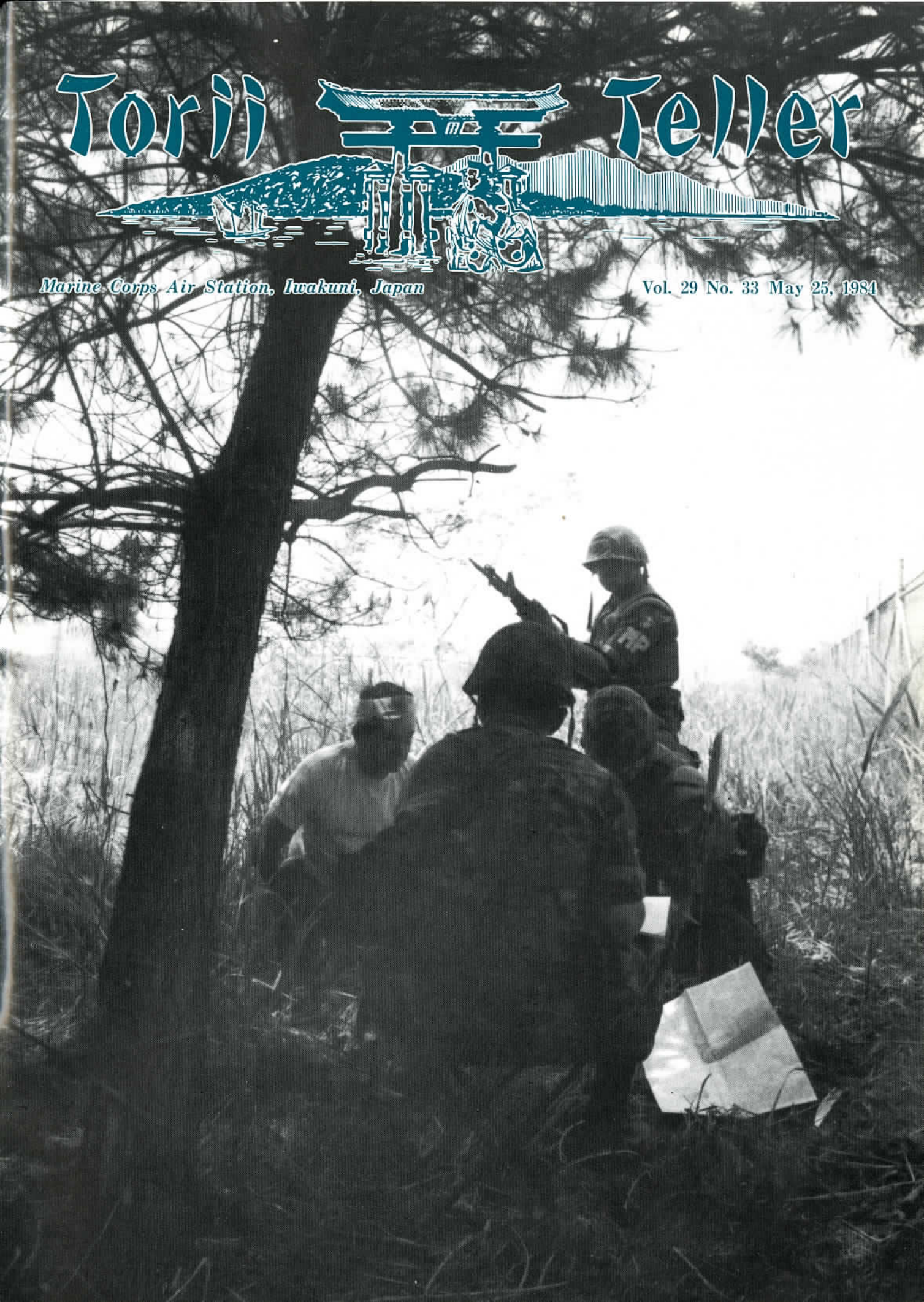


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Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan

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Concealment and camouflage is very vital to counterintelligences' operation since operating so close to front lines in combat situations. Inset, this entire camp plus jeep and trailer are concealed in the above picture.

