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## **BLACK MARINE NEWSLETTER**

### **We Served, We Endured, We Perservered**

*We don't gossip, we don't pass on Bum Scoop,  
We sometime Bulls- -t,  
We Tell Sea Stories  
But, you always get  
"The Word"!  
"That's what we Do!"*

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#### ***Purpose:***

***This Newsletter provides information about Black Marines, to Black Marines as Black Marines see it.***

#### ***Topics are:***

- ***"Muster"*** To give account for all persons on the Mailing List!
    - *Illness, Deaths, etc.*
  - ***"Events"***, Provide notice of scheduled events relative to Marines!
    - *Reunions, Meetings, Conventions, etc.*
  - ***"Notes from the members"***
  - ***"Mailing List Additions"*** To list new Marines added to the Mailing List or other changes affecting the lists.
  - ***"Sea Stories and down right Marine Lies"***  
*No jokes, because we just don't know any! (Smile)*
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***Muster: All present and counted for, Sir/ Mam!***

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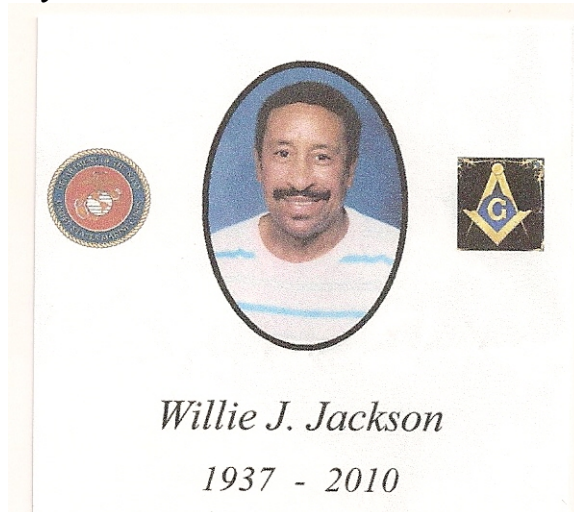
**1. Captain Willie J. Jackson passed away peacefully April 15, 2010 at his home. Willie James Jackson was born May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1937 in Center, Texas, the son of Adam and Inez Jackson. *He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam Conflict as an Enlisted man as well as a LD Officer.***

*He leaves behind a son Kenneth Jackson of Long Beach, CA, a daughter and son-in-law Daphne Jackson Sajovic and Aren Sajovic of Kansas City, MO. as well as his special friend Lorna Mc Gregor.*

*He is preceded in death by his brother B.J. Jackson, his sister Alberta Harris and his children's mother Varie Jackson.*

*Jackson became a Master Mason in Surfside Lodge #112 in 1983. He served his Community with the Masons and the North County Retired Military Association throughout his life*

*In lieu flowers the Family request and suggest, donations be given to The North County Retired Military Association at the Willie Jackson Funeral Service.*





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- 2. Sgt. Tom Brown, an Original Montford Point Marine passed away April 16, 2010.** *Tom William Brown, Sr. 85, husband, father, grandfather and one of the first African American Montford Point Marines, passed away on Friday, April 16, 2010. Tom was also a member of the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge No. 7. Tom was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend who will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Tom is survived by his wife, Grace H. Brown, of 46 years, six (6) children, ten (10) grandchildren and two (2) great grandchildren. Services for Sgt. Brown was April 24, 2010 Inglewood Park in Inglewood, CA. Send all flowers and cards to Funeral Services at Sunset Hills Mortuar, 2400 Waalew Rd., Apple Valley, CA 92307.*



- 3. Msgt. Glen Patterson passed away April 18, 2010 University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Hospital.** *Services for Glen were held at St Paul Catholic Church, New Bern, NC.*



**Glen Patterson**



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### *Sick Bay*

1. Captain, Acie Bone is currently home recuperating from his battle with heart disease. Keep Acie and Bertha in your prayers for a speedy recovery. If you like you may call Bertha and check on Acie's progress. 714-545-7200
2. Mgysgt. Ed Carter is at home and is making a slow recovery from his battle with heart disease. Ed sound strong when I spoke with him and is in good spirits. If you like to speak with him he can be reached at 949-586-1259.



