

FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

VOLUME XIII

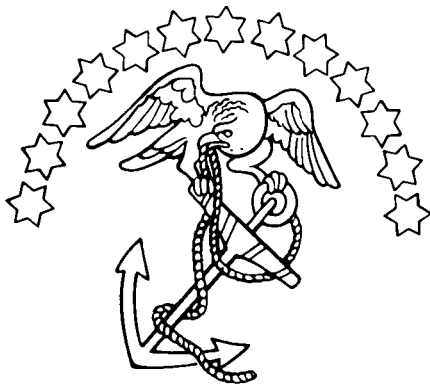
FALL 1983

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FORTITUDINE

Motto of the United States Marine Corps in the 1812 era.

Volume XIII

Fall 1983

No. 2

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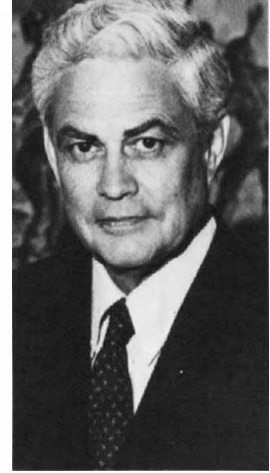
THE COVER

Combat artist Kerr Eby's "Bullets and Barbed Wire" is a charcoal drawing based on the Tarawa assault, Eby, above, was born in 1889 in Japan where his father was a Methodist missionary. He studied art at the Art Students League in New York and the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. Serving with the Army Engineers in France, his thumbnail sketches of Belleau Wood, Chateau Thierry, Saint Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne formed the basis for his book *War*, published by the Yale University Press in 1936. He was accredited as an artist-correspondent for Abbott Laboratories in 1943 and accompanied the Marines during the assaults on Tarawa, Bougainville, and New Britain. Eby's drawings are held by the U.S. Navy Combat Art Collection. He died in 1946.

Fortitudine is produced in the Publications Production Section of the History and Museums Division. The text for *Fortitudine* is set in 10 point and 8 point Garamond typeface. Headlines are in 18 point or 24 point Garamond. The newsletter is printed on 70-pound, matte-coated paper. Printing, by offset lithography, is by the Defense Printing Service.

Director's Page

Tarawa Postscript



BGen Simmons

LAST SPRING I received a letter from Cdr D. J. Farber, USN, CinCPac's representative in the Southwest Pacific. It enclosed a letter from Mr. Russell J. Surber, Charge d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy at Suva, Fiji. Mr. Surber's letter in turn enclosed a letter from Mr. Toanimatang Teraoi, a citizen of Kiribati.

For those readers who have not kept abreast of emerging nations, Kiribati is what we have always called, somewhat presumptively, the Gilbert Islands. It became a sovereign nation in 1979. And for those of you who are really rusty on your Pacific geography, Tarawa atoll forms part of Kiribati.

Cdr Farber in his covering letter said with respect to Mr. Teraoi's letter:

One's initial impulse at receiving such a letter might be (as mine was) to shrug it off as an opportunistic gimmick. I was quite surprised, however, and pleasantly so, at the enormous amount of goodwill that still exists on the part of the South Pacific islanders toward the United States as a result of our role during World War II. While many Americans seemingly have forgotten the sacrifices made by a prior generation on the beaches of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, et al., the people down here still recall with fondness of memory.

Mr. Teraoi's communication was in two parts: his own story of the battle of Tarawa, which is printed in the accompanying box, and a covering letter as follows:

To Whom it may Concern,

I attach herewith the story of my spy-work that I have done for the American Marine Soldiers during the Second World War in 1943 on Tarawa Island for your honourable Members or whoever may concern with this kind of work to see it and consider whether or not I should deserve rewards for my work. Would you please kindly inform me if Colonel Murray is still alive and his home address.

I hope my story will meet with your favourable consideration.

Sincerely yours,
TOANIMATANG TERAOI

It seemed to me that "Colonel Murray" must have been Raymond L. Murray, at the time of Tarawa a lieutenant colonel and commanding officer of 2d Battalion, 6th Marines.

So I wrote to Mr. Teraoi telling him that his "American colonel named Murray" was almost certainly Raymond L. Murray, now a retired major general living in Southern California. Because of the Privacy Act I could not give him Gen Murray's address, but I went on to say that I had written Gen Murray, enclosing a copy of his statement, and that I was sure that he would hear directly from the General.

Gen Murray did, indeed, write to Mr. Teraoi as follows:

15 June 1983

Dear Tony:

It has been many years since I have thought of the night we spent

on "HELEN" when the bombs dropped around us while we were in the bunker planning our actions for the clean-up of the atoll.

What a wonderful surprise it was to hear from someone from my past who still remembered my name and the events that took place so long ago.

I hope the years since then have been good to you and that you are now in good health.

I have written to our Marine Commandant and confirmed that your story is a true one. I have no way of knowing what action might be taken.

Let's hope we never have to fight again as we did at Tarawa and that peace will come to the whole world someday.

With all best wishes for your well being,

Sincerely,
R. L. MURRAY
MajGen, USMC (Ret)

In a parallel note to me, Gen Murray clarified the incident a bit more:

Dear Ed:

How interesting to receive a communication relating events of 40 years ago! And how remarkable that "Tony" should remember those events in such detail!

The story is true. I recall most of the details clearly after reading his "story." I don't recall who was in the bunker (foxhole) with us but it probably was the division C/S and

23rd November, 1982

WORLD WAR II BATTLE OF TARAWA ISLAND 1943

STORY BEGINS: My name is Toanimatang Teraoi a 11 year old boy when the war on the islet of Betio on Tarawa was fought between the Japanese and the Americans. When the American troops have landed on Betio, a message from an American colonel called Murray conveyed by three American Marine soldiers at about 2130 hrs to the village called Eita situated about 6 or 7 miles east of Betio. The message was for someone who could speak English to come to the colonel in order to enable him to obtain all informations about the Japanese who were stationed on the other side of Tarawa Atoll. Before my acceptance to the call, I had one thing in my mind that frightened me, and that was: "If the Americans loses the Tarawa war, I would be the only poor boy to have my head cut off or shot by the Japanese". Just because of my strong feeling to the fact that the American would won the Tarawa war, I decided to accept the call and so, I went with the three American soldiers whom I did not even know their names. They led me to the place where Colonel Murray was and at about 2200 hrs we came to the place and met Colonel Murray in a small dugout at the place called "Diana" or "Banraeaba". We introduced ourselves and then he gave me a nick name "Tony" because he cannot pronounce my long name and so from then and up to now the people here call me Tony. Murray then asked me to give him all the informations I know about the Japanese who are stationed on the other side of the Atoll.

These are the informations:

- a) There are more than 70 Japanese soldiers at "Temaiku". (Temaiku is the name of a place situated at the bend of the Tarawa Island easternmost point).
- b) There are more than 50 Koreans at "Kamwemwenang" not soldiers but they only have handgranades with them and no rifles. (Kamwemwenang is situated just a mile beyond Buoto Village on the southern side of a passage called Abatao passage).
- c) There are more than 70 Japanese soldiers at "Naa" with wireless set (Naa is a place situated at the very end of the northern point of Tarawa Atoll).
- d) Those soldiers at Temaiku together with Koreans at Kamwemwenang will move north by truck to join their friends at Naa.

After he has heard the above informations, he decided to go to Betio or its code name "Hellen" at 0100 hrs. At 0100 hrs Colonel Murray, the other officer and I boarded the L.C. and proceeded to Betio. On our way to Betio, I was surprising because the L.C. did not go direct to Betio but we headed to the warships anchored at the channel entrance, reported there, and have to call to every ships that anchored between the channel entrance and the wharf.

When we reached the Betio wharf, a big bright light was on and the work was carried on while the fighting on the land still went on. From the point of the pier, we rushed

ashore because some Japanese's planes were over head dropping bombs and shooting with machineguns and were very low because there were no big guns fired from the land, only the ships' guns fired that time to cover the land. When we reached the shore, we went into one of the foxholes where we met three or four officers inside with their little lamp. (These officers I believe they must have higher ranks than Colonel Murray). Murray told them the story and the Tarawa map was placed on the table. While they were discussing the matter, a Japanese's bomb dropped very near to our foxhole and one of the foxholes coconut logs was hit and fell in. What a terrible night to me!!! And Murray and other officers seemed nothing happened to them, they kept on talking. I ran out of the foxhole but Murray got hold of me and gave me one good slap on the face and told me that I would be safer to stay inside rather than outside. The big shot in the foxhole asked me some questions on the map about the Japanese position and I told him the same informations I have already given to Colonel Murray. After spending an hour or more in the foxhole, Murray took me back to the end of the pier where we first landed and asked the foreman who supervised the work on the wharf to look after me till himself would come and take me away after he had finished with the other officers in the foxhole. So left me there, and went back to the foxhole. I stayed with the foreman and was not very long after Murray had gone about, 50 Americans' airplanes flew over Betio Islet with lights on their wings came from an Americans' aircraft carrier near by Tarawa Island. This foreman showed me the Japanese Commander's medals and said that he killed him in his pillbox. I recognized the medals, as I had often seen them on the Commander when he wore them before the Americans' arrival. This foreman was very fat and tall but I forgot his name now. At about 0430 or 0500 hrs Murray came back to the foreman and took me away and many Marine soldiers embarked on about 31 L.C.s and 3 other craft that I do not know what you call them but these crafts can go on sea or by land with machine guns on them. When these L.C.s all filled up with Marine soldiers, we proceeded back to the other side of Tarawa Atoll heading east and when we almost arrived at Eita Village, the L.C.s splited up, 2 or 3 L.C.s and the 3 other crafts went direct to Buota or Tabiteuea Village while the rest of the L.C.s all landed at Eita Village joining with other Marine soldiers who have already landed at Banraeaba Village the night before. Colonel Murray's troops marched through Eita Village and about a mile beyond, we set up 3 guns all on wheels and fired few shells to Bikenibeu Village and Temaiku about 2 miles or more ahead. The troop marched toward the island till we reached Naa the very end of Tarawa northern point. That is the end of the fight.

Colonel Murray and his battalion went back to Banraeaba and made camp there. (The place where the old German lived named Myre). Stayed there not very long and then they just disappeared to an unknown destination.

This is the end of the story.

(Sgd): TOANIMATANG TERAIOI

maybe Dave Shoup. I don't recall slapping Tony, but I do remember his trying to leave the dugout as the bombs were dropping and I remember grabbing him and telling him it was safer inside than out.

