
Chief, Military Police Corps Regiment, and Commandant, U.S. Army Military Police School



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A Call to Engage, A Call to Write!

As I write this first article for *Military Police*, the professional bulletin of the Military Police Corps, I am humbled at the opportunity to advocate on your behalf and to discuss topics of significance to the Military Police Regiment and the military police profession. In meetings, at ceremonies, and during office calls, this position provides an important platform to speak about the critical and unique skills that military police bring to the joint force. If given only 10 seconds to speak, I currently trumpet that “Military police conduct **policing**, **security**, and **detention** operations across the range of military operations to support **protection**, to enable **mobility**, and to promote the **rule of law**.” We will access this “bumper sticker” as part of our deliberate capability portfolio review.

Fortunately, we are not limited to sound bites at meetings; we have the opportunity to write and be heard across much broader audiences and over extended periods of time. As Regimental Chief Warrant Officer David Albaugh, Regimental Command Sergeant Major John McNeirney, and I travel and engage with members of the military police profession (representing active duty and reserve component Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen as well as civilians and retirees), I am struck at the potential we have to use this bulletin and other media to broadcast the lessons we have learned, the insights we have gained, and the future service potential generated from our intellectual strength and ingenuity. But if we only “talk” about our experiences and insights, much of the potential learning and impact are lost.

As I prepared my change-of-command speech last September, I wrestled with each word so that I could send a clear message to our Regiment and continue the right course set by my predecessors. But only a segment of our Regiment heard the speech; and perhaps, only one out of 10 who heard it can remember the three main points of the 2-minute-45-second soliloquy. So let me “write” those three main points:

- **We must live our Army Values and Warrior Ethos.** We are warrior police; and through upholding our shared Army Values, we build **trust**. Our competence is learned, but our character is a daily choice.
- **We must focus on our mission and police profession.** Our number one priority is providing trained and ready Soldiers to the current fight. We will build upon former commandant Brigadier General David Phillips’ efforts to put the **P** back in **MP** as our Nation calls upon us to be a decisive force in a range of military operations that clearly include building partner police and corrections capacity within the rule of law. We will actively partner with academic and professional organizations and with law enforcement and corrections agencies to further our development as recognized police professionals.
- **We must maintain our balance and build resiliency.** With leaders who are engaged, empowered, and accountable, we will invest in the physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual well-being of our Soldiers. We will proactively strengthen family and social bonds, building fitness and strength.

That is my message to you as commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School (USAMPS) and chief of the Military Police Regiment. What is your message to the Regiment, and how will you get that message to the Regiment? Clearly, *Military Police* is our most visible and enduring medium for professional discourse. Therefore, we will make some minor format adjustments to facilitate this dialogue.

Central Themes

Each issue of *Military Police* will have a central theme, with an extended feature article. The Fall 2012 issue will focus on “military police employment in the first 180 days of decisive action across the range of military operations,” and articles must be received by *Military Police* no later than **1 June 2012**. The feature article for the Fall 2012 issue will be written by the assistant commandant,



Colonel John “Mack” Huey, about his experiences and lessons learned as the first military police battalion commander across the berm in Operation Iraqi Freedom 1. The story of the 3d Infantry Division, which is important in shaping the Military Police Corps and the Army of 2020, warns against failing to appropriately resource divisions with enough military police. If you wish to nominate a central theme and write the feature article for a future issue, please contact me directly. As you read through this issue, you will see a preponderance of articles appropriately aligned with the application of our policing skill set, including an article on page 30 by Captain Cory French, who is working to build his foundational policing skill set.

Letters to the Editor

We will be adding a Letters to the Editor section to provide a forum for feedback and professional dialogue. This issue includes a strong article by Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Albaugh on page 6 regarding his position on placing all military police in *red* status when carrying weapons in the performance of installation law enforcement. It also includes an article on page 40 by Colonel David Glaser (Deputy Provost Marshal General) and Major David Charbonneau which advocates the return of the military police badge. Do you agree with these articles? The Fall 2012 issue is your opportunity to respond. In any profession, members should courageously put their views into the public domain and then let those views be argued and refined by other members of the profession.

Book Reviews

A new Book Review section contains announcements of books that are important to the military police profession and a critical analysis of their content. As professionals, we should not only write, but also read from a broad array of books. Self-study is important to professional development. I have recently read *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*, by Laura Hillenbrand;¹ *Man's Search for Meaning*, by Viktor E. Frankl;² and *Warrior Police: Rolling With America's Military Police in the World's Trouble Spots*, by Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Gordon Cucullu and Chris Fontana.³ I also recently visited the gift shop at the Military Police Museum and picked up *A Forgotten Soldier: The Life and Times of Major General Harry Hill Bandholtz*, by Master Sergeant (Retired) Patrick V. Garland.⁴ I look forward to reading more about the man for whom the USAMPS wing here at the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence was named. If a particular book had a significant impact on you or was such a waste of time that you want others to avoid the pain, write a critical book review and submit it to *Military Police*.

Historical Articles

As in the current and previous issues of *Military Police*, we will feature historical articles. One article will be written by the historian or a member of the museum staff; and generally, one or two articles will come from contributing authors. Articles for this section should look back at least 10 years and should *not* address the current fight or recent lessons learned from Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.

Recent Experiences

For important experiences and lessons learned from the last 10 years, we should not use our bulletin to merely recount what happened, but to show how a personal or unit experience should support, modify, or completely change Army doctrine, policy, or other definitive information. Critically reflect on these recent experiences, give us the “so what” of your experience, and tell us why your experience is important to our profession and what we do in the future. I also encourage you to run your draft article through mentors and peers—I certainly did that for this article! I find it very useful to elicit professional advice and refine my thoughts before going public.