Want a challenge? Try CIT

At a concealed, camouflaged outpost in the steaming, insect-infested jungle, the dirt-filled beads of sweat trickle down the prisoner's lacerated cheek as he anticipates the next interrogation question from the calloused and sun-baked face of the 12-year Corps veteran.

"What's yer name," the interrogator states in some semblance of a growl. The prisoner shrugs it off and the skillful Marine suggests, "You'll talk or I'll turn you over to my lovely cohort here." He pointed to an even more grizzly figure standing in the shadows of the low-slung cammie tent covering. "And he's the irate one," he grinned.

This scenario called "Mutt and Jeff interrogation," isn't far from the truth when the 0211 MOS of the counterintelligence Leatherneck is put into a combat situation.

In a tactical environment a primary emphasis is on camouflage, cover and concealment to deny the enemy information.

In garrison the CIT detachment is tasked with advising and assisting the commanders aboard MCAS with the physical security of classified material.

Physical security of classified material is a never ending task. Another part of the mission is to provide security services that are used to advise commanders of weak or faulty security procedures.

It also includes advising and assisting the station and group commander's in counterintelligence matters, and giving briefs on areas applicable to the Station's theater of operation.

One such recent brief was prior to the MAG's participation in Team Spirit. "In a combat situation it's our job to tell you what to expect before you set foot in there," said CWO-2 Bob Campbell, Det. commander. "We are a self-contained, combat-ready, fully deployable unit."

The team is actually a detachment of the 7th CIT headquartered on Okinawa and parented here by MWHS-1 sub unit-2.

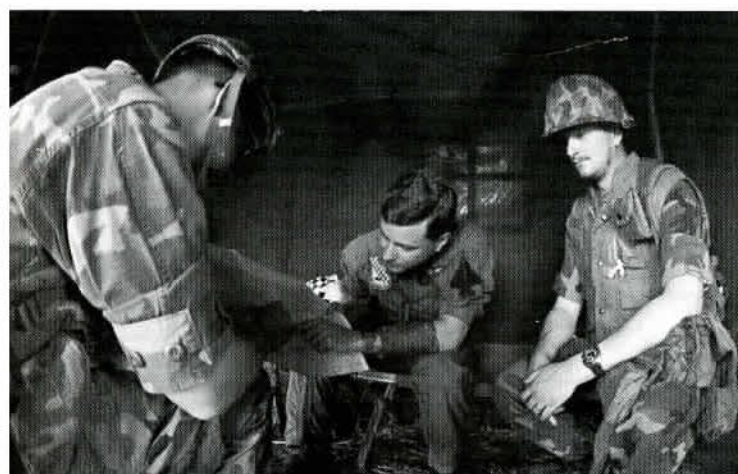
The prisoner is guarded by a division MP while being questioned by counterintelligence personnel with the help of translator units. Extracting information from POWs is very important in compiling data for our offense.

The Marines with MOS's 0210/0211 are a special breed of an already elite fighting force. Gunner Campbell says it's not all glory. "It's very demanding," the 7-year CIT veteran said. "And you can't expect to have every afternoon, weekend or night off."

"It is however, an excellent opportunity to receive some of the most interesting schooling the Corps has to offer."



Above, with the aid of corpsmen, this prisoner receives medical attention prior to interrogation in a combat scenario. The MP and CIT interrogator are also part of the real-life scene. Below, returned MIAs are also a part of the CIT routine. Anything and everything they saw while MIA can be used to pinpoint enemy movements, POW camps, etc. Here, Capt Thomas, VMFA-312, is the MIA showing locations of areas he saw to a CIT Marine.



The prisoner is questioned by CIT.

From the 17-week basic course at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., numerous indepth, career enhancing schools are offered in between. "I've reached my goal," related Campbell. "I wouldn't give it up for anything, because it's an ever-striving job and the limits are only those the individual imposes on himself."

