, engaged the enemy at a range of over 700 yards and their 90 mm guns inflicted heavy damage to them.

By 5:30 Tobin had carried the high ground and the enemy was in retreat. It was 10 o’clock at night before Tobin had established a perimeter of defense and had wire laid back to the Battalion command post.

The ever vigilant Detachment Reconnaissance Company had foiled the success of a well laid ambush by the North Korean People’s Army and prevented untold Marine casualties.

The 1st Battalion of the 5th Marines had fought hard and suffered greatly to advance. Having been on the move for four days and traveling for 29 miles; the day had exhausted them.....but they had the enemy on the run and they owned every inch of the ground they had fought so hard to gain.

The enemy counterattacked during the night and the fight continued. Morning brought disturbing news from the Eighth Army. The Brigade was to disengage in the middle of their pending victory, surrender the ground that they had gained, and move to the rescue of another Army unit in distress.

So went most of the time that The Brigade...with the Detachment Reconnaissance Company...spent during their short existence. They continued to be the Army’s ‘Fire Brigade’ during the remaining time of their existence.

When General MacArthur proposed that the First Marine Division conduct an amphibious assault at Inchon, the Fifth Marine Regiment was still under Eighth Army command. Major General Oliver Smith, the Commanding General of the First Marine Division informed him that the Marines could not insure success without their Fifth Regiment.

With great reluctance the Army dismissed the Fifth Marines to participate in the landing at Inchon.

The Detachment Reconnaissance Company under Captain Houghton and the 2d Platoon of the Reconnaissance Company under Lt. Philip Shutler (who had been relieved of duty with the Far East Naval Command by the 41 Independent Commando, British Royal Marines) were reunited at Wolmi-do Island during the Inchon Invasion.
No Failure To Communicate Here!

1st Recon Company Communications Section - 1956

?? HELP US NAME THEM

E. M. Penland Photo - 1956

MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG SAYS 19 YEAR OLDS AREN'T RESPONSIBLE ENOUGH TO HAVE A PISTOL OR RIFLE

HE OBVIOUSLY FORGETS WHO PROTECTS HIS RICH PANSY ASS

GET WITH THE PROGRAM !!

MAGGOTS!!

Send HU something to print in Reflections - NOW!!
DO YOU HEAR ME ?? ARE YOU MAGGOTS DEAF ??
scootr831@ameritech.net
**A "FOREIGN" STREAMER**

*On British Color*

The First Marine Division Honors its brothers in 41 Independent Commando, British Royal Marines

41 Commando is the only organization in the armed forces of the United Kingdom that is authorized to fly a "foreign" streamer from its color and it does so because of the 1st Marine Division. The only other streamer displayed on all Royal Marines colors is the Gibraltar Streamer. It took much letter writing by our veterans to not only convince our government to award the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) to 41 Commando for their magnificent performance at Chosin but to get the British government to approve and authorize it for 41 Commando. It was finally accepted in 1957 by the Captain General of the Royal Marines from the US ambassador to the UK.

**Lawmakers take aim at drone medal ranking**

Three Republican lawmakers introduced legislation Tuesday to block the Pentagon from rating the Distinguished Warfare Medal for drone pilots equal to or higher than the Purple Heart. Reps. Duncan Hunter of California, Timothy Murphy of Pennsylvania and Tom Rooney of Florida introduced the bill, according to a statement from Hunter's office. All three are military veterans.

The new blue, red and white-ribbed medal will be awarded to individuals for "extraordinary achievement" related to a military operation that occurred after Sept. 11, 2001. Unlike other combat medals, it does not require the recipient risk his or her life to get it. The medal, introduced by outgoing Defense Secretary Leon Panetta two weeks ago, will be considered a bit higher in ranking than the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart, but is lower than the Silver Star, according to defense officials.

"There is nothing wrong with having a military award that recognizes commendable actions off the battlefield, but it's absolutely necessary to ensure that combat valor awards are not diminished in any way," Hunter said in a statement. Rooney, an Army veteran, said he has "grave concerns" with the Pentagon's decision to rank the new medal above the Purple Heart and "other traditional combat valor medals." "There is no greater sacrifice than risking your own life to save another on the battlefield, and the order of precedence should appropriately reflect the reverence we hold for those willing to make that sacrifice," Rooney said in a statement.

