



Hotline



MCI Home Page: <http://www.mci.usmc.mil>

January - March 2002

The MCI Hotline is published quarterly by MCI providing you with up-to-date information. Feedback from the Hotline identified the need to expand our distribution list. Although distribution of the Hotline goes to each RUC, many Marines do not receive important MCI updates contained in these newsletters. In an effort to bridge this information gap, the Hotline will now be included in the packing list of every MCI course and included on MCI's web page.

Deputy Director's Corner

During the past quarter, MCI has encountered some unique challenges as we continue to support your distance training and educational needs. The events of September 11th caused all of us to take a closer look at terrorism—terrorist's motives, their organization, and what we can do individually to prepare ourselves and our families in these changing times. The *Terrorism Awareness* course—available in paper, CD-ROM, or LAN-delivered media—is a good tool to increase your understanding regarding the basics of terrorism. This course prepares you mentally for the challenges ahead and provides you with actions to take for protecting yourself. Many of you have enrolled in this course (0210B, 0214A, and 0215A) and several commanders have incorporated it into their command-directed MCI program.

Due to the events surrounding the Brentwood postal facility, incoming MCI mail was interrupted from 19 October to 4 December 2001. Incoming mail has resumed, however, the 6-week mail delivery outage caused a delay in getting your exams to our Student Services representatives. Nonetheless, mail is gradually arriving at MCI and we anticipate the backlog to be cleared some time in February. MCI processes your exam answer sheets on the same day they arrive here. You can get more detailed information from the pop-up windows on the MCI web site or the MarAdmin 556/01. MCI will publish another MarAdmin when the backlog is alleviated. To track the enrollment and shipment of your course materials, use your individual record or the Unit Verification Report (UVR) via MCI Online.

With the national and Corps-wide focus centered on Afghanistan, we decided to produce an informative job aid about Afghanistan and its people. The short primer provides links to other resources for more detailed information. Thousands of users have viewed this new job aid. It is available as a PDF document from the headlines on the main MCI web page or from the *Downloads* area of the web site.

It is still important for each student to focus on the successful completion of his or her course examination. Each student needs to ensure they have mastered the material in the course, received the full benefit of the instruction, and received proper credit for completing the course. Commanders and training NCOs can assist in monitoring the enrollment and completions of their Marines by using the UVR. Successful course completion increases individual training readiness and supports promotion opportunity. I need to work with unit commanders to ensure Marines receive the best distance training and education opportunities available. I look forward to working with you in the challenges ahead.

Semper Fidelis,

Glenn E. Gearhard
LtCol USMC

MCI Announces FY01 Graduate of the Year

MarAdmin 620/01 announced the MCI Graduate of the Year for FY01. MCI congratulates Gunnery Sergeant Christopher A. Totten, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina. He will serve as the Marine Corps' representative in the Distance Education and Training Council (DETC) Outstanding Graduate Program. (DETC is a nationally recognized accrediting association that accredits distance education institutions—such as MCI.)

During FY01, Gunnery Sergeant Totten completed 26 MCI courses and one distance PME program. He has received two Associate Degrees from the Community College of the Air Force and is working towards a Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice through Park College. Gunnery Sergeant Totten is a certified fire instructor, fire inspector, fire officer, fire fighter II, hazardous materials technician, arson detector, rescue technician, and emergency medical technician.

Through MCI course work, the Graduate of the Year Program is designed to recognize a Marine whose record of self-study and education best exemplifies excellence in the lifelong study of the profession of arms. All nominations received were well prepared, competitive, and reflected the high quality of Marines serving our Corps.

Latest CD-ROM Courses Available

The following CD-ROM courses are available for enrollment:

0369	The Marine Marksman
1321	Fundamentals of Diesel Engines
1816	Marine Armor NCO
2563	Encryption/Decryption Device
2564	Radio Terminal Set Operations
2566	Analog Switchboard Operations
2567	Remote Multiplexer Combiner
2568	Data Transfer Device

Visit the Course Catalog on our web site for more information on these courses and any other course offered by MCI.

