



Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 7222
824 Gum Branch Rd, Suite M
Jacksonville, NC 28540

MEMORANDUM

September 27, 2011

To: All,

We are looking for "unique quotes, words etc. or other inscriptions that inspire visitors. You are invited to take part in writing or recommending the copy for the Memorial.

Writers save your copy as .txt files. E-mail your input to htshinal@yahoo.com

The Memorial will have 11 or 12 plaques of varying sizes and topics as noted below. Each plaque requires an inscription. These inscriptions should "Inspire" the reader while telling the Montford Pointers story.

Pillar of Recognition: We have no copy for this element in our data base.

Sculpture Base: (A) They Arrived, They Served, They Lived. There is some acceptable copy. We need additional copy.

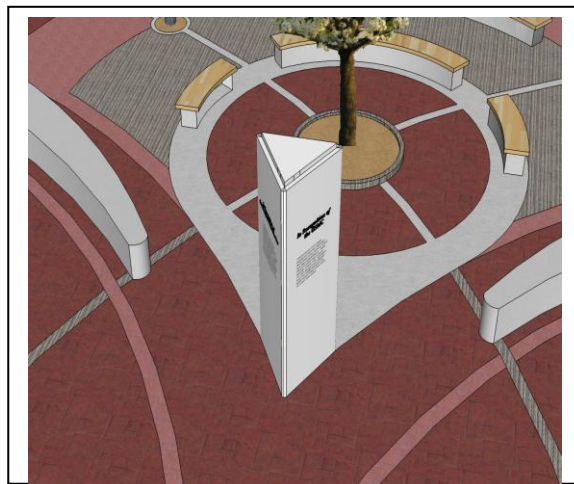
(B) Theaters of War / Unit Deployment Dates: We need assistance tracking down resources for a comprehensive list of all units.

Pillar at Wall of Stars: The Wall will have approximately 20,000 gold stars. Each star is symbolic of Montford Pointers. The Pillar located in front of the wall will have information explaining the symbolism of the stars.

LOCATION	QTY	SIZE	HEADLINE	STATUS
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Pillar of Recognition:

Recognition 1	(1)	2'-6" X 3'	Honors Society of the Times	
Recognition 2	(1)	2'-6" X 3'	Honors Montford Point Marines	<u>Attachment 1</u>
Recognition 3	(1)	2'-6" X 3'	Honors US Marine Corps	





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Sculpture Base Side A:

Side A (1) 2' X 3'
Side A (1) 2' X 3'
Side A (1) 2' X 3'

“Fought For The Right To Fight”

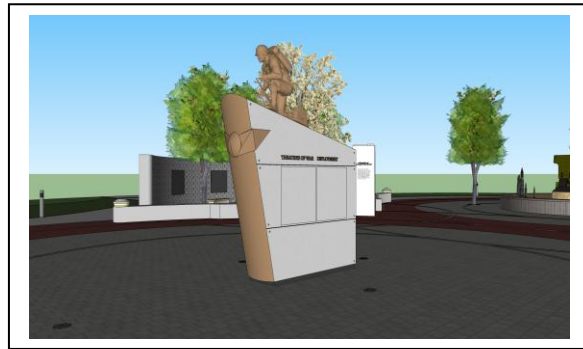
They Arrived _____
They Served _____
They Lived _____
“Theater of War”

Statue Base Side B:

Side B (1) 2' X 3'
Side B (1) 4' X 3'

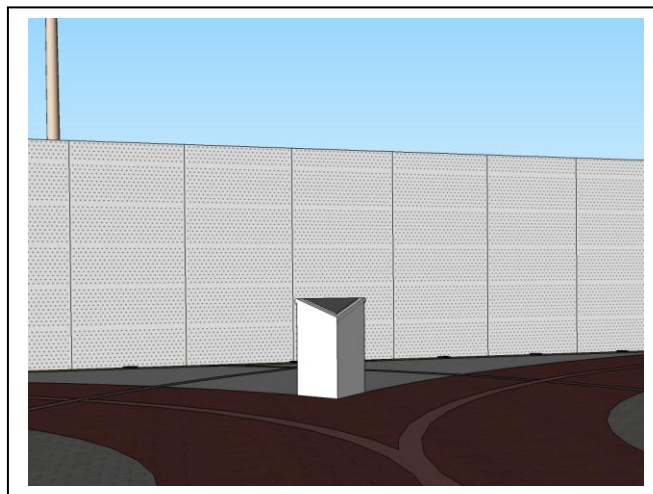
“Theater of War”

“51st & 52nd Defense Bn, FMF PAC” _____
Activation/Deactivation Data Complete



Pillar at Wall of Stars:

(1) 2' Triangle Explains stars symbolism _____





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ATTACHMENT 1
Sample Text

HONORS THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES

“Despite being denied many basic rights, the Montford Point Marines committed to serve our country with selfless patriotism,” “... Embodying the Marine Corps motto of Semper Fidelis, Always Faithful, these heroes paved the way for future generations of warriors, regardless of background, to serve in the finest military the world has ever known.”

[President Barack Obama](#)

Sample Text

HONORS THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES

“The Marine Corps is better today because of the legacy of service of African Americans from those who served in the Revolutionary War, to the Marines of Montford Point, to those forward deployed and engaged right now in the toughest part of Afghanistan. We honor the men of Montford Point who won acclaim on the islands of the Pacific, and those who fought so valiantly in Korea and in the jungles of Vietnam. My promise to you this evening is that your story will not be forgotten: It will take its rightful place and will be forever anchored in the rich history of our Corps.”

