



MARINE CORPS RESERVE CENTENNIAL

KOREAN WAR • COLD WAR 1948 - 1990

When the Korean War erupted the first mass mobilization of Reserve Marines commenced. The improved organizational structure and wartime experience enabled the Reserve Force to mobilize and reinforce the First Marine Division, where they constituted 50 percent of the Force. The deployment of the Marine Reserve was pivotal to the Inchon landing, the battles at Chosin Reservoir, and along critical campaigns of the 38th Parallel.

During the Cold War, a robust Reserve Force acted as a strategic hedge in case of a national emergency. Exercises were conducted in various climates and places for any national crisis. The Marine Corps Reserve continued to modernize doctrine, training, vehicles, and weapon systems, with emphasis placed on expeditionary and combined arms capabilities. This led to a Reserve Force organized, trained and equipped to support the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) operating concept.



The Armed Forces Reserve Medal. Established in 1950, this medal recognizes service performed by members of the Marine Corps Reserve. It is awarded for every ten years of service or for a mobilization.



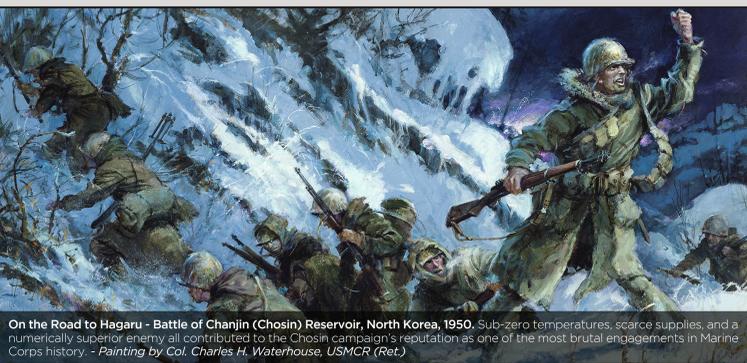
Close Air Support - 1st Marine Division, Korea, 1951. A Marine Corsair provides close air support to ground units in contact with the enemy. The plane zooms skyward through the smoke after dropping its ordnance.



Friday Parade - San Diego, CA, c. 1954. A Marine platoon from St. Louis, MO, marches through the archway at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, CA.



Amphibious Assault Training - Naval Air Base Coronado, CA, June, 1962. Reserve Marines from Madison, WI, make an amphibious landing from an LVT-75 landing craft. Throughout the Cold War, the Marine Reserve was kept in a high state of readiness as part of the nation's strategic reserve.



On the Road to Hagaru - Battle of Chosin (Chosin) Reservoir, North Korea, 1950. Sub-zero temperatures, scarce supplies, and a numerically superior enemy all contributed to the Chosin campaign's reputation as one of the most brutal engagements in Marine Corps history. - Painting by Col. Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR (Ret.)



82d Rifle Company, Compton, CA, March 1960. Reserve Marines board a Sikorsky H-34 "Seahorse" helicopter while participating in leadership and helicopter employment training.

Background photo: 61st Special Marine Infantry Company, Lexington, KY, 1954. Reserve Marines board a train for two weeks of training at Camp Lejeune, NC.

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