

October 2025

Quarterly Newsletter of the USMC Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association

The Ordnance

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Comments from the GOMA Chairman

Greetings GOMA Family,

I want to thank each and every one of you for your continued support and engagement with GOMA. Your insight continues to shape the direction we're heading and I'm grateful for it.

It's been a busy summer on my end, marked by a transition from the West Coast to the East Coast. The move slowed things down slightly, but I'm back in the saddle and excited to share several updates that I believe will energize our community and push us further toward our goals.

Here's what's new and noteworthy:

- **Free Memberships:** We're proud to announce that GOMA membership is now free for all active duty Marines from **Private through Sergeant**. This is a major step to grow our community. Please allow some time for our website to fully catch up with the update.
- **New Social Media Page:** We've launched updated social media platforms to better connect with you. If you haven't already, **follow us on Instagram: @usmc_goma**
- **Mentorship:** Our new "Tap into the Network" feature is now live on the GOMA website. Members can now ask questions or seek advice, from the Ordnance community. The long-term vision is for this to evolve into a full-scale mentorship program that supports Marines at every stage of their career.
- **Essay Contest:** We're finalizing the details for an essay contest that will give our members a chance to share their perspectives and win a little something for their efforts. There will be three competitive groups—NCO and below, SNCO, and Officer. Winners will each receive a \$100 prize and have their work featured in the next edition of The Ordnance Bomb.

Looking ahead, we're about a year out from our elections. In preparation, we've taken the time to codify several critical leadership roles and we're actively looking to fill them.



If you or someone you know is passionate about the mission, we're currently seeking a **Membership Coordinator** and a **Communications Coordinator**. Reach out if you're interested or want to nominate someone who'd be a great fit.

In this edition of The Ordnance Bomb, II MEF is the focal point, featuring a little something for everybody. As always, I want to express my gratitude to everyone who contributes to this community. Your words, actions, and ideas help preserve our legacy and inspire the Marines who come next.

Obed Macias
Chairman
USMC GOMA



Custodis Pro Ferrum

Small Amphibious Team Makes a Big Splash

By CWO Travis Ryan

Let's be honest: anyone who's ever spent time in an armory knows it's a special kind of chaos. A beautiful, organized chaos...usually. But maintaining a regimental quantity of weapons and supporting equipment with a lean team? That's a different level of controlled pandemonium. Here at 2d Assault Amphibian Battalion, we've proven that a small, highly skilled team can not only keep the guns firing but can do so with a readiness rate that would make even the most seasoned Ordnance Chief crack a smile.

I want to share how our team of four 2171 Optics Technicians and five 2111 Armorers manage to keep over 450 pieces of Mission Essential Equipment (MEE) humming, to include a truly impressive collection of over 300 .50 caliber machine guns and MK-19 grenade machine guns, 52 M240B machine guns, 144 PAS-28 and PAS-13D thermal systems. And, yes, we even help keep 50+ Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS) on our Amphibious Combat Vehicles (ACVs) in fighting shape. All while maintaining an average readiness rate exceeding 98%. How do we do it? It's a combination of meticulous planning, relentless execution, and a healthy dose of caffeine.

The Challenge: A Lot of Gear, Not a Lot of Maintainers

Let's face it, the Marine Corps doesn't exactly throw manpower at armories. We understand the need for boots on the ground, but someone must ensure those Marines have something to shoot with. The sheer volume of weapons and MEE assigned to a regimental-level unit is daunting. We're talking everything from crew-served weapons to night vision devices, test equipment, and the specialized tools needed to keep it all operational.



LCpl Cash and Cpl Flier perform Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services on a M240B machine gun.

“How do we do it? It's a combination of meticulous planning, relentless execution, and a healthy dose of caffeine.”

Couple that with the demanding operational tempo of a unit in transition from one of the longest operating vehicles in service to a vehicle so new it still has that new CARC smell, and you've got a recipe for long hours and a constant battle against preventative maintenance and calibrations schedules. We're not just fixing broken things; we're proactively preventing things from becoming broken. Because let's be real, a broken .50 cal at the wrong moment is a bad day for everyone.

The Secret Sauce: Skill, Systems, and a Shared Sense of Suffering

So, what's our secret? It's not magic, though sometimes it feels like it. It's a three-pronged approach built on the foundation of highly skilled Marines, robust maintenance systems, and a shared understanding that we're all in this together.

Small Amphibious Team Makes a Big Splash

Cont...

