

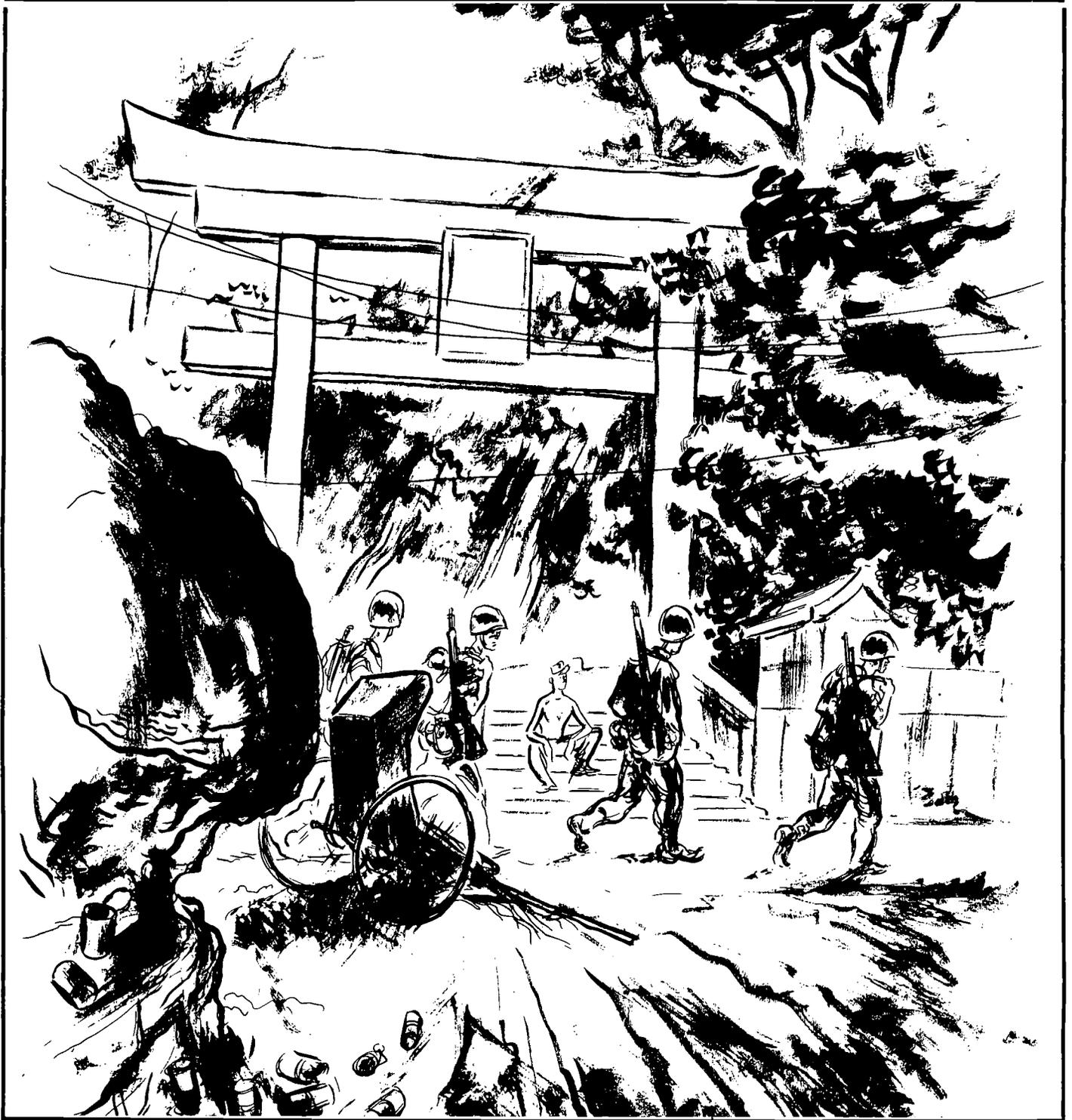
# FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

VOLUME XIV

SPRING 1985

NUMBER 4



THE MAJOR WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN COMMANDANT, DANIEL CARMICK, HERO OF THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS . . . THE GREAT MEMENTOS OF WORLD WAR II, SAMURAI SWORDS SURRENDERED TO VICTORIOUS MARINES . . . FAMOUS AUTHORS WE HAVE KNOWN . . . FLIGHT LINES: NORTH AMERICAN PBJ-1 MITCHELL

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# FORTITUDINE

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

Volume XIV

Spring 1985

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THE COVER

"The 7th Regiment, 2d Battalion CP in Itoman" was sketched by then-Sgt John R. McDermott on Okinawa near the end of World War II. Sgt McDermott wrote, "The CP was set up in this shrine about a mile from Kunishi Ridge. The 22d Marines came down the coast road and through the town. The 7th gave them the 'razzberry' as they passed and the 22d returned it. The rickshaw in the foreground was typical of these towns as was the amount of grenade cases and ration cans scattered about."

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# Director's Page

## *Maj Carmick at New Orleans*



*BGen Simmons*

Just before I got up to speak a waiter brought me a note from Gen Robert H. Barrow, the former Commandant, which read “. . . Patty and I drove 120 miles down river primarily to catch your performance—which if it fails to measure up will cause me to take corrective action!!!?”

This was 8 January and I was speaking at the annual banquet of the Louisiana Historical Society held, in the stately terms of the printed program, “In Observance of the One Hundred and Seventieth Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans and in Celebration of the

Lasting Peace thereafter between the United States and Great Britain.”

I didn't need Gen Barrow's injunction to put me on my mettle; I was already impressed by the Society (officially the State Historical Society since 1836) and the pedigrees of the 250 or so guests who filled the ballroom of the new and very elegant Windsor Court Hotel at 300 Gravier Street, New Orleans. Part of the lengthy program that had preceded my talk was an introduction of distinguished guests which seemed to include everyone in the room. There was a table full of “Wilkinsons” and that caused me to

review mentally my notes to see if I had said anything too critical about Gen James Wilkinson, Andrew Jackson's predecessor at New Orleans.

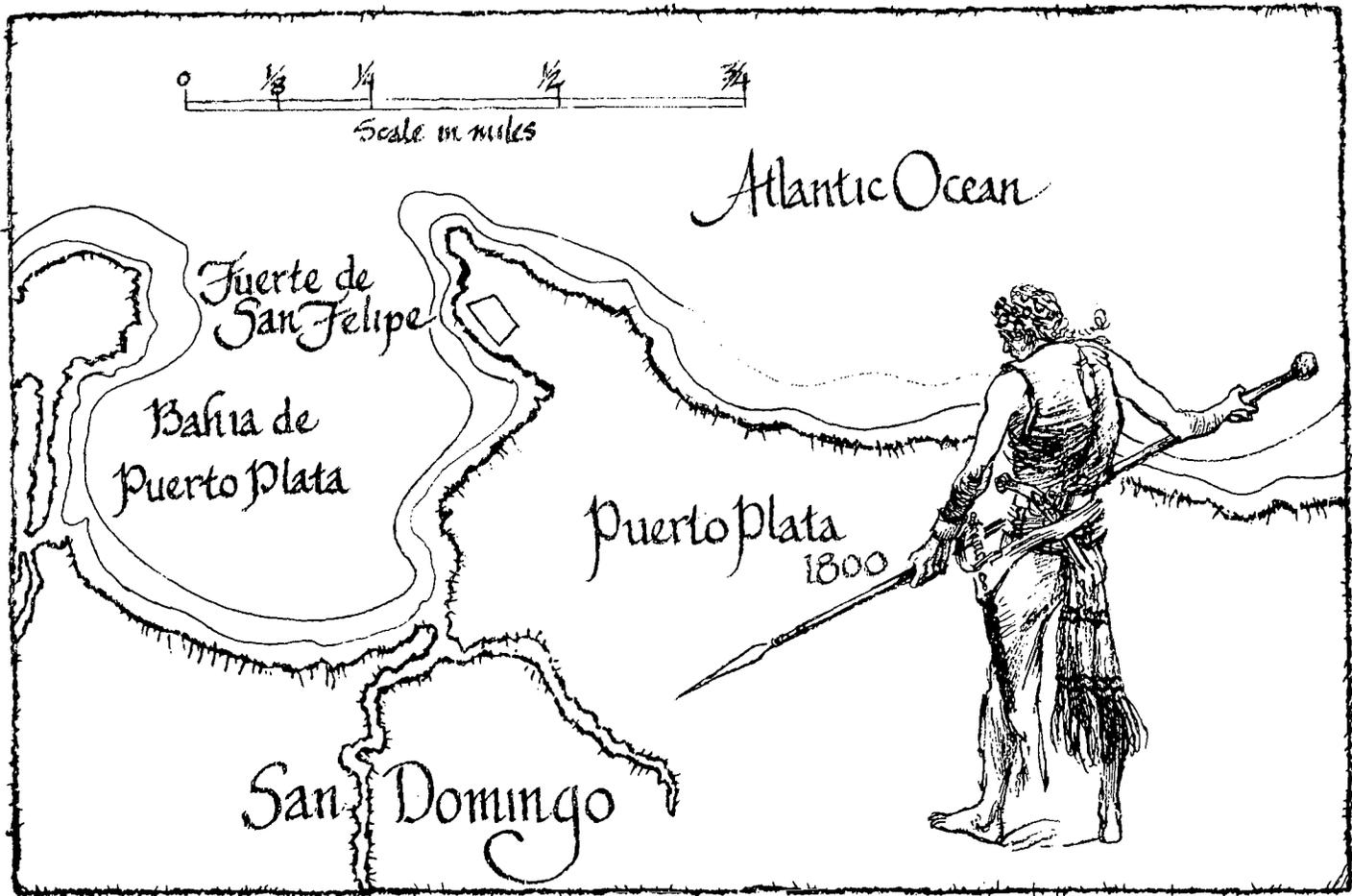
I was speaking on the role of the Marines in the Battle of New Orleans. As I told the audience, this is essentially the story of one man, Maj Daniel Carmick, who first came to New Orleans on 4 May 1804, an event reported on by Governor Claiborne in a letter to Secretary of War Henry Dearborn the following day:

The Marine Corps under the Command of Captain Carmick ar-

*At the start of his career, “Captain Carmick Arrives for Inspection, Boston, 9 July 1799.” Carmick's detachment of Marines served aboard the 44-gun frigate Constitution, and joined in*

*capturing the French privateer Sandwich in the West Indies in 1800. The painting is one of 14 produced by Col Charles Waterhouse with the theme, “Marines in the Frigate Navy.”*





Sketch of a crewman of the privateer *Sandwich* adorns the map prepared by Col Waterhouse to accompany his rendition of the "cutting out" action in the Dominican port of Puerto Plata. At the time, Capt Carmick was the Corps' third-ranking officer.

rived here, last evening apparently in good Health, and were this morning Marched to the Barracks.

