

30th OR APRIL 1996 CAMP PENDLETON
CAMERONE DAY REMEMBERED ...



GySgt. Lee J. Tibbetts

LtCol. Patrick Esteve, left, a French infantryman on a two-year tour as coalition warfare officer for I Marine Expeditionary Force; former French Foreign Legionnaire Tony Koudelka and LtGen. Anthony Zinni, I MEF commanding general, celebrate Camerone Day at the South Mesa Religious Development Center, April 30. Camerone Day commemorates a battle that day in 1863 near Puebla, Mexico, involving three French officers, 62 Legionnaires and 2,000 Mexican soldiers. Only three Frenchmen survived the battle. The Mexicans, who had 300 killed and 300 wounded, agreed to surrender with honor for the remaining Frenchmen.

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