



GySgt. Steven A. Shaheen has been the Safety Chief for the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., since December 1998. In addition to the command- safety program responsibilities, he and one other instructor have put nearly 3,000 Marines a year through the Driver Improvement Program. To speed training, GySgt. Shaheen arranged and hosted three AAA driver-improvement-instructor courses in conjunction with the Naval Safety Center. These efforts led to the certification of nine additional instructors, and raised the number of Marines trained to more than 9,000 annually.

GySgt. Shaheen works to vary educational topics, and his program relies on several guest speakers and local agencies to keep Marines involved. Base PMO (AID) gave classes on traffic mishaps while the fire department torched Christmas trees to demonstrate how quickly they can ignite a home. The U.S. Park service gave survival classes by showing what poison-

ous snakes and insects to avoid. As a safety educator for the installation, he is always seeking innovative ways to strengthen the MCAGCC safety culture.

GySgt. Shaheen was selected by the Government Employees Insurance Company (GEICO) as the Marine Corps recipient of the company's Military Service Award for the year 2000.

*Are you proud of your Marines or Sailors for defusing a hazardous situation? If so, here's your chance to recognize them in Ground Warrior's "Bravo Zulu." Write a brief summary of the action taken by your Marine or Sailor, have it endorsed by your CO, and send it to the editor.*

*A photo needs to accompany the BZ. A static shot is OK, but one showing action is preferred. We can use digital photos, but we'll need a large file: at least 5-by-7 inches at 300 dpi. Saving them in JPEG format will reduce the file size and make it easier to e-mail. If your digital camera won't support this requirement, or if you don't have one, shoot regular film.*

*Your Marines and Sailors deserve a pat on the back. I look forward to seeing them recognized in the magazine, and so will they.—Ed.*

The GEICO Military Service Awards Program was established to recognize and pay tribute to the many contributions our nation's enlisted military members make in their roles as citizens, as well as Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen. Achievements and contributions are recognized in three areas: drug-and-alcohol abuse prevention, fire safety and fire prevention, and traffic safety and accident prevention.