His detachment consisted of three lieutenants, four sergeants, two musicians, and 96 rank-and-file. The barracks to which they were assigned was presumably the old French Barracks constructed in 1758 and lying somewhere in the quadrangle formed by Ursilines, Chartres, Barracks, and what is now Decatur Street.

Carmick, born in Philadelphia in 1772, had been appointed a lieutenant of Marines on 5 May 1798 for duty in the *Ganges*, the first ship of the re-born Navy to go to sea in the Quasi-War with France. At that time Marine officers were individually commissioned to serve in specific ship's companies. While the *Ganges* was at sea the status of the Marines changed. President Adams on 11 July 1798 signed into law an act of Congress creating the United States Marine Corps. When the *Ganges* put into New York in August, Carmick found

himself promoted to captain and the third-ranking officer of the new Corps. Too senior for continued duty in the *Ganges*, he was ordered to report to the Marine Camp in Philadelphia.

In April 1799 he went with 24 Marines to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to escort a party of French prisoners to Philadelphia. In May he was ordered to New York to guard stores being gathered for the frigate *President* then being built in the East River. From New York, he wrote to MajComdt William Ward Burrows:

I find it impossible to keep my men clean, they must be granted a sailor suit of clothes, besides their uniform if it is expected for them to be kept decent.

In late June 1799 he was transferred to the 44-gun frigate *Constitution*, then at Boston. At the end of August *Constitution* sailed from Hampton Roads for the West Indies and in May 1800 Carmick would have his first great adventure. Capt Silas Talbot had learned that the

14-gun French privateer *Sandwich* (that un-French name because she was a captured English packet) was loading coffee and sugar at Puerto Plata, a north coast Dominican port still in Spanish hands.

Talbot commandeered the American merchant sloop *Sally* and put into it his first lieutenant, Isaac Hull, and Carmick with 90 Marines and sailors. (A "Trojan horse," Carmick called it.)

At noon on 12 May 1800, Hull sailed the *Sally* into the Puerto Plata harbor and lay her alongside the *Sandwich*, catching the crew at mess under an awning. Carmick loaded his Marines into the *Sandwich's* boat and pulled for Fortaleza San Felipe on the eastern arm of the harbor. Carmick's Marines spiked the guns of the fort while Hull's sailors re-rigged the *Sandwich* to sail her out of the harbor as a prize.

He left the *Constitution* in December 1800 for a year of barracks duty in Philadelphia before joining the 36-gun frigate *Chesapeake* at Norfolk in January 1802. In April the *Chesapeake* sailed for the Mediterranean where there was trouble with the Moroccans. After a year

spent in blockade and convoy duty, the frigate came back in June 1803 to be laid up in the Washington Navy Yard. Carmick was furloughed until January 1804 when he was ordered to board the brig *Superior* with the detachment of Marines detailed to newly acquired Louisiana.

His Marines may have arrived in good health, but yellow fever was raging and by 27 June Carmick was reporting to Burrows that he had 22 Marines on his sick list. Carmick did not quarter with his men, but found a house nearby, probably in Ursilines Street. He himself came down with fever and this seems to have given him a kind of immunity that increased his usefulness in New Orleans.

The Act of 11 July 1798 had perpetuated the Revolutionary War practice, which in turn was copied from the British, that Marines were to be governed by the Articles of War when ashore and Naval Regulations while afloat. In New Orleans Carmick was subordinate to the senior Army officer, BGen James Wilkinson. Governor Claiborne, pushed by Wilkinson, had designs on Spanish-held Mobile and Pensacola. In May 1805 Claiborne sent Carmick to Pensacola,

ostensibly to deliver dispatches to Col Vincente Folch, the Spanish governor, proposing a U.S. mail route through West Florida. Carmick was also to spy out the Spanish defenses. After a false start that included getting shipwrecked on Lake Borgne, he delivered the dispatches on 2 June. Governor Folch held him for a month before giving him a favorable decision concerning the mail route. While returning to New Orleans, he lost Folch's letter, presumably to a pickpocket on the wharf at Mobile.

Meanwhile orders recalling him to Headquarters that had left Washington on 4 May reached him on 12 July 1805. It is worth noting that it took ten weeks for routine dispatches to get from Washington to New Orleans. Carmick, after first reporting that 30 of his men were sick and presumably dying, departed New Orleans in August. In Washington he received orders giving him command of the Marine Barracks in Philadelphia. A new Commandant, LtCol Franklin Wharton, had succeeded Burrows earlier in the year. Carmick and Wharton had had the same date of rank as captains. In those high-tempered times the two men were soon quarreling and in August 1806 Carmick was called

to a court martial on charges of disrespect to his commanding officer. He was acquitted, but Wharton gave him a set of orders returning him to New Orleans.

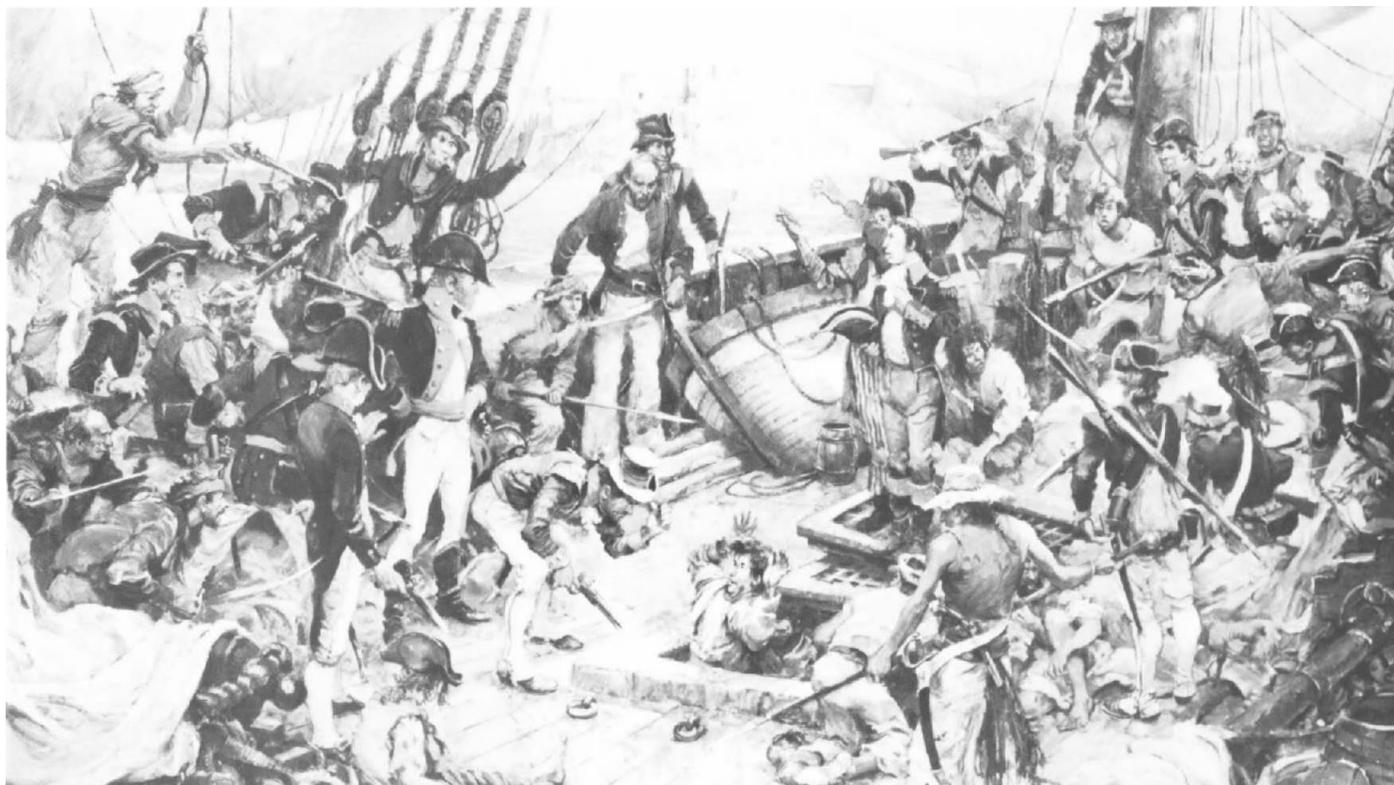
Carmick arrived in New Orleans on 28 January 1807 with a fresh detachment of two lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, two musicians, and 64 privates. It was a short tour. In August he was recalled to Washington to take command of the Marine Barracks, which were where they still are today, the quadrangle formed by a double city block beginning at Eighth and I Streets, Southeast.

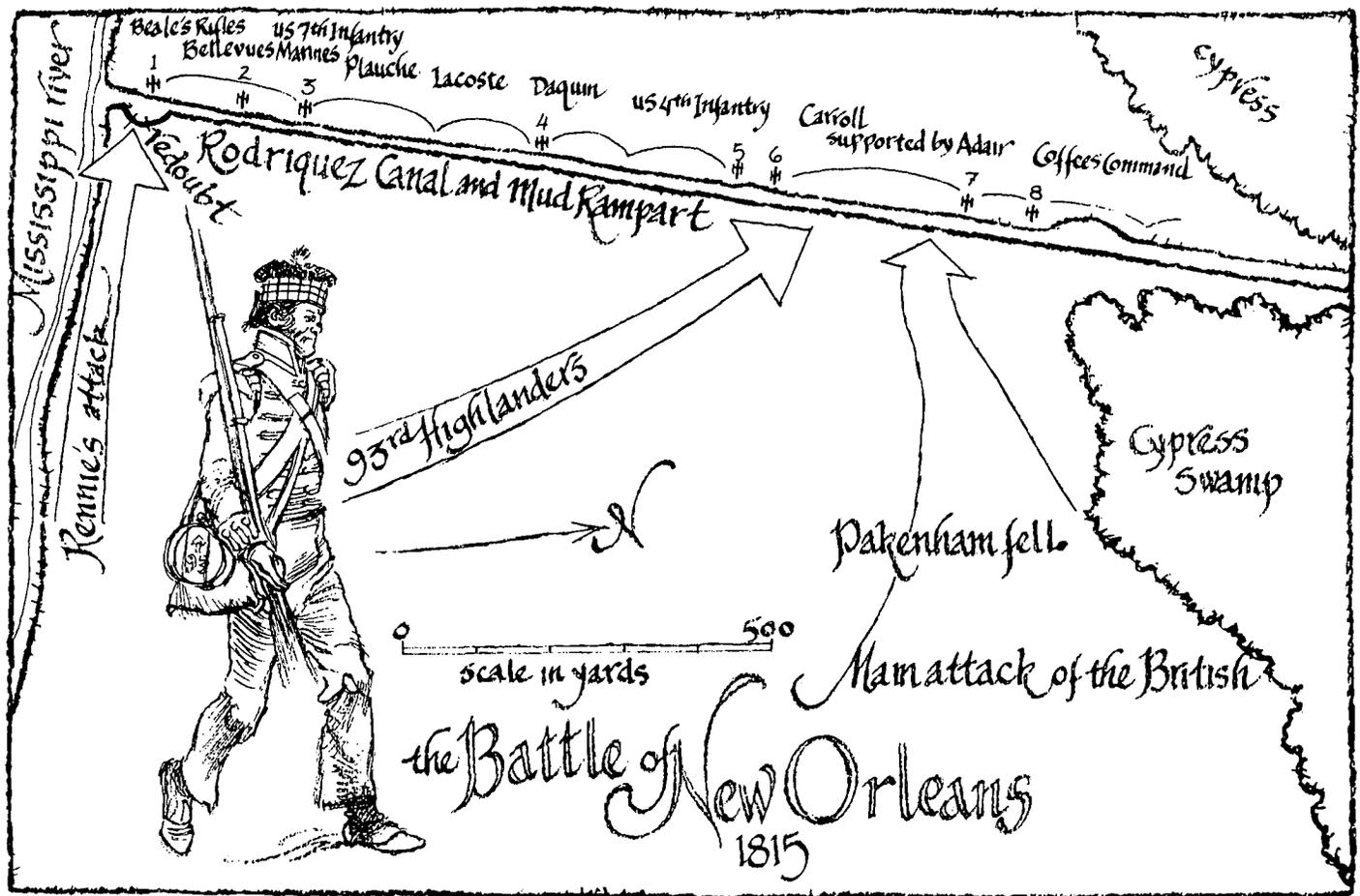
Early in 1808 he was transferred to Norfolk and he was serving there when a set of circumstances brought him a promotion and a third tour in New Orleans. Newly elected President Madison had gained a considerable expansion in the size of the Marine Corps and he wanted the garrison there brought up to 300 Marines. This would justify the rank of major of which there were none at the moment in the Marine Corps. Carmick was promoted on 7 March 1809 and re-assigned to New Orleans on 5 July.