We were talking about 2/6 making a sweep of the rest of the atoll to clean out the last of the Japanese. After the conference we returned to the island next to the Betio, where 2/6 had landed a day or so earlier to prevent any Japanese from leaving Betio, and began our move down the atoll.

Tony's figures as to the number and location of Japanese and Koreans are almost on the nose. We counted about 160 bodies after our battle on the last island. . . .

General Kelley to Toanimatang Teraoi regarding the Battle of Tarawa. In an age characterized by impersonality, it was refreshing to see that at least one Government Agency, the United States Marine Corps, could still reach into its past and acknowledge a debt to a single individual, no matter how small or far away.

As a reserve officer in the United States Coast Guard I have a certain personal interest in keeping alive our Services' traditions. I am delighted that the Marine Corps shares that interest. You can be assured that General Kelley's letter will become a treasured heirloom in the Teraoi family, and that in signing it the General added measurably to the good will our

country enjoys in this region.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

RUSSELL J. SURBER

Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

And then, just before this issue of *Fortitude* went I received this letter from Mr. Teraoi, written appropriately but probably unknowingly on the Marine Corps' 208th Birthday:

Lands & Survey Office,
Bairiki, Tarawa
Republic of Kiribati
Central Pacific
10th November, 1983

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to reply to

Our Commandant was also impressed by Mr. Teraoi's account and on 5 August he wrote him this letter:

Mr. Teraoi,

Major General Raymond L. Murray, now retired, who led the 2d Battalion, 6th Marines, during the Battle of Tarawa, has told me of your courageous assistance to his unit during its drive to capture the northern islands of the atoll.

As we approach the 40th anniversary of that great battle, I want to commend you for your service to the United States and its Marine Corps. I assure you that we as Marines are grateful for what you did to help us gain victory.

On behalf of all United States Marines, I salute you!

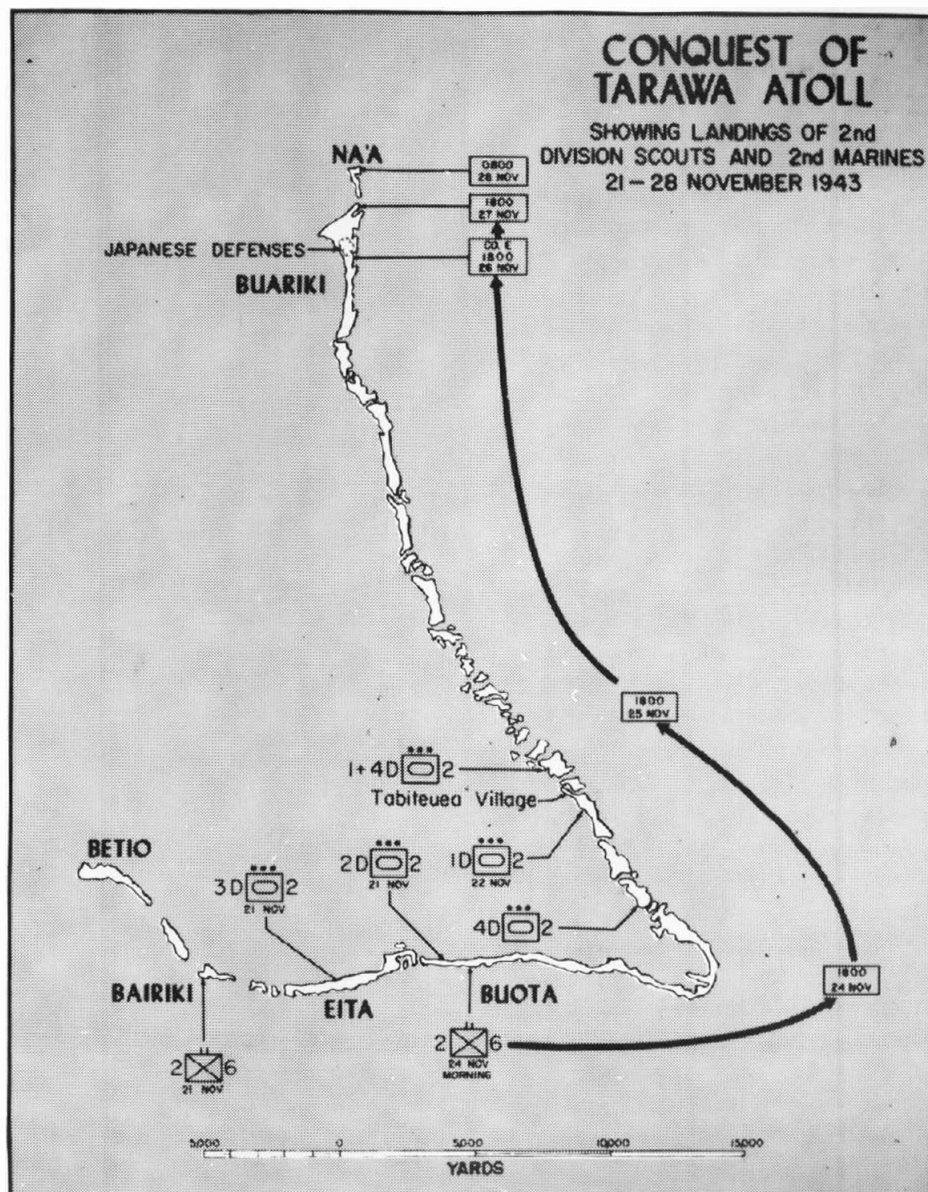
Respectfully,

P. X. KELLEY

General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

A copy of the Commandant's letter brought a thoughtful comment from Mr. Surber, the charge d'affaires at Suva:

May I take a moment of your time to express my appreciation for and pride in the letter from



FROM BETIO TO NAA

The occupation of the less important islands in Tarawa Atoll began while the battle for Betio still was raging. On 21 November, elements of Company D, 2d Tank Battalion, the division scout company, landed on Eita, west of Bairiki, and Buota, near the southeast corner of the atoll, where an estimated 100 Japanese were discovered. Another part of the scout company went ashore on an unnamed island that lay about one-fourth the distance from Buota to the northern apex of Tarawa. Two days later, while 3/10 was setting up its weapons on Eita to support the Marines on Betio, the Japanese on Buota escaped unopposed to the north. By 25 November, elements of Company D had scouted the southern half of Tarawa's eastern side, but at this point the entire unit was recalled to Eita to prepare for a reconnaissance of three nearby atolls—Abainang, Marakei, and Maiana.

In the meantime, Lieutenant Colonel Murray's 2/6, which had overrun Bairiki, had undertaken the mission of clearing the enemy from the outlying islands. Murray's men encountered no resistance until the late afternoon of 26 November, when the battalion reached Buariki, the northernmost of the larger islands of the atoll. At sunset on that day, a Marine patrol engaged in a fire fight with a small

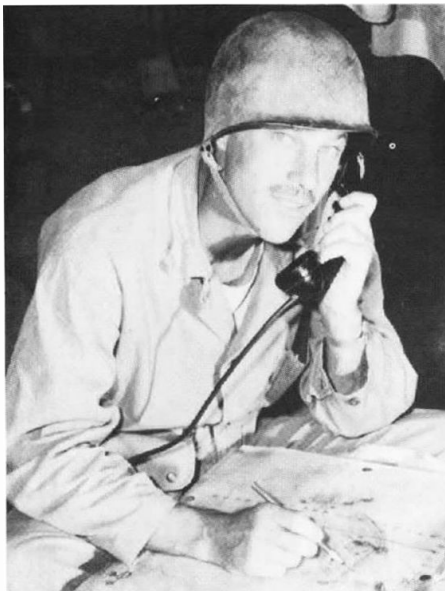
Japanese force. In spite of enemy harassment, the Marines held their fire throughout the night.

Murray resumed his advance on the following morning and soon located the enemy defenses, a haphazard arrangement of rifle pits and log barricades concealed in dense undergrowth. Because Company E had taken several casualties, the battalion commander ordered Company F to continue the attack while Company G maneuvered to strike the enemy on his eastern flank. Although Murray had a battery of pack howitzers at his disposal, poor visibility and the short range at which the infantrymen were fighting prevented the cannoners from firing more than a single concentration. In spite of this absence of artillery support, Murray's troops crushed the position, killing 175 and taking 2 prisoners. The Marines lost 32 killed and 59 wounded as a result of this fight.

Naa, a tiny island north of Buariki and the final objective of the battalion, was found on 28 November to be free of Japanese. The men of 2/6 then returned to Eita to rest from their mission. By boat and on foot, these Marines had covered a distance of about 35 miles in moving from Betio to Naa.

From Central Pacific Drive, vol. 3, History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in World War II.

your letter dated 6th June, 1983, and to let you know with happiness that Maj. General Raymond L. Murray was the one that I was looking for. He has written to me admitting my statement and said he would forward it to the Marines Commandant, and this, has been despatched, knowing this, by the Commandant's letter to me, General P. X. Kelley acknowledging the receipt of my statement. He mentioned in his letter that "as the American Peoples approach the 40th anniversary of that great battle, he wants to commend me for my service to the United States and its Marine Corps. I know, without your help, Raymond L. Murray could not be found. Thank you very much for all what you have done for me. If there is no objection from you, may I ask, if I could have one of your portraits please. The reason for wanting your portraits, is that, to hang it on the wall in my house and whenever I look at it, it brings my minds to remember you and your assistance in finding my friend, and not only that, but also to elucidate to



Raymond L. Murray, shown as CO, 5th Marines, in Korea, was Mr. Teraoi's "Colonel Murray" in Tarawa fighting.

anyone whoever visited me in my house, all about your kindness and willingness to help an humble man like me, when I was in a great needs of something that I cannot do it by myself. I will write to each

participants and ask them their portraits, and when I get them all, I will hang them up on the wall in line, starting from: Russell J. Surber (Charge d'Affairs, Suva), Commander Donald Farber (USN CINCPAC Representative-South West Pacific American Embassy Suva), E. H. Simmons (Brigadier General, US Marine Corps [Ret.], Director of Marine Corps History and Museums), Maj. General Raymond L. Murray, USMC (Ret.), and P. X. Kelley, General, US Marine Corps, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

By looking at these portraits, they remind me of how I found my friend during *World War II*, Lieutenant Colonel Murray (the duration of 40 years past).

