

Friday, November 19, 2004

Governor Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Camp Pendleton Marines: Lance Cpls. Ailes, Payton and Swain, Sgt. Peralta, Cpl. Ryan

Governor Schwarzenegger today issued the following statement regarding the death of five Camp Pendleton Marines who were supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom: "Each of these Marines risked his life to protect the freedom and lives of others. Their memories will live on, through their loved ones, in the communities where they lived, and in the lives of those they helped to protect. Maria and I are humbled by their sacrifice and extend our sympathies and prayers to their families." Killed in the line of duty were: Lance Cpl. Jeremy A. Ailes, 22, of Gilroy, CA; Lance Cpl. George J. Payton, 20, of Culver City, CA; Sgt. Rafael Peralta, 25, of San Diego, CA; Cpl. Marc T. Ryan, 25, of Gloucester, NJ; Lance Cpl. James E. Swain, 20, of Kokomo, IN. Payton died Nov. 14 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA. Ailes, Peralta, Ryan, and Swain died Nov. 15 as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Ailes was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton. Peralta was assigned to 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Hawaii. (He also served as a member of the California Conservation Corps in San Diego from August 1998 to October 1999 and during that time was promoted to CCC crewleader.) Ryan was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton. Swain was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton. In honor of Ailes, Payton, Peralta, Ryan and Swain, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.

Posted by viavr in Half-staff News at 19:26

Please extend my deepest regards to Sgt. Peralta's widow. Tell her that my thoughts and prayers are with her. Her husband was a TRUE hero and I appreciate his dedication for freedom. God bless him and his family. They have given the ultimate sacrifice.
Sincerely, Virginia Geer

Anonymous on Dec 8 2004, 21:07