In July 1811, he led his Marines against a band of "negro insurgents" north of New Orleans. Of this he reported: "They gave us little opportuni-

*In "Cutting Out of the Sandwich, Puerto Plata, 11 May 1800," Col Waterhouse pictured then-Capt Daniel Carmick ordering the crewmen of the French privateer from their hiding places*

*below deck. In a surprise assault, the Constitution's Marines and seamen seized the privateer without the loss of a man, putting an end to the vessel's West Indian raiding activities.*





Map prepared by Col Waterhouse to accompany "Repulse of British forces. MajGen Sir Edward Pakenham, brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington, hit three times, died in the battle." illustrates disposition of American and

ty to put ourselves in danger; they fled at our first approach, and when they mustered courage to come to the attack, they stood but one fire and ran."

Yellow fever continued to be the more deadly enemy and in August 1811 he was reporting, with some exaggeration, that a third of his Marines were sick and that they were dying at the rate of five a day. When he was required to go to Baton Rouge to sit on a court martial, he had to borrow an Army officer to take temporary command of his Marines.

In the spring of 1812, Carmick asked to be relieved at New Orleans so that he could take a more active role in the expected war with England. LtCol Comdt Wharton was amenable and even alerted his relief, but Secretary of the Navy Paul Hamilton countermanded the order averring that "Circumstances strongly indicate the necessity of having in that quarter an officer of experience and energy." In saying this Secretary Hamilton was echoing the sentiments of Gen Wilkinson. In an 18 May letter to the Secretary of War, Wilkinson noted that the recent transfer of senior officers

left Maj Carmick of the Marines as the only talented and experienced officer in New Orleans.

War with England came in June. At the end of August, Wilkinson called a council of war of his local commanders to determine if his authority extended to the seizure of Mobile and Pensacola. Carmick was amongst the majority who said they didn't think so and the war continued to be something that was far away.

Carmick's Marines did play a major part in the suppression of Jean Lafitte and his merry men at Barataria. On 16 September 1814 a naval force under Commo Daniel Patterson engaged the pirates and put a landing party ashore. Most histories relate that the landing was made by soldiers of Col George Ross's 44th Infantry, but the Marine Corps version is that it was done by Carmick's Marines reinforced by 70 members of the 44th Infantry. In any case, according to a contemporary account:

All their [that is, Lafitte's] buildings and establishments at Grand-Terre and Grand Isle, with

their telegraph and stores at Cheniere Caminada, were destroyed, and the whole of this important service performed without the loss of a man.

Wilkinson had been promoted to major general and ordered north to the Canadian front. His place at New Orleans was taken by BGen Thomas Flournoy. Command relations with the Navy, which had bothered Wilkinson, were straightened out. The Secretary of War instructed Flournoy that the Navy was under the orders of its own officers exclusively, but the Marine Corps, when actually doing duty in garrison and separate from the Navy, was under command of the general.

Meanwhile, the British were approaching New Orleans. VAdm Sir Alexander Cochrane, the commander-in-chief, had with him Wellington's brother-in-law, MajGen Sir Edward Pakenham, and some 9,000 troops, many of them veterans of the Napoleonic Wars. Cochrane boasted that he would eat his Christmas dinner in New Orleans. The British plan was to

move against New Orleans through Lake Borgne. Royal Navy Capt Nicholas Lockyer had overwhelming superiority of numbers, some 1,000 sailors and Royal Marines embarked in 42 barges, but the British advance was stoutly delayed on 14 December by Navy Lt Thomas ap Catesy Jones and his five gunboats. Jones' 182 men included 35 Marines. One by one Lockyer captured the gunboats but the attack cost him about a dozen dead and 70 or so wounded. American losses were about half that.

Before my turn to speak at the banquet there had been a report by the Chairperson of the Ladies Auxilliary of the Royal Lake Borgne Historical Society. She announced that membership in the Society, which commemorates Lockyer's victory, had doubled in the past year—that is, from one member to two.

Actually, Jones' delay of the British at Lake Borgne gained critical time for MajGen Andrew Jackson, who had arrived in the city to take command of the American forces on 2 December. Pakenham next sent a brigade under MajGen Keane across Lake Borgne to camp on some hard ground with their left flank on the river. This is the camp that Gen Jackson attacked with some

1,500 troops on the night of 23 December. Carmick, because of this experience, was given command of Maj Jean Baptiste Plauche's four-company Battalion of Volunteers. His detachment of Marines was put under the immediate command of 1stLt Francis Barbin de Bellevue, a New Orleans Creole who had been commissioned in the Marine Corps in 1812. During the night action of 23 December, the Marines lost eight killed and eight wounded. Jackson, after disrupting Keane's brigade, fell back to take up his famous defensive line behind the Rodriguez Canal, one flank on the Mississippi, the other secured by the cypress swamp.

During Pakenham's first attack of Jackson's line, that of 28 December, Carmick remained in temporary command of Plauche's battalion. His Marines, still under 1stLt de Bellevue, appear to have been on the right flank. The 24-gun *Louisiana* took station across the river from Jackson's line so as to be in position to enfilade his front. The Marine guard in the *Louisiana* was commanded by 30-year old 2dLt John Raimond Montegut, the son of a prominent New Orleans surgeon. On that clear and frosty morning of 29 December 1814 the guns of the *Louisiana* opened with very telling

effect on the two advancing British columns.

The British left-hand column, its own guns silenced by the American fire, halted on orders in ditches some 600 yards in front of the American line to escape the galling fire, most of it from the *Louisiana* as Jackson had only five artillery pieces in position. However, the British right column, guiding on the edge of the swamp, was soon out of range of the *Louisiana*. It was a golden opportunity for the British, but Pakenham, without artillery support, decided against an assault and instead withdrew to a position about two miles from the American lines.

Pakenham had some 5,500 troops on the field that day and he lost 40 to 50 killed or wounded. Jackson's returns for 28 December show 3,282 Americans present. British guns and Congreve rockets did some damage before they were silenced by the *Louisiana*. American losses were nine killed and nine wounded. Major Carmick was one of the casualties. As reported by an observer:

That gallant officer, Major Carmick, of the Marine Corps, was among the wounded. Whilst delivering an order to Major

*"Repulse of the Highlanders, New Orleans, 8 January 1815," captured by Col Waterhouse, is the painting displayed at the annual banquet of the Louisiana Historical Society, observing*

*the 170th anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans. The work depicts 1stLt Francis de Bellevue's U.S. Marines stormed by members of the British 93d Sutherland Highlander Regiment.*



Plauche near the center of the American line, he was struck by a rocket, which tore his horse to pieces and wounded the Major in the arm and head.

The wounded Carmick was taken to a nearby hospital and presumably was still there at the time of Pakenham's second and climactic attack on 8 January 1815.

Jackson took full advantage of Pakenham's hesitation to strengthen his position. The number of guns was increased from five to 12. On the very right flank there was Battery No. 1 on the levee itself, two 12-pounders and a 6-inch howitzer. Supporting this redoubt was the Marine detachment, now down to 56 men, with 1stLt de Bellevue still in charge and 2dLt Philip Bouche de Grand-pre as second-in-command. With them were 39 members of the New Orleans Rifles under Capt Thomas Beale.

Before speaking at the banquet I had re-visited Chalmette Battlefield Park to fix in my mind the probable location of the redoubt. The trace of the Rodriguez Canal is still clear. Today's levee is a little further inland than it was in 1815.

At dawn on 8 January American listening posts reported the British less than half a mile away. When a bluish-silver rocket arched its way across the sky Jackson recognized it as the British signal to advance.

To divert the fire of the redoubt which could have enfiladed his advancing lines as they approached the Rodriguez Canal, Pakenham sent out the three light infantry companies of the 7th Fusiliers Regiment, the 43d Monmouth Regiment, and the 93d Sutherland Highlander Regiment under BvtLtCol Robert Rennie of the 21st Foot. Fascines and scaling ladders were entrusted to a company of the West Indian Regiment which was to accompany them. Rennie was to advance along the levee toward the redoubt and this he did. Morning mists clinging to the river protected him from the naval guns across the river. The West Indians fell behind, but Rennie's men got across the ditch and into the redoubt where they spiked the two 12-pounders. As they continued on toward the main breastwork a rifle ball from one of Capt Beale's riflemen killed Rennie.

This is the moment about as it is

shown in Col Charles Waterhouse's painting, "Repulse of the Highlanders." We had the painting at the banquet, having sent it down from Philadelphia where it was on exhibit with the remainder of the "Marines in the Frigate Navy" series. Getting it from Philadelphia to New Orleans had taken almost as long as dispatches had taken in getting from Washington to New Orleans in 1805. We also displayed a framed copy of the painting which was our gift to the Louisiana Historical Society.

In Col Waterhouse's painting the Marines are dressed in the uniform prescribed by the 1810 uniform regulations: blue coats, white trousers, and black leather "tar bucket" shakos. The Sutherland Highlanders are wearing bonnets with a high crown and red-and-white dicing. Their jackets are scarlet for officers and sergeants and brick-red for rank and file, with lemon yellow facings. Some are wearing tartan trousers. Others are wearing blue-gray pantaloons with a red side seam for officers.

