

# A message from LtGen Hejlik and SgtMaj Green, as seen in the January 21st edition of *The Globe*.

2A JANUARY 21, 2010

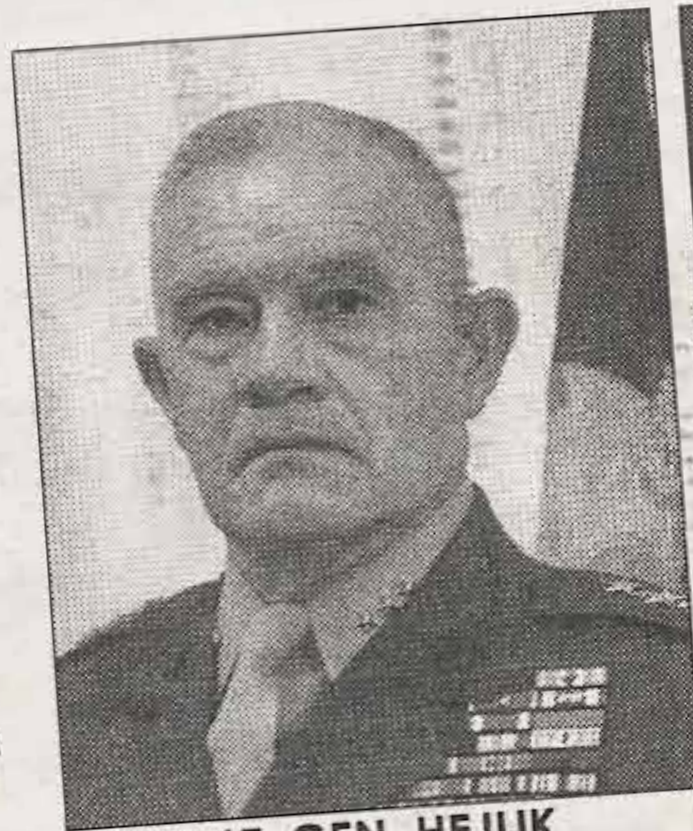
THE GLOBE, CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.

## To the Marines and Sailors of II Marine Expeditionary Force:

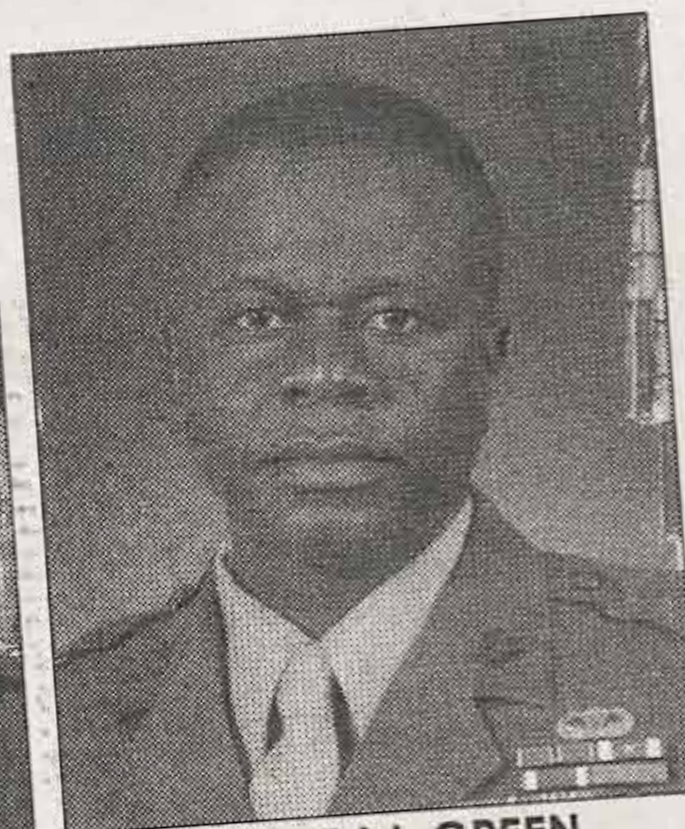
First and foremost, Sgt. Maj. Green and I want to take this opportunity to pass our thanks for a job well done as you continue to serve our Corps and Country during this time of war. For seven years, the Marine Expeditionary Force has been heavily committed throughout the Central Command theater of operations and in support of U.S. Combatant Commands around the globe.

Like the Marines and their "Docs" who have gone before you, you have contributed to the legacy of the world's finest warriors and you are respected globally as fierce warriors, diplomats for your country, and humanitarians. Whether it has been combating tyranny, preventing terrorist acts or responding to natural disasters, you should be proud of what you do and what you bring to the global fight.

That said, as good as we are in combat, the sergeant major and I are becoming increasingly dismayed at the rampant displays of inappropriate liberty attire at various Marine Corps Base installations in the weeks leading up to and through the holidays.



LT. GEN. HEJLIK



SGT. MAJ. GREEN

The last such incident required me to correct a Marine in the exchange who was wearing a baseball cap with his hooded sweat shirt pulled up and over it. The Marine disappointed me, but I was more disappointed at the number of other Marines in the vicinity - other Marines whom he had walked past and with whom he stood in line. There was no shortage of NCOs, SNCOs and officers who were in a position to act but failed to do so; this is unacceptable.

Inappropriate clothing aside, what this indicates to us is a complacent mentality, a lack of individual pride and moral courage and a failure of

small unit leadership.

We are professionals in a profession of arms. We do not shed our responsibilities at the end of the day. We are Marines 24 hours a day - in and out of uniform - and how we present ourselves in civilian attire reflects on us as individuals and on the reputation of our units.

Our attire standards are simple, and those standards apply at the exchange, in a restaurant, while pumping gas, travelling, shopping with your family, essentially everywhere because you are always representing the Marine Corps. Know what is and what is not allowed and if you do not know, ask. If you see a fellow Marine or Sailor in the wrong, correct them.

Doing the right thing has nothing to do with grade, rank, age, or experience, and has everything to do with the responsibility we all incur when we put on the Eagle, Globe and Anchor.

Marines and Sailors, do the right thing and help your fellow Marines and sailors do so as well.

Semper Fidelis,  
Lt. Gen. Hejlik and Sgt. Maj. Green.