1. The Power of the 2171 & 2111: Let's start with the team. Our 2171 Optics Techs are wizards with lenses, reticles, and all things that allow us to see the enemy before they see us. They're masters of bore sighting, thermal sight maintenance and ensuring our precision optics are ready to deliver accurate fire. They've seen more sights than a squirrel sees nuts.

Our 2111 Armorers? They're the backbone of our operation. They're the ones who can disassemble, repair, and reassemble a .50 cal in their sleep (and probably have, during field exercises). They're experts in small arms repair, preventative maintenance, and keeping our weapon systems functioning flawlessly. They're also surprisingly good at finding lost parts. Seriously, it's a talent. The synergy between these two MOS's is critical. A perfectly tuned weapon is useless with a blurry optic, and a pristine optic is wasted on a mechanically unsound weapon.

2. Systems, Systems, Systems: We don't rely on memory or crossed fingers. We live and breathe maintenance tracking systems. We utilize the Global Combat Systems Support (GCSS) and meticulously document everything. Each weapon, each piece of MEE, has a detailed maintenance history. Way more maintenance history than a car you buy at the base lemon lot.

3. The Camaraderie of Chaos: Maintaining this level of readiness requires a significant commitment from every member of the team. It's demanding work, and there are times when we're all feeling the pressure. But we've built a culture of mutual support and shared responsibility. We help each other out, we share knowledge, and we don't take ourselves too seriously. A little bit of gallows humor goes a long way when you're wrestling with a stubborn bolt or trying to diagnose a complex weapon system malfunction.



The armory team of 2d Assault Amphibian prepare for the ball with a Dress Blues inspection. From left to right: CWO Ryan, LCpl Green, LCpl Sanchez, Cpl Driggers, Cpl Rodriguezinterian, LCpl Matthews, LCpl Canales, Cpl Flier, LCpl Santos, LCpl Eastman

Lessons Learned (and a Few Words of Wisdom)

We've learned a few things along the way, and I'd like to share them with my fellow Ordnance Marines:

- **Invest in Training:** Continuous professional development is essential. Keep your Marines up to date on the latest maintenance guidance. Its MAM!
- **Embrace Technology:** Utilize maintenance tracking systems and data analytics to improve efficiency and identify potential problems.
- **Build a Team:** Foster a culture of teamwork, mutual respect, and shared responsibility.
- **Don't Be Afraid to Ask for Help:** Reach out to other units, subject matter experts, and the wider Ordnance community when you need assistance.

Looking Ahead

The future of ground ordnance maintenance is constantly evolving. New weapons systems, advanced technologies, and changing operational requirements will continue to present challenges. I'm confident that our Ordnance Marines are up to the task. We are the keepers of the blade, the guardians of firepower, and the unsung heroes who ensure our Marines have the tools they need to win on the battlefield. Even though we might be a small team, we make big waves. Stay safe, stay proficient, and keep those guns firing!

Owning Tomorrow's Fight:

Ordnance Marines and the Rise of Drone Warfare

By CWO3 Nick Norton



FPV (First Person View) are drones that allow the operator to see the picture from the camera of the drone with the help of a headset, and not from the display of the tablet.



The LMADIS provides the Marine Corps with the capability to deter and neutralize unmanned aircraft systems. L-MADIS, one of the Corps' key anti-drone platforms, will depend on maintainers to stay fight-ready.

Get your GOMA Stickers!

Limited quantities of GOMA Stickers are still available on the GOMA website.

- From the homepage, navigate to the "Merch" link on the menu bar and place your order. OR copy this link into your browser: <https://www.usmcgoma.org/merchandise/>
- Once your order is received, please allow us a day or two to review and process your order.
- Local pickup only for Camp Lejeune. If you choose local pickup, a GOMA representative will reach out to you with coordinating instructions.



Bottom Line Up Front: The next fight won't just be fought on the ground—it will be contested in the airspace just above it. The Ground Ordnance Maintenance community is uniquely positioned to lead the charge in both offensive and defensive drone warfare.

From Guns to Guardians – Expanding the Ordnance Mission

For decades, the 2100 Ground Ordnance Maintenance field has been the quiet force behind Marine Corps lethality. These Marines ensure that every weapon system—from the smallest M4 carbine to the might of an M777 howitzer—functions flawlessly when it matters most. In the era of large-scale operations and near-peer competition, their work is the unseen thread holding combat power together.