MajGen Keane, commanding the British left, was to have reinforced Rennie with the rest of the 93d Highland Regiment if Rennie appeared successful. But the Highlanders, in the confusion of battle and possibly as a result of an order from Pakenham, moved to the right to a position about 150 yards in front of the center of the American line. Here they were met by a murderous fire. The regimental commander was killed and the Sutherlanders, receiving no orders to move, "stood like statues" while American fire continued to reap its harvest of officers and men. The regiment suffered 75 percent casualties before being ordered off the field. In 20 minutes the British had lost 2,036 men killed and wounded. Pakenham, hit three times, was dead. Rennie's three light companies had lost two out of every three men. American casualties, by some accounts, were as few as 8 killed, 13 wounded. The Marines lost not a single man.

Jackson let the British bury their dead, about 700 of them, and go back to their ships unmolested. Pakenham's body went home to Ireland in a cask of rum.

News of the success at New Orleans and of the favorable Treaty of Ghent reached Washington almost simultaneously. In the warm glow of vic-

tory there was plenty of praise all around. Congress passed a resolution on 22 February 1815 extolling "the valour and good conduct of Major Carmick, of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and Marines, under his command, in the defense of the said city, on the late memorable occasion."

On 4 March 1815 the still invalid Maj Carmick was married to Margaret O'Brien Cowperthwait by Jean Olivier, priest of the Church of Saint Mary's. Carmick never regained his health nor did he have long to live. He died on 6 November 1816 of an inflammation or infection of the brain perhaps caused by his wounds. His obituary in the *Louisiana Gazette* has this to say:

Died last night, after a very severe illness of four weeks, Major Carmick of the United States' marine corps. He was a Pennsylvanian by birth, noble, generous and brave, has been in the marine corps ever since its formation, always respected for his correct conduct, as an officer and a gentleman. He has left an amiable wife with her infant child to mourn her irreparable loss. The United States in him has lost one of its best officers, society both civil and military a social friend and a gallant soldier.

If Carmick had lived, or more particularly, if he had lived and had taken part in the second battle at Chalmette, he almost certainly, by the iron rules of seniority, would have succeeded Franklin Wharton—who had been embarrassingly absent from the field at Bladensburg—as Lieutenant Colonel Commandant.

Tradition has it that he was first buried in the Protestant Cemetery on Basin Street, then later moved to St. Louis Cemetery No. 2, bounded by Claiborne, St. Louis, Conti, and Robertson Streets. I visited the cemetery which the parish is making a valiant effort to restore and maintain. The Carmick tomb is an impressive obelisk with a wrought iron fence around it. The cemetery itself, with its mausoleums and above-ground crypts has an eerie, Old World quality. I would not like to be locked inside the gates, as almost happened, when they are closed at night.

# Acquisitions

“To the victor belong the spoils.” For two hundred years fighting Marines have taken the old adage to heart. And of the “trophies” of war of all descriptions brought home by returning Marines, none comes more readily to mind than the samurai sword.

The samurai sword is at once both an object of art and an extremely functional military weapon. This unique implement was designed as a personal sidearm for the powerful samurai warriors. These warriors effectively ruled Japan from the 11th Century until 1868. Following the Meiji restoration in that year, it was forbidden to wear the sword in the provinces of Japan. The rise of nationalism beginning in 1926 produced a renewed interest in sword making, and its readoption for wear by the rapidly growing military forces.

The sword's expert craftsmanship and its distinctive shape helped create a powerful imagery for Imperial Forces during World War II. Frequently depicted in art, the sword came to symbolize the stern advance of Japanese forces in the Pacific.

For this reason, and others, the samurai sword became a favorite trophy for Marines. The Marine Corps Museum holds in its collection numerous examples presented by veterans. Recently, the collection has grown with the acquisition of two significant finds.

The Japanese garrison of Tsingtao, China, numbering over 10,000 men, surrendered to MajGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., on 25 October 1945. The commanding general of the Japanese garrison presented his sword (which is now on display in the Museum) directly to General Shepherd. The swords of the other officers were collected and loaded into an old communications truck to be destroyed. Two of these swords were liberated from the truck, and tucked away inside the mansion set up as the headquarters of the 6th Marine Division.

1stLt John L. Clemmitt, USMCR, arrived at division headquarters in late January of 1946 to act as aide-de-camp to MajGen Archie F. Howard, who had recently replaced General Shepherd. Moving into his new quarters, 1stLt Clemmitt was delighted to find two samurai swords hidden in the third floor of the headquarters building. Unable to locate the owner, the lieutenant stowed them away in his footlocker, and eventually returned home with them. Recently, Mr. Clemmitt, now a resident of Bethesda, Maryland, rediscovered the swords and presented them to the Museum.

The two swords presented by Mr. Clemmitt are both classified as *wakizashi*, or medium-length swords. Although one of the weapons has suffered some damage to the binding on the hilt, both swords are in excellent condition. The *tsuba* (guard) and *habaki* (collar around the uppermost part of the blade) indicate these blades may have survived from a much earlier period. The

Museum curatorial staff will remove the hilt to examine the *tang* for marks. They will also examine the blade shape, the *nioi* and *nie* (temper marks), and other features in order to determine the date and place of manufacture. While all samurai swords are similar, certain distinctive characteristics allow the curator to properly identify the weapon.

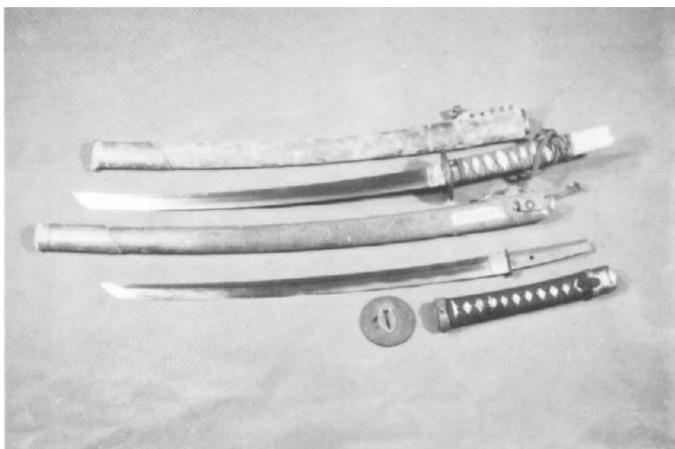
In 1937, the Japanese Armed Forces began to adopt a new style of sword mounting. The blade construction and design remained the same as with the older samurai style, but the grips, mounting, and scabbard began to reflect a European influence. The Imperial Navy adopted a *kaigunto* (new navy) mounting, of which there were three sizes. The smallest is very similar in appearance to an American midshipman's dirk of the 19th century.

An example of this type was presented to the Museum this quarter by Mrs. Agnes McCluskey through the assistance of her son, LtCol Charles A. McCluskey, USMC (Ret). The naval officer's sword was brought home by her husband, Maj William A. McCluskey, Jr., USMCR. Maj McCluskey, commanding Marine Air Squadron 9, was sent to Yokosuka Naval Air Base in October of 1945, where he found the trophy. A tag attached indicates the sword was originally owned by LCdr Rokuro Okudaira of the First Naval Technical Depot.

In addition to the historic connotations of these artifacts, viewers will appreciate them as examples of a long tradition of craftsmanship in military weaponry.—JHMcG

*The naval officer's dirk, left, brought home from the war by Maj William A. McCluskey, Jr., is an example of the kaigunto style, reflecting western influence on Japanese sword-making;*

*it is similar to American naval dirks. Samples of traditional samurai swords, right, were found by 1stLt John L. Clemmitt following the surrender of Japanese forces at Tsingtao, China.*



# Writers Find Necessary Assistance Supplied By Historical Center

by Benis M. Frank

When plans were being formulated to convert a Marine barracks in the Washington Navy Yard into a new Marine Corps Historical Center, it was conceived that, with the Histories and Museums Branches of the Historical Division living together under one roof with their individual sections, the Center would become a one-stop research facility requiring researchers to go no further afield to pursue their studies of all aspects of Marine Corps history.

In this one building a researcher could find the Oral History Collection with over 7,000 interviews spanning Marine Corps history from the Spanish-American War to the present; a Personal Papers Collection with approximately 1,500 different groups of papers which extend back in time even earlier; a Reference Section whose files bulge with facts, figures, biographies, and other Marine Corps-related historical data; an

*LtGen Victor H. Krulak, who used the Center's resources extensively in preparing his award-winning book, First to Fight, is donating royalties from sales to the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.*



Art Collection holding over 6,000 pieces of contemporary art; a library consisting of some 40,000 volumes, most of which are concerned with American military and naval history of all periods and with a heavy emphasis on Marine Corps subjects; and a Museums Branch which holds a vast collection of Marine-related artifacts.

The Oral History Collection is an especially important resource for authors because they can use the memoirs to flesh out the bare accounts found in after-action reports, command chronologies, and the like, giving credibility to their works by quoting Marines who "were there." Added to all this is a staff of experts whose institutional knowledge and memory of Marine Corps history and artifacts fill in the gaps existing in the written record.

Not only has this material assisted the Corps' historians as they wrote their official histories of Marines in the Revolution, World War I, the Banana Republics, World War II, Korea, Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Lebanon and Grenada, but it has served as a treasure trove for outside historians and researchers as well as popular writers, most of whom have acknowledged their gratitude for the assistance they have received from the collections and their curators.

It is difficult to go too far back in time to list all the authors who spent considerable time with the History and Museums Division's sections while researching the extensive collections rich with yet untapped material. More recently, in fact since the Marine Corps Historical Center opened for business in the Washington Navy Yard in 1977, we have kept track of our visitors and the areas in which they were working. In addition, the library now holds the fruits of their labors. Listed below are some of the books whose authors spent considerable time researching in the center:

LtCol Merrill S. Bartlett, ed. *Assault from the Sea* (Annapolis, Maryland: USNI Press, 1983)

LtCol Donald F. Bittner, *The Lion and the White Falcon: Britain and Iceland in the World War II Era* (Hamden, Connecticut: Archon Books, 1983)

Peter Braestrup, *The Big Story*

(Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1977)

Stanley Cohen, *Enemy on Island, Issue in Doubt* (Missoula, Montana: Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., 1977)

Alfred Coppel, *The Burning Mountain* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1983)

Col Victor J. Croizat, *The Brown Water Navy* (Poole, United Kingdom: Blandford Press, 1984)

Jeffrey M. Dorwart, *Conflict of Interest* (Annapolis, Maryland: USNI Press, 1983)

Harry A. Gailey, *Peleliu, 1944* (Annapolis, Maryland: Nautical and Aviation Publishing Company, 1983)

Joseph C. Goulden, *Korea: The Untold Story of the Korean War* (New York: Times Books, 1982)

Eric Hammel, *Chosin: Heroic Ordeal of the Korean War* (New York: Vanguard Press, 1981)

RAdm John Harllee, *The Marine from Manatee* (Washington: National Rifle Association of America, 1984)

*BGen Robert H. Williams delved deeply into the collections held by the Center to compile his distinguished memoir, The Old Corps, a personalized account of his service before and after World War II.*



Edwin P. Hoyt, *On to the Yalu* (New York: Stein and Day, 1984)

-----, *Pusan Perimeter* (New York: Stein and Day, 1984)

-----, *Storm Over the Gilberts* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1978)

D. Clayton James, *The Years of MacArthur: Triumph and Disaster, 1945-1964* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1985)

LtGen Victor H. Krulak, *First to Fight* (Annapolis, Maryland: USNI Press, 1984)

Lester D. Langley, *The Banana Wars: An Inner History of the American Empire, 1900-1934* (Lexington, Kentucky: University of Kentucky Press, 1983)

Herbert C. Merrilat, *Guadalcanal Remembered* (New York: Dodd Mead, 1982)

Peter Mersky, *Naval Air War in Vietnam* (Annapolis, Maryland: Nautical and Aviation Publishing Company, 1981)

-----, *U.S. Marine Corps Aviation, 1912 to Present* (Annapolis, Maryland: Nautical and

Col Gerald H. Turley was the recipient of a Marine Corps Historical Foundation research grant to assist him in the writing of his much-praised operational analysis, *Easter Offensive: Vietnam 1982*.