General James F. Amos. 35th Commandant of the Marine Corps



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Copy recommendation from a Member:

Statue Base Side A (Change to “Point Men Earned the Right To Fight”) Omit (“They Arrived”) Use:

ORIGIN & RITES OF PASSAGE JUNE 1, 1941

ON THESE SACRED GROUNDS OVER 20,000 OF THE NATION’S FIRST BLACK UNITED STATES MARINES EARNED THE RIGHT TO FIGHT BETWEEN 1942-1949. SUBJECT TO THE PASSAGE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 8802 BY PRESIDENT FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, A 167-YEAR COLOR BARRIER THAT RESTRICTED MEN OF COLOR FROM ENLISTMENT INTO A TRADITIONALLY ALL-WHITE MARINE CORPS FINALLY CAME TO AN END. DESPITE MANY YEARS OF BITTER INSTITUTIONALIZED RACISM, THE MEN OF MONTFORD POINT WENT ON TO EXCEL WITH HIGH ACHIEVEMENTS AND BECAME SOME OF THE FINEST MARINES TO EVER WEAR THE EAGLE, GLOBE AND ANCHOR. THE MARINE CORPS REMAINED SEGREGATED UNTIL 1949 WHEN PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN PASSED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9981.

Statue Base Side A (Omit “They Served” and Replace with”)

PACIFIC WWII THEATER DEPLOYMENTS

Marshall Islands	Jan 1944	Eniwetok 51 st Defense Batt.staging area for Iwo Jima Battle
Gilberts & Ellice Islands	Feb 1944	51 st Defense Battalion Defends Funifuti
Marinana Island	Jun 1944	Operation Forager 3 rd Ammo Co., the 18 th , 19 th and 20 th Marine Depot Amphibious Assaults on Saipan, Tinian, Guam
Battle of Peleliu	Sept 1944	Operation Stalemate Palas Islands 11 th Marine Depot, 16 th Marine Depot, and 7 th Marine Ammunition Co under the 1 st MarDiv
Battle of Iwo Jima	Feb 1945	34 th Marine Depot, 36 th Marine Depot Co., 8 th Field Depot, 8 th Marine Ammunition Co.
Battle of Okinawa	April 1945	Operation Iceberg 1 st and 3 rd Marine Ammo Cos., the 5 th , 37 th and 38 th Marine Depots, 12 th Ammo co. and 18 th marine Depot Co. landed with the 1 st and 6 th MarDiv . Also, 9 th and 10 th Marine Depot Cos
Occupation of Japan	Sept. 1945	2 nd MarDiv and 5 th MarDiv. , 8 th Service Regiment with the following Black units: 6 th , 8 th , 10th Marine Ammo Co. the 24 th , 33 rd , 34 th , 42 nd , 43 rd Marine Depot Cos. (Cont'd)
Occupation of North China	Sept 1945	As part of IIIAC Corps Troops 7 th Service Regiment and 7 th



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Marine Depot included the following Black Units: 1st and 12th
Marine Ammo Cos., 5th, 20th, 37th, and 38th Marine Depot Cos.

Statue Base Side A (Change “They Lived” to something like “Our Proud Historic Legacy”) **OUR PROUD HISTORIC LEGACY**

THE MARINES OF MONTFORD POINT MADE GENERALS RISE FROM THEIR SEATS AS THEY MARCHED PAST THE REVIEWING STANDS AND ASK “WHO ARE THOSE MEN? I WANT THEM!” MEN OF MONTFORD POINT WERE THE MARINE CORPS’ TOP-GUNS OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONRY, SETTING GUNNERY RECORDS THAT STILL REMAIN UNSURPASSED TODAY. THEY WERE KNOWN AS THE BLACK ANGELS IN THE BATTLE OF PELELIU, THE MOST FIERCELY FOUGHT BATTLE IN THE PACIFIC. THE 20TH MARINE DEPOT COMPANY WERE THE FIRST BLACK TROOPS TO GO INTO FULL COMBAT ACTION FOR THE MARINE CORPS (JUNE 1944, SAIPAN. FOLLOWING THE BATTLE OF SAIPAN (AUG 1944) LTGEN. ALEXANDER VANDERGRIFT STATED, “THEY ARE NO LONGER TRAINING TO BE MARINES, THEY ARE MARINES” AND AWARDED THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION TO THE 4TH MARINE DIVISION INCLUDING IN THE CITATION THE 3RD AMMO CO., 18TH, 19TH AND 20TH BLACK MARINE UNITS. THE ACHIEVMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ALL FUTURE BLACK MARINES HAD THEIR ORIGIN ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE MEN OF MONTFORD POINT WHO WERE ALSO A PART OF AMERICA’S GREATEST GENERATION OF WWII.

MANY MONTFORD POINTERS ALSO SERVED IN KOREA AND VIETNAM.

Statue Base Side B (Change “Theatre of War” to “Unit Designations” using the following logos):



-Below comment provided for your careful consideration:

-I think that you should reconsider and re-write the phrase - "FIRST" Black Marines on the attachment. (Pls verify, however, USMC historical records indicate that men of African descent severed in the Continental Marine Corps.)

-Thoughts for your consideration.