Before conclusion, I would like to say again; thank you very much for your help, and may God's blessing be with you, your family and your staffs whenever and wherever you may be.

With best personal wishes,

Sincerely,
TONIANIMATANG TERAOI

Acquisitions

A BROAD ASSORTMENT of new acquisitions was donated to the Marine Corps Museum this year.

The most significant item to be received was the American flag destroyed by the terrorist bomb explosion at the American Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, on 18 April 1983. LCpl Robert V. McMaugh, USMC, standing guard near this flag, was killed in the explosion. It was donated by the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic.

The Personal Papers Collection greatly benefitted from the generosity of many donors. A cloth survival map of the Solomons area was presented by Col Roland F. Smith, USMC (Ret), of Lake Placid, Florida. A fascinating account of the Soochow Creek incident is found in the war diary and accompanying photographs donated by 1stSgt J. Seagriff, USMC (Ret), of Las Vegas,

Nevada. The story of the World War II Japanese Language School can be found in the papers of former Capt Paul S. Rull, USMC, donated by his wife, Mrs. Ruth Rull, residing in Eugene, Oregon. Other donors to the Personal Papers holdings include Mr. Daniel Burkhardt of Severna Park, Maryland; Mr. M. Beicke of San Diego, California; Mr. James Gilliam of Anchorage, Alaska; and Mrs. Benjamin Read of Alexandria, Virginia. The donations of the wartime letters and photographs of former Marine Joseph Kohn were arranged by his son, Mr. Stuart Kohn, a student at George Washington University.

A portrait of GySgt John Basilone, USMC, and the Medal of Honor presented for his actions in repulsing a Japanese attack on Guadalcanal, were presented by his sister, Miss Mary Basilone of Raritan, New Jersey.

The uniform collection received a number of Woman Marine items from Mrs. Nadine Miller of Annadale, Virginia, and Mrs. Laura Dennis of Arlington, Virginia. Among the uniforms and equipment donated by Mr. William Sager of Alexandria, were the herringbone twill coveralls he wore on Guadalcanal. The M1922 dress blues of Private John D. Bennett, 23rd Com-

New acquisitions on display at the Marine Corps Museum include GySgt John Basilone's Medal of Honor, WO Roy T. Cavanaugh's "USMC" quilt made of dress blue uniform material, and the United States flag from the bombed Beirut Embassy.



GySgt John Basilone

pany, 6th Machine Gun Battalion, USMC, were donated by his daughter, Mrs. Carol A. Brandt of Fairborn, Ohio.

A pair of cold weather gauntlets was added to the aviation collection thru the kindness of Mr. Robert H. Rogers of Gainesville, Virginia. Boy Scout Troop 121 of Quantico, Virginia, found a M1942 poncho in its camping equipment, and presented it to the museum.

Mr. William H. Greer, Jr., of Washington, D.C., has made many notable contributions to the collection, including a watercolor view of the Washington Navy Yard painted in the nineteenth century.

During his 1945 climb up Mount Suribachi, former Marine Charles Rear-don of Kittery, Maine, found a cloisonne napkin ring. He recently found that the ring had been taken from the Marine Corps sergeants mess of the Peking Legation by a Japanese sailor at the beginning of the war. After researching the complete story, he presented the well traveled memento to the museum. Mr. Hyman Schwartzberg of Baltimore, Maryland, presented an object of Marine tableware in the form of a silver spoon with "USMC" engraving.

Col Frank Rostowski, USAF, (Ret), presented a large collection of mess gear items as used by the Marine Corps during World War I and World War II.

All the new acquisitions are greatly appreciated. The continuing support of the many donors ensures that the museum will preserve the continuing history of the Marine Corps. —JHMcG

Readers Always Write

MORE LTGEN BERKELEY

LtGen James P. Berkeley . . . wrote of the way the sword was handled in his day.

He might have forgotten and other readers might be surprised that he handled with great agility the wooden sword with which he is armed in the enclosed photograph. The date was 15 June 1940 and then Capt Berkeley, commanding officer, Marine Detachment, USS *Wichita* (CA-45), was serving as head of all Pollywog lookouts as part of the Crossing-the-Line Ceremony at the equator as the ship, with a reinforcement group of Marines aboard, headed toward Uruguay to quell any fifth column uprising that might arise from the scuttling of the German Pocket Battleship Graf Spee off Montevideo on 17 December 1939.

The lettering on the wooden sword appears to be Wogexcaliber.

Gen Berkeley promoted me to PFC aboard the *Wichita* and eventually pinned on my silver leaf shortly before I retired. In between Gen Simmons (as a lieutenant) taught me ballistics in OCS.

LtCol D.D. Nicholson, Jr., USMC (Ret)
The Citadel
Charleston, South Carolina

LtGen Berkeley was Wichita's Captain of Marines from March 1939 to June 1941. According to Dictionary of American Fighting Ships (Naval Historical Center, Department of the Navy, Washington, D.C. 1981):

"In June . . . the heavy cruiser drew the assignment of 'showing the flag' in South American waters to counter German propaganda in some of America's 'good neighbors' to the south. As early as mid-May 1940, while the Germans were

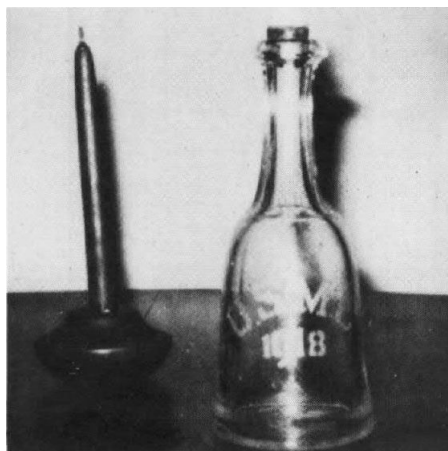


Then-Capt Berkeley on board Wichita

executing their devastating blitzkrieg against the Low Countries and France, Edwin C. Wilson, the United States Minister of Uruguay, had reported from Montevideo of an upsurge in Nazi propaganda. The State Department and the President himself came to share Wilson's concern over the German effort to extend its influence into the western hemisphere."—Editor

"USMC" USE

. . . In 1943, I was attached to the staff of [officer's] Candidate School. In one of the barracks buildings assigned to us (second row of brick buildings next to the hill) I noticed in the mess hall a vinegar bottle labelled "U.S.M.C. 1918" (periods were used). Recognizing



historical interest, I inadvertently "broke" one, and duly reported it to the mess officer, and paid him (as I recall) 70 cents. Later I found that it was not, in fact, broken . . . Enclosed is a picture.

H. A. Waldorf
LtCol, USMC (Ret)
DelMar, California

NORTH CHINA MARINE

In re. the photograph of the cockiest Marine ever photographed as pictured on the back of the current issue of *Fortitude*, this Marine was identified to me about 10 years ago as Curtis W. Knight, 16 Jan 1933 - 24 Jun 1934.

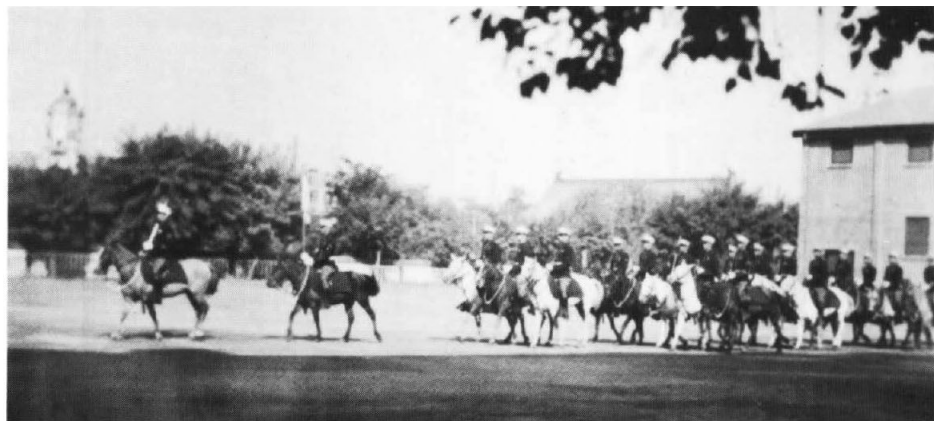
A former China Marine, then living in Arlington County, came into the Reference Section one day with some memorabilia of his service in China to donate to us. Among the items were several issues of the yearbook published by the Marines in China. He identified the Marine in your picture as Curtis W. Knight. As I recall they served together in China.

Ralph W. Donnelly
Washington, NC



According to the American Legation Guard Annual Peking, China, 1933, PFC C. W. Knight served in the Mounted Detachment. He is pictured with his mount, appropriately named "Leatherneck." Knight is also so listed in the Muster Roll of Officers and Enlisted

men of the U.S. Marine Corps for the "Headquarters Detachment, Marine Detachment, American Legation, Peiping, China" from 1 July to 31 July, 1933, inclusive. The yearbook preserved the traditional name for the North China city, renamed Peiping (northern peace) by Chiang Kai-shek in 1928. Legation Guard officers during Knight's service included 2dLt J. P. Berkeley, 1stLt L. B. Puller, and 1stLt E. F. Carlson, shown in that order below. In a related action, J. Michael Miller, Personal Papers Collection curator, recently accessioned former Marine Byron Anderson's collection of over 300 photographs. Pvt Anderson, at right, served in the Mounted Detachment earlier than Knight and his albums detailed field and garrison life for the Legation Guard Marines. This life included "spit and polish" in abundance as indicated by burnished 1913 cavalry sabers and, in the dismounted pass in review, burnished, possibly chrome-plated helmets. At bottom right is a silk embroidered album with a stylized eagle, globe, and anchor flanked by dragons. — Editor
(Continued on back page)



Reference Section Praised for Group Achievement

THE MARINE CORPS Award of Merit for Group Achievement was presented to the members of the Reference Section, Historical Branch, by BGen Simmons on 5 August 1983 at the Center. This distinction recognized "a group effort of superior merit which has resulted in benefit to the Marine Corps" over a year's time.

Reference Section, one of the busiest offices at the Marine Corps Historical Centers is staffed by five historians and a clerical assistant. Each year, the section answers more than 3,000 telephone inquiries and 1,500 written requests, and assists hundreds of visiting researchers. In addition, the Reference Section is responsible for the commemorative naming program, historic sites, the *Flag Manual*, lineage and honors and

streamers entitlement for Marine units, and many other programs and special projects for Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps and the Historical Center.

