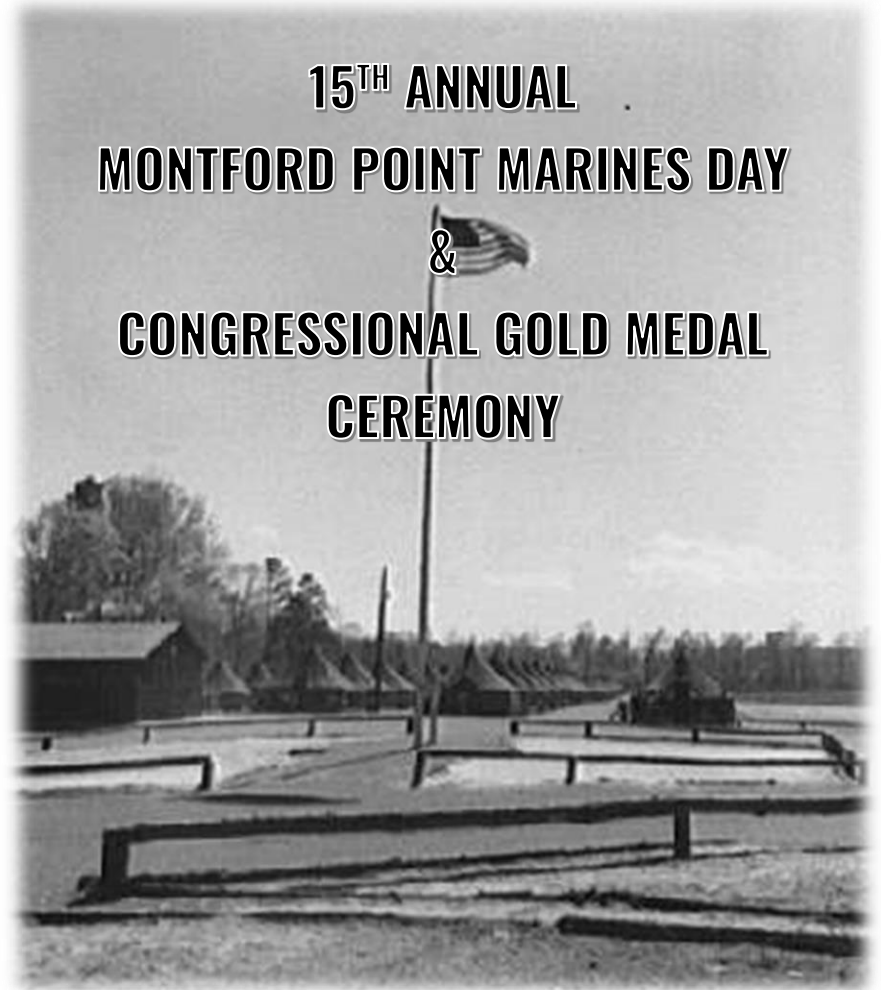


NATIONAL MONTFORD POINT MARINE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Presents:



**15TH ANNUAL
MONTFORD POINT MARINES DAY
&
CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL
CEREMONY**



**Thank You for your support, your
participation, and your presence during this
year's ceremony.**

LEJEUNE MEMORIAL GARDENS
109 MONTFORD POINT LANDING RD. JACKSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Friday, August 23, 2024

Welcome

On behalf of the President,

National Montford Point Marine Association, Incorporated

Welcome to the

15th Annual Montford Point Marines Day & Congressional

Gold Medal Ceremony.

This organization is committed to

Preserving the Legacy of the Montford Point Marines.

Today, we celebrate the 82nd Anniversary

since the first African American Recruit arrived

at Camp Montford Point.

We also celebrate their historic accomplishments.

We acknowledge their sacrifice.

For it is on their shoulders that all

Marines who served from 1942 until today stand.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 25, 2011

I send greetings to all those honoring the legacy of the Montford Point Marines on their 69th anniversary.

Almost seven decades ago, as our Nation was at war, more than 20,000 African American men enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. After completing arduous and segregated basic training at Montford Point Camp, many of these Marines served with distinction during a number of World War II's bloodiest struggles. Some made the ultimate sacrifice in these battles; others continued their service in Korea and Vietnam.

