

Waltzing Matilda

On this trip to Camp Pendleton several of us stood before the 1stMarDiv HQ building looking out at the parade field. I could not help but recall the many times I had passed in review there to the tune of Waltzing Matilda. As a young man I used to wonder why a tune about dancing with some Gal named Matilda could possibly be the song of the most decorated Division in the USMC.

As I learned many years later the tune came from the Aussies in the South Pacific during WWII, and refers to carrying a pack (Matilda) on a long march (waltz)!

Eyes Right!

[Waltzing Matilda - March Time!](#)

I must admit hearing this official 1stMarDiv version was a bit emotional!

And another thing!

Also on this trip Jim Mulloy taught me the five stars in our 1stMarDiv patch represent the Southern Cross Marines saw for the first time as they fought and prayed their way across the South Pacific!