The Pentagon's decision has been met with criticism from veterans' groups, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, which has called on the Department of Defense to reconsider the new medal's placement in the order of precedence for military awards.

Over the last decade of war, remotely piloted Predators and Reapers have become a critical weapon to gather intelligence and conduct airstrikes against terrorists or insurgents around the world. They have been used extensively on the battlefields in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as in strikes in Pakistan, Yemen and northern Africa.

According to the Pentagon criteria, the medal gives the military a way to recognize a single act that directly affects a combat operation, doesn't involve an act of valor, and warrants an award higher than the Bronze Star.

The medal is a brass pendant, nearly two inches tall, with a laurel wreath that circles a globe. There is an eagle in the center.

*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*
NEW YORK -- A long-forgotten World War II statue of the famous flag-raising at Iwo Jima that had been expected to sell for as much as $1.8 million was passed over by bidders in an auction on Friday. Bidding for the 12 1/2-foot-tall sculpture of the 1945 flag-raising reached as high as $950,000, below the undisclosed minimum sales price, Bonhams auction house said.

"We're a little disappointed with what happened with the sculpture," Bonhams Maritime Art Department sales specialist Gregg K. Dietrich said. Three potential buyers placed competing bids for four or five minutes, Dietrich said.

The sculpture's owner, military historian and collector Rodney Hilton Brown, did not wish to discuss the results of the auction.

Dietrich said prospective buyers could purchase the sculpture through Bonhams, which will negotiate a price on the seller's behalf.

History buffs have fawned over the sculpture, a miniature of the familiar 32-foot-tall bronze Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. That sculpture, designed by Felix de Weldon, was patterned after a Pulitzer Prize-winning Associated Press image of the Feb. 23, 1945, flag-raising by Marines and a Navy Corpman on Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi.

The smaller sculpture was largely forgotten about for more than four decades after de Walden placed it in the back of his studio, covering it with a tarp. That's where Brown found it in 1990 while researching a book on de Weldon. It was in desperate need of restoration.

Brown bought the 5-ton monument, paying for it with cash and two peculiar collectors' items: a Stradivarius violin and a silver Newport yachting trophy from the 1920s.

In 1995, Brown presented a restored version of the statue to the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum on the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. Brown said earlier this month he wanted to sell the sculpture because "it doesn't fit in my living room."

GENERAL SHUTLER
BY JAKE PEARSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

General Shutler was born 13 October 1926 in Springfield, MA, and graduated from Northfield, VT high school in 1943. He received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy, and upon graduation in June 1947, was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant. He also holds an Engineers Degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics and a Masters Degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1964) and a Masters Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University (1972). He is a graduate of the NationalWar College.

General Shutler served as a platoon leader and as the First Marine Division’s Reconnaissance Company commander in Korea. He was designated a Naval Aviator in 1952 and served in various fighter and attack squadrons. He was the executive officer of a Marine Aircraft Group (F-4s) in Vietnam (1968) and commanded a Marine Aircraft Group (F-4s) in the United States (1972-73). His staff tours include assignments to Naval Air Systems Command, Headquarters Marine Corps, and the Secretary of the Navy staff.

Since promotion to brigadier general in 1974, he has served at Headquarters Marine Corps as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation; as the Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; as the Commanding General, 4th Marine Amphibious Brigade; and as the Vice Director, Joint Staff. He was promoted to his present rank and assumed the duties as the Director for Operations, J-3, Joint Staff, in July 1978, serving in this capacity until his retirement.

Lieutenant General Shutler retired from the Marine Corps on 1 July 1980.

General Shutler's decorations include the Legion of Merit with Combat "V", the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" and Gold Star; the Meritorious Service Medal, 20 awards of the Air Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, three Presidential Unit Citations, two Navy Unit Citations, the Meritorious Unit Citation, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

General Shutler and his wife, the former Margaret Anne Walser of Edina, MN, have six children, Louise, Philip, David, Eric, Robert, and Charlotte.