One of the three sections within the Historical Branch, the Reference Section is tasked with making the historical experience of the Marine Corps available for practical study and exploitation. It operates a historical reference service for public use, scholarly research, and official support of Marine Corps missions and programs. The basic resources of this reference service are the large collection of files that have been accumulated over several decades. These include biographical, subject, unit, and geographical categories. Supplementing these files are unit diaries of Marine units dating back to 1798, casualty lists, lineal

lists of Marine officers from 1800 to the present, and numerous other files and finding aids.

Reference historians are routinely questioned about two centuries of Marine Corps history. Inquiries come from diverse sources. They range from: junior high school students working on reports to Marine officers studying at the Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia; to noted authors and scholars; to Marine Corps veterans. Some topics are the subject of frequent inquiries, such as the Iwo Jima flag raisings, customs and traditions of the Corps, Marine Corps Medal of Honor recipients, and such key battles and operations as Belleau Wood, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Khe Sanh, and the evacuation of Saigon in 1975. Public

Reference Section members pose with Award of Merit certificates (L to R) Ann A. Ferrante, Robert V. Aquilina, Ernestine Price, and Section Head Danny J. Crawford. Also named in the award is former member Cathleen J. Solms.



interest often reflects current events and media interest. A flood of letters arrived during and after the period that a televised version of "Baa Baa Black Sheep" portrayed a Marine squadron in the Pacific during World War II. Questions about Marines in Lebanon in 1958 began coming in again after the Marines returned there in 1982. Recent events in Grenada and Lebanon have generated dozens of calls and letters from newspapers, radio and television stations and the public.

Traditionally, there has been a great deal of interest in the Pacific island campaigns of World War II with many of the requests coming from Marine veterans. With the 40th anniversary of the World War II campaigns many veterans have been writing in for unit histories or for muster rolls listing their former comrades.

Over the past year there has been a dramatic increase in letters, phone calls, and visits by Vietnam veterans and researchers interested in the Marine experience in Vietnam. Some of these activities were undoubtedly related to the dedication of the Vietnam War Memorial in November 1982, but the number of inquiries continues to grow.

Some other interesting reference requests received during the past year include:

- A request from a Massachusetts Museum for the names of Marines lost when the cruiser *Quincy* sank off Guadalcanal in August 1942.

- A letter requesting information on the Marine Corps service of Chips, serial number 309, a Doberman Pinscher wounded in action during World War II.

- A request from a young relative of Sgt Michael Strank, one of the Iwo Jima flag-raisers who later died on Iwo Jima. He asked for information on the Marine Corps War Memorial and the location of Strank's grave at Arlington National Cemetery so he could visit the grave when his 8th grade class came to Washington in May.

- A letter from the brother of a World War II Marine prisoner of war, looking for information about the Marine who saved his brother's life in a Japanese POW camp.

- The daughter of a Marine Combat

Correspondent killed while covering a pre-invasion bombing raid on Iwo Jima wrote for information about the nature of her father's service and the circumstances surrounding his death.

- A letter from the son of a World War I Marine veteran requesting information on the location of battles his father fought in, so that he and his father could retrace his path when they travelled to France on Memorial Day.

- Several letters have asked for information on Marines as astronauts, including then-LtCol John H. Glenn, Jr., who orbited the earth three times in the first manned American space capsule, and the exploits of Colonels Jack Lousma and Robert F. Overmeyer, both of whom commanded recent flights of the space shuttle *Columbia*.

- A request for information on the use of Marines as Mail Guards in the 1920s, when the nation was in the grip of a crime wave that included armed robberies of the U. S. Mail.

- A letter from a Medal of Honor winner who earned his award during the 7 December 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, requesting information on other recipients of heroic awards for their actions that day.

- Several requests have been received from other government agencies for verification that certain Vietnamese refugees trained at the Marine base at Quantico, Virginia during the 1960s.

- A Marine veteran of the Nevada Cities Operations in Korea during the Spring of 1953 requested information about the results of the fighting at the "Reno," "Carson," and "Vegas" outposts just months before the truce at Panmunjon went into effect.

- The Tiffany Cross Medal of Honor was the subject of a request concerning Marines in World War I who received the redesigned Medal of Honor produced by Tiffany and Company of New York.

Reference Section's Marine Corps award follows closely on the heels of the section's February 1983 nomination for the Congressional Award for Exemplary Service to the Public. This award recommendation, in itself a special honor, read in part, "For their consistently high level of courteous and effective service to all persons interested in the history and traditions of the Marine Corps, and for their unfailing willingness to give all members of the public who request their help, sincere attention and respect. . . ."—DJC

Okinawa War Memorial Planned

Japanese and Marine veterans of the battle of Okinawa plan a joint memorial/shrine honoring both nations' war dead on the island, the site of the last battle of World War II. The 6th Marine Division Association, whose members fought in the campaign, joined the effort after Mr. Yoshio Yazaki, a prominent Japanese businessman and former naval officer, visited and gained the endorsement of retired Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, the division's commander in World War II. The combined group expects to raise \$100,000 for a three-dimensional, 25-foot high structure of Okinawan stone and erect it on Kotobuki Hill on Oroku Peninsula south of Naha, the capital of the prefecture. The city has agreed to turn the spot into a park.

Mr. Yazaki heads the Japanese veterans' committee. Retired Col Gordon Warner, a professor of history and Asian studies with the University of Maryland's branch on Okinawa, is coordinating the Marine veterans' participation. Mr. Edward L. Fox of Union, New Jersey chairs the 6th Marine Division Association's memorial committee.

Anyone wishing more information or desiring to make a donation to the 6th Marine Division Memorial Fund should contact Mr. Fox at 23 Hueston Street, Union, New Jersey 07083.

Center Sponsors First Military Art Workshop

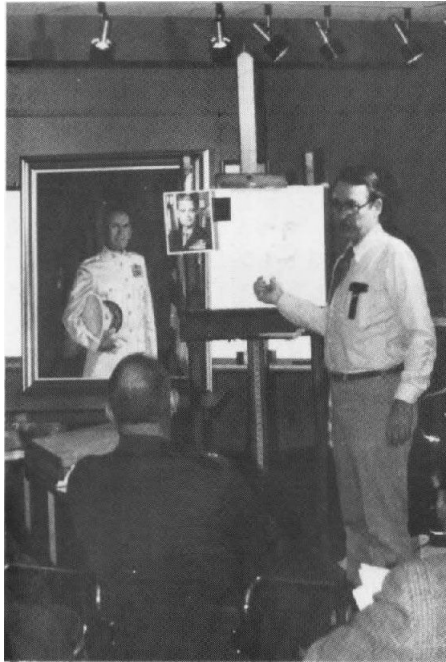
THE WORK OF THE ARTIST like that of the historian is usually an individual effort. The breeds do not tend to flock. When they do gather it is at symposia and workshops. The first such gathering ever of military artists was held at the Marine Corps Historical Center 27-28 October under the title, "Creating Military Art."

The stated purpose of the workshop was to focus on the creative process and techniques for combat art done in the field, reconstructing historical events, the illustrations of military uniforms, and military portraiture.

Almost 100 artists were invited including Marine Vietnam War combat artists, historical illustrators, uniform print artists, portraitists, and directors of service art programs. Over 40 of these attended the two-day event which was held in the special exhibits gallery of the center. Showing an intense interest were six young Marine artists from Quantico's Training Support Center. Of those unable to attend, most took the trouble to send their regrets, expressed enthusiasm for the idea, and wanted to be informed of the next workshop.

John Groth, known to all as the dean of combat artists having limned seven wars, was the keynote speaker. His prominence as an artist, war correspondent, writer, and teacher was reviewed by Col Raymond Henri, USMCR (Ret), who introduced him. Groth gave his expected colorful performance in recounting experiences as a combat artist and offering sound advice to the younger artists. His talk was highlighted by a demonstration of his loose sketching style in creating a dynamic scene of military action.

The first session was a panel discussion, "The Marine Corps Art Program during the Vietnam War—Implications for the Future." Leading the discussion was Col Henri who initially headed the art program. He was assisted by LtCol A. M. "Mike" Leahy, USMCR



Col H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR (Ret) demonstrates his techniques of portrait painting. His recent portraits of four former Commandants hang in the Pentagon (Fortitudine, Summer 1983).

(Ret) and MGySgt Wendell A. "Tex" Parks, USMC (Ret) who had been assistant head and head of the program, respectively, at different times.

The second session was conducted by Col Edward M. Condra III, USMC, Public Affairs Officer, Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, and himself a combat artist. Condra presented and then discussed his paper, "The Impact of Military Art as a Visual Public Affairs Message."

Guests of the workshop were heads of the other service art programs: Ms. Marylou Gjernes, Army; Mr. John Barnett, Navy; and Mrs. Alice Price, Air Force. They discussed the past activities and current status of their programs.

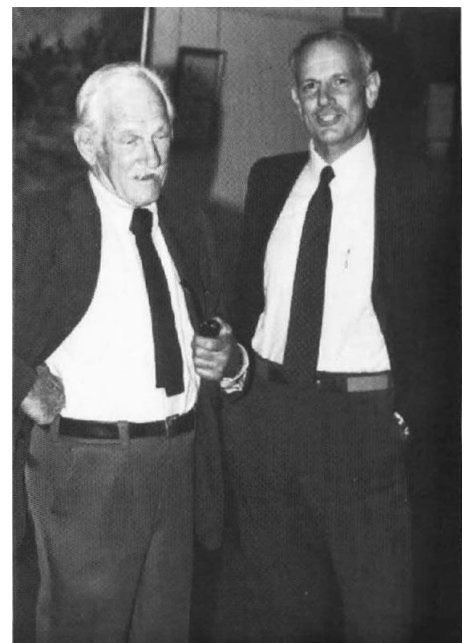
Not all the workshop sessions were as serious, however. The first evening the Marine Corps Historical Foundation

sponsored a wine, cheese, and fruit reception which was well attended by the participants and local Foundation officers and directors. Catering and arrangements were by the Museums Branch curators.

Col Condra chaired the first session on the final day, "The Combat Artist in the Field—Inspiration and Technique." Panelists included James Butcher, who served and painted with the 1st Aircraft Wing in Vietnam, Col Peter M. "Mike" Gish, USMCR (Ret), LtCol Leahy, and Major Keith A. McConnell, USMCR.