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## **News From The Membership and Other Sources:**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 31, 2010**

### **Secretary Shinseki Releases Draft Gulf War Task Force Report Provides Roadmap to Transform Care and Services to Gulf War Veterans**

**WASHINGTON** – Today, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced that the Department's Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Task Force has completed the final draft of a comprehensive report that will redefine how the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) addresses the concerns of Veterans who deployed during the Gulf War in 1990 and 1991.

"Our mission at VA is to be advocates for Veterans," said Secretary Shinseki. "This report's action plans provide a roadmap to transform the care and services we deliver to Gulf War Veterans. We must learn from the past and take the opportunity to anticipate the future needs of our Veterans."

Notification of the draft written report will be published tomorrow in the ***Federal Register***, and the draft written report identifies seven areas where VA will improve services for this group of Veterans.

Among these improvements, VA will reconnect with Veterans from the 1990 – 1991 Gulf War, strengthen the training of clinicians and claims processors, and reenergize its research effort. VA will also proactively strengthen partnerships and medical surveillance to address the potential health impacts on Veterans from the environmental exposures on today's battlefields.

### **Gulf War Illnesses,**

Earlier this month, VA published a proposed rule that will enable VA to grant service connection on a presumptive basis for nine specific infectious diseases associated with military service in Southwest Asia after August 2, 1990, or in Afghanistan on or after September 19, 2001. The proposed rule change was based on a recent Institute of Medicine review of the scientific literature, and is a part of VA's on-going Gulf War studies. This rule, when implemented, will make it easier for Veterans to obtain disability compensation and related healthcare.

The mission of VA's Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Task Force is to identify both gaps in services as well as opportunities to better serve Veterans of the Gulf War. Of the almost 700,000 service members who deployed to



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Operation Desert Shield in 1990 and Operation Desert Storm in 1991, more than 300,000 have filed disability claims and over 85 percent have been granted service connection for at least one condition.

The Chairman of the Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Task Force is John R. Gingrich, Chief of Staff at VA, a retired Army officer who also served during the Gulf War.

“Reaching out to Gulf War Veterans is not only essential to our transformation of VA, for many of us it is also personal,” said Gingrich. “Having commanded troops in the Gulf War, and then knowing that some of these brave men and women have fallen to mysterious illnesses has been both a frustrating and saddening experience. We now have an opportunity to do something about this situation -- with this Task Force, I know that we will improve the care and services these Veterans have earned.”

VA's Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Task Force recommendations build on the excellent work and findings of The Gulf War Veterans Illnesses Advisory Committee, VA Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Illnesses, the interagency Deployment Health Working Group, and other related sources. Some of the Task Force's recommendations include:

Improve data sharing with Department of Defense to notify Veterans of

potential exposures, monitor their long-term health and inform them about decisions regarding additional follow up.

### **Gulf War Illnesses,**

- Improve the delivery of benefits to Veterans with Gulf War-related disabilities by:
- Reviewing and, if necessary, updating regulations affecting Gulf War Veterans.
- Expanding training for VBA examiners on how to administer disability claims with multiple known toxin exposure incidents.
- Improve VA healthcare for Veterans through a new model of interdisciplinary health education and training.
- Increase number of long-term, Veteran-focused studies of Veterans to enhance the quality of care VA provides.
- Transition from reactive to proactive medical surveillance to help better manage Veterans' potential hazardous exposures.
- Find new treatments for Gulf War Veterans through new research.
- Enhance outreach to provide information and guidance to Veterans about benefits and services available to them for injuries/illnesses associated with Gulf War service.



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- As a first step, VA is seeking public comments on the draft written report before final publication. The public notice will be posted at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov), and the draft written report will be open for comment for thirty (30) days. Comments may also be submitted via mail as described in the public notice. In addition, VA recognizes that a great number of Gulf War Veterans use a computer on a daily basis to socialize their issues and concerns, so VA has also created a public discussion board on the seven recommendations at: <http://yourgulfwarvoice.uservoice.com/>. To view the report without making recommendations, you may view a copy on VA's website at [http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/gwvi\\_draft\\_report.pdf](http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/gwvi_draft_report.pdf).

