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ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT 2004

Prepared by the
MAGTFTC Business Management Directorate
and the Public Affairs Office
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*** Data was compiled by the Business Management Directorate, Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA



From the Commanding General,

Our Economic Impact Statement provides the reader with a picture, both of our mission at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, and the profound economic impact its Marines, Sailors, family members, civilian employees and contractors have on the region. The Combat Center "family" is more than twenty-thousand strong, and is representative of several commands, to include the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, 1st Marine Division, 1st Force Service Support Group, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, and others.

With the Marine Corps' continued commitments in support of the nation's Global War on Terrorism, the Combat Center remains the Marine Corps' premier live-fire, combined arms and maneuver training facility. As the locus of combined arms expertise, the Combat Center's importance to the combat readiness of our Marines and Sailors is unlikely to diminish in the future, as it continues to fulfill its mission of preparing warfighters to fight and win.

The Combat Center is also the largest business enterprise and employer in the region. As such, the activities aboard the base affect virtually everyone in the Morongo Basin. The last six-years have brought a period of unprecedented growth to the Combat Center, and concurrently to the entire basin. Some independent demographic projections for the surrounding civilian communities indicate sustained and substantial growth in the coming years.

The Combat Center has enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship with our civilian neighbors for more than fifty years. Additional growth will require even greater cooperation. We remain dedicated to the proposition that by working closely with our neighboring communities, we have the greatest likelihood for continued, mutual success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christian B. Cowdrey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "B".

**CHRISTIAN B. COWDREY
BRIGADIER GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL**

Mission

The Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command's primary mission is to develop, conduct and evaluate the Marine Corps' Combined Arms Training Program; and each year roughly one-third of the Fleet Marine Force and Marine Reserve units train here during ten live-fire Combined Arms Exercises (CAX) -- which first began in October 1975. Each CAX is a dynamic, fast-paced training opportunity, integrating all weapons systems from small arms to attack aircraft.

In total, each year some 50,000 Marines participate in about 250 training exercises, gaining proficiency in all phases of combat operations. The exercises include Army, Navy and Air Force units.

History

In the 1940's, during World War II, the U.S. Army and Navy used the base for aviation training. On August 20, 1952, the Marine Corps took possession and the base was designated Marine Corps Training Center Twentynine Palms. On February 1, 1957, after an extensive five-year building program the base was officially commissioned Marine Corps Base, Twentynine Palms.

On Feb. 15, 1979, the base was re-designated the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, and fourteen months later the Combined Arms Command was activated as the headquarters for resident Fleet Marine Force (FMF) units.

On May 16, 1980, the command element for the 7th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (7th MEB) was activated with the brigade becoming a principle component of the U.S. Central Command.

On Dec. 17, 1981, the Combined Arms Command was deactivated with the establishment of the headquarters for the 27th Marines (infantry regiment), later deactivated June 30, 1987. The 7th MEB was incorporated into I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) in late September 1990 and deactivated March 31, 1992. The former 7th MEB's ground combat elements were consolidated into what is now 7th Marines (Reinforced), part of the 1st Marine Division.

On Oct. 1, 2000, the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center came under the Marine Corps Training and Education Command, residing in Quantico, VA, and thus became the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC).

Headquarters, Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC) –

The Headquarters provides the leadership, operational control, resource management, and planning that are necessary to accomplish the command's mission. The Headquarters consists of the Office of the Commanding General and Chief of Staff with more than a dozen directorates and staff sections. The following lists the directorates/principle staff:

Installations & Logistics Directorate	Marine Corps Community Services Directorate
Manpower Directorate	Operations & Training Directorate
Business Management Directorate	Comptroller Directorate
Communications & Data Directorate	Religious Ministries Directorate
Provost Marshal's Office	Human Resources Office
Public Affairs Office	Inspector & Safety Division
Staff Judge Advocate	Band
Naval Criminal Investigative Service	

Headquarters Battalion (HQBN), MAGTFTC—The Battalion provides the administrative, logistical, messing and billeting support for the more than 1,100 Marines who operate and maintain the Combat Center.

Tactical Training and Exercise Control Group (TTECG)—TTECG provides the required control and coordination to safely conduct the Marine Corps' Combined Arms Training Program. The TTECG staff, nicknamed "Coyotes", work closely with the Marine Corps Training and Education Command and participating units to ensure exercises meet Marine Corps and unit-specific training objectives.