But modernization under Force Design 2030 is rewriting the playbook. Today's battlefield includes precision-guided systems, networked fire control, and platforms like the Amphibious Combat Vehicle (ACV) and Advanced Reconnaissance Vehicle (ARV) that require both mechanical and digital expertise. No longer can maintainers rely solely on grease and grit; they must now master diagnostics software, integrated sensors, and electronic warfare countermeasures.

The ACV and LAV Challenge

The 2143 ACV repairmen and 2147 LAV repairmen exemplify this shift. ACVs incorporate cutting-edge systems, including network-on-the-move communications and remote weapon stations, which require a hybrid skill set that combines hydraulics, electronics, and data link troubleshooting. Similarly, LAV maintainers sustain a platform that has served since the 1980s, soon to be replaced by the ARV, now updated with advanced weapons, digital fire control, and advanced electronics. Both MOSs prove one thing: Ordnance Marines are more than wrench-turners—they are multi-domain problem solvers.

Owning Tomorrow's Fight:

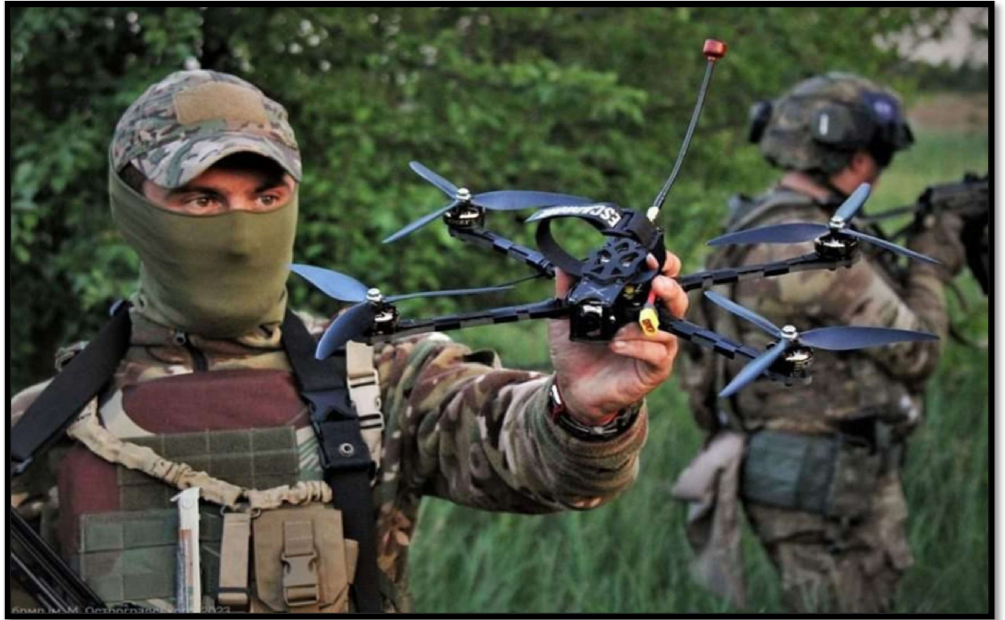
Ordnance Marines and the Rise of Drone Warfare

Cont...

This technical agility places the community at the forefront of the Marine Corps' newest fight—dominating the low-altitude battlespace with drones and counter-drone capabilities.

The Drone Threat – Lessons from Modern Warfare

If recent conflicts have taught us anything, it's this: drones are no longer just eyes in the sky. In Ukraine, swarms of low-cost FPV drones have changed the character of war. They drop improvised explosives into trenches, disable armored vehicles,



FPV drone in the Defense Forces of Ukraine

and strike logistics convoys for a fraction of the cost of traditional munitions. For adversaries, drones offer a cheap, scalable precision strike capability that undermines expensive, legacy platforms.

This threat isn't hypothetical. Future Marine Corps operations—especially in the Indo-Pacific—will occur in contested environments where drones are as common as small arms. Our distributed forces will need to fight, hide, and move under the constant eye of unmanned systems. If we can't neutralize this threat, we risk ceding tactical initiative before the first shot is fired.

Why Ordnance Marines Must Lead the Drone Fight

Shared Skill Sets

Drones merge the same core competencies that define the 2100 community:

- **Mechanical Systems** – Airframes, propulsion, and gimbal assemblies require traditional repair skills.
- **Electronics & Optics** – Camera calibration, sensor alignment, and power distribution resemble tasks performed on electro-optical sights and fire control systems.
- **Troubleshooting Mindset** – Diagnosing faults under pressure is what ordnance Marines do best.