How to Contact MCI	
Web site	www.mci.usmc.mil
E-mail	ombmcissd@mbw.usmc.mil
Phone	1-800-MCI-USMC/DSN 325-7438
Postal Mail	912 Charles Poor Street SE Washington Navy Yard, DC 20391-5680
Visit Us	Building 220, Lejeune Hall, Washington Navy Yard

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West Coast Command Visits

Annually, MCI visits the major bases and stations around the Corps. These visits allow MCI the chance to meet with Marine leaders and to conduct a workshop with the officers and NCOs who administer the unit MCI program. Discussions include new training and education opportunities, local learning resource centers, the latest MCI improvements and initiatives, the revised IG checklist and proper management of a MCI program. There have been significant changes to MCI in the last year and we want to make ourselves available to the Marines we serve and to share insight into those changes.

The intent is to visit the West Coast Commands during the month of February 2002. MCI has recommended 20 to 28 February as the proposed time frame for the visit. Briefing dates will be adjusted, if required, to support the schedule of the operating forces.

The briefing team will include key members from MCI's Student Services and Command Sections. The command visit brief will consist of two 1-hour presentations:

- The first brief is a leader's brief focused at officers and SNCOs. It will provide information on MCI improvements, initiatives, and responsibilities as well as technological advances and student services. This is a PME opportunity for officers and SNCOs.
- The second 1-hour brief will be a mobile training workshop oriented toward enlisted Marines, training officers, training NCOs, and MCI program administrators. It will provide training assistance on procedures required to effectively manage a MCI program; how to use the individual student data and UVR; unit diary and Marine Corps Total Force System (MCTFS) administrative procedures; and how to effectively use new technology to maximize the support provided by our Student Services Division.

We will be coordinating the visit with a POC from I MEF G-3, unit/camp POCs, and designated MSC and individual camp/station liaisons. Our proposed itinerary and preferred briefing sequence is listed below:

Date	Destination
20 February	MCRD San Diego and EWTGPAC
21 February	MCAS Yuma
22 February	MCAGCC 29 Palms
25-28 February	MCB Camp Pendleton
28 February	MCAS Miramar

While at Camp Pendleton, we will travel to several of the outlying camps to conduct briefings with various regiments and separate battalions—with the final briefing at the base theater, Mainside.

Questions or concerns regarding this visit should be directed to Capt Ferdinand, MCI at DSN: 325-7534 or e-mail:

Ferdinandm@mbw.usmc.mil

Course Failures Listed on MCI's Web Site

Beginning this quarter, course failure scores will be posted on the Marine's individual MCI record located on our web site at <https://www.usmc.mil/studentaccess/records.asp>.

When a student fails a particular course, a statement that reads "*Due to a failing grade, you will receive another exam, click here for more information*" will be placed under that particular course title in the "active courses" box. When the student clicks on the statement, another window will pop up informing the student of the course title and failing score. Additionally, it will inform the student that an alternate exam has been mailed and explains that if the student fails the alternate exam, he or she will be automatically disenrolled from the course. Finally, it will list the e-mail address, ombmcissd@mbw.usmc, for the student to contact MCI if he or she has questions.

We will continue to mail out "**Notice to Students**" when a student falls into one of the following categories:

- Fails their first (primary) examination—a notice of failure and to advise them a second (alternate) exam will be sent.
- Fails their second (alternate) examination—a notice of failure, which means automatic disenrollment from the course.
- Comes within 6 months of their course completion date (CCD)—a notice to remind them of the deadline date.
- Reaches their CCD—a notice to inform them that they have been disenrolled from that course.

Marine in the Spotlight

This quarter's *Marine in the Spotlight* is Corporal Anthony J. Martin, Computer Technician, Information Systems Management Office, Marine Corps Institute, Washington Navy Yard, DC. He was born and raised in San Diego, California. Corporal Martin enlisted in the Marine Corps on 27 April 1998. After attending recruit training at MCRD, San Diego and MCT in Camp Pendleton, he attended the Marine Corps Communications and Electronics Systems School in Twentynine Palms. After school, Corporal Martin reported to 9th Communications Battalion, I MEF, Camp Pendleton. He participated in Exercises Ulchi Focus Lens '99, SOCEX '99, and MEFEX '99. Soon thereafter, Corporal Martin was reassigned to the Communications Center, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton as a watch stander. He was responsible for monitoring and formatting messages going in and out of the message center. In December 2001, Corporal Martin reported to duty at MCI.

Afghan Job Aid

Students can now review or download the handbook on Afghanistan through our web site. Click on "Afghanistan: An Introduction to the Country and People."