

## FORWARD

One of the first things that a Marine Recruit learns in "Boot Camp" is to keep quiet. Then they must listen and learn very quickly. Before becoming anything close to resembling a Marine, the "Boot" must memorize a section of the Marine Handbook concerning "Special Orders and General Orders."

The General Orders consists of eleven well phrased responsibilities that a Marine on guard duty must perform. This duty may be called "Sentry" or "Observation" or a duty by any other name, but in most cases it is called the "Watch."

Of the eleven listed General Orders that had to be memorized forward and backwards, there were five that followed the Marines to the front lines in Korea. The Marines conducted their "Watch" according to the rules imbedded in their souls while in training. In an abbreviated form, excerpts from those five orders were:

#1- ".....take charge of their post....."

#2- ".....keeping always on the alert, and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing....."

#5- ".....to quit your post only when properly relieved....."

#6- ".....to talk to no one except in the line of duty....."

#11- "...to be especially watchful at night and during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near your post and allow no one to pass without proper authority....."

These are listed for information purposes only and understood by the reader that the Marines lived by these rules on the front lines. They were automatically recalled when orders or instructions were given by superior ranking personnel, and if told to remain in a certain place until relief is made, then Heaven help the Marine who leaves his post without being "properly relieved."

The point being made here is that discipline and Espirit de Corps made up the bulk of the Marines. They perform when told to do so, regardless of the risk or stakes and without question, because they were told to do so.

Discipline makes landing operations successful, assaults on fortified positions complete, and makes the person wearing the uniform proud to be a part of an elite branch of service that has defended America's interest since their founding in 1775.