A 2111 Armorer who can rebuild a machine gun can also repair an FPV drone frame. A 2171 Electro-Optical Technician already understands the logic behind stabilizing sensors and maintaining optical clarity—critical for drone targeting. The transition isn't a leap; it's a step forward.

Owning Tomorrow's Fight:

Ordnance Marines and the Rise of Drone Warfare

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Counter-Drone Systems Depend on Us

It's not just about deploying drones—it's about defending against them. Systems like the L-MADIS, handheld RF jammers, and directed-energy solutions are already in the fleet. These platforms demand sustainment expertise—calibration, software updates, and component swaps—that align with ordnance maintenance principles. Without skilled maintainers, these systems fail, leaving units vulnerable to aerial threats.

Building the Capability – What Needs to Happen Now

1. Integrate Drone Training into MOS Pipelines

Schoolhouses must add modules on small UAV maintenance, troubleshooting, and software integration. Drone sustainment should become baseline knowledge for the next generation of maintainers.

2. Field-Level Innovation

Some of the most effective drone modifications in Ukraine were born at the unit level—3D-printed payload mounts, extended-life batteries, and custom signal boosters. Our mechs and techs are perfectly positioned to replicate that ingenuity. The Corps should empower ordnance Marines with rapid prototyping resources at the company and battalion levels.

3. Develop Drone Sustainment Kits

Imagine a deployable kit that includes spare rotors, power modules, soldering tools, and diagnostic tablets—a go-to solution for drone repair in austere environments. This concept aligns with the need to prepare for expeditionary maintenance in dispersed environments promptly.

4. Advocate for Doctrine Changes

The fight for drone dominance isn't just technical—it's organizational. Ordnance must be incorporated into the tactics, techniques, and procedures for the employment and sustainment of small UAVs. If we fail to secure our place in doctrine, other communities will fill the gap, diluting our impact on future operations.

Action Items for the Community

- **Train:** Incorporate drone sustainment into curricula. Innovate: Use Advanced Manufacturing principles (AM), 3D printing, and rapid prototyping for custom solutions.
- **Equip:** Build standardized UAV maintenance kits for forward-deployed units.
- **Advocate:** Push for ordnance integration in small-UAV doctrine and counter-drone employment.

The ordnance community's mission is clear: adapt or be left behind. The battlefield is going vertical—and Ground Ordnance must rise with it.

2d OMC Exercises Intermediate Maintenance Company

By GySgt Larry Conn, GySgt Spencer Mire, and GySgt Ross Wigley



“If war is Hell, maintenance is a close second.”

On 14 September 2025, Marines from across 2d Maintenance Battalion assembled into an Intermediate Maintenance Company (IMC) and executed IMC FEX 3-25. Designed to build proficiency in deploying and operating an IMC, the exercise validated the formation as a combat-credible unit of employment. Under the leadership of the Ordnance Maintenance Company Commander, the IMC provided a full spectrum of intermediate-level maintenance support to ground combat systems, complete with organic mobility and recovery capability.

Marines from OMC conducted field repairs on critical systems. Notably, the Electro-optical Ordnance Technicians restored nine unserviceable PVS-31 bridges to operational condition. Meanwhile, the Vehicle Repair Platoon demonstrated its expeditionary capability by rebuilding a Light Armored Vehicle engine under field conditions, without access to shore powered cranes or climate-controlled workspaces. To mitigate the risk of particulate contamination, the team converted a quadcon into a clean assembly area, preserving the integrity of the engine and ensuring reliable performance. Infantry Weapons Platoon conducted preventive maintenance on crew-served systems including the Mk19 grenade launcher, M2A1 .50 caliber machine gun, and the M252 81mm mortar.

