

Approvals

**City Attorney
Director of
Finance
City Manager**



**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council
FROM: Grant Yates, Assistant to the City Manager
DATE: November 14, 2006
SUBJECT: Adoption of 1st Reconnaissance Marine Battalion (at the request of Mayor Pro Tem Washington)

PREPARED BY: Aaron Adams, Sr. Management Analyst

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council adopt the 1st Reconnaissance Marine Battalion as the official battalion for the City of Temecula

BACKGROUND: The Marine Corp 1st Reconnaissance Battalion is led by Lt. Col. J. B. Higgins Jr since July 31, 2006. The impressive lineage for the 1st Recon Battalion dates back to 1937 where they were deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. This division also experienced a hard fought victory there as well during WW II. From 1950-1964, the Battalion also participated in the Korean War operating from various points on the globe. They relocated during March 1955 to Camp Pendleton and participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis from November-December 1962. They again deployed in September 1965 to Camp Schwab, Okinawa and to the Republic of South Vietnam during 1966. They participated in the war in Vietnam from March 1966-March 1971 and again returned to Camp Pendleton during the spring of 1971.

The Battalion has received numerous awards and recognitions for their service to our country (see attached). Just to name a few: Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with One Silver and Three Bronze Stars for WW II, Korea (1950), Korea (1951), Vietnam (1966-67), and Vietnam (1967-68).

By adopting a specific battalion, the City of Temecula may forge an official relationship with members of this division and enter into a professional partnership for City special events, color guard ceremonies, and other official functions such as the Mayor's State of the City Address.

FISCAL IMPACT: None at this time.



The unit insignia of First Reconnaissance Battalion adapts the insignia of the First Marine Division, being that "First Recon" serves that division directly. The division insignia is a night sky blue diamond containing five white, five-pointed stars arranged so as to represent the Southern Cross constellation and a scarlet "1" with "GUADALCANAL" written vertically in the "1" in blue, though it appears in white in the division insignia. All of this serves to commemorate the division's hard-fought victory there in World War II. To this insignia, Recon has added the motto, "Swift, Silent, Deadly". "Swift" stands for how a Recon unit inserts into and extracts from a mission, as well as how far the mission itself is conducted to include the rapid dissemination of intelligence. "Silent" refers to the manner in which Recon uses stealth to perform a mission while remaining unobserved and undetected by the enemy. "Deadly" characterizes the Recon Marine's ability to summon the massive firepower of supporting arms. Recon has also added a skull-and-crossed-bones with three round holes and a crack in the skull. The holes represent symbolize the pain, hurt, and agony Recon Marines often face while the crack represents the ability to continue with the mission, despite adverse conditions. First Recon Battalion's insignia resembles that of the First Raider Battalions, used in World War II, to include the Southern Cross, the skull and the red, white and blue. As the National colors are represented in this, the streamer of scarlet and gold with "1st Recon Bn" written across the base of the diamond, as well as the gold of the words of the motto also remind us of the colors of the United States Marine Corps.

A History Of The 1st Reconnaissance Battalion

Awards/Honors Commanding Officers

... this page has been accessed 3711 times since 12 December 98. It was last updated on
Friday Dec 17th, 1999 at 1700r

We are missing some of the history, awards and commanding officers from later times.
If you can fill in any of the blanks, please send an [Email](#)

1st Recon Battalion Lineage

1937 - 1940

- Activated 1 March 1937 At Quantico, Virginia as the 1st Tank Company and Assigned to the 1st Marine Brigade
- Deployed during January-March 1940 to the Caribbean on board the USS Wyoming
- Relocated during March 1940 to Quantico, Virginia
- Redeployed during November 1940 to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

1941 - 1949

- 1st Marine Brigade redesignated 1 February 1941 as the 1st Marine Division
- Redesignated 1 March 1941 as the 1st Scout Company, Division Special Troops
- Relocated during April 1941 to Quantico, Virginia
- Relocated during September 1942 to New River, North Carolina
- Reassigned during August 1942 to the 1st Tank Battalion
- Redesignated 1 April 1943 as Company E (Scout), 1st Tank Battalion
- Redesignated 10 April 1943 as Company D (Scout), 1st Tank Battalion
- Redesignated 9 May 1944 as Reconnaissance Company, Headquarters Battalion
- Participated in the Following World War II Campaigns
 - Guadalcanal
 - New Guinea
 - Bismarck Archipelago
 - Western Caroline Islands
 - Okinawa
- Redeployed during September - October 1945 to Tientsin, China
- Relocated during June - July 1947 to Camp Pendleton, California
- Redesignated 15 June 1948 as Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion
- Redesignated 22 March 1949 as Reconnaissance Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion

1950 - 1964

- Deployed during August 1950 to Tokyo, Japan
- Participated in the Korean War, Operating From
 - Pusan Perimeter
 - Inchon-Seoul
 - Chosin Reservoir
 - East Central Front
 - Western Front
- Participated in the Defense of the Korean Demilitarized Zone, July 1953 - March 1955
- Relocated during March 1955 to Camp Pendleton, California
- Deactivated 30 April 1958
- Reactivated 1 May 1958 At Camp Pendleton, California as the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion and Assigned to the 1st Marine Division
- Participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis, November - December 1962

1965 - 1981

- Deployed during August - September 1965 to Camp Schwab, Okinawa
- Redeployed during March 1966 to Chu Lai, Republic of South Vietnam
- Participated in the war in Vietnam, March 1966 - March 1971, operating From Chu Lai, Da Nang
- Relocated during March - April 1971 to Camp Pendleton, California

