

## BRANCHES

# Marine Corps in Review



Japanese ship Izumo

## HISTORIC COLLABORATION

In October, two U.S. Marine Corps **F-35B Lightning II** aircraft landed successfully aboard a Japanese vessel for the first time. Marines and sailors assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS America boarded Japanese ship Izumo, which was stationed off the coast of Japan, as part of the historic collaboration. The goal of the operation: testing the Japanese ship's ability to support landings and take-offs by short takeoff and vertical landing aircraft. The collaboration "contributes to our shared goal of maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific," Maj. Gen. Brian W. Cavanaugh, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing commanding general, said in a statement.

CPL. MITCHELL AUSTIN/U.S. MARINE CORPS



## EAR ENTERTAINMENT

The Marine Corps Association recently launched **Scuttlebutt**, a podcast that "seeks to create a forum to encourage and inspire Marines, former Marines, Marine families and supporters of the Marine Corps to engage with issues that impact Marines and the Corps." Producers and hosts Nick Wilson and retired Maj. Vic Ruble interview military leaders, veterans, historians and others to offer listeners a glimpse into the lives of Marines from all walks of life.

GETTY IMAGES



## TATTOO ANEW

In October, the Marine Corps updated its **tattoo policy to allow ink that covers the arms, known as sleeves.** "The decision to change the policy came after a monthslong review of existing regulations which were believed to have an adverse effect on retention and recruiting efforts," headquarters Marine Corps spokesman Maj. Jim Stenger said in a statement announcing the policy change. This reverses a previous prohibition of the arm art. Now, tattoos are only restricted on Marines' faces, necks and hands, with the exception of a ringlike finger tattoo.

CARLOS GUERRA

## BRANCHES



Kabul International Airport

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**DEVASTATING LOSS**

Eleven Marines were killed, along with one member of the U.S. Navy and one U.S. Army member, during a **suicide bombing attack** at Kabul International Airport on Aug. 26. As many as 170 Afghan citizens were also killed. The fallen Marines had been sent to support a noncombatant evacuation operation of thousands of U.S. and Afghan citizens from the region. President Joe Biden paid tribute to their bravery in a speech at the White House: “The lives we lost today were lives given in the service of liberty, the service of security, the service of others, in the service of America.”

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt.  
Morelia Capuchino Diaz

CPL. KARIS MATTINGLY/U.S. MARINE CORPS



Lt. Gen. Matthew Glavy

**INFORMATION DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE**

In October, **Lt. Gen. Matthew Glavy**, the deputy commandant for information, announced the recent establishment of the **Information Development Institute (IDI)** portal. Its main goal is to recruit, develop and train top talent to successfully combat foes in the information environment. From the inception of the program to the beginning of fiscal year 2022, more than 350 individuals have used IDI's resources to sharpen their skills and capability in support of the Marine Corps. “We need to seek new approaches in training and education that will serve as a force multiplier,” Glavy says. “Success starts with people. Developing and managing talent is a top priority for the Marine Corps. Information Development Institute is just one way (we are) enabling our civilian workforce to learn the skills needed.”

LANCE CPL. ETHAN PUMPHRET/U.S. MARINE CORPS

**COED MILESTONE**

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego **graduated its first coed class** in May. The Marines of Lima Company, Third Recruit Training Battalion — which included 53 women and 344 men — became the first gender-integrated company to complete training at the Marines' nearly 100-year-old West Coast Training Depot. The 13-week boot camp is considered one of the most challenging offered by any U.S. military branch.

— Robin Roenker and  
Tracy Scott Forson