While the technical competence of the Ordnance community is well established, what stood out during the exercise was not just what was done, but how it was done. This exercise didn't simply demonstrate capability, it laid the foundation for how we should organize and employ that capability to meet the demands of future conflicts. The IMC deployed with most of 2d Maintenance Battalion's intermediate-level

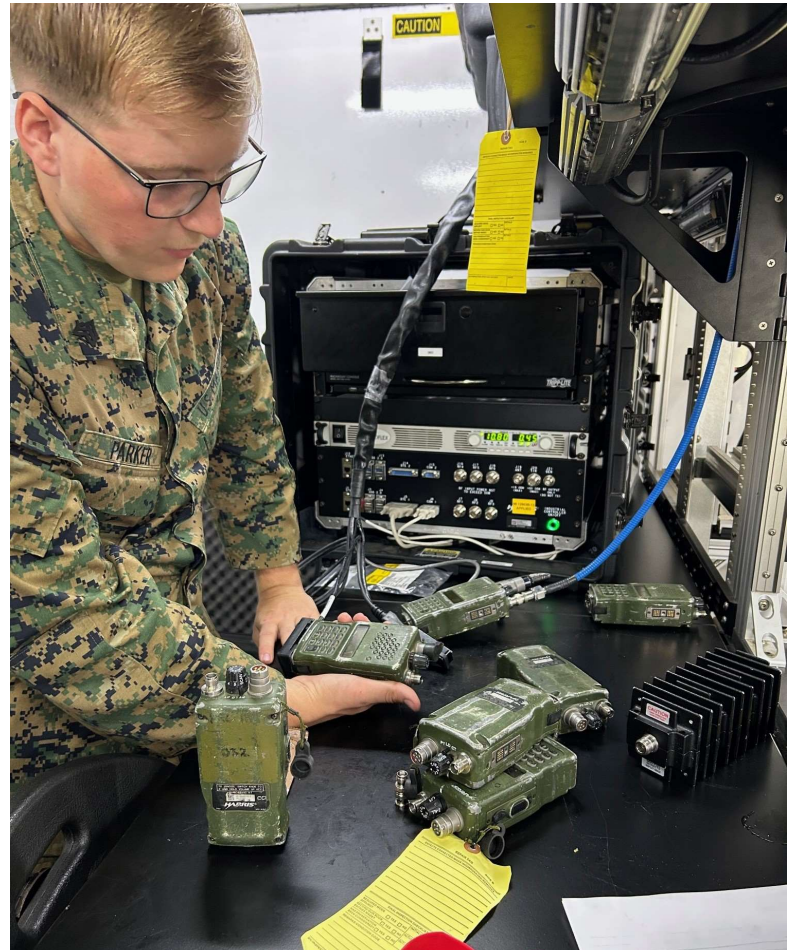


2d OMC Exercises Intermediate Maintenance Company Cont...

capabilities, not in rigid commodity-based stovepipes, but in an integrated, cross-functional team. The result was a leaner, more adaptable formation capable of sustaining dispersed operations with greater autonomy and responsiveness.

One of the most impactful lessons learned was that leadership in this environment demands a willingness to integrate rather than compete. Because IMC FEX was largely planned and executed by 2d Ordnance Maintenance Company, it placed heavy demands on its senior staff and pushed them beyond traditional comfort zones. The complexity of the mission required close collaboration with adjacent company staffs and a deeper understanding of how each commodity influences the others. Success depended not on individual excellence, but on the ability to synchronize across functional areas, break down silos, and remove friction.

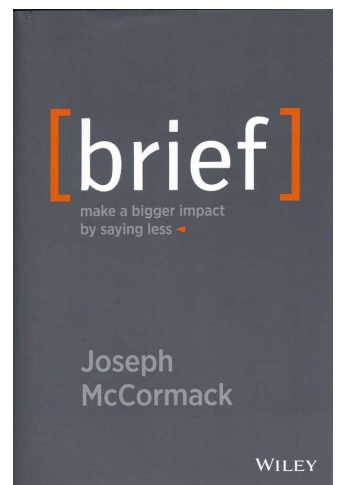
IMC FEX 3-25 successfully demonstrated 2d Maintenance Battalion's ability to deploy and operate a combat-credible Intermediate Maintenance Company using only organic personnel and equipment. The Marines overcame both anticipated and unforeseen challenges with professionalism, ingenuity, and determination. More than proving readiness, they set the standard for how maintenance formations must be organized, led, and employed in the fight to come.



Need ideas for what to read next?

Lifetime Member Matt Rogers recommends the book *Brief* by Joseph McCormick.