Despite being denied many basic rights, the Montford Point Marines committed to serve our country with selfless patriotism. Choosing to put their lives on the line, these men helped advance civil rights and influenced President Harry Truman's decision to desegregate the Armed Forces in 1948. Embodying the Marine Corps motto of Semper Fidelis, *Always Faithful*, these heroes paved the way for future generations of warriors, regardless of background, to serve in the finest military the world has ever known.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank you for your service and for your contributions to the cause of freedom at home and around the world. May God bless our men and women in uniform, and may God bless the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.

In the Senate of the United States

(On July 20, 2010 Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. BURRIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary)

(On July 22, 2010 Committee discharged; considered and agreed to)

Resolution

Designating August 26, 2010, as "Montford Point Marines Day".

- Whereas* on June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802, which established the fair employment practices that began to erase discrimination in the Armed Forces;
- Whereas* in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a Presidential Directive that integrated the United States Marine Corps;
- Whereas* approximately 20,000 African-American Marines received basic training at Montford Point in the State of North Carolina between 1942 and 1949;
- Whereas* the African-American Marines trained at Montford Point became known as the Montford Point Marines;
- Whereas* the African-American volunteers who enlisted in the United States Marine Corps during World War II—
- (1) joined the United States Marine Corps to demonstrate their commitment to the United States, despite the practice of segregation;
 - (2) served the United States in a most honorable fashion;
 - (3) defied unwarranted stereotypes; and
 - (4) achieved distinction through brave and honorable service;
- Whereas* during World War II, African-American Marine Corps units fought and served in the Pacific theatre, participating in the liberation of the Ellice Islands, the Eniwetok Atoll, the Marshall Islands, the Kwajalein Atoll, Iwo Jima, Peleliu, the Marianas Islands, Saipan, Tinian, Guam, and Okinawa;
- Whereas* Robert Sherrod, a correspondent for Time magazine in the central Pacific during World War II, wrote that the African-American Marines that entered combat for the first time in Saipan were worthy of a 4.0 combat performance rating, the highest performance rating given by the Navy;
- Whereas* the heroism, commitment, and valor demonstrated by the Montford Point Marines—
- (1) changed the negative attitudes of the military leadership toward African-Americans; and
 - (2) inspired the inspiring service of future generations of African-Americans in the United States Marine Corps;
- Whereas* in July 1948, President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9981, which ended segregation in the military;
- Whereas* in September 1949, the Montford Marine Camp was deactivated, ending 7 years of segregation in the Marine Corps;
- Whereas* in September 1965, over 400 former and active duty Marines met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at a reunion to honor the Montford Point Marines, leading to the establishment of the Montford Point Marine Association;
- Whereas* 2010 marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the Montford Point Marine Association; and
- Whereas* the sacrifices, dedication to country, and perseverance of the African-American Marines trained at Montford Point Camp are duly honored and should never be forgotten: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) designates August 26, 2010, as "Montford Point Marines Day";
- (2) honors the 68th anniversary of the first day African-American recruits began training at Montford Point;
- (3) recognizes the work of the members of the Montford Point Marine Association—
 - (A) in honoring the legacy and history of the United States Marine Corps; and
 - (B) in ensuring that the sense of duty shared by the Montford Point Marines is passed along to future generations;
- (4) recognizes that—
 - (A) the example set by the Montford Point Marines who served during World War II helped to shape the United States Marine Corps; and
 - (B) the United States Marine Corps provides an excellent opportunity for the advancement for persons of all races; and
- (5) expresses the gratitude of the Senate to the Montford Point Marines for fighting for the freedom of the United States and the liberation of people of the Pacific, despite the practices of segregation and discrimination.

Lieutenant General Calvert L. Worth, Jr.