**Source: Department of Veterans Affairs**

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### **IOM Update on Gulf War Study**

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) recently published "*Gulf War and Health: Volume 8. Health Effects of Serving in the Gulf War.*" In 2008, the IOM began an update to look at existing health problems and identify possible new ones, considering evidence collected since the initial summary in 2006.

In this report, the IOM determines that Gulf War service causes post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and that service is associated with multi-symptom

illness; gastrointestinal disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome; alcohol and other substance abuse; and anxiety disorders and other psychiatric disorders.

"It is clear that a significant portion of the soldiers deployed to the Gulf War have experienced troubling constellations of symptoms that are difficult to categorize," according to neuroscientist Stephen L. Hauser of the University of California, San Francisco, chairman of the IOM committee that issued the new report. The new report argues that medicine's trouble in defining the nature or precise cause(s) of Gulf War Syndrome does not negate its existence. To view the report, click [here](#).

**Source: Military.com**

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### **More Veteran's Claims Need Review**

The Pentagon estimates that there are approximately 77,000 veterans eligible to have their separations for medical reasons reexamined. To date, only 921 veterans have applied to have their cases reviewed. Of those, nearly 60 percent have had their discharges upgraded making them eligible for improved benefits.

Any service member, separated from the Armed Forces between Sept. 11, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2009, due to a physical disability, may have the case reviewed by the Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR). The member



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must have a combined disability rating of 20 percent or less and have been found not eligible for retirement.

NAUS encourages you to apply if you are eligible. It could mean increased disability benefits to help you and your family. Click [here](#) to download an application.

**Source: National Association of Uniform Services (NAUS)**

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**Congress Votes to Stop 21.2 percent Medicare/TRICARE pay reduction**

On Thursday, the Senate voted 59 to 38 to stop the April 1 Medicare/TRICARE pay reduction and delay any further cuts until June 1 — the third such delay this year. Postponement of the scheduled 21.2 percent reduction in payments to doctors was part of a larger bill that extends expired unemployment compensation benefits and subsidies for health insurance premiums for out-of-work Americans under the COBRA program.

Following Senate action, the bill was returned to the House, approved and delivered to the President who signed it into law late Thursday evening.

While the approval of H.R. 4851 is welcome, NAUS notes it is yet another temporary action that requires Congress to revisit again before the June deadline. Military retirees gave a lifetime of service for the promise of earned benefits like TRICARE.

While the obligation to keep these promises falls to our elected officials, the responsibility to maintain them is ours. If we fail to keep Congress and the Administration on track, the benefits of TRICARE, as is often said, will be worth very little when a beneficiary cannot find a doctor when one is needed.

NAUS continues to press Congress to permanently fix the problem and ensure that military retirees and their families have access to quality care

**Source: NAUS**

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**TRICARE Affirmation Act Passes**

On Monday, the Senate unanimously passed legislation championed by Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) to fix a significant flaw in the recently passed health care reform law. The legislation, called the TRICARE Affirmation Act, passed the Senate without objection and follows successful House passage of the bill prior to the Easter recess. The bill now heads to the President for signature into law.

The Webb legislation *explicitly states that all TRICARE plans are now considered as minimal acceptable coverage under the new health care law*. Defining TRICARE under law is important because it exempts its enrollees from the required purchase of additional coverage beyond what they already have.



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Unfortunately, the new health care bill, called the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), did not clarify that the earned coverage of TRICARE programs for servicemembers and military retirees under age 65 provided minimum acceptable coverage. NAUS continued to work toward “explicit protection” and is pleased to see that the NAUS-endorsed Webb bill clarifies these programs and makes sure that they are explicitly included in law under this definition.

*“Senator Webb greatly appreciates the National Association for Uniformed Services’ active engagement and support of the troops and their families on this matter in recent weeks,”*

NAUS was told in the Senator's announcement of the successful passage of this TRICARE protection measure.

