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Martial Arts Center of Excellence
Newsletter: 15 Dec '03

“A great man shows his greatness by the way he treats little men.”
Carlyle

Instructor Trainers and Instructors,

Let me begin by wishing everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday Season. I hope everyone has the opportunity to spend these special days with family, friends and loved ones.

This is the final Newsletter of 2003. Hate to be redundant but if you know of an IT not receiving these please have them contact anyone at the MACE, or go to the web page (see footnote) where it will be posted. These Newsletters are designed to keep all the IT's up to date with changes and in contact with the MACE.

The MACE held an offsite during the beginning of December. I would like to personally thank SgtMaj Pensak, GySgt White, all IT Marines who sent in their thoughts and ideas, and all the members of the MACE for making that outcome an exceptional “give and take” event. The focus of the offsite was on scrubbing MCO 1500.54a and designing the syllabus/criteria for 2nd-6th degree black belts. Results from both will be published as soon as the working groups smooth out all the details. The MACE is holding off advancing all IT's until the black belt syllabus/criteria is finalized. Please be patient. Also, remember, to be a designated a MAIT, a Marine **MUST** meet the prerequisites for Black Belt 1st Degree and successfully complete the MAIT course. IT's are not authorized to advance Marines to IT status. MAIT courses are only available through the MACE, or through a unit funded MACE MTT.

The MACE is now turning their focus on the following areas: training the USMC to Gray belt; on an upcoming MAI course, scheduled 5-23 January; to the upcoming CCRB, scheduled for 2-4 March; and to the MAIT 01-04 course, scheduled 4 April to 21 May. The MAI and MAIT course is open to all Marines who meet the prerequisites defined in the MCO. The focus of the CCRB will be on reviewing all techniques from Tan to Black belt 1st degree. If you have a recommendation to add, delete, and or modify an existing technique, now is your chance to make it known by sending the MACE your proposal. MGySgt Sanders is the POC. Every proposal must arrive at the MACE in the following format or it will not be considered:

1. Name of the technique
2. Purpose of technique
3. Principles of the technique
4. Safeties, if different than the standards
5. The Technique with photos

https://www.tbs.usmc.mil/Pages/Martial_Arts/default.htm DSN 278-5345/Comm 703-784-5345/9891/0278/0279

MAIT Dates for the MACE: Quantico April 4- May 21.

MAI Date for the MACE: January 5-January 23.

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The MACE continues to QA programs around the Corps. A few trends have been identified around the Corps that needs attention: A. Marines getting away from using EDIP. B. Marines not doing Tie-Ins, and C. Marines not doing Warrior Studies. The quickest way to destroy this great program is by not following the full intent of its conception. It is imperative that *IT's* follow the standards set forth in the current MCO 1500.54a. MCMAP is a synergy of mental, character, and physical disciplines. All three of these disciplines enhance the Marine both on and off the battlefield. All three are equally important. Removing one leg from a three-legged stool will always bring the same conclusion-failure. Don't shortcut the program. If your command needs assistance, please ask.

Now for a few updates: The MCRP 3-02B is done. It will be a great piece of gear for all IT's. It will be ready for distribution during January. It will aid all IT's in maintaining the standards. The MACE is also currently in and around Camp Pendleton producing the official MCMAP DVD of all 172 techniques on 5 discs (tan through black belts) that will capture live footage, still photos, safeties, the MCRP verbiage and a voice over. The project will also be ready for distribution in January. Once you have these products in your hands there will be absolutely no question on the proper conduct of the 172 techniques.

The MACE building is still underway. The foundation has been poured. The concrete slab will be poured next. By January "**we**" should see the roof installed. By March "**we**" should see the building receiving permanent power. The contractors are still planning to deliver the building to the USMC in May/June of '04.

Couple last thoughts: Remember, once a Marine has finished his/her MCMAP training and is awarded a belt, please make sure within 10 days the Marine is added to MCTFS. Also, please notify the MACE on any injuries your command receives at the hands of MCMAP so the MACE can track injuries accordingly. The MACE hasn't received any notification of injuries caused by MCMAP.

. Semper Fi Marines and Happy Holidays.

*Joseph Shusko
LtCol USMC
Director, MCMAP*