LtCol Charles Waterhouse, USMCR, renowned for his several series of Marine Corps historical paintings, chaired the next session which was on "Historical Military Illustration." After he presented his methods of research and reconstruction of historical events, there was fur-

John Groth dean of combat artists and keynote speaker, chats with Col Condra who has already painted in Lebanon. Groth has volunteered to go to Beirut next year to paint his eighth war.





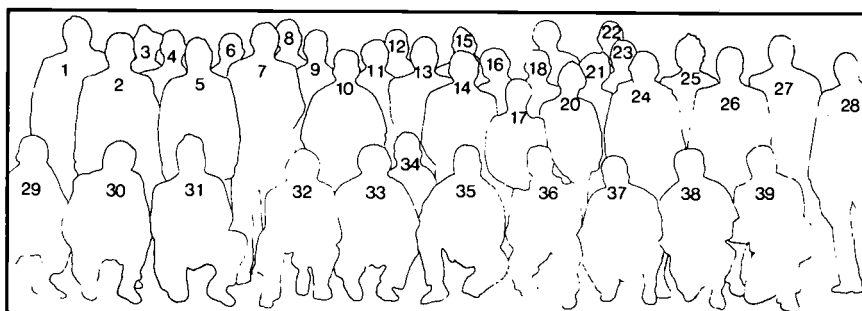
The "Creating Military Art" workshop ended with a group picture in the October sunshine outside the Museum entrance of the Marine Corps Historical Center. Subjects, identified below with one exception, spanned three artistic generations.

ther comment by discussants Isa Barnett, James Butcher, Steven R. Kidd, and Charles Lock.

Capt Donna J. Neary, USMCR, best known for her forthcoming series of prints, "Marine Corps Uniforms 1983," chaired the session, "The Uniform Print: Delineating Historical Uniforms." She discussed the procedures used in developing her Marine uniform series—assembling current uniform data, deciding on subjects, photographing models, and checking for accuracy—as well as her painting techniques. She was supported by Maj Charles H. Cureton, USMCR and John J. Demers who commented on research problems inherent in illustrating uniforms of the past.

Korean War combat artist and now a noted portraitist, Col H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR (Ret) led the session on "Military Portraiture." It was a tour de force with Chenoweth describing the making of a portrait and then demonstrating the beginning steps from preliminary sketch to laying in an undercoating of colors. While LtCol Robert W. Arnold, NYSG and Capt Neary discuss-

Group Photograph Participants Identified



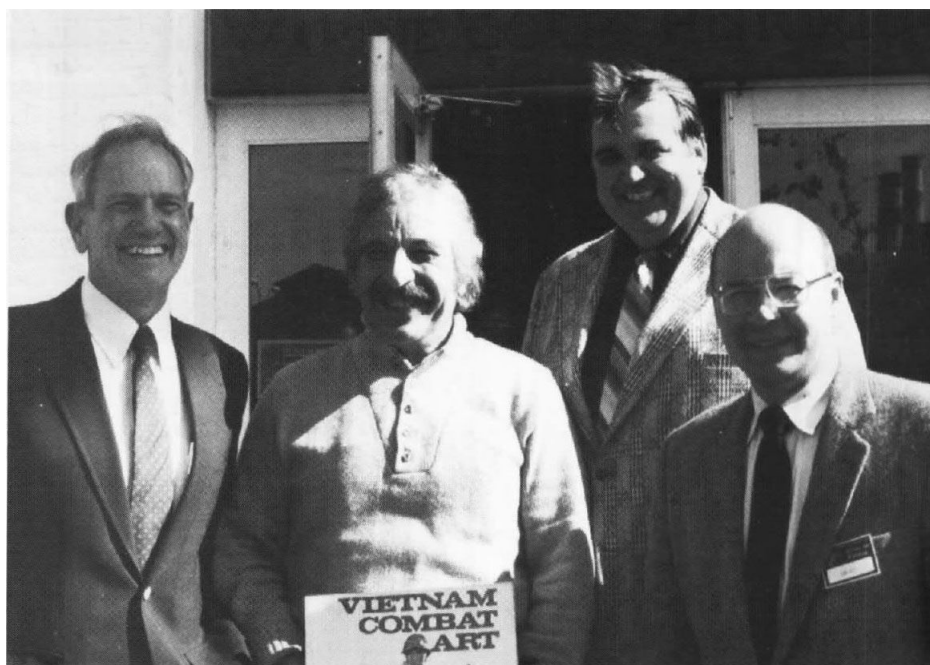
- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. LtCol Albert M. Leahy | 14. Steven R. Kidd | 27. Col Brooke Nihart |
| 2. MGySgt Wendell A. Parks | 15. LtCol Charles Waterhouse | 28. John Witt |
| 3. Bruce Barkley | 16. John Groth | 29. Maj John T. Dyer |
| 4. SSgt Les Amen | 17. Mrs. Isa Barnett | 30. Frank E. Zuccarelli |
| 5. MSgt Carl M. DeVere | 18. John Barnett | 31. James Butcher |
| 6. Sgt Roger Blankshain | 20. Capt Donna J. Neary | 32. John J. Demers |
| 7. LtCol Robert W. Arnold | 21. Mrs. Albert M. Leahy | 33. Isa Barnett |
| 8. Scott Greenig | 22. MSgt Ronald J. Perkins | 34. LCpl Brian Wishner |
| 9. MSgt Clarence Abercrombie | 23. Col Peter M. Gish | 35. Maj Keith A. McConnell |
| 10. LCpl Hernando Cortez | 24. Charles Lock | 36. Sgt Arturo Alejandre |
| 11. Maj Charles A. Coreton | 25. LCpl Pamela Sparks | 37. LCpl Tommy Smith |
| 12. Col Edward M. Condra, III | 26. Peter J. Wrike | 38. WO Alex Young |
| 13. Col H. Avery Chenoweth | | 39. Alan H. Archambault |

ed their approaches to portrait painting, Chenoweth all but completed the portrait study.

The workshop was pronounced a marked success by all participants as they took their leave and said goodbye to old and new friends. Many asked when another workshop would be held and seemed anxious to return next month or at least next year. Actually, although an event like the art workshop lasts for only two days, considerable planning and preparation goes into it. This is accomplished by the Museums Branch staff in addition to its myriad of other duties. However, the workshop was so well received and so productive that the participants were assured that another would be held, possibly in the spring or fall of 1985.

Not the least of the workshop's benefits was the reunion of Marine combat artists and the gathering of former students of such luminaries as Steven R. "Joe" Kidd and Isa Barnett. Also it served as an inspirational and instructional vehicle for a number of inexperienced and prospective military artists. However, the most positive effect, the payoff if you will, was a regeneration of civilian participation in the combat art program. While Col Ed Condra and Sgt Arturo Alejandro have been to Lebanon as part of their official duties and returned with paintings of that scene and Maj

John T. "Jack" Dyer, USMCR (Ret) has been recalled to active duty for a trip there over the holidays, civilian activity in the field has been nil since the Vietnam War. The workshop resulted in three civilian artists, Jim Butcher, John Witt, and John Groth volunteering for a Beirut trip as soon as their current commissions have been completed. In addition LtCol "Mike" Leahy, in civilian life a Navy public affairs executive, has engineered an art trip to Grenada to gather material for pictures of that operation for the Navy. —FBN



Isa Barnett, with book in top photo, taught at the Philadelphia College of Art and was a combat artist for the Marine Corps in Vietnam. At the workshop he renewed friendship with three former students, left to right, Col Edward M. Condra III, LtCol "Mike" Leahy, and John Witt. In photo above, Capt Donna J. Neary, discusses her "Marine Corps Uniforms 1983" project. The 12-print series is expected to be published in Spring 1984. In left photo, Steven R. "Joe" Kidd, a student of famed romantic realist painter Howard Pyle, taught for many years at the Newark School of Fine Art. Here he joins former students, left to right, Bruce Barkley, Frank E. Zucarelli, and LtCol Charles Waterhouse.

The Odyssey of an Oral Historian

by Benis M. Frank

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the news on 25 October that the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit [MAU] had that day conducted Operation Urgent Fury, the landings on Grenada, the History and Museums Division made arrangements for me, as head of the Oral History Section, to join the MAU to interview its command and staff concerning their planning for and conduct of the operation. At some time in the second week of November, I was to fly to Rota, Spain and from there I would be helilifted to the USS *Guam*, flagship of Amphibious Squadron [PhibRon] 4, as it called there enroute to the Mediterranean and ultimately, Beirut, where the 22d MAU would relieve the 24th.

At 0700 on 30 October, I was awakened at home in Bowie, Maryland, by a telephone call from the Director of the Command Center at Headquarters Marine Corps who told me that he had orders for me to leave that day to join the 22d MAU at Grenada. He asked me how soon I could be ready. I replied that I needed to pack, and collect my orders, tape recorders, and tape at the Marine Corps Historical Center at the Washington Navy Yard. It was not until 1630 that afternoon that I flew by helicopter from Bolling Air Force Base to Norfolk, where, shortly after midnight, I boarded a C-141 for a flight to Barbados by way of Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. After a long delay at Barbados, in an atmosphere that can only kindly be described as utter confusion, at 1600 on 31 October I flew to Point Salines airfield on Grenada, landing at dusk, and began looking for Marines. All I saw were soldiers, none of whom knew where the 22d MAU was. I finally found a detachment of the 2d Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, which was attached to the Army, and which was in contact with the *Guam*. After an exchange of messages, it was decided that I was to be flown out to the *Guam* off Carriacou Island, north of Grenada, where 22d MAU Marines had landed unopposed

that morning. I reported in to the MAU, was assigned berthing space, began interviewing, and continued to do so for the entire transit of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

On the day that the *Guam* and its accompanying shipping left Grenada, she steamed past St. George's harbor, close to shore, with ships' whistles blowing and signal flags displaying the message, "God Bless You All."

We were one day away from Spain on 10 November, when the 208th birthday of the Marine Corps was celebrated appropriately and traditionally on board all ships. All Marines were formed up on flight decks and on the *Guam's* hangar deck, to hear traditional birthday messages including greetings from the Secretary of the Navy and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. The colors were marched out and behind the colors was the traditional birthday cake which was to be sliced by the commanding officer. Again traditionally, the oldest Marine present was to receive the first piece of cake, and the youngest Marine the second. This year on the *Guam*, I was the oldest Marine present. I probably was the oldest individual in the whole flotilla!