Aviation Publishing Company, 1983)

Allan R. Millett, *Semper Fidelis: The Story of the U.S. Marine Corps* (New York: Macmillan Company, 1980)

-----, and Peter Maslowski, *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States of America* (New York: Free Press, 1984)

J. Robert Moskin, *The U.S. Marine Corps Story* (New York: McGraw Hill Book Company, 1977)

Keith Nolan, *Battle for Hue* (Novato, California: Presidio Press, 1983)

Robert Pisor, *The End of the Line: Siege of Khe Sanh* (New York: W. W. Norton Company, 1982)

John Clark Pratt, *Vietnam Voices* (New York: King-Penguin, 1984)

Ronald H. Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun* (New York: Free Press, 1984)

John Toland, *Gods of War* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1985)

-----, *No Man's Land* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1980)

Col Gerald H. Turley, *Easter Offensive: Vietnam 1982* (Novato, California: Presidio Press, 1985)

James H. Webb, Jr., *A Country Such as This* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1983)

BGen Robert H. Williams, *The Old Corps* (Annapolis, Maryland: USNI Press, 1982)

In addition to these books there is a considerable number of others, as well as articles in preparation, with several close to publication. Dr. Gene Alvarez, a former Marine and DI at Parris Island received a Marine Corps Historical Foundation Research Grant to write "Where it All Began: A History of Parris Island," which will be published by the History and Museums Division. Another grant was given to retired Naval Academy Professor Paolo Coletta to prepare an in-depth Marine Corps bibliography, which

is at the publishers and should be out this year. Yet a third grant was given to Col Turley to assist him in researching his book. The Museums side of the Division assisted Emil Stefannaci, an expert on military uniforms, in the preparation of a study of Marine Corps headdress, which will be published in the Marine Corps Museum monographs series. The Museums Branch also provided immeasurable assistance to other researchers and authors.

A number of these books have received critical acclaim and have been nominated for or have in fact received awards. General Krulak's book received the Navy League's Alfred Thayer Mahan Award for Literary Achievement this year. The author has donated the lion's share of his royalties to the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, with the remainder going to two other Marine Corps-associated organizations. Dr. Spector's *Eagle Against the Sun* is a Book-of-the-Month-Club main selection and has appeared on a number of best-seller lists.

The Time-Life World War II and Civil War series additionally benefitted from assistance obtained from the Division, as did the Boston Publishing Company's series of books on the Vietnam War.

Col Victor J. Croizat sought detailed assistance from Center staff as he compiled his *The Brown Water Navy*, newly available from a well-known publisher of military history materials in Great Britain.



# New Certificates of Unit Lineage and Honors

Among certificates of lineage and honors recently prepared for Marine Corps units and activities were:

**MARINE OBSERVATION SQUADRON 1: 1943-1945:** Activated 27 October 1943 at Quantico, Virginia, as Artillery Spotting Division, Marine Observation Squadron 155, Fleet Marine Force; relocated during November 1943 to San Diego, California, and assigned to Marine Fleet Air, West Coast; deployed during January 1944 to Espiritu Santo, and assigned to Marine Air, South Pacific; redesignated 12 February 1944 as Marine Observation Squadron 1 and assigned to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force; reassigned during June 1944 to the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force; participated in the World War II campaigns, Guam and Iwo Jima; reassigned during June 1945 to Marine Observation Group 1, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force; reassigned during November 1945 to Marine Aircraft Group 21, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing. **1946-1957:** relocated during January-February 1946 to Cherry Point, North Carolina and assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 22, 9th Marine Aircraft Wing; reassigned during March 1946 to the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force; detached during December 1946 from the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing and assigned to Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; relocated during May 1947 to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and reassigned to the 2d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force; reassigned during August 1948 to the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force; relocated during July 1952 to New River, North Carolina; reassigned during January 1956 to Marine Wing Headquarters Group, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; reassigned during June 1956 to Marine Aircraft Group 26. **1958-1984:** deployed during July-August 1958 to the Atlantic

Ocean on board the USS *Antietam*; relocated during August 1958 to New River, North Carolina; elements of the squadron participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis, October-December 1962; elements of the squadron participated in the intervention in the Dominican Republic, April-June 1965; reassigned during May 1972 to Marine Aircraft Group 29; participated in numerous training exercises throughout the 1970s and early 1980s. (Honors: Navy Unit Commendation Streamer; World War II; Iwo Jima-1945; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Streamer with two Bronze Stars; World War II Victory Streamer; National Defense Service Streamer with one Bronze Star; Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer.)

**2D BATTALION, 9TH MARINES: 1942-1945:** Activated 1 April 1942 at Camp Elliott, San Diego, California, as the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, and assigned to the 2d Marine Division; reassigned during August 1942 to Amphibious Corps, Pacific Fleet; relocated during September 1942 to Camp Pendleton, California, and reassigned to the Advance Echelon, 3d Marine Division; deployed during June-July 1943 to Auckland, New Zealand; redeployed during June-July 1943 to Guadalcanal; participated in the following World War II campaigns, Bougainville, Northern Solomons, Guam, and Iwo Jima; relocated during November-December 1945 to Camp Pendleton, California; deactivated 31 December 1945. **1952-1956:** Reactivated 9 April 1952 at Camp Pendleton, California, and assigned to the 3d Marine Division; deployed during August 1953 to Camp Gifu, Japan; redeployed during June 1954 to Camp Sakai, Japan; redeployed during July 1955 to Camp Kawasaki, Okinawa; redeployed during September 1955 to Camp Napunja, Okinawa; redeployed during January 1956 to Camp Sukiran, Okinawa. **1957-1965:** Redeployed during March-April 1957 to Camp

Fuji, Japan; redeployed during October 1957 to Camp Hauge, Okinawa; redeployed during February 1958 to Camp Kinser, Okinawa; participated in the battalion transplacement system between the 1st Marine Division and the 3d Marine Division during June 1959-December 1960; deployed at various times between 1960-1965 as the Battalion Landing Team of the Seventh Fleet. **1965-1984:** Redeployed during July 1965 to Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam; participated in the war in Vietnam, July 1965-August 1969, operating from Da Nang, Than Cam Son, Hue/Phu Bai, Ca Lu, Dong Ha, Quang Tri, Camp Carroll, Cua Viet, Cam Lo, Vandegrift Combat Base, and Con Thien; redeployed during August 1960 to Camp Schwab, Okinawa, and assigned to the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade; reassigned during November 1969 to the 3d Marine Division; deployed at various times between 1969-1971 as the Battalion Landing Team of the Seventh Fleet; participated in the typhoon relief operations in the Philippines during October 1970; relocated during October 1978 to Camp Hansen, Okinawa; participated in the battalion rotation between the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa and divisions stationed in the United States during the late 1970s and into the 1980s.

(Honors: Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with two Bronze Stars; World War II; Guam 1944; Iwo Jima 1945; Presidential Unit Citation (Army) Streamer; Vietnam 1969; Navy Unit Commendation Streamer with one Bronze Star; Vietnam 1967, 1967, 1968-1969; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Streamer with four Bronze Stars; World War II Victory Streamer; National Defense Service Streamer with one Bronze Star; Korean Service Streamer; Vietnam Service Streamer; Philippine Presidential Unit Citation Streamer; and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Streamer.)

# Recent Books of Historical Interest

From the library of the Marine Corps Historical Center, recently published books of professional interest to Marines. These books are available from local bookstores or libraries.

*First to Fight: An Inside View of the U.S. Marine Corps.* LtGen V. H. Krulak, USMC (Ret). Naval Institute Press. 252 pp, 1984. In *First to Fight*, General Krulak identifies the distinctive qualities that seem to set Marines apart and that give them their mystique. He examines Marines in war: World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. And he describes the Corps' relationship to the other services during the unification battles in the period following World War II, offering new insights into the decision-making process in times of crisis. \$19.95.

*For the Common Defense: a Military History of the United States of America.* Allan R. Millett and Peter Maslowski. Free Press/Macmillan. 621 pp, 1984. The newest book by the author of *Semper Fidelis, History of the U.S. Marine Corps*. In this book, Dr. Millett focuses not only on battles and the conduct of war, but also provides an analysis of the development of U.S. military policy, the role of the armed forces in the execution of that policy, and the impact of military policy on America's international relations and domestic development. \$24.95.

*Eagle Against the Sun: The American War with Japan.* Ronald Spector. Free Press/Macmillan. 589 pp, 1984. A comprehensive account of the Pacific War from the American point of view, emphasizing policy, strategy, and military operations. Dr. Spector is also the author of a recent Vietnam history, *Advice and Support, The Early Years, 1941-1960*, for the Army's Center of Military History. \$24.95.

*The U.S. Marine Corps Since 1945.* Lee Russell, Osprey. 52 pp, 1984. An illustrated history of the Marine Corps since the end of World War II. The author tells of the two major wars fought

by America, Korea and Vietnam, and the Marines' contributions, along with describing the Corps in the 70s and 80s. A title in the new Osprey "Elite" series, following on from its "Men at Arms" series. Includes black-and-white photographs and colored uniform plates. \$5.50.

*The Paras, British Airborne Forces 1940-1984.* George Ferguson. Osprey. 52 pp, 1984. Another in the Osprey "Elite" series. This book, written by a former Para, traces the story of the Parachute Regiment from its inception in 1940 to the present day, including its part in the Falklands Campaign. Illustrated with color plates and black-and-white photographs. \$5.50.

*The Pusan Perimeter, Korea, 1950.* Edwin P. Hoyt, Stein & Day. 288 pp, 1984. This is the first in a series of books on the Korean War by the author. This one begins with the surprise attack by North Korea against South Korea on 25 June 1950. The author goes on to describe how the Americans and South Koreans were finally able to halt the enemy's advance nearly three months later near the city of Pusan, close to the southern tip of the Korean peninsula. The book includes both strategic and political analysis. \$19.95.