This book is valuable for any Ground Ordnance Marine who needs to present information effectively. In a world where we're expected to synthesize vast amounts of data with limited time, clear and persuasive communication is paramount. As a recent Joint Force Quarterly article states, "This requires...[leaders] to be skilled in person-to-person influence skills. Such social and emotional intelligence abilities are needed to deal persuasively and collegially with others and to negotiate constructively with near-equals who have both personal power and the ability to commit resources to achieve shared objectives." The book *Brief* aims to help you get your message across quickly and effectively. Get the book. Read it. - Matt



Historic and High-Risk Tow of Retired M1A1 Tank

By MGySgt Kyle Hall



Marines with 2d Assault Amphibian Battalion successfully towed a decommissioned M1A1 Abrams tank using an AAVR7A1, demonstrating exceptional technical skill and inter-battalion cooperation at Camp Lejeune.

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — In a rare display of technical mastery, grit, and cross-battalion coordination, 2d Assault Amphibian Battalion (2d AA Bn) recently supported 2d Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion (2d LAR Bn) in a complex, high-risk recovery operation involving the relocation of a decommissioned M1A1 Abrams tank. Once a static monument to the legacy of 2d Tank Battalion, the 70-ton armored behemoth had to be carefully towed using a platform never designed for such a task: the AAVR7A1. The mission was spearheaded by Master Gunnery Sergeant Wessman, 2d LAR's Battalion Maintenance Chief, and Master Gunnery Sergeant Hall, 2d AA Bn's Maintenance Chief — both of whom orchestrated the effort with surgical precision.

The operation presented a number of logistical and mechanical challenges. The Abrams tank outweighed the recovery variant AAV by a staggering 46 tons, demanding a deep understanding of load dynamics, traction limitations, and structural risk mitigation. Movement routes had to be reconned and reinforced, towing angles calculated to prevent over-torquing, and failsafe contingencies pre-planned in the event of equipment failure. Despite the odds, the AAVR7A1 — a 50-year-old platform with combat scars to prove its worth — executed the tow flawlessly. As the Amtrac community says: YATYAS — You Ain't Tracks, You Ain't S#!t.

Key to the operation's success was the behind-the-scenes support of 2d AA Bn's Motor Transport section and S-4 shop, who coordinated staging and recovery of the R7 to and from the area of operations. From lowboys to line-hauls, the logistical puzzle was solved piece by piece. What might appear as a straightforward move was, in reality, a tightly choreographed ballet of warfighting enablers — showcasing not just mechanical horsepower, but organizational excellence. This event stands as a testament to the legacy of Assault Amphibians, still proudly supporting the amphibious assault mission that defines the Marine Corps' expeditionary edge.

Marine Spotlight: Warrant Officer Luis Alvarado

By Captain Obed Macias

Warrant Officer Luis A. Alvarado, originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, is a 2013 Broken Arrow High School graduate who enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps the same year. After completing Recruit Training in San Diego, he earned the Small Arms Repair MOS and advanced through various armory and weapons repair roles, including serving at Quantico, Kaneohe Bay, and Camp Lejeune. Expanding his MOS skills, he gained the 2112 MOS and specialized in precision weapons repair, ultimately supporting Marine Special Operations courses and deployments, including Operation Octave Quartz in Kenya-Somalia. Promoted steadily from Private to Staff Sergeant, Alvarado was selected for the Enlisted to Warrant Officer program in 2024 and currently serves at 2nd Maintenance Battalion, Camp Lejeune. In his short time with the battalion, WO Alvarado has showcased skills resident in seasoned staff officers like competence, initiative, teamwork, and time management, just to name a few. A definite asset for the ground ordnance community. This won't be the last time you hear about WO Luis Alvarado.



Marine Spotlight: Warrant Officer Luis Alvarado

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Getting to know Luis:

What inspired you to become a Warrant Officer?

I was inspired by a mentor who embodied true subject-matter expertise. He didn't just pass along knowledge—he guided me toward the resources to teach myself, which gave me a deeper understanding of the policies and procedures shaping the ordnance community. What stood out most was the culture: a community that shares knowledge freely and lifts each other up. If you were digging a fighting hole with a spoon, someone would hand you a shovel—if you asked. That spirit of teamwork and professionalism motivated me to follow the path of a Warrant Officer.

Can you describe your primary responsibilities as a Warrant Officer? How do they differ from when you were an enlisted Marine?

If I had to narrow it down to one responsibility, it's total accountability. As a Warrant Officer, I am responsible for everything my platoon does or fails to do. Success belongs to the Marines, but every failure rests squarely on my shoulders. That level of accountability is what truly sets this role apart from my enlisted time.

What has been your most memorable experience or accomplishment as an Ordnance Warrant Officer so far?

