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Operations Other Than War Symposium Held

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Operations Other Than War Symposium Held

Top defense experts gathered from around the country in Washington, DC, on 14-16 December 1994 for the Sixth Annual Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC) Symposium on "Operations Other Than War—Challenges and Requirements" held by the American Defense Preparedness Association (ADPA).

The symposium asked participants to address some of the following questions: What will our future security environment look like? How is the Revolution in Military Affairs influencing low-intensity conflict? To what extent do Operations Other Than War (OOTW) differ from conventional operations? What are special operations forces' roles, missions, and requirements in OOTW? How can industry and government work together to respond to OOTW defense needs? Six special seminars, conducted concurrently, were also held to deal with specific OOTW requirements concerning humanitarian operations, counterdrug operations, logistical and technical support, psychological operations, nonlethal technologies, and training and simulation.

Among the points stressed by various participants during this 3-day event were the following:

- The future remains full of uncertainty with the end of the Cold War and the release of ethnic tensions following the breakdown of the former Soviet Union.
- America is now the world's only superpower; however, niche and asymmetric regional competitors perhaps with asymmetric capabilities are certain to arise.
- The ultimate impact the Revolution in Military Affairs will have on our Armed Services and their conduct of OOTW is still uncertain, not least because procurement and development decisions remain uncertain.
- Nonlethal weaponry will increasingly have a role in OOTW.
- The flow of illegal drugs into our Nation should be recognized as a national security problem.
- Each Armed Service provides a unique contribution to OOTW.

The symposium attracted a knowledgeable group of attendees, which made for interesting discussion periods. □

Good Reading Recognized

Winners in three writing competitions were recognized for their efforts in late 1994. This year the Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Award was given to two outstanding authors of nonfiction books pertinent to Marine Corps history. The first was Maj Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR, for his book *Once A Legend: Red Mike Edson of the Marine Raiders*. A review of his book appeared in the June 1994 *Marine Corps Gazette*, and an adaptation of the book's chapter 14 was published in the August 1994 *Gazette*. Maj Hoffman left active duty after 12 years in order to pursue a law degree. He is presently a member of the History and Museums Division's Mobilization Training Unit and on temporary active duty with the Roles and Missions Coordinating Committee at HQMC.

The second recipient was Dr. Jack Shulimson for *The Marine Corps' Search for a Mission, 1880-1898*. A review of his book appeared in the June 1994 *Gazette*, and an extract was printed in the August 1994 *Gazette*. A member of the History and Museums Division since 1964, he is the chief editor of the official history series, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam*, and author of three of its volumes.

The Col Robert D. Heinl, Jr., Award for the best article pertaining to Marine Corps history published in any journal during 1993 was awarded for the third consecutive year to Maj Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR, for his "Legacy and Lessons of World War II Landings" articles, which appeared in January, September, and November *Gazettes*. Honorable mention went to Col Joseph H. Alexander, USMC(Ret), for his Naval Institute *Proceedings* article on the landing at Tarawa "Red Sky in the Morning" published in November. Col Alexander is a prolific writer and is the author of the two Jima article appearing on pp. 66-71 of this issue.

The third award, the Gen Roy S. Geiger Aviation Award, given to the author of the best 1993 article on Marine Corps aviation published in the *Marine Corps Gazette* was presented to Capt Eric K. Fippinger for his article "Naval Aviation's Expeditionary Airfield Capability: Power Projection for the Future" from the October issue. Capt Fippinger, an F/A-18 pilot, served in Operation DESERT SHIELD and in support of Operation DENY FLIGHT over Bosnia. He is currently attached to VMFA-251 at MCAS Beaufort. □



The Combat Development Center, a new 3-story, 106,500-square-foot building 1 1/2 miles west of Lejeune Hall on Russell Road at Quantico, is scheduled to open in May or June. In addition, to the CG and Deputy, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, as new occupants, the following divisions are currently planned to move into the center: Warfighting Development Integration, Concepts and Plans, Doctrine, Requirements, Studies and Analysis, and the Marine Corps Intelligence Activity.