*A Matter of Honor.* Don Kowet. Macmillan Publishing Co. 317 pp, 1984. The story of the CBS documentary, "The Uncounted Enemy: a Vietnam Deception," which resulted in Gen Westmoreland's libel suit against the network. The author recreates the events leading up to the making of the documentary and he goes back 16 years to Vietnam to show how Army intelligence and the CIA arrived at their views of enemy strength and danger. \$16.95.

*The Battle to Save the Houston, October 1944 to March 1945.* Col John G. Miller, USMC. Naval Institute Press. 329 pp, 1985. Based on 70 eyewitness accounts, personal papers, and official documents,

this book by the Marine Corps Historical Center's deputy director for history, records the USS *Houston's* harrowing 14,000-mile journey from Formosa, where she nearly sank, to the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The book is a case study of combat leadership and damage control philosophy and techniques. The extraordinary measures used by the *Houston* crew triggered changes throughout the Navy. In late 1944, the *Houston*—the second ship of that name to serve in World War II—was caught up in some of the most bitter fighting of the war. Thanks to a determined crew who refused to give her up, the ship survived two direct torpedo hits, a typhoon, and other new catastrophies to make a triumphant return to the U.S. \$21.95.

*The Profession of Arms.* General Sir John Hackett. Macmillan Publishing Co. 239 pp., 1983. The author has written a history of professional military men and a view of their role in the nuclear age. The text spans 4,000 years, tracing the rise and development, cruelties and delusions of the professional soldier. Highlights include the legions of ancient Rome, where the richest citizens served as cavalry; the medieval period with its huge castles and mounted armored knights; the beginnings of the modern army under Louis XIV; the 18th century where withdrawal from a battle without orders was punishable by death; and the delusions of modern warfare seen in World Wars I and II and the Vietnam War. The author believes that the historic role of the professional man-at-arms must be understood if nuclear war is to be avoided. This book is based on the Lee-Knowles lectures Sir John delivered at Cambridge. The book includes over 180 illustrations. \$24.95

*Bloods: An Oral History of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans.* Wallace Terry. Random House. 311 pp, 1984. An account of the black soldier in the Vietnam War, as expressed by 20 veterans whose stories comprise the book. Edited by Wallace Terry, who covered the war for *Time* for two years. \$17.95—EAE

# Professional Seminars A Tradition at Center For More Than Decade

When a Professional Development Committee was activated in the History and Museums Division in February 1973, one of its first missions was to undertake a program for the professional development of staff members. An outgrowth of this mission is the Division's Professional Development Seminars, which have been conducted almost monthly since that time. A theme was generally established for each year's seminars and appropriate speakers were sought to address subjects related to the seminars' themes. Over the years, the staff and guests of the Division have heard an impressive number of informative talks and presentations.

The 1984-85 seminar year has been especially productive. The theme selected was the practical uses of military history, and presenters generally spoke to that theme.

The first speaker was Dr. Oscar P. Fitzgerald, director of the Navy Memorial Museum, who spoke in September 1984 about the "Life and Lore of the Navy Yard and Navy Museum." Dr. Fitzgerald's illustrated presentation vividly portrayed the rationale behind the decision to declare parts of the Washington Navy Yard a historical district.

In November, Col Alan L. Gropman, USAF, Deputy Director of Doctrine,

*Col Alan L. Gropman, USAF, spoke on philosophers "Clausewitz and Sun Tzu."*



Strategy, and Plans Integration, Directorate of Plans, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, spoke on "Clausewitz and Sun Tzu," commenting on their philosophies and principles of war, and relating them to current U.S. strategy, and their effect on American war planning.

That same month, Col Samuel B. Gardiner, USAF, a faculty member of the National Defense University, gave a presentation on the "U.S. Art of War—A Summary." This was an excellent follow-on lecture to Col Gropman's.

In December, there were two seminars. In the first, Joseph Y. Smith, head of the obituary desk at *The Washington Post*, a veteran journalist and former Marine, spoke on "The Art of Writing Military Obituaries." At first glance, this may have appeared a morbid subject, but Mr. Smith showed how historical research is required to prepare obituaries of noted individuals, and how much knowledge of military history is necessary to prepare suitable obituaries for retired military personalities.

Later that month, BGen Gordon D. Gayle, USMC (Ret), one-time head of the Headquarters Marine Corps' Historical Division, gave "A Retrospective on Long-Range Planning," pointing out the necessity of having a historical view even while planning for the future. Gen Gayle headed the Long-Range Study Panel at Quantico, 1963-65.

The new year began with Col John M. Collins, USA (Ret), the widely respected and renowned Senior Specialist in National Defense, Library of Congress, speaking in January 1985 on "How to Think about National Defense." He has been with the Library of Congress for 13 years and, for four years before that, was Director of Military Strategy Studies at the National War College. Like Gen Gayle, Col Collins graphically related the importance of a knowledge of military history while planning national strategy.

In February, LtCol Donald F. Bittner, USMC, the historian on the staff of the Education Center at Quantico, discussed "The Use of Military History in the Professional Military Education of Field Grade Officers." LtCol Bittner told of how the students in his battle studies program prepared for their presentations by researching the historical documents



*Air Force Col Samuel B. Gardiner gave a summary of "The U.S. Art of War."*

available at Breckinridge Library and at the Marine Corps Historical Center.

The March seminar was different in several ways. The speaker that month was BGen Eran Dolev, Israeli Defense Forces (Ret). Gen Dolev was Surgeon General of the IDF and is currently a guest lecturer on medical military history at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He spoke on "Combat in an Urban Area: Lebanon, a Case Study." This was a particularly well-attended seminar which aroused great interest, as evidenced by the many questions Gen Dolev fielded after his illustrated presentation. He is to address the seminar again in June, when he will discuss the Entebbe Raid. Gen Dolev was the medical officer assigned to the raiding forces.

Gen Dolev's colleague at the USUHS, Col Robert J. T. Joy, MC, USA (Ret), was the speaker in April and addressed the subject, "Military Medical History: Why Should You Care?" Col Joy's lec-

*The Washington Post's Joseph Y. Smith told how military obituaries are written.*





*BGen Eran Dolev of the Israeli Defense Forces addressed operations in Lebanon.*

ture was also illustrated by slides as he discussed a number of health problems endemic to military situations and how they were handled. He drove home the point that commanders in the field must be knowledgeable about the enemies they must fight in the form of diseases coming from improper field sanitation and prophylactic measures.

The guest speaker in May was Col Wilcomb E. Washburn, USMCR (Ret), who in civilian life is Dr. Washburn, Director of American Studies at the Smithsonian Institution. A recent visitor to Russia, he gave "Some Observations on Soviet Russia."

**A**s this season's seminars end, a main theme and speakers for the 1985-86 season are being selected. To learn of the dates and subjects for the upcoming seminar season, call seminar coordinator Benis M. Frank, at 433-3838.—BMF



*"How to Think about National Defense" was explained by Col John M. Collins.*

## Historical Quiz: *Medals of Honor*

1. What Marine regiment claims the highest number of Medal of Honor recipients?

2. Who are the only two Marines to have received two Medals of Honor for two separate, heroic acts?

3. Which World War II battle resulted in the largest number of Medals of Honor?

4. Who was the first black Marine to receive a Medal of Honor?

5. Who was the first Marine to receive a Medal of Honor?

6. Who was the oldest Marine to receive a Medal of Honor?

7. Who was the youngest Marine to receive the Medal of Honor?

8. Which state claims the most Marine Corps Medal of Honor recipients?

9. How many Marine Corps aces in World War II were recipients of the Medal of Honor?

10. How many Commandants of the Marine Corps received Medals of Honor?

10. Four: Generals Neville, Vandegrift, Shoup, and Wilson.

9. Nine: Boyington, Foss, Hanson, Walsh, Smith, Swett, Galer, Bauer, and DeBlanc.

8. New York; (36).

7. PFC Jacklyn Lucas, age 17, from Iwo Jima.

6. MajGen Alexander A. Vandegrift, age 55, from Guadalcanal.

5. Cpl John F. Mackie for heroic service while on board the USS Galena in the attack on Fort Darling at Drury's Bluff, James River, 15 May 1862.

4. PFC James Anderson, Jr., was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for heroic actions in Vietnam, 28 February 1967.

3. Iwo Jima; (22).

2. MajGen Smedley D. Butler (Vera Cruz, 1914; Haiti, 1915) and Sgt Maj Daniel Daly (Boxer Rebellion, 1900; Haiti, 1915).

1. 7th Marines; (34).

# In Memoriam

LTGEN THOMAS A. WORNHAM, USMC (RET), who commanded Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, at the time of his retirement in 1961, died 17 December 1984 in San Diego, five days after his 81st birthday.

He was born in Rensselaer, New York, and attended the Naval Academy. Following his graduation in 1926, he went to The Basic School, and in the years 1927-39, he served in China, Haiti, and at stateside posts and stations. He formed the 27th Marines in January 1944 and led the regiment in the battle for Iwo Jima, where he earned the Navy Cross. His citation reads in part:

Landing with the assault waves on extremely difficult fireswept beaches, Colonel Wornham led his combat team through heavy hostile fire to establish the initial beachhead in his sector. Serving gallantly throughout this entire operation, he made continuous reconnaissance of the terrain in his zone of action and exposed himself to the heavy fire in frontline positions to encourage his men. Passing through an area infested with snipers on 12 March, he went to one of his battalions held up by strong enemy resistance and,

*LtGen Thomas A. Wornham*



despite intense mortar and small arms fire, rallied his men to renew the attack and advance the frontlines while inflicting heavy losses on the Japanese.

In Korea, Gen Wornham commanded the 1st Marines, June-October 1951, during some of the most difficult fighting in the war. Following promotion to general officer in 1952, he commanded the 3d Marine Division; the recruit depot at San Diego; and FMFPac.

After he retired in San Diego, he was active in civic affairs. His ashes were to be scattered at sea.

IOWA-BORN MAJGEN FRANK C. CROFT, a veteran Marine aviator, died at the age of 81 in Coronado, California, on 27 January.

Following graduation from the Naval Academy in 1928, he was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant, attended Basic School, and then entered flight training. In World War II, as the Marine III Amphibious Corps air officer, he saw action at Bougainville, Guam, and Peleliu. In 1951, Col Croft was assigned to the staff of Allied Air Forces, Southern Europe, and two years later returned to the United States to become Assistant Wing Commander of the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing at Cherry Point. He later commanded the Cherry Point air station, and at the time of his retirement in 1959, he was Commander, Marine Air Reserve Training Command at Glenview, Illinois. Gen Croft's remains were donated to science.

*Early photo of MajGen Frank C. Croft*



*MajGen Ion M. Bethel*

MAJGEN ION M. "TEX" BETHEL, 84, former Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps, who served first as an enlisted Marine, died on 21 January in Torrance, California.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1918, was discharged a year later, and was commissioned in 1925 after his graduation from Texas A&M University. Following early assignments to Quantico, San Diego, and China, he commanded several Civilian Conservation Corps companies for three years. He completed a second tour in Shanghai with the 4th Marines before returning to the States to attend Lowell Textile Institute.