Exercise Support Division (ESD)— The ESD is comprised primarily of the Enhanced Equipment Allowance Pool (EEAP), which has in excess of 1,800 pieces of equipment for issue to exercise forces training aboard the Combat Center. The CAX forces normally use more than 1,200 of these items during their training exercises.

Exercise Support Base (ESB)—This base, known as Camp Wilson, provides an austere living environment very similar to a rear-area logistics base. Camp Wilson facilities provide basic health and comfort amenities, allowing exercise force Marines to concentrate on their field training.

Expeditionary Air Field (EAF)—The EAF's runway and facilities are adjacent to Camp Wilson and are the site of military aircraft operations associated with training exercises. The EAF is the largest expeditionary airfield operated by the Marine Corps. The runway is 8,000 feet long by 150 feet wide and can accommodate the largest aircraft in the military inventory. The runways, taxiways and aircraft parking areas are constructed entirely of AM-2 aluminum matting. The EAF is a full service airfield, providing essential services required for flight operations in an austere expeditionary environment. In an average year, the EAF is operational for 300 days, conducts 3,300 hours of flight operations, supports 8,500 aircraft, and pumps more than five million gallons of jet fuel.

Reserve Support Unit (RSU)—The RSU is the Combat Center Commanding General's special staff for Reserve Component Issues. Two Active Reserve officers and four active reserve enlisted Marines augmented by a 40 member Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment (IMA Det) of reserve Marines provide daily administrative, logistic, and limited operational support to directorates throughout the command in support of the Training Command and Combat Center's mission. Whether supporting reserve and active duty units of any branch of service or foreign military forces training aboard the combat center, the RSU's motto of "Support—Anytime, Anywhere" summarizes their mission of contributing to the combat readiness of training units.

Photo Credit: Sgt. Kenneth Griffin, Combat Correspondent



RESIDENT UNITS

7th Marine Regiment (Reinforced)

Activated August 14, 1957 in Philadelphia, the regiment is currently one of the largest regiments in the Marine Corps. The 7th Marines is made up of four infantry battalions: 1st Battalion, 7th Marines; 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines; 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines. Each of the four battalions deploy to Okinawa on a rotating basis as part of the unit deployment program (UDP). Seventh Marines prepares combat ready units for deployment, serves as a principle source of desert and mountain operations experience, provides the ground combat element for the air alert Marine Air Ground Task Force, serves as the maritime prepositioned force within the division and maintains an amphibious readiness capability as part of the 1st Marine Division. These responsibilities reflect of the regiment's motto, "Prepare to March." Seventh Marines

accounts for more than half of the approximately 7,000 Fleet Marine Force Marines stationed at the Combat Center. Seventh Marines played a vital role in Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, and most recently Operation Iraqi Freedom.

7th Marine Regiment Attached/Supporting Unit—Third Battalion, 11th Marines provide artillery support for the regiment. Also stationed at the Combat Center, and operating in general support of 7th Marines, are Delta Company 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Tank Battalion and 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion.

Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School (MCCES)— In addition to evaluating new communication and electronic systems and developing formal Corps-wide, entry-level skill sets, MCCES trains Marines in electronic fundamentals, operational communications, air control and anti-air warfare, and maintenance of communication-electronics equipment. With an average daily student load of 1,500 and graduating about 7,000 Marines a year, it is the Marine Corps' largest formal school, conducting 327 classes annually in 54 course offerings, leading to 45 military occupational specialties.

Naval Hospital— The Combat Center's Naval Hospital was commissioned July 9, 1993. It was renamed the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital in honor of Medal of Honor recipient HMCM Robert E. Bush (Ret.) on May 2, 2000. The Naval Hospital is a state-of-the-art, 160,000 square-foot facility. The architectural firm that designed the hospital was awarded the Secretary of Defense's "Excellence in Design" award for a medical facility in 1994. The hospital contains 30 beds, but can expand to 40. It has an emergency medical department and three operating rooms. It's first-rate labor and delivery department boasts a new, robust, prenatal and delivery program, with a well-appointed maternal infant ward and multi-service ward for inpatient care. A modern full-service pharmacy, laboratory, radiology department and physical therapy clinic are also available to beneficiaries. Medical specialties available at the hospital include Family Practice, Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Orthopedics, Optometry and Mental Health Services. Also, for the patients' convenience and needs, the hospital provides physicians on a monthly "circuit rider" basis in Pediatric Cardiology, Neurology, Endocrinology, Urology, Nephrology, Developmental Pediatric Surgery (General), Pulmonology and Gastroenterology . A Urology Clinic is offered monthly.

Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 374 (Reinforced)— MWSS-374's mission is to support and maintain the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Facility (EAF) and associated outlying facilities. Additionally, MWSS-374 provides essential aviation ground support to the Aviation Combat Elements (ACE) participating in the Combined Arms Exercises.

Combat Service Support Battalion 10 (CSSB-10)— The Service Support Battalion provides intermediate level maintenance and supply support to I MEF units located at the Combat Center. CSSB-10 also provides general support to units participating in the Combined Arms Exercises, support to arriving and departing exercise units at Camp Wilson, and surge-level maintenance to the Exercise Support Division. With a strength of 400 plus, CSSB-10 is a task-organized command, comprised of two companies -- Material Readiness Company and Support Company. This Fleet Marine Force unit is a detachment of 1st Force Service Support Group based in Camp Pendleton, California

Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 1 (VMU-1)— This unit's primary mission is to provide reconnaissance and targeting information to commanders, utilizing various video imaging cameras carried aboard a remotely piloted, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). VMU-1 also participates in testing and development of other UA platforms that are expected to be the future of military aviation. The squadron is a

subordinate unit of Marine Aircraft Control Group-38 and the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing; both headquartered Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar. The squadron conducts flight operations from Out Lying Field (OLF) Seagle, three miles southwest of the EAF, in support of numerous CAXs and other training exercises throughout the year.

23rd Dental Company— The Company provides routine and emergency dental care for all military personnel assigned to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, and deploys dental personnel in support of Fleet Marine Force operations.



Photo Credit: Cpl. Craig Stowell, Combat Correspondent

Other Base Activities

Defense Commissary Agency, West Pacific Region, Sacramento, CA
Defense Reutilization Marketing Office
Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Field Office, Los Angeles, CA
Resident Officer-In-Charge of Constructions, Pacific Div,
Naval Facilities Engineering Command, San Diego, CA
United States Postal Office, Twentynine Palms, CA
Veterinary Clinic, Veterinary Service Battalion, Fort Irwin, CA

Base Organizations

American Fed of Gov't Employees Union	Girl Scouts
American Red Cross	Officers Spouse Club
Armed Services YMCA	Filipino–American Association
Navy Marine Corps Relief Society	Golf Association
Boy Scouts	SNCO Wives Club
Enlisted Spouse Club	Toastmasters Club
Family Child Care Providers Club	Young Marines

Base Service Clubs

Officers' Club
Staff Noncommissioned Officers Club (Hashmarks)
Noncommissioned Officers Club (Bloodstripes)
Enlisted Club (Excursions)



Natural Resources and the Environment

The 70-plus member, multi-faceted team that comprises the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Division is committed to balancing the training needs of the world's largest Marine Corps live-fire training facility with the requirements of conserving and managing its precious natural and cultural resources. Sound environmental stewardship is a command priority, as documented by the Commanding Generals Environmental Policy Statement. These regularly published statements unequivocally commit the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC) to take a leadership role in environmental compliance, pollution prevention, environmental training/awareness, conservation and long-term land management in support of training and mission accomplishment, while complying with our Nation's environmental laws.

NREA successfully meets a myriad of environmental challenges in managing almost 600,000 acres of training land in support of MAGTFTC's primary mission to train combat ready Marines. Training over one-third of the Marine Corps fighting forces annually in 10+ live fire and maneuver exercises, while complying with our nation's environmental laws, is a daunting task. NREA's five branches, comprised of Administration, Natural and Cultural Resources, Environmental Affairs, Hazardous Waste Management, and Compliance Enforcement, continue to be recognized with numerous awards given at the highest levels of the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of the Navy for their ability to accomplish this mission.