In all, I conducted 36 interviews with such individuals as the commodore of PhibRon 4, Capt Carl R. Erie, USN and his Chief of Staff Officer, Cdr Richard A. Butler; Col James P. Faulkner, CO of 22 MAU and his subordinate commanders—LtCol Ray L. Smith (CO, Battalion Landing Team [BLT] 2/8); LtCol Granville R. Amos (CO, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron [HMM] 261) and Maj Alan E. Shively (CO, MAU Service Support Group [MSSG] 22); as well as key staff officers, the BLT company commanders, and a number of HMM-261 pilots.

In these interviews—some of considerable length—I learned how the Amphibious Ready Group, en route to

Beirut, was diverted to head south to Grenada, and how the operation was quickly conceived, and plans prepared and distributed to the participants. I was also told that on the night of D minus 1, Cdr Hal Perry, Executive Officer of the *Guam*, had the scheduled closed circuit TV movie stopped 10 minutes into its showing and replaced by "Sands of Iwo Jima," an act which was acknowledged by a mighty cheer rising from the crew and troop berthing spaces as the Globe and Anchor appeared on the TV screens, accompanied by the strains of the Marine's Hymn.

After arrival off Beirut, I was flown to the *Iwo Jima*, which had on board HMM-162 and soon embarked the headquarters and other elements of the 24th MAU. We left Beirut on 19 November and I immediately began interviewing Col Timothy J. Geraghty, CO 24th MAU, his staff, and subordinate commanders. We discussed the increased firing the MAU came under during its deployment, from 29 May to 17 November, as well as the events surrounding the tragic bombing of BLT 1/8's headquarters building on 23 October. As the squadron steamed off Sicily, I was flown to Naval Air Station, Sigonella, where I caught a flight to the U.S., arriving home the night before Thanksgiving.

This extended period of nearly a month sailing with the men of 22d and 24th MAUs and of PhibRons 4 and 8 confirmed my previous impressions of the high dedication and professionalism of Marines and sailors at Grenada and in Beirut. The interviews I conducted on this trip, as well as those with 22d and 24th MAU personnel at Camp Lejeune in January and March, and in Beirut in May and June, will be used in the writing of monographs about the Grenada operation and the Beirut deployments, both of which are to be published in 1984.

Oral History Report

THREE INTERVIEW transcripts were added recently to the Marine Corps Oral History Collection as well as one heretofore closed interview. The first of the new accessions is an interview in depth with BGen Margaret A. Brewer, USMC (Ret), the first woman Marine to be promoted to general officer rank. A native of Michigan and graduate of the University of Michigan, Gen Brewer was commissioned in 1952. In the first years of her active service, she was, for the most part, associated with or in command of woman Marine units. Later in her career, she was, in turn, Deputy Director of Woman Marines at HQMC; Special Assistant to the Director, Marine Corps Education Center, Quantico; Chief of the Support Department, Education Center; and in 1972, she was appointed Director of Woman Marines. When the Woman Marines' office was disestablished because of the expanding role of women in the Corps, Col Brewer assumed duty as Deputy Director, Division of Information. In April 1978, she was promoted to brigadier general and became Director of Public Relations at Headquarters Marine Corps. In relating her career, Gen Brewer spoke fully on the changing role of woman Marines.



BGen Brewer

Col Victor J. Croizat's interview was accomplished in three phases. In 1970, he was interviewed about his experiences in Vietnam, 1954-56, when he was, first, liaison officer to and the Senior Marine Advisor on the staff of Military Advisory Assistance Group, Vietnam. During this time, he was closely involved with the establishment of the Vietnamese Marine Corps, as well as the evacuation of North Vietnam following the signing of the Geneva Armistice Agreements. The second phase of the interview was conducted in the Marine Corps Historical Center, which Col Croizat visited during a business trip to Washington from his home in Paris. This series of taping sessions began an in-depth look at his career as a whole, as well as his comments on the history of the development of the



Col Croizat

LVT by the Marine Corps. Col Croizat was one of the first officers to be assigned to amphibian tractors. Because his time in Washington was limited, Col Croizat completed the third phase of the interview as a "do-it-yourself" effort by taping the rest of his memoirs in Paris in December 1982. As an amtrac officer, he participated in the Guadalcanal, Roi-Namur, Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima operations. On Guadalcanal, he was also a company commander in the 5th Marines, while he commanded the 10th Amphibian Tractor Battalion in the other assaults. His postwar career consisted of varied but important, challenging, and interesting assignments. He was a student at the Ecole Supérieure de Guerre in France, 1950-1951, where many of his classmates were French officers he was destined to meet later in Vietnam. From 1960 to 1961, Col

Croizat was chief of staff of Task Force 79, Seventh Fleet. In 1961 he went to Bangkok as Military Advisor's Representative to SEATO. His last active duty assignment before retirement in 1966 was command of the 5th Marines.

The third interview accessioned was one with Maj Norman T. Hatch, USMCR (Ret), who enlisted in 1939 and following recruit training, was assigned to duty in the photographic field, where he remained for the rest of his career, both as a Marine and in civilian life. He was selected as one of a few Marines to receive a six-week course in newsreel techniques from Louis de Rochemont, the producer of The March of Time series. Sgt Hatch was assigned to the 2d Marine Division for the Tarawa assault and landed with an early wave. His movies contained some of the most dramatic war scenes filmed to that date. Adm Nimitz awarded him a Letter of Commendation for his work, the citation reading, "Not only did he exhibit great personal bravery, but his work was such that authorities say the best combat pictures yet filmed during this war were obtained." Hatch was promoted to warrant officer in 1944 and was 2d Marine Division photo officer for the landing on Iwo Jima. Released from active duty in 1946, Capt Hatch joined the Marine Corps Reserve but remained in his photo billet at HQMC as a civilian. He began work in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) in 1956, and retired in 1979. His interview effectively tells the story of one facet of Marine Corps combat photography in World War II (See related story, page 18).



Capt Hatch

In January 1967, the late MajGen William Arthur Worton was one of the first retired prominent Marines interviewed for the Oral History Program. In the course of the interview, he alluded to a very sensitive secret mission he embarked upon for the Office of Naval Intelligence in the period September 1935 to June 1936. Two years following his initial interview sessions, Gen Worton agreed to talk about this mission with the stipulation that the resulting tape and transcript remain closed until 10 years after his death. He died in July 1973 and so the transcript was recently opened revealing his mission. Gen Worton had been a Chinese language student in Peking for four years, 1931-1935, and Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) decided to utilize his expertise to develop a plan for penetrating Japanese security in China. He recommended to Capt W. D. Puleston, USN, then head of ONI, that he establish a group of



Then-BGen William A. Worton served as Assistant Division Commander, 3d Marine Division on Guam and as Chief of Staff, III Amphibious Corps, on Okinawa. His extensive China duty included 12 years in the '20s and '30s and post World War II occupation service.

agents operating in and out of Japan with a mission of observing and reporting upon the movements of the Japanese fleet. Assuming that there would be a war with Japan and that American forces would leave China, then-Maj Worton wanted to leave behind in place a spy network. One individual he planned on recruiting was the famed Jesuit philosopher and anthropologist, Pere Teilhard de Chardin. Following a conference with MGC John H. Russell, Maj Worton requested official leave of absence from the Marine Corps as he was supposedly planning to resign his commission and enter the business world. In China, his Navy contact was Capt Ellis Zacharias, while one of his Chinese contacts was the mysterious Dai Lee, Chiang Kai-shek's chief of intelligence. In this 97-page transcript, Gen Worton told of how he accomplished his mission, with whom he dealt, and how he returned to the Corps.

Certificates of Appreciation

Recent awards of Certificates of Appreciation issued on behalf of the Commandant of the Marine Corps to persons who have made significant contributions to the Marine Corps Historical Program are as follows:

For their donation of historical materials:
The Association of Survivors, First Parachute Regiment

For contributing his illustrated memoirs as a pre-World War II enlisted Marine and a prisoner of war of the Japanese:

Joseph Lemuel Walker

For participation in the Marine Corps Oral History Program:

MajGen Arthur H. Adams, USMC (Ret)
MajGen Paul J. Fontana, USMC (Ret)

For 85 hours as a Museum Shop Volunteer:
Mrs. Penny Etnyre

For 50 hours as a Museum Shop Volunteer:
Col and Mrs. Joseph A. Bruder

For assistance to the Museum Shop in distributing the shop catalog:

Alan and Daniel Greenwood

For his initiative, history teaching skills and leadership which were instrumental in the creation of the Tarawa landing diorama and its donation to the Marine Corps Museum:

Glen P. Frakes

For its effort and interest contributing to the creation of the Tarawa landing diorama:

The 1983 Ninth Grade Class of Gilbert Junior High School,
Gilbert, Arizona

For dedicated effort, historical research and craftsmanship contributing to the creation of the Tarawa landing diorama:
Jeffery Bingham, John Buss, Kathleen Kay Cilvik, Laura A. Cook, Linda M. Cook, Carrie C. Fox, Gary L. Gilman, Adolf Hannert, Melissa Harelson, Brenda L. Moore, Dionne N. Morris, Kristin A. Page, Mark Palio, Cheryl L. Peterson, Richard Riordan, and Frank Rowe.

Students' Tarawa Diorama on Exhibit at Museum

A 45-SQUARE FOOT diorama portraying the decisive American Marine landing against the Japanese-held atoll of Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands was accepted by the Marine Corps Museum from the ninth grade students who created it on 9 November 1983. The diorama observes the 40th anniversary of the 20-23 November 1943 central Pacific landing.

Under direction of history teacher Glen Frakes, 200 Junior High School students from Gilbert, Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix, spent over 5,000 hours creating the diorama. Materials, including 450 miniature figures, cost \$5,800 contributed by a variety of

veterans and civic organizations. Frakes, himself a Vietnam War Marine veteran, uses student construction of dioramas showing events of American military history as a teaching aid. The Tarawa Landing diorama is the 11th in a series of one per year that has included the Defense of Wake Island, Corregidor, Normandy and North Africa, and a Vietnam helicopter assault. Most have homes in museums. Mr. Frakes and his students are currently at work in the research phase of their next project, the Battle of Chapultepec in the Mexican War.

