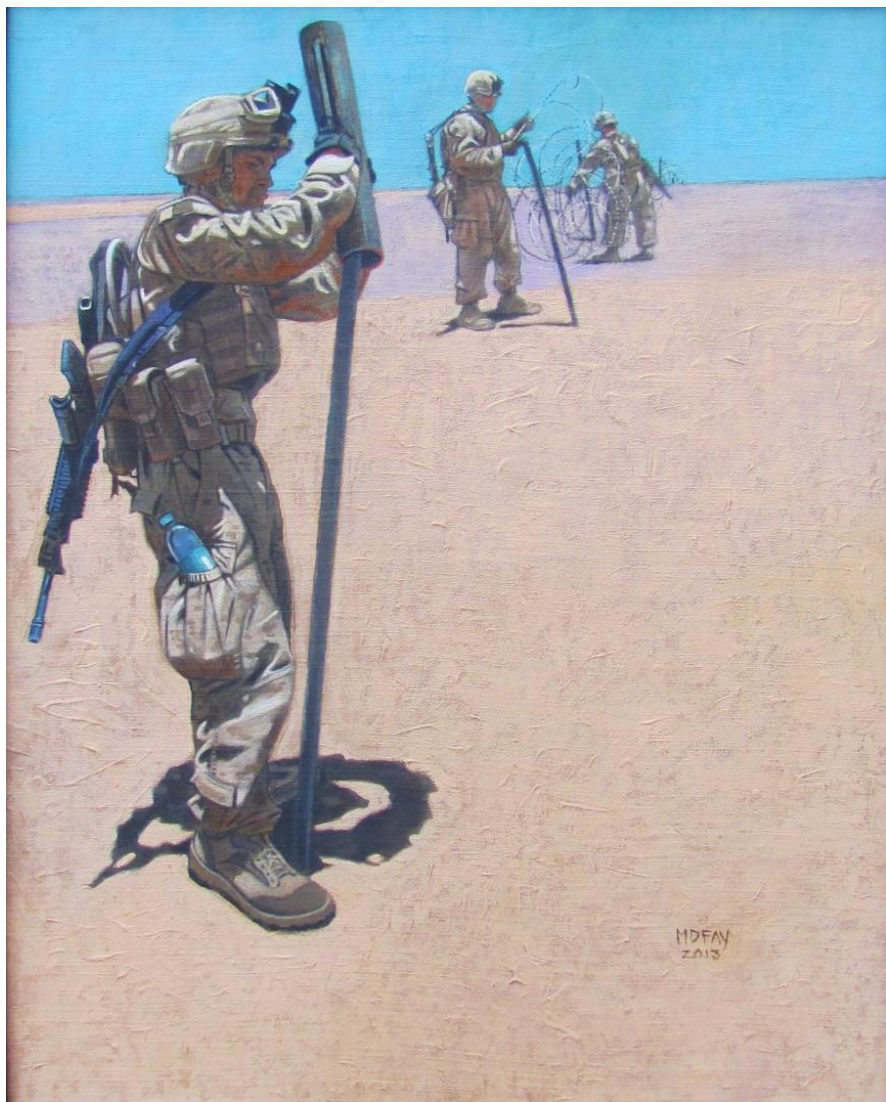


## Setting in the Barbed Wire

‡

CWO2 Michael D. Fay (U.S. Marine Corps, Retired)



Acrylic on Canvas (2013) 20 X 16 in., from the art collection of the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico, VA

## Description:

Few jobs are more demanding than setting in fresh barbed wire around a vulnerable patrol base. In this painting the Marines of 3rd Battalion of the 3rd Marine Regiment drive metal stakes into rock-hard earth and stretch out miles of barbed wire. Besides their body armor and rifles, their most valuable belongings are leather gloves and bottles of water.

War shapes everything from landscape and culture, to the very center of our psyches. My art philosophy is simple. Go to war, do art. As a naturalist, my methods are simple. Embed deeply, sketch what I see and return to the studio. Combat art has a reportage heritage, but is more poetic than literal. War art is witness art.