Honors Awarded

- Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with One Silver and Three Bronze Stars
 - World War II
 - Guadalcanal 1942
 - Peleliu, Ngessbus 1944
 - Okinawa 1945
 - Korea 1950 (3 Times)
 - Korea 1951
 - Vietnam 1966 - 1967
 - Vietnam 1967 - 1968
- Navy Unit Commendation Streamer with Three Bronze Stars
 - Korea 1950
 - Korea 1952 - 1953
 - Vietnam 1967 - 1968
 - Vietnam 1970
- American Defense Service Streamer with One Bronze Star
- Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Streamer with One Silver and One Bronze Star
- World War II Victory Streamer
- Navy Occupation Service Streamer with Asia Clasp

- China Service Streamer
- National Defense Service Streamer with One Bronze Star
- Korean Service Streamer with Two Silver Stars
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer
- Vietnam Service Streamer with Two Silver Stars and Two Bronze Stars
- Korean Presidential Unit Citation Streamer
- Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Streamer
- Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Civil Actions Streamer
- Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with One Silver Star and Three Bronze Stars
 - Guadalcanal 7 August - 9 December 1942
 - Peleliu, Ngesebus and Palau, 15-29 September 1944
 - Okinawa, 1 April - 21 June 1945
 - Pusan, Korea, 7 August - 7 September 1950
 - Inchon, Korea, 15 September - 11 October 1950
 - Chosin Reservoir, Korea, 27 November - 11 December 1950
 - Korea, 21 - 26 Apr, 16 May - 30 June, 11 - 25 September 1951
 - Vietnam, 29 March 1966 - 15 September 1967
 - Vietnam, 16 - 30 September 1967 and 2 - 31 October 1968
- Navy Unit Commendation Streamer with Three Bronze Stars
 - Korea, 12 - 25 August 1959
 - Korea, 11 August 1952 - 5 May 1953 and 7 - 27 July 1953
 - Vietnam, 1 October 1967 - 1 October 1968
 - Vietnam, 1 January - 31 December 1970
- American Defense Service Streamer with Base Clasp 8 September 1939 - 7 December 1941
- Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Streamer with One Silver and One Bronze Star
 - Guadalcanal - Tulagi Landings, 7-9 August 1942
 - Capture and Defense of Guadalcanal, 10 August - 8 December 1942
 - Finschhafen Occupation, 2 October 1943 - 31 December 1943
 - Cape Gloucester, New Britain, 26 December 1943 - 1 March 1944
 - Capture and Occupation of Southern Palau Islands, 15 September - 14 October 1944
 - Assault and Occupation of Okinawa Gunto, 1 April - 30 June 1945
- Victory Streamer World War II
- Navy Occupation Service Streamer with Asia Clasp Okinawa, 2 - 26 September 1945
- China Service Streamer 30 September 1945 - 22 January 1947
- National Defense Service Streamer with One Bronze Star
- Korean Presidential Unit Citation Streamer 2 August - 6 September 1950
- Korean Service Streamer with Two Silver Stars
 - North Korean Aggression, 15 September - 2 November 1950
 - Communist China Aggression, 3 November 1950 - 24 January 1951
 - Inchon Landing, 13 - 17 September 1950
 - First U.N. Counteroffensive, 25 January - 21 April 1951
 - Communist China Spring Offensive, 22 April - 8 July 1951
 - U.N. Summer - Fall Offensive, 9 July - 27 November 1951
 - Second Korean Winter, 28 November 1951 - 30 April 1952
 - Korean Defense, Summer - Fall 1952, 1 May - 30 November 1952
 - Third Korean Winter, 1 December 1952 - 30 April 1953
 - Korea, Summer - Fall 1953, 1 May - 27 July 1953
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer Cuba, 7 November - 27 November 1962
- Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm 26 March 1966 - 20 September 1969
- Vietnam Service Streamer with Two Silver and Two Bronze Stars

- Vietnamese Counteroffensive, 26 March - 30 June 1966
 - Vietnamese Counteroffensive, Phase II, 1 July 1966 - 31 May 1967
 - Vietnamese Counteroffensive, Phase III, 1 June 1967 - 29 Jan 1968
 - Tet Counteroffensive, 30 January - 1 April 1968
 - Vietnamese Counteroffensive, Phase IV, 2 April - 30 June 1968
 - Vietnamese Counteroffensive, Phase V, 1 July - 1 November 1968
 - Vietnamese Counteroffensive, Phase VI, 2 Nov 1968 - 22 Feb 1969
 - Tet 69 Counteroffensive, 23 February - 8 June 1969
 - Vietnam, Summer-Fall 1969, 9 June - 31 October 1969
 - Vietnam, Winter-Spring 1970, 1 November 1969 - 30 April 1970
 - Sanctuary Counteroffensive, 1 May 1970 - 30 June 1970
 - Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VII, 1 July, 1970 - 24 March, 1971
 - Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Civil Actions Streamer
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Commanding Officer

1st Reconnaissance Battalion

J. B. Higgins Jr - 31 July 2006 - Present

The City of Temecula

The City Council and the Citizens of the City of Temecula
hereby proclaims the adoption of the

1st Reconnaissance Marine Battalion

The 1st Reconnaissance Marine Battalion dates back to 1937. This Battalion has served in many wars including WWII. The Battalion has received numerous awards and recognitions for their service to our country including the Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with One Silver and Three Bronze Stars for WWII, Korea (1950), Korea (1951), Vietnam (1955-67), and Vietnam (1967-68).

I, Ron Roberts, on behalf of the City of Temecula am honored to present the 1st Reconnaissance Marine Battalion with this Certificate hereby adopting them as the City of Temecula's official Marine Battalion.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of
the City of Temecula to be affixed this 14th
day of November, 2006

Ron Roberts, Mayor

Susan W. Jones, MMC, City Clerk