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## **ISSUE: Marine Corps Security Force Company – Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA**

Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard units at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA all share in the responsibility for providing various aspects of security on base. Specifically, the Marine Corps Security Force Company (MCSFCo), Kings Bay is tasked to provide security for SWFLANT facilities and assets on a twenty-four hour a day, three-hundred-sixty-five day a year basis.

What you may not realize is the unique composition of this particular unit. A typical Marine Company generally ranges in size from 150 to 200 Marines – a security force company is generally larger, due to the unique mission. Until 2005, Marine Corps Security Force Company consisted of exactly what you would expect – a company of approximately 400 Marines. That unit composition has changed significantly in the past two years.

In the wake of the terrorist attacks of 9/11, certain contracted civilian security personnel on-board Kings Bay were replaced by Master-at-Arms Sailors. As a result of that change, today Marine Corps Security Force Company, Kings Bay consists of almost as many Master-at-Arms Sailors as it does Marines – this is unique, even for the time tested, operationally proven Navy/Marine Team. One might even claim that the unit name is a misnomer; it might more accurately be called Naval Security Force, Kings Bay or even Naval Security Task Force, Kings Bay. Irrespective of the name, the results are the same. This Navy/Marine Team accomplishes its critical security mission each and every day of the year.

The unique security capabilities provided by the Marines and Sailors of MCSFCo are varied. A majority of the Marines in the company are infantry Marines serving in the operational forces on their first tour of duty. All of the Sailors in the company are of the Master-at-Arms rate and a majority of them report directly to MCSFCo from their Master-at-Arms “A” School at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Regardless of where they come from, or how they get to Kings Bay, the Sailors and Marines of this unique Navy/Marine Team coalesce very quickly into an organization which reflects its company motto, **“One Team, One Fight.”**

**Recommendation:** Continue to support Marine Corp funding and support any effort to recognize the unique situation at Kings Bay. Although referred to as “company” the MCFSC exceeds that designation.

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