NAUS President Bill Matz said, “The National Association for Uniformed Services congratulates Senator Webb on his success in the passage of legislation that explicitly states in law that TRICARE meets requirements under the new health care bill. The men and women who serve our country in uniform deserve complete assurance that their earned health care benefits are fully protected and this legislation will do just that.”

**Source: NAUS**

**TRICARE-26, Extend Health Coverage for Military Families with Children**

With passage of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), individuals with private health insurance can now provide coverage to their dependent children up to age 26 under a family policy. This change does not apply to TRICARE, which presently covers eligible dependent children up to the age of 21, or 23 if they are enrolled at an accredited educational institution, and rely on the parent for more than 50 percent of their financial support.

Congress could follow the precedent set by the new law and require the military healthcare system to follow suit through separate legislation or provide for it in the upcoming National Defense Authorization Bill. According to the defense Comptroller, the additional costs associated with such a change would be in excess of \$600 million per year.

Last week, Rep. Martin Heinrich (D-NM) introduced a bill (H.R. 4923) called the TRICARE Dependent Coverage Extension Act to allow unmarried military and retiree dependents, who do not have access to employer-sponsored coverage, to remain insured under TRICARE through the age of 26.

On Wednesday, the Senate followed suit with the introduction of a similar piece of legislation to extend health care under TRICARE to young adults of military families. The bill would provide insurance to those dependents



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who have not been able to find healthcare insurance through an employer for a reasonable premium under their parents plan. Since introduced by Sen. Mark Udall (D-CO), the Senate companion bill (S. 3201) has gained 21 cosponsors.

NAUS is working to focus attention on this issue and extend to our troops and military retirees the same benefit, earned in military service, which has been extended under the new law to civilians

**Source: NAUS**

### **Massachusetts Offers Veterans Free Legal Advice**

On Thursday April 29, the Massachusetts Bar Association will host a supplement to its Dial-A-Lawyer programming with a two-hour session dedicated solely to veterans' legal questions.

The free Veterans Dial-A-Lawyer program will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. that day. The Dial-A-Lawyer phone number is (617) 338-0610. If callers get a busy signal, they are asked to hang up and try again. Normal telephone charges will apply and the number is active only for the two-hour window on April 29. For more information, visit the [Massachusetts Bar Association Dial-a-Lawyer webpage](#).

**Source: Military.com**

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### **VA Helps Veterans Kick the Habit**

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. If you're a Veteran trying to quit, VA wants you to know that there are resources available to help. Learn more from [The American Veteran](#).

**Source: Military.com**

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### **On Speaking Female 2**

I wanted to do a follow up to the, On Speaking Female, article. I got some calls about how to translate some questions that women ask. One of the questions was: *How do I respond when my wife, girlfriend, lover, mate, asks the following question, "Do I look fat in these jeans?"*

Let me be completely clear about this, if you hear this question, go deaf, jump off of a building, throw yourself in front of a car, but, do not answer that question. **DO NOT ANSWER THAT QUESTION!** There is no correct answer to that question. It is better that you spend a month in traction in a hospital rather than answer that question. No matter what you say, you will be sleeping on the couch or in the doghouse or somewhere other than in bed with her. You must believe me on this. A friend of mine was asked that question by his wife of thirty years and he answered it. I don't know what he said, and I do know that I have not seen him for about three years. When I asked



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about him, his wife just looked at me in a way that sent chills down my spine. I don't ask her anymore because the last time I asked she looked at me and said, "If you really want to see him I can arrange it". I don't ask anymore.

Another question that you avoid answering is, "Honey, do you think our neighbor is pretty?" Again feign deafness, tell her you think there is an earthquake, or as a last resort shoot yourself in the foot. Do not answer that question. There is no answer that you can give that will satisfy her. Any effort on your part to answer that question will result in something awful happening, so awful that I cannot mention it here or even think about it without shivering. As a last resort take a pencil and punch out both of your eyes. That may sound drastic, but believe me it is nothing compared to what you will go through if you attempt to answer that question. And, if you are blind, she cannot ask you again in the future. So, in that respect, you will be safe.