Gen Bethel was a supply officer for the rest of his career. Throughout his active service, he was involved with Marine Corps rifle and pistol competition, and won both Distinguished Marksman and Distinguished Pistol Medals. At the time of his retirement in 1958, Gen Bethel was the Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps.

He was buried in Riverside, California, Veteran's Cemetery with full military honors.

BGEN SAMUEL GIBBS TAXIS, USMC (RET), whom former Commandant Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr., described as "a splendid officer and fine Marine who had a distinguished career," died at the age of 75 in Alexandria, Virginia on 22 November 1984.

Born in Newport, Rhode Island, Gen

Taxis attended the Naval Academy and was graduated with the Class of 1931, when he was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant. Following Basic School, he served with the 4th Marines in Shanghai, took flight training, and then became involved with the Marine Corps' base defense program as an artillery officer. He served with the 3d Defense Battalion at Pearl Harbor and Guadalcanal, and in 1942-43, he commanded the seacoast and antiaircraft artillery defense of Guadalcanal and Tulagi. After a short return to the States, LtCol Taxis again went to the Pacific, this time as 2d Marine Division G-3 for the Saipan and Okinawa operations as well as for the occupation of Japan.

In the postwar period, Col Taxis attended top-level service schools, and 1951-53 was assigned to the United Nations as the Senior U.S. Military Observer, Palestine, and was successively

the chairman of both the Jordan-Israel and the Syria-Israel Mixed Armistice Commissions. Following his tour in the Middle East, Col Taxis served on the faculty of the National War College for three years as the director of National Strategy Studies, and then became head of the Europe, Africa, and Middle East Branch in the Division of Politico-Military Studies under the Chief of Naval Operation.

From 1958 to 1959, he was Special Assistant for Middle East Affairs in the office of the Secretary of Defense. He retired in 1959, but continued to work for the Defense Department for the next two years. In the period 1961-65, Gen Taxis was chief of instruction for advisor students at the Military Assistance Institute, and for the next nine years he was employed by the Human Resources Research Organization as a research scientist.

Before he died, Gen Taxis was able to view and edit his extensive oral history interview held at the Marine Corps Historical Center. Gen Taxis was interred in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

*Early photo of BGen Samuel G. Taxis*



## Reserve Historical Unit Report: *Col Millett to Head AMI; Maj Brown to Test SOP*

At the annual meeting of the American Military Institute, held in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, on 12 and 13 April, it was announced that Col Allan R. Millett, USMCR, the commanding officer of Mobilization Training Unit (Historical) DC-7, was elected president for a two-year term. AMI is a professional association of persons interested in military history.

Additionally, at the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association annual convention, held in Clearwater Beach, Florida, from 16 to 19 May, Col Millett was elected to the Board of Directors, representing the 4th District. The Board of Directors acts in an advisory capacity on matters concerning policy and long-range planning, and members serve one-year terms.

Maj Ronald J. Brown, USMCR, has been selected the field historian to attend the 2d Marine Amphibious Brigade's command post exercise, to be held at Camp Pendleton, California, from 10 to 24 August. In addition to preparing the historical report for the MAB, Maj Brown will test the MTU's provisional standing operating procedure for field historians.

Maj Brown, who served as an infantry officer in Vietnam in 1969, has been a member of the MTU since March 1977. He has written a number of articles for both the *Marine Corps Gazette* and *Armor* magazine. In addition to his work with the MTU, he has performed Reserve counterpart training with the Light Assault Vehicle Development Project at Quantico, and with the Tactical Exercise Control Group for BLT 1/3 on Operation Team Spirit 84 (Korea).

Maj Brown resides in Novi, Michigan, where he teaches social studies at Southfield Lathrup High School. In addition to his teaching duties, he also coaches football. His current MTU project is "A Brief History of the 14th Marines," which is now being edited. — CVM

## FOUNDATION NEWS

*(Continued from page 24)*

LtCol Sam F. Graham, USMCR (Ret)  
2dLt Scott E. Lystad, USMC  
MajGen John G. Bouker, USMC (Ret)  
LtCol James J. O. Anderson, USMCR (Ret)  
Col Robert M. Neiman, USMCR (Ret)  
Maj Claude B. Cross, USMCR (Ret)  
Col Robert C. Barrick, USMCR (Ret)  
Mrs. Marguerite H. Chaisson  
LtCol James R. Bilbow, USMCR (Ret)  
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Members' inquiries about the Foundation's activities may be sent to the office at the Center or calls can be made to (202) 433-3914. — The Secretary, MCHF

# FLIGHT LINES

## *North American PBJ-1 Mitchell*

The PBJ, Navy version of the Army B-25 Mitchell bomber, was a twin-engine, land-based medium bomber which possessed excellent all-around performance and good handling characteristics. Additionally, a wide variety of ordnance loading possibilities—ranging from combina-

tions of internal and external bomb loads to rockets and torpedoes—made it a particularly versatile aircraft.

Prior to the Second World War Brigadier General Ross E. Rowell had recommended that the Marine Corps acquire a medium bomber, but procurement was not possible until July 1942,

when the Army agreed to share a portion of its land-based bomber production with the Navy. All PBJs were designated PBJ-1, with a letter suffix corresponding to the equivalent Army version, e.g., the PBJ-1D was the Navy's equivalent to the Army B-25D.

The Guadalcanal campaign proved the importance of medium bombers to amphibious operations in the Pacific. Japanese twin-engine bombers flying from Rabaul devastated Henderson Field, while Marine SBDs were unable to retaliate because of their limited operating range.

Marine Bombing Squadron 413 (VMB-413), the first PBJ squadron, was commissioned on 1 March 1943. In addition to readying itself for deployment into combat, VMB-413 also prepared additional aircrewmembers and developed training syllabi for succeeding Marine PBJ squadrons. In December 1943, VMB-413 commenced movement to the Pacific, and by mid-March 1944 it was carrying out hazardous night heckling missions over Rabaul, Kavieng, and Bougainville.

The most unusual activity carried out by Marine PBJs involved the exploits of Lieutenant Colonel Jack Cram's VMB-612. Organized as a normal daylight bombing outfit, in February 1944 the squadron was selected for use in night, antishipping operations. Using radar and low-level rocket delivery, VMB-612 successfully conducted long-range operations from its base at Saipan against Japanese shipping in the Iwo Jima, Chichi Jima, and Haha Jima areas. Later, when Iwo Jima became available for basing, VMB-612 carried its antishipping attacks all the way to the coast of Japan.

Twelve PBJ squadrons were commissioned by the Marine Corps during the war, but only seven squadrons actually saw combat.

The Mitchell bomber on display at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum is an Army B-25J which has been restored to a PBJ-1J configuration. —FMB



*The PBJ was pleasant to fly and heavily armed for its size. Additionally, its rugged structure and somewhat flat lines permitted easy modification at advanced bases.*

### Technical Data

As depicted with three 1,000-lb. bombs in the PBJ-1C & -1D airplane characteristics and performance chart issued on 1 December 1943.

**Manufacturer:** North American Aviation, Inc., Inglewood, California.

**Type:** Land-based medium bomber.

**Accommodation:** Pilot and crew of six.

**Power Plant:** Two 1,700-h.p. Wright R-2600-13.

**Dimensions:** Span, 67 ft., 6 3/4 in.; Length, 52 ft., 10 13/16 in.; Height 15 ft., 9 3/16 in.

**Weights:** Empty, 20,446 lbs.; Gross, 32,893 lbs.

**Performance:** Max. speed, 260 m.p.h. at 12,500 ft.; Service ceiling, 22,800 ft.; Range, 1,485 st. mi.; Climb at sea level, 960 ft. per min.

**Armaments:** Ten .50-caliber machine guns; 3,000 lbs. bombs (max. internal); 2,400 lbs. bombs (external) or one 2,150 lb. torpedo.

# World War II Chronology

## *April-June 1945*

### Okinawa

**1 April.** Preceded by naval gunfire and air support, the III Amphibious Corps (1st and 6th Marine Division, reinforced) and the XXIV Corps, USA, landed on Okinawa north and south of Bishi Gawa, respectively, on the Hagushi beaches of the island's western shore. The XXIV Corps captured Kadena airfield and advanced south along the coast to the Chatan vicinity, and the III Amphibious Corps made extensive ground gains to the south. Yontan airfield was secured by the 4th Marines, and the 7th Marines moved through Sobe Village, a first priority objective.

**2 April.** The 2d Marine Division effectively immobilized the main body of Japanese forces by a diversionary feint against the Minatogawa beaches on the eastern side of the island. Forward elements of the 7th Infantry Division, USA, reached the eastern coast, severing the island.

*Men of Col Victor Bleasdale's 29th Marines are tank-borne infantry in this Marine photographer's shot as they dash in April*

**4 April.** The 6th Marine Division attacked north up the west coast road; it was relieved of responsibility for the Yontan airstrip by the 29th Marines in III Amphibious Corps reserve. The 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division, occupied the Katchin Peninsula.

**5 April.** The Fleet Marine Force Reconnaissance Battalion landed on the northern coast of Tsugen Shima, Eastern Islands, the only one of the six islands guarding the entrances to Okinawa's eastern beaches that was defended in strength.

**6 April.** The 96th Army Division opened its attack against the Shuri defenses in the southern sector of the island.

**6-7 April.** Japanese air units from Kyushu launched the first of 10 major Kamikaze attacks on Allied shipping off Okinawa.

**7 April.** During the Battle of the East China Sea, planes of Task Force 58 sank the superbattleship *Yamato*, a cruiser, and four destroyers, ending all chance of a Japanese sea attack on Okinawa.

*1945 to occupy the town of Ghuta, on the island of Okinawa, before it can become a defensive position for Japanese forces.*





*Marine TSgt Arnold M. Johnson recorded this U.S. battleship spectacularly "cutting loose" at Japanese installations on the*

*coast of Okinawa in support of Marine landings on the island in April 1945. Opposition was diminished by such early fire.*

**7 April.** The first F4U of Marine Aircraft Group 31 landed on Yontan airfield.

**7 April.** Elements of the Fleet Marine Force Reconnaissance Battalion scouted the remainder of the Eastern Islands—Takabanare, Heanza, Hamahika, and Kutake Shima.

**8 April.** The 29th Marines, 6th Marine Division, moved across the base of the Motobu Peninsula and occupied the villages of Gagusuku and Yamadadobaru.

**9 April.** The main body of the 27th Infantry Division, USA, went ashore on the Orange Beaches near Kadena.

**9 April.** The Kadena airfield was adjudged ready for its first planes, and Marine Aircraft Wing 33 began tactical operations from the field immediately.

**10 April.** The 2d Battalion, 29th Marines, seized Unten Ko on the Motobu Peninsula where the Japanese had established a submarine and torpedo boat base.

**10-11 April.** Elements of the 27th Infantry Division, assaulted and captured Tsugen Shima, the only defended position in the Eastern Island.