MAGTFTC was one of the first DoD installations to publish an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, cooperatively developed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, well in advance of the requirement mandated by Congress through the Sikes Act Improvement Act. Its draft Integrated Training/Lands Management Plan (IT/LMP) is also a pioneering effort, spearheaded by NREA and its close

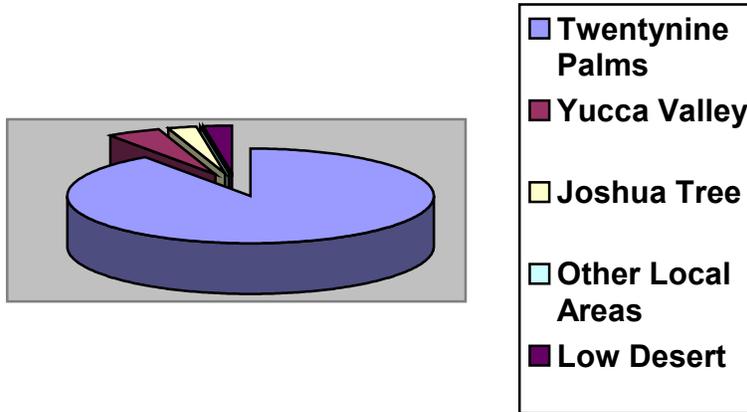
partner, the Operations and Training Directorate. The Geo-Spatial Information and Services/Remote Sensing Laboratory (GIS/RSL) of NREA is a nationally recognized forefront of military digital mapping and analysis. The Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) is a model for other installations, and accepted by the California State Historic Preservation Office, the national Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and affiliated Native American tribes, as the legal compliance document for operations and training aboard the installation. The Mesquite Dry Lake Stormwater Retention Basin has been lauded for its significant aesthetic impact of MAGTFTC's Mainside area, at the same time providing a critical wildlife refuge and recreational area for the installation's residents and visitors.

NREA is committed to ensuring that the Combat Center is a leader in all areas of natural resource management and environmental protection/compliance. Failure to preserve and protect the environment could jeopardize the Combat Center's mission and place at risk the quality of life of its residents.



Photo Credit: LCpl. Richard Kotecki, Combat Photographer

Morongo Basin Military Related Population (2004)



Over 28,000 Military, Dependents & Retired

TWENTYNINE PALMS		YUCCA VALLEY	
Active Duty	10,086	Active Duty	302
Dependents	7,358	Dependents	607
Total Military Related	17,444	Total Military Related	909
JOSHUA TREE AREA		OTHER LOCAL AREAS	
Active Duty	186	Active Duty	11
Dependents	294	Dependents	15
Total Military Related	480	Total Military Related	26

PALM SPRINGS AREA	
Active Duty	214
Dependents	251
Total Military Related	465

DESERT COMMUNITIES TOTALS

Active Duty	10,799
Retired Military (1)	7,270
Civilian	1,524
Dependents	8,525

Total Military Related = 28,118

(1) Retired figures have increased 125% due to the closure of March AFB. March AFB retirees are now included in the Combat Center's area of responsibility.

The MCAGCC Workforce: The Backbone of our Success

Total Workforce for FY03

	HQBN MCCES MAGTFTC	7 th Marines	VMU-1	MWSS- 374	CSSG-1	Naval Hospital	Other Tenant Activities	Total
Officers	136	332	9	18	26	119	45	685
Enlisted	2325	6270	155	348	568	242	229	10,137
Civilian	575					154	9	738
NAFI	786							786
Total Work Force								12,346

Information for Military and Dependents was pulled from ODSE. Civilian population and Navy population figures were pulled from Manpower Base Strength Report. Retired population was pulled from DFAS (PRR).

Facilities, Ranges, Utilities, and Housing

Over 900 square miles of training space & facilities worth almost \$1 Billion

Facilities, Ranges, and Utilities

Primary complex	598,400 acres (Total: 923 square miles)
Additional support locations	3,840 acres
Square footage of building space	9,534,375 sq ft
Current value of facilities and equipment	\$1,041,888,330

Utilities Expenditures		
2003 Electric Bill (1)	92,120,861 KWH	\$10,495,108
2004 Electric Bill (Est.) (1)	93,000,000 KWH	\$9,765,000
2003 Natural Gas Bill	6,056,067 Therms	\$3,542,000
2004 Gas Bill (Est.)	8,001,219 Therms	\$4,676,537
2003 Phone Bill		\$665,000
2004 Phone Bill (Est.)		\$695,000

(1) These figures include purchased utilities from Southern California Edison and Strategic/Co-Generated electricity by the Combat Center.