If your significant other asked you if you want to go to dinner and says honey, you pick the place. DON'T! Immediately, if not sooner, defer back to her. When she asked you, she knew what she wanted and where she wanted to go. Don't waste time answering that question because whatever place you pick to eat, she won't like it and eventually you will end up picking the place she wanted to go to in the first place. So, save yourself the headache and just defer to her; that is what she wanted anyway. Now, prepare yourself

because the next time you go out to dinner, she will remind you that you picked the place to eat the last time, so it is her turn this time. That was the reason for her to say, "Honey you pick the place to go eat."

I know, I know.

Another question to avoid is, "Honey, did you see that dress, (insert any woman's name here) had on?" Here is where you focus totally on your driving. Remind her that it is illegal in, (whatever state you are in), to talk and drive at the same time. Tell her you are a bit tired and need to give the driving your complete attention. Do whatever you need to do to avoid answering that question. If you don't listen, and if you think you have an understanding with your wife of twenty, thirty, forty or fifty years, you are in for a major surprise. You attempt to answer that question and the apparition that appears next to you will shock and awe you, and not in a good way.

Then there is the question that is the mother of all questions and should be avoided, absolutely avoided. The question sounds innocent enough: *You and your significant other are at a party, mall, backyard barbeque, and she looks at you and looks over at some lovely lady who is there and says, "Honey do you remember 'her' when she was younger and how she dressed? Look, she is still dressing like she thinks she is young. **What do you think?"***



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This is such a loaded question that I should not even have to explain it to you. First, if you respond in the affirmative that you remember how this woman dressed when she was young, you have doomed yourself. In your wife's mind that means that you have been watching this woman all of these years, which means that you have had an interest in this woman for all of these years. That translates into you have been thinking about being with this woman while you have been married to your wife, and that means that you have wanted to be sexual with this woman because you spend all of your waking hours thinking about this woman since she was young and not about the person you are married to, YOUR WIFE. So, since you have been wanting this woman all of this time being a man you have probably acted on it. Being the dog that you are, you have actually had sex with her. This means you have been married and having an affair with this loose, sexy woman who you have always watched and wanted. And, so, you acted on those desires and had an affair with her. Now, the only thing for your wife to do is file for divorce. And, why?

Because you did not listen and gouge out your eyes when you had the chance. You could have avoided this but you did not listen. Don't blame me; you are the one who answered those questions. And where does it say that women are logical or reasonable. By the way, my wife will be reading this, and, so if you get a call from me, answer, because I

may need someplace to stay for a few days.

**Billy Woods**

### *The Gunny*



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### *Websites of Interest to Visit*

***ACES Museum honoring Black and minority veterans of World War II and their families***

<http://www.acesmuseum.org/main.html?src=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.acesmuseum.org%2Findex2.html>

***Montford Point Marine Association:***

<http://www.montfordpointmarines.com>

***Veterans Benefits, News and Information:***

**Visit this website for information regarding veterans!**

<http://www.veteransnetwork.org> or <http://www.veteransnetwork.net>

**Dave Culmer is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Veterans Foundation.**



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**Support These Internet Sites**

[www.16centsaday.org](http://www.16centsaday.org)

[www.shoptoearn.net/jarheadenterprises](http://www.shoptoearn.net/jarheadenterprises)

- [www.ytbnet.com/6721\\*](http://www.ytbnet.com/6721*)

[WWW.JACKIESTRAVELSTORE.COM](http://WWW.JACKIESTRAVELSTORE.COM)

JUST ONE CLICK FOR ALL YOUR  
TRAVEL NEEDS

[BRENDA MITCHELL](#) HAS A NEW TRAVEL  
BUSINESS AND YOU CAN  
VISIT HER WEBSITE AT

<http://www.ytb.com/travelwbreez>

**Bill Dozier** has a new website that  
promotes electronic smokeless  
cigarettes. Go to

[www.nationalsmokeless.com](http://www.nationalsmokeless.com)

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have access to e-mail. Also, if they have  
access to a Fax machine we will fax a  
copy of the Newsletter and other  
information to them. Tell them to send  
their fax number to 352-259-2435 or 949-  
364-4300.



**Bill Woods**

**“The Gunny”**

**949-364-4318**



**Bobby Wallace**

**“The Gator”**

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