One of my most memorable experiences was being tasked as the action officer for a battalion field exercise. What began as a battalion-level plan quickly grew into a regimental exercise, multiplying the complexity of logistics, coordination, and execution. It was unfamiliar ground, but it became a proving moment, forcing me to problem-solve under pressure, think critically, and adapt rapidly. That challenge pushed me outside my comfort zone and ultimately sharpened my skills as both a leader and a planner.

What skills or qualities do you think are essential for success?

Success in this field depends on time management, honesty, and communication. Effective time management allows you to align your focus with your commander's priorities while still addressing the needs of your section. Honesty and communication are inseparable; honesty builds trust. Be upfront with your Marines, keep your command informed, and raise issues early so they can be solved before they grow.

What advice would you give to Marines aspiring to become Warrant Officers in Ordnance?

My advice is simple: invest in your profession. Take every opportunity to expand your knowledge of your MOS, no matter where you're assigned. Not every billet will be desirable, but each one is a chance to grow. The key is to excel in every role—bloom where you're planted—and use each experience to prepare yourself for greater responsibility.

Outside of work, what hobbies or interests do you enjoy?

I enjoy fishing, mountain biking, and participating in shooting competitions.

What's one fun fact about you that most people wouldn't know?

I was doing a hike with a friend, Zachary Crane, in Hawaii when the ground slipped away from under my feet. I grabbed onto a root and held on and called him over and he pulled me up, saving my life that day.

In Memoriam:

Frederick J. Keegan, LtCol USMC (Ret)

By LtCol Bill Jennings (Ret)

Lieutenant Colonel Frederick James Keegan, United States Marine Corps/Retired passed away September 6, 2025 at the age of 81. He was born on December 30, 1943 in Syracuse, New York where he began his Marine Corps career as a Private with 8th Tank Battalion, USMCR in 1963 and retiring in 1995 as a 2102 Lieutenant Colonel.

During his long and consequential career, he served two tours in the Republic of Vietnam and served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Lieutenant Colonel Keegan's



career was one that can be best summed up as an era of significant change in the United States Marine Corps. During his career the Marine Corps shifted its operational focus from fighting a jungle/counter insurgency war with Korean War era ground weapon systems and equipment to large scale maneuver warfare with state-of-the-art weapons systems. Over his career the Marine Corps continually transformed and modernized its ground weapon systems inventory fielding the Assault Amphibious Vehicle 7 (AAV7) and its variants, M60A1 Tank, M60 Armored Launched Bridge Tank (AVLB), M1A1 Tank, M88A1 Tank Retriever, M198 155mm Howitzer, Light Armored Vehicle 25 (LAV25) in multiple variants, M202 66mm Incendiary Rocket Launcher, TOW2 Anti-tank Missile System, M47 Dragon Anti-tank Missile System, MK153 Shoulder-Launched Multipurpose Weapon System (SMAW), M14 Rifle, M16 Rifle and its variants, M40A1 Sniper Rifle, MP5 Sub-machinegun, M203 40mm Grenade Launcher, Beretta M9 9mm Pistol, MEUSOC .45 Caliber Pistol, MK19 MOD3 40mm Automatic Grenade Launcher, M240 Machine Gun and its variants, M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW), M252 81mm Mortar System, M224 Light Weight 60mm Mortar system to name just some. Additionally, this period saw a marked increase in the numbers and types of night vision equipment both thermal and passive as well as numerous laser targeting systems and other state of the art electro-optical systems. Throughout his long career Lieutenant Colonel Keegan was often at the forefront and a key player in fielding and maintaining new ordnance-related systems replacing legacy systems at all levels of his Marine Corps Service whether as tank mechanic, platoon commander, Company Commander, Division Ordnance Officer or MEF-level Ordnance Officer.

Serving during this unprecedented period of weapons modernization molded Lieutenant Colonel Keegan into an ordnance expert who had literally "seen it all." He was highly respected and sought after throughout the Marine Corps for his experience and expertise by privates and General Officers alike. As stated by LtCol Dennis Adams 2102/Retired when discussing Lieutenant Colonel Keegan's passing "...it seemed every General Officer knew who Fred Keegan was..." This was by far no exaggeration. Lieutenant Colonel Keegan's approach to doing his job was all business where accurate, clear and concise information was his hallmark. Everyone knew if he said it, it was spot on. Of particular significance he led the effort in updating and codifying Marine Corps procedures for demilitarization of captured weapons for both historical display and destruction. Additionally, his influence can still be seen in numerous Marine Corps Orders in the 5500 and 8300 series thirty years after his retirement.