Contracting

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>STATE</u>
Supplies, Equipment and Services	\$17,958,101	\$5,725,751
Household Goods Storage/Transportation	\$544,323	\$544,323
Mess Hall Subsistence	\$3,002,424	\$3,002,424
Mess Attendant Service	\$4,456,692	\$4,456,692
Morale, Welfare and Recreation (includes appropriated and non-appropriated funds)	\$2,034,620	\$1,399,308
Voice & Data Communications	\$2,893,893	\$119,664
Commissary (DECA-resale/operations support)	\$1,361,028	\$69,466
Naval Hospital	\$4,042,654	\$1,811,395
23d Dental Company	\$34,950	\$33,400
Car Barn (Vehicle Storage)	\$180,409	\$180,409

TOTALS = \$36,509,094 \$17,342,832

Note: Purchases for supplies, equipment, and services for the Combat Center are expected to total more than \$17 million in FY03. Of this total 78% is historically awarded to small businesses



Photo Credit: Cpl. Julie Paynter, Combat Correspondent

Services and Support

Services

Base support services are available to both active duty and retired military members and their families. These services include youth recreation, child care, worship, banking and credit union, library, commissary, and legal assistance. Retail service operations include a telephone center, laundromat, car rental, dry cleaners, gourmet coffee shop, plaque shop, video store, one-hour photo, fast food restaurants, toy shop, barber shops, beauty shop, convenient stores and a package store. Recreational facilities aboard the Combat Center include: gyms, swimming pools and athletic fields. The base post office offers comprehensive postal service.

Marine Corps Community Services



Photo Credit: Cpl. Julie Paynter, Combat Correspondent

MCCS' mission is to provide fitness/recreation programs, personal services, and business activities in direct support of individual and family readiness and retention.

In order to retain our highly skilled, well-trained Marines and achieve maximum return on the taxpayers' dollars spent on training, we must provide our Marines and Sailors with the highest possible quality of life. We do this through a comprehensive morale, welfare and recreation program, the preponderance of which operates on non-appropriated funds, money we generate ourselves.

The MCCS Directorate at Twentynine Palms operates a recreational and athletic program, retail sales outlets, food and hospitality facilities and services, and various other personal services activities. One-hundred percent of MCCS net profits stay at Twentynine of which the majority is used to enrich recreational activities and other programs.

Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO)

The DRMO disposes of government equipment, which either ends its useful life or is superseded by technological advance, that allows the Combat Center to operate more efficiently. The facility also donates material items to other governmental agencies in the State of California.

Construction and Maintenance Contracts for FY-03



Rank	Contractor	Contractor's Home City	Amount
1	Soltek Pacific	San Diego, CA	17,415,262
2	Miller Thompson Constructors	Richmond, CA	13,700,000
3	Harper Construction Company	San Diego, CA	12,384,000
4	Hensel Phelps Construction	Irvine, CA	10,200,000
5	J.P.Witherow	San Diego, CA	1,882,400
6	Young Construction Co, Inc	Stanton, CA	1,869,300
7	Phoenix Construction Services	Riverside, CA	1,441,818
8	Reyes Construction, Inc	Pomona, CA	1,394,587
9	Design Construction	Palm Desert, CA	1,373,418
10	Baldi Bros, Inc	Beaument, CA	1,362,395
11	JA Jones Managment Services, Inc	Charolette, NC	1,265,490
12	B. Dixon Company	Santa Anna, CA	1,145,859
13	Stronghold Engineering, Inc	Riverside, CA	1,132,001
14	Ostovannia & Associates, Inc	LaHarbra, CA	1,020,927
15	SKY III CORP	Torrence, CA	929,973
16	American Intergrated Services, Inc	Wilmington, CA	888,180
17	General Services Administration	Apple Valley, CA	676,659
18	Elkin Contracting, Inc	Spring Valley, CA	631,809
19	Sun Mechanical Company	City of Industry, CA	630,300
20	New Creation Builders	Fullerton, CA	601,950
21	RMA Land Construciton, Inc	Artesia, CA	564,162
22	Kwang Cook & Associates	Anaheim, CA	379,488
23	Alvarez Engineering	Chion, CA	364,744
24	Construction Concepts, Inc	Anaheim, CA	341,921
25	EDT Engineering	Laguna Hills, CA	289,364
26	JB Young & Associates	Lakeside, CA	245,252
27	PROCAL Electric	29 Palms, CA	175,288
28	International Custom Enterprises	Yorba Linda, CA	168,127
29	Allclean Building Maintenance	Rialto, CA	126,290
30	Newman Enterprises	Yucca Valley, CA	106,465
31	Aqua Serve Engineers	Fontana, CA	70,200
32	Commercial Diversified	29 Palms, CA	45,181
33	ACE Crane Service, Inc	Cudahy, CA	35,567
34	The GAS Co.	Yucca Valley, CA	21,243
35	C. Martin	Las Vegas, NV	20,905
36	JCPE Enterprises	San Dimas, CA	11,760
37	Bambeck Systems	Santa Ana, CA	11,498
38	Boens Service Station Maintenance	Indio, CA	9,150
39	Severn Trent Services/CHLORTEC	Colmar, PA	7,530
40	PEO STRICOM	Orlando, FL	6,830
		TOTAL	74,947,293