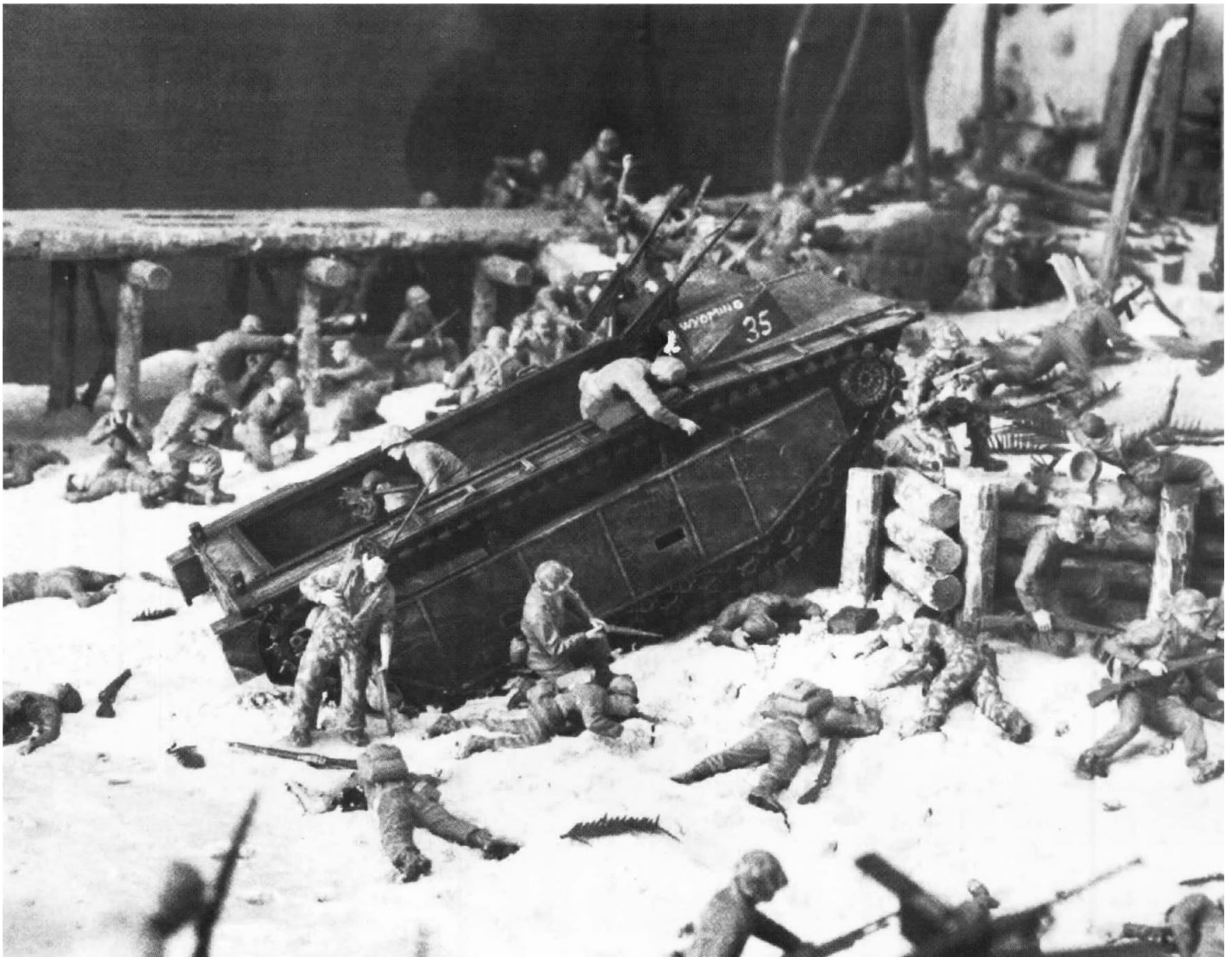
The Tarawa Landing, 20 November 1943, and the subsequent 76-hour contest was one of the Marine Corps'

toughest battles. All but 17 of the 4,836 Japanese defenders were killed while the 2d Marine Division suffered 1,085 dead and 2,233 wounded.

The diorama recreates the first hours of the invasion on Red Beach 3. The action is concentrated between the base of the long pier on the extreme right and the Japanese command blockhouse on the far left. Hundreds of Marines, some wading ashore, others taking cover behind the seawall and still others moving inland, are presented in miniature.

The miniature scene was constructed over a period of seven months by students 14 to 15 years of age in world

This scene of a disabled LVT-2 at Tarawa illustrates the ingenuity of Glen Frakes' students in accurately modifying commercially available model vehicles as needed.



history classes taught by Frakes. Fifteen of the students and their teacher presented the diorama to the Marine Corps Museum on 9 November. Present to greet them and to discuss the battle were LtGen William K. Jones, USMC (Ret) who commanded 1st Battalion, 6th Marines in the landing, and former Maj Norman T. Hatch who, as a staff sergeant, was a Marine combat motion picture cameraman on Tarawa.

The presentation was held at the Navy Memorial Museum, a near neighbor of the Marine Corps Museum at the Washington Navy Yard, where the diorama was on display. Gen Simmons, on behalf of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, presented certificates of appreciation to Mr. Frakes and his students in recognition of their contribution to the Marine Corps Historical Program.

Following the ceremonies of presentation and recognition, Mr. Frakes and his students went to the mini-theater at the Marine Corps Museum to view a series of combat films from Tarawa, narrated by Mr. Hatch who had taken many of them.

From Washington the diorama will travel to Quantico, Virginia where it will be built into a large Tarawa exhibit at the Marine Corps Aviation Museum which will open 1 April 1984. —FBN



(Above) History teacher Glen Frakes discusses a detail of the Tarawa diorama with LtGen William K. Jones and former Maj Norman Hatch, veterans of the battle.

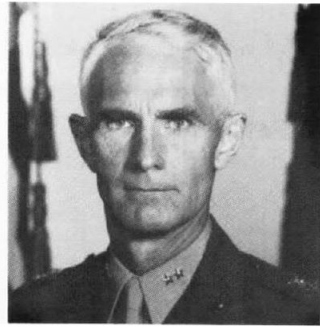
(Below Left) Maj Hatch, a combat cameraman on Tarawa, briefed Glen Frakes' students before screening a videotape of the footage that he had helped to film.

(Below Right) A figure in the diorama shows a Marine hit as he wades ashore on Tarawa while his companion continues to advance. In the diorama the water is effectively represented by casting resin which becomes translucent when it dries.





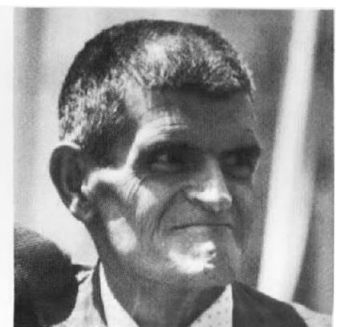
Gen Noble



MajGen Schulze



MajGen Blake



Mr. Bulger

In Memoriam

GEN ALFRED HOUSTON NOBLE, USMC (RET), died on 27 September in La Jolla, California. He was born in Maryland in 1894. Following on studies at St. John's College, and Mexican border service, Gen Noble was commissioned in the Marine Corps at the U.S. entry into World War I. He commanded the 93d Company, Sixth Regiment, in the battles of Belleau Wood, Soissons, and St. Mihiel, and in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. For his World War I service, Gen Noble was awarded the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and was cited twice in War Department Orders, as well by Gen Pershing. During the interwar period, Gen Noble was assigned to various billets both in the States and overseas as well as on sea duty. At the outbreak of World War II, Gen Noble was Director of Plans and Policies at Headquarters Marine Corps. He participated in the Bougainville operation as Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander of I Marine Amphibious Corps. As Assistant Division Commander of the 3d Marine Division, he planned for and took part in the recapture of Guam. Gen Noble's postwar commands included the Amphibious Training Unit at Coronado, California and Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina. In 1952, he became Chief, Military Assistance Advisory Group in The Hague, Netherlands. His last active command was Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, from which he retired in 1956 with promotion to general for having been decorated in combat. Funeral services for Gen Noble were held on 30 September in La Jolla.

MAJGEN RICHARD C. SCHULZE, USMC (RET), a member of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, died suddenly on 10 November while in Florida. A native Californian, Gen Schulze was born in Oakland on 7 May 1929. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in November 1950, and was commissioned the following year. After Basic School, Lt Schulze served with the 1st Marines in Korea. A 1954 graduate of Stanford, he integrated into the regular Marine Corps in 1955. He commanded a company in the 5th Marines and, in Vietnam, the 3d Battalion, 3d Marines. He later was commanding officer of The Basic School and as major general, he commanded Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. Gen Schulze also served as Inspector General of the Marine Corps, and at the time of his retirement in 1981, he was Director of the Personnel Management Division at HQMC as well as Assistant/Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower Department. Gen Schulze was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 15 November 1983 with full military honors.

MAJGEN ROBERT BLAKE, USMC (RET), a native of Seattle, died after a long illness on 2 October in Oakland, California. Following graduation from the University of Washington, he reported for active duty as a Marine second lieutenant in May 1917. A member of the Fifth Regiment, he participated in all the major battles fought by his regiment, and for his conduct in combat, he was awarded the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver

Star Medal, the Croix de Guerre with Gilt Star and Bronze Star, and the Belgian Ordre de la Couronne with rank of Chevalier. Following the war, he served in Nicaragua, where he was awarded a second Navy Cross. During World War II, he commanded the 5th Marines, the 10th Defense Battalion, and Marine Defense Groups, Solomons. Gen Blake was chief of staff of the 3d Marine Division in the Bougainville operation and later commanded the 21st Marines. Having served on Guam and Okinawa, in 1945 he became commanding general of the Occupation Forces, Truk and Central Caroline Islands. Later, Gen Blake was President of the HQMC Personnel Reorganization Board, and in 1946 he became Inspector General of the Marine Corps. He was promoted to the rank of major general upon his retirement in 1949 for having been specially commended for the performance of duty in combat. Gen Blake was buried with full military honors at the Golden Gate National Cemetery on 7 October.

LOWELL V. BULGER, a Marine Raider in World War II, died on 11 September in Gardena, California after a protracted illness. A long-time member of the United States Marine Raider Association, Mr. Bulger was editor of *The Raider Patch*, the association newspaper. Mr. Bulger was an amateur historian who made extensive use of the research facilities of the Marine Corps Historical Center, and in turn provided the History and Museums Division with fresh information about Marine Raiders in World War II.

