



Marine Corps League Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 Westfield, Massachusetts 01069

(For further information contact
Frank Real, public affairs officer at
413-348-7885. Photo by Don Wielgus)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tie-Tie Tale A MCL Marine's Recollection

WESTFIELD—It usually takes a tall tale to have a letter published in Leatherneck Magazine's Sound Off column but Westfield River Valley Detachment 141's Marine Jack Ramsey did just that in September but failed to gain the Letter of the Month's \$25 reward. Sorry Jack.



Ramsey, a veteran of the Korean War (police action) is well known for his comedy routines and retreaded jokes from Reader Digest, other publications and the Internet at the League's monthly meetings and special events. He submitted his offering of a "tie-tie" tale to add to others that have appeared in the monthly Magazine For Marines and in Sgt. Grit's online weekly newsletter.

Jack Ramsey Remembered mostly by "Old Corps" Marines, a tie-tie, a strip of cloth about the length of a shoe lace, was used by Marine boots to tie their laundry to dry on lines near the cold water wash stands outside their barracks.

Following is his letter:

The Last Tie-Tale

"Wait, wait one more tie-tie story. We were topside in the old two-story barracks at Parris Island, S. C., as members of Platoon 252 in 1951.

The drill instructor sounded off with 'Outside!' And we went headlong for the street like a herd of buffalo.

Halfway down the ladder I realized my utility cover was not in my back pocket. I grabbed the railing and, when it was clear, I started back up, but ran into a boondocker with a DI at the other end.

'Your going the wrong way, boy!'

I told him my problem, and a big grin came across his face as he said, 'Get it and a tie-tie.' For the next week, I went everywhere with one end of tie-tie through on of the vent holes in my cover and the other end tied to the top button hole in my utility jacket.

When I went to the drill instructor and told him I could remember my cover he got that grin again and said, 'OK.' He had made his point to our platoon and every ever one that saw me, as we had no missing covers that I know of."

Jack Ramsey
Easthampton, Mass.



Jack Ramsey
(Photo by Don Wielgus)