

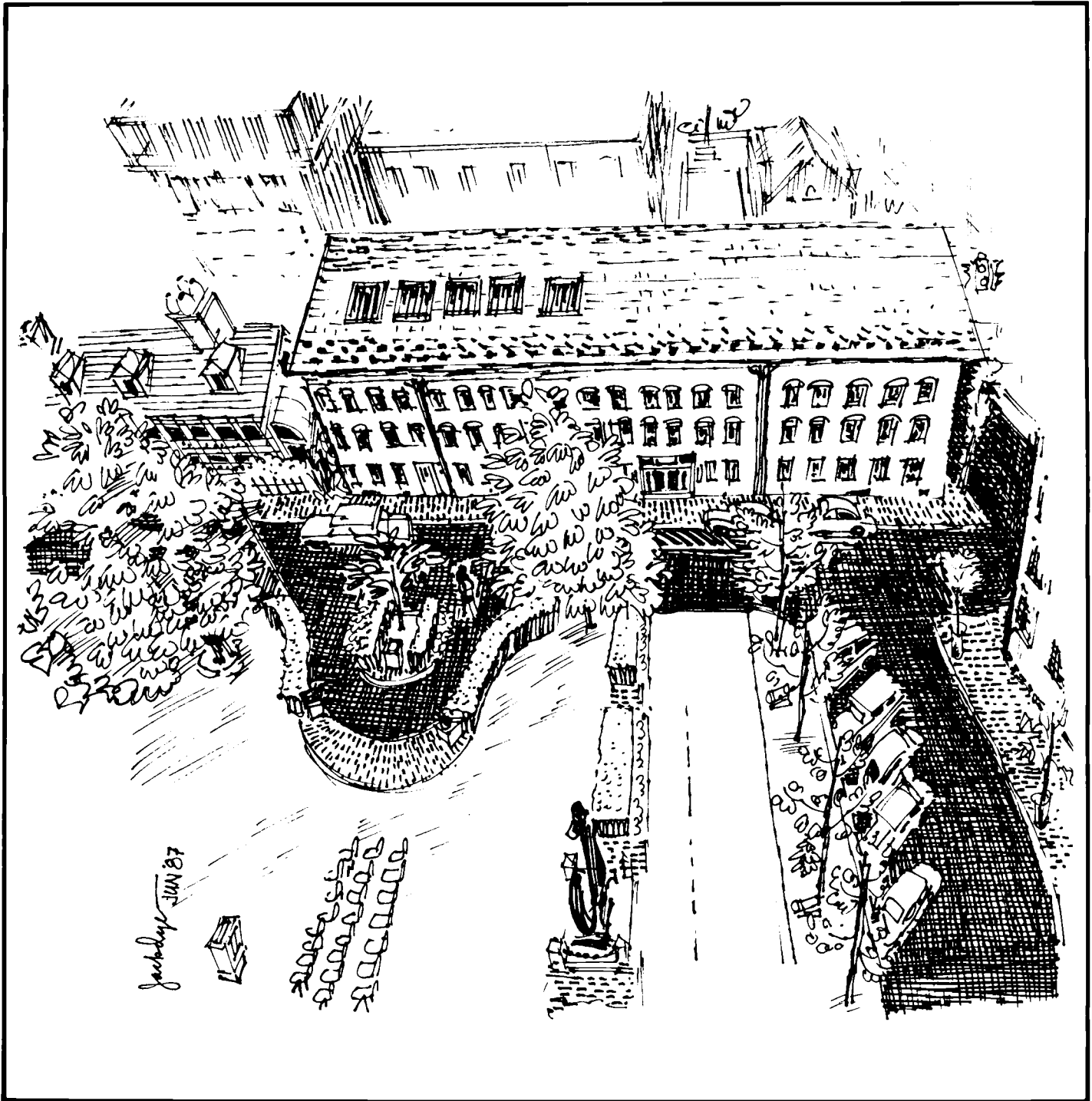
# FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

VOLUME XVI

SPRING 1987

NUMBER 4



HISTORICAL CENTER CELEBRATES ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY . . . SCULPTOR TELLS HOW VIETNAM MEMORIAL CAME TO SAN ANTONIO . . . PACIFIC MONUMENTS STUDIED . . . WATERHOUSE PAINTS CIVIL WAR MARINES IN FORT FISHER ACTION . . . NEW MARINE SECURITY GUARD PACT SIGNED . . . FLIGHT LINES: D-558-1 SKYSTREAK

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# FORTITUDINE

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

Volume XVI

Spring 1987

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## THE COVER

The Marine Corps Historical Center, located along Leutze Park in the "historic district" of the Washington Navy Yard, is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. The building which houses the Center, seen in the gull's-eye view by art curator Maj John T. Dyer, Jr., USMCR (Ret), is on the site of a pre-1814 structure and is itself a mid-19th century building, converted to a Marine barracks in 1941 and remodeled in the late 1970s for use as the Historical Center. Neighbors on the Yard are the Naval Historical Center, at right in the drawing, and Quarters B, home of the Commandant, Naval District of Washington, at left. Historic Tingey House, residence of the Chief of Naval Operations, is outside of the picture at the left.