**12-14 April.** The Japanese launched coordinated counterattacks against the XXIV Corps, line, coinciding with a second round of major aerial suicide attacks.

**13 April.** The Fleet Marine Force Amphibious Reconnaissance Battalion occupied Minna Shima, an island lying off the northwest coast of Okinawa, in preparation for an assault on Ie Shima.

**14 April.** The 4th and 29th Marines launched a coordinated attack on the Motobu Peninsula inland in an easterly direction and west and southwest from the center of the peninsula, respectively.

**16 April.** The 6th Marine Division launched a full-scale at-

tack from three sides against Japanese positions on the Motobu Peninsula; Companies A and C, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, took possession of Yae Take, the key terrain feature of the peninsula.

**16-21 April.** The 77th Infantry Division assaulted and captured Ie Shima, an island lying off the northwest coast of Okinawa.

**19 April.** The XXIV Corps launched a three-division assault against the Shuri defenses in the southern sector of the island.

**20 April.** The 4th and 29th Marines reached the north coast of Motobu Peninsula having eliminated all organized resistance on the peninsula.

**24 April.** The Japanese withdrew to the second ring of the Shuri defensive zone.

**28 April.** The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, USA, captured Machinato airfield.

**30 April.** The 1st Marine Division was attached to the XXIV Corps, and began moving south to relieve the 27th Army Division.

**2 May.** The 27th Division officially passed to Island Command control. The 165th Infantry, USA, was assigned responsibility for the 1st Marine Division sector, and the 105th and 106th Infantry, USA, were sent north to relieve the 6th Marine Division on Motobu Peninsula and in the areas farther north.

**3-4 May.** The Japanese launched an all-out ground and air attack on XXIV Corps positions and U.S. shipping off the island. Marine aircraft and antiaircraft gunners as well as units of the 1st Marine Division assisted in repulsing the assault.

**3-4 May.** The III Amphibious Corps took over the western sector of the Tenth Army front in the southern sector of the island.



*Air assaults pound the island of Iheya, west of Okinawa, as LSTs laden with troops of the 8th Marines, 2d Marine Division,*

*make for the shoreline on 3 June 1945. Important air warning and fighter direction installations were later set up on Iheya.*

**8 May.** The first elements of the 6th Marine Division entered the lines on the island's southern front and relieved units of the 7th Marines along the Asa Kawa.

**11 May.** The Tenth Army opened an all-out attack to reduce the inner Shuri defenses; the 2d Battalion, 5th Marines, eliminated the last organized resistance in the Awacha Pocket.

**17 May.** The amphibious phase of the Okinawa operation was ended. VAdm Harry W. Hill, USN, relieved VAdm Richmond K. Turner, USN, in control of naval activities and air defense as Commander Task Force 51. Adm Hill was directed to report to LtGen Simon B. Buckner, USA, who took command of all forces ashore and assumed responsibility for the defense and development of captured objectives.

**18 May.** The 29th Marines, 6th Marine Division, captured the Sugar Loaf position, the western anchor of the Japanese Shuri defenses.

**21 May.** Marine Fighter Squadrons 113, 314, and 422 of Marine Aircraft Group 22 joined VMF(N)-533 on Ie Shima in support of operations on Okinawa.

**25 May.** Marine pilots from the escort carrier *Gilbert Islands* flew their first combat air patrol and close air support strikes.

**29 May.** The 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, gained the crest of Shuri Ridge and secured Shuri Castle, the core of the Shuri bastion.

**30 May.** The major portion of the Thirty-Second Japanese Army had evacuated the Shuri lines, successfully escaping the flanking drives of the III Amphibious Corps and the XXIV Corps, and withdrew to the Kiyamu Peninsula at the southernmost part of the island.

**31 May.** The 1st Marine Division in concert with the 77th Division completed the occupation of Shuri. The Japanese developed a new defensive position along the Kokuba Gawa and around Tsukasan.

**1 June.** The XXIV Corps changed the direction of its main attack against the Japanese final defenses in the southern sector of the island.

The 7th and 96th Divisions were instructed to attack south while the 77th Division assumed responsibility for the 96th Division's former zone. The III Amphibious Corps launched a coordinated drive by the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions and secured the high ground overlooking the main east-west road of the Kokuba Gawa Valley in the Japanese new defensive position.

*Among the waves of Marines hitting the well prepared Green Beach One on Okinawa in April 1945 are these men of the 2d Battalion, 22d Marines, moving out heavily armed, in one case with what appears to be both a flamethrower and a pistol.*





*Two Marines armed with a bazooka follow a patrol up a hill two miles north of Naha, capital of Okinawa. After securing their sector of the island in May 1945, the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions moved to the south to join engaged Army forces.*

*Wounded 1st Division Marines are brought for treatment to a forward aid station in rugged countryside on Okinawa on 15*

**3-9 June.** The 8th Marines, 2d Marine Division, secured Iheya Shima and Aguni Shima west of Okinawa. Immediate steps were taken to set up air warning and fighter direction installations to strengthen the defensive perimeter surrounding Okinawa.

**4 June.** The III Amphibious Corps boundary was shifted to the west, and the 1st Marine Division—attacking in the narrowed III Amphibious Corps zone—was made responsible for cutting off Oroku Peninsula, capturing Itoman, reducing the Kunishi and Mezado ridge positions, and driving to the southernmost point of the island, Ara Saki. The XXIV Corps was assigned the commanding Yaeju Dake-Yuza Dake Escarpment.

**4 June.** The 4th Marines spearheaded an amphibious assault by the 6th Marine Division against the Oroku Peninsula in the southwest sector of the island.

**11 June.** MajGen Louis E. Woods assumed command of both the Tactical Air Force and the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing.

**13 June.** MajGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, commanding the 6th Marine Division, announced that all organized resistance on Oroku Peninsula had ceased.

**14 June.** The 6th Reconnaissance Company secured Senaga Shima, an island lying off the southeast coast of Oroku Peninsula.

*May 1945. The Marine on the stretcher in the background is receiving first attention to burns he received in the battle zone.*





*Watching the advance on Naha are leaders of U.S. forces, from left, LtGen Simon B. Buckner, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Tenth Army; MajGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, USMC, Commanding General, 6th Marine Division; and 6th Division Assistant Commander BGen William T. Clement, USMC.*

**15 June.** The 8th Marines, 2d Marine Division, arrived on the island and was attached to the 1st Marine Division.

**17 June.** The XXIV Corps had gained control of all the commanding ground on the Yaeju Dake-Yuza Dake Escarpment, its primary objective.

**17 June.** A 7,000-foot runway at Yontan airfield was completed.

**18 June.** LtGen Simon B. Buckner, USA, Tenth Army commander, was killed while observing the progress of the 8th Marines' first attack on the island. MajGen Roy S. Geiger, USMC, senior troop commander, assumed temporary command of the Tenth Army and directed its final combat operations.

**18 June.** Tank-infantry teams of the 2d Battalion, 5th Marines, crushed the last organized resistance on Kunishi Ridge.

**21 June.** Organized resistance in the III Amphibious Corps zone ended when units of the 1st Marine Division secured Hill 81, and the 29th Marines—in the 6th Division zone—swept through Ara Sake, the southernmost point of the island.

**21 June.** LtGen Geiger, commanding the Tenth Army, declared the island secured.

**22 June.** A formal ceremony attended by representatives of all elements of the Tenth Army marked the official end of resistance by the *Japanese Thirty-Second Army*.

**22 June.** The 1st and 6th Marine Divisions and the 7th and 96th Army Divisions were ordered to conduct a sweep to the north. Ten days were allotted to complete the mopping-up action.

**23 June.** Gen Joseph W. Stilwell, USA, formally relieved LtGen Geiger as Commanding General, Tenth Army.

**25 June.** The Tenth Army launched its four division clean-up drive to the north.

**26-30 June.** The Fleet Marine Force Amphibious Reconnaissance Battalion captured Kume Shima, the last and largest island of Okinawa Gunto.

## Operational Planning

**3 April.** The JCS designated Gen Douglas MacArthur as Commander in Chief, U.S. Army Forces, Pacific, and Adm Chester W. Nimitz as commander of all naval forces in the Pacific.

**25 May.** The JCS approved a directive calling for the invasion of the Japanese home island, scheduled for 1 November.

**14 June.** The JCS directed Generals MacArthur and Henry H. Arnold, USA, and Adm Nimitz to prepare plans for the immediate occupation of Japan in the event that Japan suddenly collapsed or capitulated.

**29 June.** The JCS decided to intensify the air blockade from bases on Okinawa and Iwo Jima and in the Marianas and Philippines. The following courses of action in the Pacific were agreed upon: the defeat of Japanese units in the Philippines; the allocation of all forces necessary to guarantee the security of western Pacific sea lanes prior to the invasion of Kyushu, Japan; and the acquisition of a sea route to Russian Pacific ports.—RVA

*Jubilant 1st Division Marines and 7th Division soldiers celebrate their victory atop Hill 89, site of the Japanese command post on Okinawa, after the official flag-raising on 27 June 1945, which marked the end of the Battle for Okinawa.*



## New York Times Reporter Wins 1985 Heint Award

The winner of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation's fifth annual Colonel Robert D. Heint, Jr., Memorial Award in Marine Corps History is Thomas L. Friedman of the *New York Times*, for his "America's Failure in Lebanon," which appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, 8 April 1984. Honorable mentions go to MSgt Tom Bartlett, USMC (Ret) for his series, "The Ironman," in the July, August, and September 1984 issues of *Leatherneck*, and to Maj James F. Holden-Rhodes, USAR, for "In Many a Strife . . .," in the November 1984 U.S. Naval Institute *Proceedings*.

Mr. Friedman receives \$1,000 and a mounted, bronzed plaque. The two Honorable Mentions receive mounted plaques. The award is for "the best article pertinent to Marine Corps history" published in 1984.

Judging was by BGen F. Paul Henderson, USMC (Ret); Mr. J. Robert Moskin; and Col Allan R. Millett, USMCR. All three are well-known historians and charter members of the Foundation.

Gen Henderson was a member of the Commandant's Advisory Committee on Marine Corps History and has been a frequent contributor to the *Marine Corps Gazette*. Mr. Moskin, former foreign editor with *Look* magazine, is the writer of the history, *The U.S. Marine Corps Story*. Col Millett, a professor of history at Ohio State University, is the author of another well-received history of the Corps, *Semper Fidelis*.

Col Robert D. Heint, Jr., for whom the award is named, died in May 1979. A distinguished Marine Corps officer, journalist, and historian, he was a founder of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.

The Heint Award was made possible by unsolicited gifts to the Marine Corps Historical Foundation for that purpose. Continuation and expansion of the award program is dependent upon further donations to the fund. Persons desiring to nominate articles appearing in 1985 for the next award, or in contributing to the fund, should write:

The Heint Memorial Award Fund  
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As of 7 May, the MCHF has 914 members. Those who have joined since the listing in the winter issue of *Fortitudine* include:

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