Military Police Writer's Guide

If you would like to write an article to be considered for publication in *Military Police*, please see the Writer's Guide on page 41 or the Web site at <http://www.wood.army.mil/mpbulletin/guide.htm> for specific guidelines and submission procedures. I look forward to hearing what you have to say!

Other Organizations and Publications

Do not limit yourself by submitting articles only to *Military Police*. As professionals, we should be members of professional organizations and write for those organizations' professional journals.

The Military Police Regimental Association publishes a quarterly magazine, *The Dragoon*,⁵ which is an excellent venue for historical articles or for telling the story of what your unit has recently done or accomplished. This organization and their magazine clearly support our profession.

An array of military journals and publications (which are sponsored by various headquarters, schools, and proponents) draw from the *M* in *MP*. The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (commonly referred to as “CID”) publishes *The Shield*⁶ monthly, and the Army Corrections Command publishes *The Vanguard*⁷ quarterly. You can also post articles on the Military Police Warfighters' Forum and Military Police Lessons Learned Center Web site⁸ (see page 55).

If you are attending school (military or civilian), use your required theses, monographs, and other papers to write about topics that are important to our profession. For my Senior Service College Fellowship Program in 2005, I wrote a monograph entitled

“Supporting the Restoration of Civil Authority: The Business of Prisons.”⁹ My master of arts thesis from 1992 is a much longer read entitled “Decision-Making and the Implementation of Security Land Use Policies: A Case Study of Iraq.” The Office of the Provost Marshal General and the USAMPS maintain a consolidated list of potential topics for academic research to support the Army and the military police profession. For a list of topics, please contact Colonel Glaser or Colonel Huey.

We must also engage our civilian counterparts in professional discourse. Drawing from the *P* in *MP*, we should publish articles in civilian police and corrections journals. During the 12 years that I have focused on corrections and detention operations, I have contributed several articles to *Corrections Today*,¹⁰ the professional magazine of the American Correctional Association. In fact, through years of professional collaboration between the Army Corrections Command and the American Correctional Association (and affiliated federal and state corrections professionals), several issues of *Corrections Today* have been dedicated specifically to military corrections. Should we not publish articles in other journals such as *The Police Chief*,¹¹ sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police? Last October, Major General David Quantock (Provost Marshal General) and I attended the International Association of Chiefs of Police annual conference and were impressed at the number of senior government and law enforcement executives who participated in that gathering of police professionals.

Find your niche—whether with the American Correctional Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, or another organization such as ASIS International (formerly, American Society for Industrial Security),¹² the National Sheriffs’ Association,¹³ the Federal Criminal Investigators Association,¹⁴ the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents,¹⁵ or the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association.¹⁶ We can also engage in numerous “think tanks” (Center for a New American Security,¹⁷ United States Institute of Peace¹⁸) that address and publish on broader strategic issues such as building partner capabilities within the rule of law.

After Action Reports

Finally, use your current duties and responsibilities—whether as commanders, staff officers, interns/fellows, or senior noncommissioned officers—to further our profession. As a part of our official duties, we routinely “publish” to effect change within the Army. Never underestimate the value of a staff action or an after action report to the military police profession.

Our Regiment is still engaged in combat, and our prayers are with our comrades at the tip of the spear. Everything we do—from concepts, to doctrine, to organizational/materiel changes, to training and building training support packages, to resourcing—supports our forces forward *and* the next cohort of Soldiers that will go forward. I remind units and their respective commanders to tell us if we have doctrine, organizations, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities (DOTMLPF) issues right and to tell us what you learned during deployment that should modify our current approach. Several brigade and battalion after action reports are truly remarkable products, and we are a better Regiment for that final effort of a deployed military police formation.

Assist, Protect, Defend!

Endnotes:

¹Laura Hillenbrand, *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*, Random House, Inc., New York, 2010.

²Viktor E. Frankl, *Man’s Search for Meaning*, Beacon Press, Boston, 2006.

³Gordon Cucullu and Chris Fontana, *Warrior Police: Rolling With America’s Military Police in the World’s Trouble Spots*, St. Martin’s Press, New York, 2011.

⁴Patrick V. Garland, *A Forgotten Soldier: The Life and Times of Major General Harry Hill Bandholtz*, Concord, Massachusetts, 2009.

⁵*The Dragoon*, <<http://www.mpraonline.org/mp/magazine/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

⁶Submit articles for consideration and send correspondence to U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, Public Affairs Office, Russell Knox Building, 27130 Telegraph Road, Quantico, Virginia 22134, or via e-mail to <theshield@conus.army.mil>.

⁷*The Vanguard*, <<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/443273>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

⁸Military Police Warfighters’ Forum and Military Police Lessons Learned Center, <<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/567564>>, accessed on 22 January 2012. Access to the secure site requires an Army Knowledge Online (AKO) user name and password or a common access card (CAC).

⁹Colonel Mark S. Inch, “Supporting the Restoration of Civil Authority: The Business of Prisons,” <<http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?AD=ADA435900>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹⁰*Corrections Today*, <<http://www.aca.org/publications/ctmagazine.asp>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹¹*The Police Chief*, <<http://www.naylornetwork.com/iac-nxt/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹²ASIS International, <<http://www.asisonline.org/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹³National Sheriffs’ Association, <<http://www.sheriffs.org/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹⁴Federal Criminal Investigators Association, <<http://www.fedcia.org/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹⁵North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents, <<http://naaws.corrections.com/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹⁶International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association, <<http://www.ileeta.org/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹⁷Center for a New American Security, <<http://www.cnas.org/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.

¹⁸United States Institute of Peace, <<http://www.usip.org/>>, accessed on 22 January 2012.