In Memoriam:

Frederick J. Keegan, LtCol USMC (Ret)

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Equally and perhaps even more important than his technical contributions to Marine Corps ordnance operations was his approach to leadership and how it impacted and influenced the Ordnance Community. Lieutenant Colonel Keegan truly believed that leadership by example and setting uncompromisingly high standards were the best way to build a highly trained and professional community that would best serve the Marine Corps and endure long after he served his last day on active duty. He knew that success bred success and did everything in his power to make sure his Marines were given the tools and chance to be successful, not only as Marines but as American citizens. His legacy for the Ordnance Community is that it has been able to endure as a force multiplier for the Marine Corps, that it has been able to preserve its Warrant Officer and Limited Duty Office programs and that it still commands respect as for its professionalism and ability to take on any task, ordnance related or not and perform it to the highest standard.

Whether repairing the M67 Flame Tank as a PFC, repairing tanks and amtracks during two tours in Vietnam, or advising Marine Expeditionary Force Commanders during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm Lieutenant Colonel Keegan set the standard for what it means to be an Ordnance Marine. Even after he retired Lieutenant Colonel Keegan continued to serve the interests of the Marine Corps through his work as a retired Marine working at Blount Island Command supporting the Maritime Prepositioning Ships (MPS) program. Not ready to quit serving after his work with the MPS program, he went to work in Jacksonville, NC assisting veterans and wounded warriors. Certainly, a life and career well and fully lived. Semper Fi Sir, Job well done.



From Near or Far: Ordnance Marines on the East Coast



Interested in becoming a member?

We offer several membership options to meet your preference:

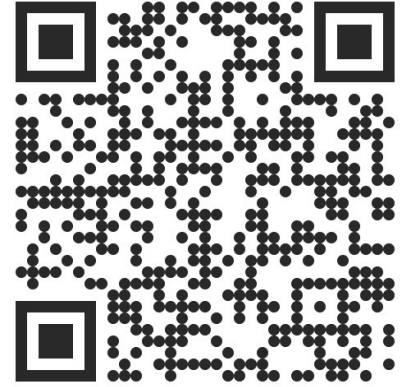
Annual Membership

- 1-Year
- 2-Year
- 3-Year

Lifetime Membership

- Membership for life

*Associate memberships are also available. This membership is designated for non-ordnance Marines or supporters who wish to become members.



Use this QR code to Explore Membership options

New Members Jul - Sep 2025

Andres Beizaramirez
Alexander Whittington
Tyrel Pike (Lifetime)
Ryan Collins (Lifetime)
David Booth (Lifetime)
Brandon Martinez
Matthew Patterson



Help us in our donation campaign!

We are very excited with the direction our Association is heading in. Be our advocates and help us in our efforts to raise funds. Use the QR code to the left to make a donation in the amount of your choosing. Your Contributions will go directly towards our scholarship, community building, and mentorship programs.

Ordnance Key Billets

HQMC/LPM-2:

LtCol Glen Pond
MGySgt Peter Charland

HQMC/CD&I:

Maj Levi Trimble

MARFORPAC:

Maj Joshua Ray

MARFORCOM:

Maj Dustin Hamm

MARFORRES:

LtCol Jason Price
MGySgt Jason Beall

MARFORSOC:

Maj Jason Beken

I MEF

LtCol Douglas Mayorga
MGySgt Z. Lance Miller

- 1st Mar Div
 - Maj Mario Arellano
 - MGySgt Brent Levell
- 1st MLG
 - Maj Lucas Tuning

II MEF

LtCol Mark Oldroyd
MGySgt David W. Smith

- 2d Mar Div
 - Maj Nicky Jones
 - MGySgt A. Fredo Uribe
- 2d MLG
 - MGySgt David E. Smith

III MEF

Maj Aaron Rancloes
MGySgt Joshua Felshaw

- 3d Mar Div
 - Maj Joshua Whitehead
 - MGySgt Chuck Thompson
- 3d MLG
 - Maj Billy Quinn
 - MGySgt Laudencia

Mission Statement

Our mission is to strengthen the Marine Corps Ground Ordnance Maintenance Community by promoting leadership, professional development, and camaraderie among Marines past and present. Through dedicated programs and resources, we aim to support our members' growth and success both in service and beyond.