

“Received the F-S Mark II and it is awesome. The walnut grip is tremendous. I teach knife fighting to a lot of Marines. I used it today to teach a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program (MCMAP) knife training class. I must have had 20 Marines asking me about the Ek story – and I was happy to respond. Many of my Marines possess confidence due to wearing and using your spectacular blades.

You are making the most functional, capable, and well-made knife in the world today. There are many great blades out there – some incredible designs. But an Ek has that little something extra, that little bit of history attached. I knew Colonel Rex Applegate, one of the real pioneers in close-in fighting. He was a great admirer of Ek blades as well – and he was a guy with his own very fine line of blades!

When I created the MCMAP for the Marine Corps, I did a lot of talking with the Marine Raiders. As you well know, I was very close to Colonel Tony “Cold Steel” Walker – a man known for toughness and functionality in combat. He was a HUGE believer in knife training, bayonet training, and moving in close to an enemy. He loved the feel of a good blade. I had him feel an Ek and he just smiled, saying, “I know what I would do with this...” The Colonel was my closest mentor in development of MCMAP; I dedicated a classroom to him after his death at the Martial Arts Center of Excellence. He knew – and so does any Marine who touches one of your knives.

The Ek Knife is a big part of my ethos. I highly encourage my Marines to purchase them; I think you remember that when I was a Battalion Commander in Okinawa we purchased a bunch – and the men wore them into combat. Here in Camp Fallujah, you can see several Eks proudly displayed. Everything about it is right – from the way it is made to the way you take the time to write men like myself who wear it. It is class all the way.

I am one who believes that a knife can be almost as much of a confidence builder as a rifle – and more than a pistol. Just having it strapped to my side on every patrol I go on brings my readiness to a higher level. I command a lot of young Marines over here – and they ask me what kind of knife they should get. I tell them that any knife is a good one if they know how to use it – but if they are serious, they should consider an Ek. I let them hold mine – and they understand.

I will always carry your blades. Two of mine have seen action; I will carry them for as long as I am a Marine (just went over 33 years) and beyond. Your design, your craftsmanship, and your attitude is everything that makes our country great – and I consider Ek “the arms-carrying professional’s blade”.”

Col G.H.B., USMC  
Camp Fallujah, Iraq