World War II Chronology

November-December 1943

1 November. The 3d Marine Division (Reinforced), landed at Cape Torokina, Bougainville, with the 3d and 9th Marines and the 2d Raider Regiment in assault. Against heavy opposition, the division front lines were extended inland about 600 yards towards Laruma River and about 1,000 yards east of Cape Torokina.



On Bougainville, Marine raiders return fire from a Japanese sniper in a tree, while others serve a captured 37mm field gun. The wheel and ammunition boxes are visible on the left.

2 November. In the naval Battle of Empress Augusta Bay, Task Force 39 turned back a Japanese naval attempt to counterattack the Cape Torokina landing.

5 November. Task Force 38, covered by F6Fs from Aircraft, Solomons, flew the first carrier-based air strike on Rabaul, causing heavy damage to Japanese warships and preventing another sea attack on Bougainville beachhead.

7 November. A Japanese battalion from the 17th Division launched a counterlanding against the left flank of the beachhead at Cape Torokina, and attacked Marine positions almost immediately. Elements of the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines, and 1st Battalion, 3d Marines, supported by effective artillery and mortar fire, halted the advance.

7-10 November. The Battle of the Piva Trail on Bougainville. Japanese troops hit the right flank of the perimeter with a series of attacks against the 2d Raider Battalion's trail block about 300 yards west of the junction of the Piva-Numa trails. A final thrust on 9 November by the Raider Regiment advanced past the resistance. The 2d Battalion, 9th Marines followed by the 1st Battalion, advanced past the junction, through Piva Village, and set up defensive positions along the Numa Numa Trail.

8 November. The 3d Marine Brigade was deactivated.

8 November. A Japanese landing force on Bougainville was defeated by elements of the 3d, 9th, and 21st Marines after a full-scale attack by 1st Battalion, 21st Marines against the Japanese defenses.

9 November. MajGen Roy S. Geiger relieved LtGen Alexander A. Vandegrift, newly appointed 18th Commandant of the Marine Corps, as Commanding General, I Marine Amphibious Corps.

11 November. Carrier Task Force 38 and Task Group 50.3 raided Simpson Harbor, Rabaul, sinking one destroyer and causing heavy losses to the Japanese Eleventh Air Fleet.

13-14 November. The Battle of the Coconut Grove on Bougainville. Company E, 2d Battalion, 21st Marines, advancing along the Numa Numa Trail to establish an outpost for the protection of an airstrip site, was attacked by a sizeable Japanese force located in a coconut palm grove. Company E, reinforced by Companies F and G, overran the Japanese position. Their advance permitted the entire beachhead to move forward 1,000-1,500 yards.

15 November. MajGen Holland M. Smith, commanding the V Amphibious Corps, issued Operation Plan 2-43, the first overall troop directive for the Marshalls operation.

15-17 November. The Joint Chiefs of Staff proposed that strikes against Japan from the Marianas would start in December 1944, although the first B-29 raids would be launched from China bases beginning in early June of that year.

17 November. Japanese aircraft attacked a convoy carrying Marine reinforcements to Bougainville. The transport *McKean* was sunk with the loss of men from the 21st Marines.

19-20 November. The Battle of Piva Forks on Bougainville (First Phase). The 3d Battalion, 3d Marines routed the Japanese from positions on the Numa Numa Trail and established a perimeter defense at the junction of the Trail and the Piva River. The 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, occupied the Japanese position between the two forks of the Piva River and seized Cibik Ridge, a small forward ridge dominating the East-West Trail and the Piva Forks area from which the entire Empress Augusta Bay area could be observed.

This Marine raider machine gun team sited at the Piva trail roadblock on the island of Bougainville, successfully repelled repeated attacks by numerically superior Japanese forces.



20 November. After preliminary naval and air bombardment, the 2d Marine Division, Reinforced, landed on Red Beaches 1, 2, and 3 on the north coast of Betio Island, Tarawa. The 2d Battalion, 8th Marines, and 2d and 3d Battalions, 2d Marines led the assault, with the 1st Battalion, 2d Marines, and 3d Battalion, 8th Marines landing in reserve. A beachhead was established against determined resistance.



Above, Marines move out along Tarawa's Red Beach 3 near the site of a wrecked LVT-1 as, below, a flamethrower team advances from the beach toward the still smoking airfield.



21 November. On Betio Island, Tarawa, the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines landed on Red Beach 2 to reinforce Marine positions. The airfield was captured by Companies A and B of the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, and most of the 2d Battalion, 2d Marines. The two units pushed to the south coast, and succeeded in splitting the Japanese force on the island. The 3d Battalion, 2d Marines advanced south and secured Green Beach.

21-25 November. The Battle of Piva Forks (Final Phase), on Bougainville. The 3d Marines widened the perimeter in the Piva Forks area ending serious opposition to the occupation and development of the Cape Torokina area. The 2d and 3d Battalions, 3d Marines, defeated the Japanese 23d Infantry in an attack along 800 yards of the east fork of the Piva River.

22 November. The 3d Battalion, 6th Marines landed on Green Beach, Betio Island, Tarawa, and attacked eastward.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Marines advanced along the south coast to secure that side of the island, then attacked east toward the airfield. The 1st Battalion, 8th Marines gained several strong positions in an attack west to clear Japanese from a strong point on the boundary between Beaches 1 and 2, the only Japanese group that had not been compressed into the long tail of Betio east of the airfield.

22-26 November. At the Cairo Conference, the basic strategic concept governing the offensive stages of the war was approved. It envisioned an advance across the Pacific along two principal axes of operations; forces commanded by Commander in chief, Southwest Pacific Area were to advance along the north coast of New Guinea to the Philippines, while those of Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Area directed a converging drive through the Central Pacific to the core of the Japanese defenses.

23 November. On Tarawa, the 3d Battalion, 6th Marines secured the southeast tip of Betio while the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines and 3d Battalion, 2d Marines overran the pocket of Japanese resistance on the boundary between Red Beaches 1 and 2.

26 November. The 2d Battalion, 6th Marines reached the southern end of Buariki, the last large island in the northwest of the Tarawa atoll.

27 November. The 2d Battalion, 6th Marines overcame Japanese resistance on Buariki, Tarawa atoll.

28 November. MajGen Julian C. Smith, commanding the 2d Marine Division on Tarawa, announced the capture of the atoll when troops from the 2d Battalion, 6th Marines, found no Japanese on Naa Islet and returned to Eita.



Tarawa Marines maneuver to assault the Japanese defensive position on the high ground to the right rear. Ammunition men caught under heavy enemy fire move out by rushes.



With weapons held high, Marines just disembarked from a Landing Ship, Tank (LST), wade ashore at Cape Gloucester. The 1st Marine Division had, since being withdrawn from Guadalcanal, trained for a number of months in Australia.

28 November-12 January 1944. President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill, and Marshal Stalin met at Teheran, Iran, to discuss war strategy.

1 December. The first Marine air-transportable air-warning squadron was commissioned at Cherry Point, North Carolina.

4 December. MajGen Julian C. Smith turned over his command of the Tarawa area to the Commander, Advanced Base, Tarawa, Captain Jackson R. Tate, USN.

12 December. The Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Area and the Commander, Central Pacific, evolved a plan to assault Kwajalein and Majuro Atolls.

14 December. Adm Nimitz issued a revision of Operation Plan 16-43; the target date for the Marshalls operations was rescheduled to 17 January 1944.

15 December. Operations for the seizure of western New Britain began when the 112th Cavalry, reinforced, U.S. Army, made a secondary landing on New Britain at Arawe and assaulted Pililo Island, commanding the best passage into Arawe Harbour. Arawe and Umtingalu were cleared of Japanese forces and the garrison on Pilelo was destroyed.

17 December. Allied fighters from New Georgia airfields, including F4Us of Marine Fighting Squadron 214, attacked Japanese planes leaving the Lakunai airfields during the first Allied fighter sweep against Rabaul.

20 December. Adm Nimitz issued the final joint staff study for the invasion of the Marshalls setting forth the following strategic decisions: the neutralization of Wotje, Maloelap, and Mille by bombing; the reduction of Eniwetok and Kusaie

by air; and the seizure of Kwajalein Atoll as a fleet anchorage with air bases at Kwajalein and Roi.

23 December. Six SBDs of Marine Scout-Bombing Squadron 331 participated in an attack against Japanese shipping at Jaluit Atoll.

26 December. The Western and Eastern Assault Groups of the 1st Marine Division landed on Green and Yellow Beaches, Cape Gloucester, New Britain, and secured their beachhead. A Japanese aerial counterattack caused severe damage to offshore shipping, but Japanese losses precluded any further attempts at a daylight raid on Cape Gloucester in comparable strength.



Marine 75mm pack howitzers take Japanese targets under fire on Cape Gloucester. Firing positions engulfed by standing water typified the New Britain campaign's artillery support.

27 December. The Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Area published a preliminary draft planning the Central Pacific operations for 1944. These included assaults on Kwajalein, Kavieng, Truk, Manus, Eniwetok, Mortlock, Tinian, Saipan, and Guam.

27 December. The relief of the 3d Marine Division on Bougainville by the Americal Division, U.S. Army, began when the 164th Infantry, U.S. Army, replaced the 9th Marines on the front lines, and assumed responsibility for the eastern sector of the beachhead.

27-28 December. Combat Team B (1st Marines) captured Hell's Point, a Japanese stronghold defending the Cape Gloucester airdrome.

29-31 December. The 2d Battalion, 5th Marines and the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines reached Airfields No. 1 and 2 on Cape Gloucester and the airdrome was declared secure.

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Readers Always Write (continued from page 8)

. . . In response to your request for information on the identity of the Marine on page 24 of your Summer 1983 issue of the *Fortitudine*, LtCol Carl White, USMC (Ret) informed me some time ago that this picture has been catalogued as follows: Peiping China, 1935, "A Marine Private First Class of the Mounted Platoon, United States Legation Guard, Peiping, China," The subject is PFC Knight, Curtis W., Defense Department Photo (Marine Corps) 515478 mmj.

You probably know that I have made a woodcut using this photograph as a model and that the prints are being sold through the Museum Shop. If you have any use for the prints in pursuing your interest in PFC Knight they are at your disposal.

I thoroughly enjoy your fine publication and look forward to your continued success. . .

John C. Scharfen
Col, USMC (Ret)
Alexandria, Virginia



"China Hand," an 11" x 16" woodcut is printed on Chinese newspaper in black, gold, silver, red, blue, and skin tones.