Lieutenant General Calvert L. Worth hails from St. Louis, Mo. and is a 1989 graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia. He was commissioned via the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidates Course in 1991. He served in a variety of command and staff billets in the Fleet Marine Forces to include Commanding Officer of 1st Battalion, 6th Marines; Commanding Officer of the 6th Marine Regiment and Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response-Africa; Commander Task Force Southwest 20.1 in Afghanistan; and as the Commanding General, 2d Marine Division, relinquishing command in July 2024. On 2 August 2024, he assumed command of II Marine Expeditionary Force.



Lieutenant General Worth participated in numerous named operations, to include Operation Sea Signal (Cuba); Operation Joint Endeavor (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Operation Iraqi Freedom; Operation Enduring Freedom; Operation Freedom's Sentinel, and Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan. Lieutenant General Worth's B-billet assignments include duty at The Basic School, where he served as an instructor and Staff Platoon Commander at the Basic Officer Course, and as an instructor at the Infantry Officer Course; Commanding Officer, Recruiting Station Detroit; Director of U.S. Marine Corps Enlisted Professional Military Education; and as the Marine Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Navy.

Joint Service assignments include service as a Military Assistant to the DoD Executive Secretary in the Office of the Secretary of Defense; service in the Joint Staff J-3, J35 Regional Operations as the Division Chief, Joint Operations Division-CENTCOM; and most recently as the Director of Strategy, Policy and Plans (J5) in U.S. Southern Command.

Lieutenant General Worth is a graduate of the Amphibious Warfare School (w/ distinction), the Marine Corps Command and Staff College (w/ distinction), the School of Advanced Warfighting, and the National War College. He is also a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Seminar XXI Fellow and holds a Master's Degree in Military Studies from Marine Corps University, a Master's Degree in Operational Studies from Marine Corps University, and a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University.

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (w/ two Oak Clusters in lieu of third award), the Legion of Merit (two Gold Stars in lieu of third award), the Bronze Star Medal w/ Combat Distinguishing Device (Gold Star in lieu of second award), the Meritorious Service Medal (Gold Star in lieu of second award), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (Gold Star in lieu of second award), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon (Gold Star in lieu of second award), and basic parachutist insignia.

Sequence of Events

Musical Prelude

Welcome

LtCol. Denice T. Williams, (USMC-Ret.)
Narrator

Invocation
MSgt. Nathaniel F. Broussard, (USMC-Ret.)
NMPMA Chaplain

Presentation of Colors
Honors
National Anthem
Flyover conducted by 'Fighting Griffins' of VMM-266

Introduction of Official Party

Opening Remarks:

Col. Ralph J. Rizzo, Jr.
Commander, Marine Corps Installations East

Honorable Sammy Phillips
Mayor, City of Jacksonville

History of Montford Point Marines Day
Dr. James T. Averhart, Jr. (CWO5, USMC-Ret.)
President, National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.

Acknowledgement by a Montford Point Marine
1stSgt. William "Jack" McDowell

Keynote Speaker
LtGen. Calvert L. Worth, Jr.
Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force

Presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal



Posthumously Awarded to:

Master Sergeant Ira J. Nash
Staff Sergeant James A. Miles, Jr.
Sergeant Edward L. Howard
Corporal Jack E. Baker
Corporal Oscar L. Craig
Corporal Vincent T. Cullers
Corporal Clarence C. Davenport
Corporal Frank Douglas
Corporal Alcee Gholar
Corporal William Gibson, Jr.
Corporal Jesse F. Green
Corporal Rufus H. Jones
Corporal Melvin McCowen
Corporal Otha N. Mooney
Corporal Lawrence L. Strothers

Corporal Neal Wilson
Corporal Walton Wilson
Corporal John T. Wynkoop
Field Musician Cpl Isaac P. Flournoy
Private First Class Joseph Brinson, Jr.
Private First Class Ralph V. Dent
Private First Class John D. Jefferies
Private First Class Walter J. Johnson
Private First Class John A. Miller, Jr.
Private First Class Joseph D. Smith, Sr.
Private First Class Harley J. Washington
Assistant Cook James E. Logan, Jr.
Private Joseph L. Cook
Private Johnnie Harris
Private Alfred L. Pittman

Closing Remarks:

Dr. James T. Averhart, Jr. (CWO5, USMC-Ret.)