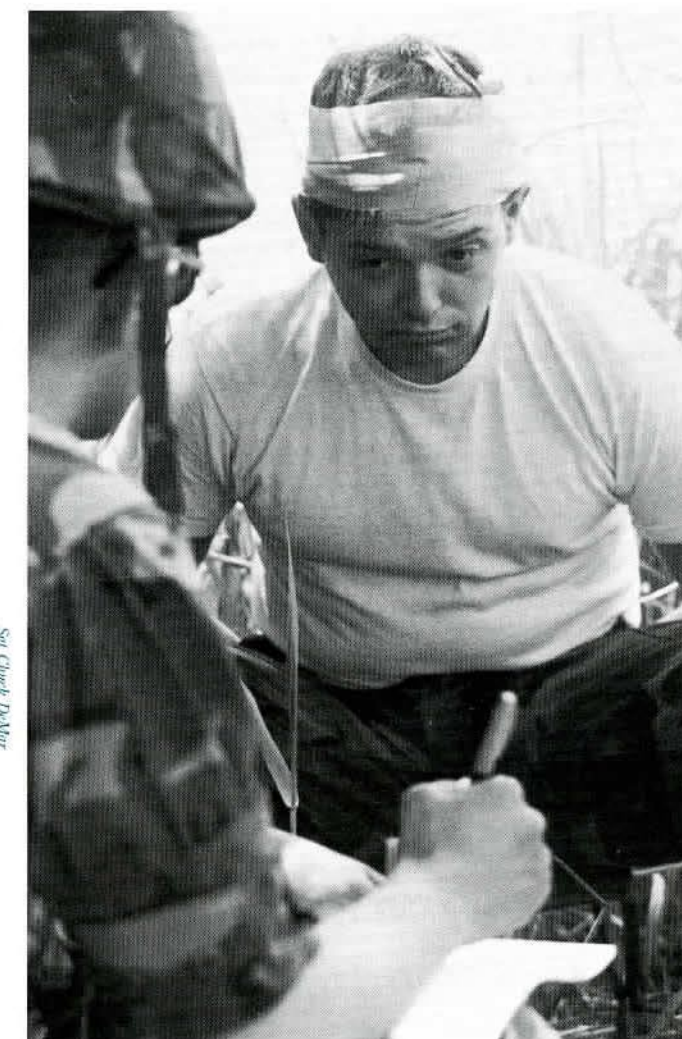
A main concern of the team here though is that of downed pilots in the event of a conflict. "We would be notified by the command that a pilot has been shot down or is missing in action and we would then immediately go into action. The lengthy, detailed and accurate report would include everything from scars and accents, to what jewelry he wore when he was last seen."

Though the MOS is short, they are the elite, according to Campbell. "Our enlisted Marines attend the 17-week Army Counterintelligence Officer Course," he explained.

Why then should enlisted Marines go through the "officers" course? "It has the best training available. We have to be good to accomplish our mission," the Gunner answered. "We have to be the best, to protect our guys. Inform 'em before they go in. The more they know about the area, people and movements, the fewer casualties we'll see."

Suffice to say, the small two-man sub-unit indirectly could be responsible for all the Marines here. Whether in peacetime or combat, counterintelligence reads between the lines to get the whole story before it goes down.

—Sgt Chuck DeMar



Marine aviation continues to grow into the '80's

May 12, 1912. 1stLt Alfred Cunningham reported to Annapolis for flight training. After 2 hours and 40 minutes of instruction, he soloed and Marine aviation was born.

The U. S. military, which was slow to accept the advantages offered by airplanes, had decided that heavier than air flying machines could be used as observation platforms.

With the outbreak of World War I, Marine aviators proved their worth as observers. They were soon tasked with not only observing enemy troop actions, but with protecting the secrets of the allied forces by eliminating the aerial observers of enemy forces.

The first aerial encounters consisted of one pilot firing at another with a rifle or pistol. These weapons were soon replaced with fixed machineguns, and pilots were assigned strafing missions against enemy targets.

Between world wars, Marine aviation expanded to include the transportation of troops and equip-

Marine pilots and crews will continue in the forefront of aviation tactics, strategy and technology.

