

to Sgt. G. J. Auguste, Cpl. G. A. Messier, LCpls. R. G. Breski, J. K. Holloway, G. A. Waller and Pvt. M. Cook.

out this week to LCpl. J. Gaquinta. He was selected as the Marine Corps Air Station Military Policeman of the quarter.

Trapana and a "Hearty Snort of Praise," goes to Cpl. G. O. Maley for his completion of NCO school.

Jones — U.S. BOMERS-1928-1980 — This book has excellent photos and diagrams with dimensions and sizes of aircraft from the original Keystone B-1 of 1928 to the latest strategic bombers and armament.

Three '251 Marines earn Navy Achievements

Three Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA)-251 Marines have been awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for their outstanding accomplishments.

Sergeant Charles M. Pitarys, a plane captain with the "Thunderbolts," was cited for his superior performance of duty as the sole member of VMFA-251's Translant Maintenance Chase Crew at Loring Air Force Base, Maine, in support of NATO exercise Teamwork '80 in September and October 1980. With

minimal assistance, then Corporal Pitarys displayed exceptional dedication and resourcefulness to ensure maintenance of 11 F-4 Phantom jets over a six-day period in extremely poor weather conditions. He also provided invaluable technical advice and assistance to local maintenance crews who had to remove an F-4 with a locked wheel assembly from the runway, thus preventing substantial damage to the aircraft.

Lance Corporal Gordon C. Stowell, also a '251 plane captain, was cited for his per-

formance during a deployment to the Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Ariz., in April. On April 1, LCpl. Stowell was involved in launching and recovering aircraft loaded with live ordnance when a fire flared up in a starting unit approximately 10 feet from a fully loaded and fueled F-4. Reacting immediately, Stowell rushed to the unit and put out the flames with a nearby fire extinguisher. His prompt actions while disregarding his personal safety alleviated a potential danger to his fellow Marines and the aircraft.

Lance Corporal Richard J. Rangel, of the '251 S-4 section, was commended for his performance as an embarkation man

during the squadron's deployment to Norway in September and October 1980, for Teamwork '80. Rangel demonstrated exceptional ability and dedication in the loading of C-141 cargo aircraft for the movement overseas, and while in Norway efficiently coordinated the squadron's logistical requirements for living quarters.



CLEAR VIEW — Lance Corporal Gordon C. Stowell, a '251 plane captain, wipes the canopy of an F-4 prior to its flight. Stowell received a Navy Achievement Medal for his prompt actions in extinguishing a fire in an aircraft starting unit next to an F-4 during a squadron deployment to Yuma in April. (USMC Photo by Sgt. Doug Blake).



MOUNT OUT — Lance Corporal Richard J. Rangel, an embarkation man with VMFA-251, stacks mount out boxes after checking their readiness for deployments. Rangel was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for his outstanding performance and dedication during Teamwork '80 in Norway. (USMC Photo by Sgt. Doug Blake)



SEAT CHECK — Sergeant Charles M. Pitarys, a plane captain with VMFA-251, sets up a seat in an F-4 Phantom prior to a launch. Pitarys was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for his outstanding performance of duty in support of the squadron's deployment for Teamwork '80. (USMC Photo by Sgt. Doug Blake)