Education

The Education Center arranges for educational programs to be delivered by regionally accredited colleges and universities. The primary purpose of the voluntary education program is to improve the competence of active duty service members and civilian employees, assist in career progression, and generally strengthen the personnel base of the Marine Corps.

University	Degrees Offered	Areas of Emphasis
National University	Bachelor of Science	Business Administration
		Interdisciplinary Studies
		Criminal Justice
	Master Science	Human Resources
		Management
		Teaching Credentials
Chapman University	Associate of Arts	General Studies
	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice
		Organizational Leadership
		Social Sciences
		Computer Information
Copper Mountain College	Associate Degree	24 Areas
	Certificate Programs	10 Vo-Tech Areas
	High School Completion	GED

Actual FY 03 Off Duty Education Enrollment

Type	Vo-Tech	Under Grad	Graduate
Officers Enlisted	0 163	62 2130	117 81

Marine Corps Tuition Assistance – \$1,317,393

Federal Aid. Annually the Department of Defense provides the Morongo Unified School District with federal aid to support the education of active duty military dependents. For FY03 the Morongo Unified School District will receive approximately **\$917,000** in federal aid.

Civilian Employee Development Programs

Consolidated Civilian Career Training
Pre-Supervisory
Senior Executive Management
Veterans Readjustment Appointment
Defense Acquisition Workplace Implementation Act
Defense Leadership and Management Program
Probationary Supervisory Training
Student Employment
Civilian Leadership Development Program

Community Services and Contributions

The Marines, Sailors, civilians, and family members of the Combat Center participate in numerous community activities both on and off base. The City of Twentynine Palms is extremely supportive of MCAGCC activities, and Combat Center residents reciprocate through their involvement in a wide variety of civic-oriented organizations and activities. The religious offering fund of the Base Chapels, alone, contributed over \$51,900 to local charitable service organizations.

Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society

The purpose of the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society is to provide a wide range of services and emergency financial assistance (loans and grants) to active duty and retired Navy and Marine Corps personnel and their families. An annual local fund-raising campaign contributes to these efforts.

Combined Federal Campaign

Federal workers, including Combat Center military personnel, contribute to local organizations through the Combined Federal Campaign. An annual fund-raising campaign is conducted aboard the Combat Center.

Goodwill/Community Relationships

In addition to the Combined Federal Campaign fund-drive, Marines, Sailors, family members and employees make community contributions through volunteerism. Marines participating in the base-run Single Marines Program donate approximately 10,000 volunteer man-hours each year in support of events like the Morongo Basin Special Olympics, Pioneer Days, and Lucky Park Children's Day. Marines and Sailors

also help local students by extending volunteer hours through the Adopt-A-School Program.

The Combat Center's annual Toys for Tots campaign is a Marine Corps sponsored program that provides toys at Christmas for thousands of children (from infancy through age 17) in the Morongo Basin and Coachella Valley. This community service program is managed by the Reserve Support Unit but is dependent upon military and civilian volunteers, local government, businesses and civic organizations and a generous citizenry working as a team. In short, the Toys for Tots Program is spearheaded by the Marines, but depends on a citizen helping citizen partnership for success—reflecting the Marines way of life “We take care of our own”.

The Combat Center community vigilantly contributes a large percentage of blood through participation in numerous blood drives benefiting high and low desert communities.

In the area of community relations, the Combat Center engages in a variety of local community and economic development meetings/consortiums to foster relationships that result in the mutual exchange of information supportive of improving economic viability and quality for life for all Basin citizens. These opportunities to interface have resulted in host of positive actions to include shared knowledge on best practices in energy management and a 2000 Combat Center – Twentynine Palms annexation, which generates approximately \$550,000 to \$600,000 in revenue for the City of Twentynine Palms through Vehicle Licensing Fees and Gas Tax Funds.

On all fronts, the command is pleased to be a part of these combined efforts and looks forward to continued opportunities to “give back” to a supportive community.