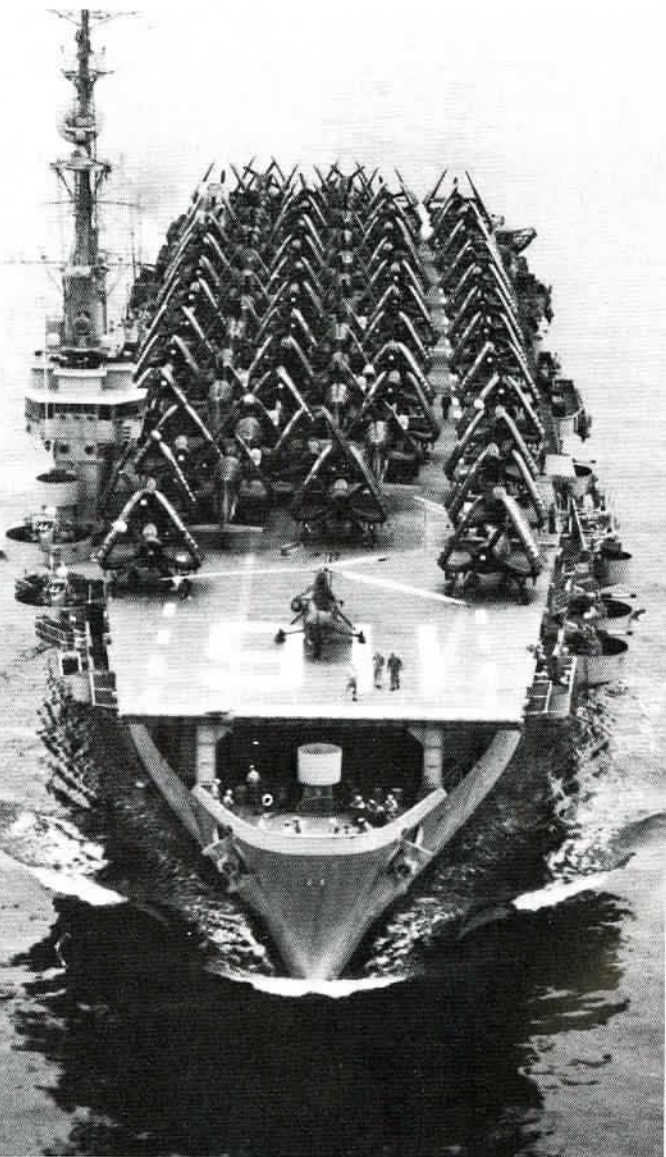
ment, as well as tactical missions.

World War II caused rapid growth of Marine aviation. Flying higher, farther and faster than ever before, Marine pilots flew from aircraft carriers and land based fields. Supremacy in the air became a prerequisite to winning the battle on the ground during this global conflict.

On July 7, 1950, the Marine Corps was again called to face major aggression when the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade was activated for Korea. The Brigade was composed of traditional ground and air



A Curtiss OC-2 Falcon.



The USS Badoeng Strait loaded with Marine F4U Corsairs circa 1950.



Bell UH-1E, better known as the Huey.

elements, as well as a recent addition to the Corps' inventory -- the helicopter.

Like the airplane, the helicopter was initially used for reconnaissance flights, artillery spotting and command and control. Its versatility soon made these rotor winged craft indispensable in removing wounded from the battlefield.

Korea served as a testing ground for not only the helicopter, but for the jet as well. The enhanced speed of the Corps' first jets greatly reduced response time when ground forces required aerial support.

As Marine aviation continued to mature in the 1950's and 60's, helicopters were armed with forward firing machineguns, and moved into the jet age in time for the Vietnam Conflict with the acceptance of the UH-1.

While the equipment of Marine aviation has undergone a dramatic evolution, its mission has expanded only slightly since its inception.

Marine pilots are skilled in a variety of flying skills, including launch and recovery on aircraft carriers, close-air-support and air-to-air warfare, as well as supply, troop transport and medical evacuation missions. But, it's all accomplished in support of the Marine on the ground.

With the advent of a new inventory of aircraft like the AV-8B, Harrier; F/A-18, Hornet, and the still experimental J VX, tiltrotor, Marine pilots and crews will continue in the forefront of aviation tactics, strategy and technology.

—SSgt Ray Hammond



The V/STOL AV-8 Harrier



An AH-1J Cobra