*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 by offset lithography.

## Marine Corps Logistics in World War II



BGen Simmons

Professional development seminars are very much in vogue just now at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. In January I was invited to speak by the Department of Installations and Logistics to one such seminar on Marine Corps logistics in World War II. I took with me a vintage copy of the *Marine Corps Manual* 1940 edition. This was the basic administrative manual throughout World War II.

It was very complete. There were 31 chapters that dealt with everything from "Entry into the service" to "General Accounting Office," but there was no chapter on logistics. "Logistics" was not even to be found in the index. There were, however, some interesting entries under the heading of "Expeditionary service." As for example:

*When serving with Army.—*

Marine officers commanding detachments of marines under orders to act on shore, in cooper-

ation with troops of the United States Army, and during the time such detachment is acting or proceeding to act, shall make requisitions upon the officers of the Quartermaster Corps, United States Army, for the necessary camp equipage, also for the necessary transportation for officers and troops, their baggage, provisions, and cannon.

There was also guidance on the issue of field hats. The field hat or "campaign hat" was considered the mark of the Marine on expeditionary service. The *Manual* provided that, "In the event of mobilization, the necessary field hats to complete uniform equipment of personnel will be issued at the point of mobilization."

There was a list of articles of clothing and equipment to be taken by each enlisted Marine embarked for foreign tropi-

cal expeditionary duty. Commanding officers were enjoined to ensure that each article was in good and serviceable condition and were also to see to it that each man was "supplied with a clothing bag, and the necessary toilet articles, including toilet and washing soap."

Commanding officers were also authorized, when in the field, to obtain "such quantity of straw or hay for the bedding of troops" as they "may deem necessary to preserve the health of the troops."

The words "amphibious" and "amphibious operations" did not appear in the *Marine Corps Manual*. Until 1941, the Marine Corps had never deployed a unit larger than a brigade. The expeditions of the 1920s and 1930s to such places as Haiti, Santo Domingo, Nicaragua, and China were probably well served by the *Marine Corps Manual*, but they were not in any sense amphibious. They all involved disembarkation by way of established harbors and commercial piers.

*Captured Japanese trucks were used to deliver combat gear and supplies to Marines moving toward front lines on Guadalcanal in December 1942. Slightly more than a year later, Lt Simmons' assignment was to help unsnarl a South Pacific supply logjam.*

Department of Defense (Marine Corps) Photo 51400





Department of Defense (Marine Corps) Photo 94308

Marine amtracks are "parked" at a devastated Guam beachhead on 22 July 1944, ready for offshore supply runs. Shore party teams from the 5th Field Depot began landing supplies "on the heels of the assault battalions at H plus two hours" on 21 July.

The far-sighted work that the Marine Corps did in getting ready for amphibious operations was a largely theoretical effort done at Quantico and tested out in rather modest-sized Fleet exercises. Even earlier studies were done by Marine Corps and Navy officers at Newport before World War I.

One of these Marine Corps officers was George C. Thorpe, who is best known in Marine Corps history for the adventures he had as a captain in 1903. It was in that year that Capt Thorpe and 19 Marines, mounted on mules and camels, escorted a diplomatic mission in a 300-mile march from the Horn of Africa to the court of Ethiopia's Emperor Menelik II in Addis Ababa. Thorpe came out of Africa with a medal from Menelik and two live lions that the Emperor sent as presents to President Theodore Roosevelt.

Thorpe went to the Naval War College in Newport in 1914, first as a student and then on the staff. There he wrote a book, published in 1917, entitled *Pure Logistics: The Science of War Preparation*. This book, forgotten for many years, was rediscovered a few years ago and republished by the National Defense University Press. The editor of this new edition, military historian Dr. Stanley L. Falk, says that

"Thorpe . . . may well be one of the few military thinkers anywhere in the world to employ the term [logistics] prominently at this time [1917]—and almost certainly the only one to attempt to define it carefully as a science."

As a sampling, here are two quotations from *Pure Logistics*:

Napoleon never used the word *logistics*. Of course he employed all the elements of Logistics necessary to war in his day, as he did the elements of Strategy and Tactics. But while he conceived of the two last-named functions as distinct divisions of labor, he did not realize (except, perhaps, when it was too late) that logistical functions comprised a third entity in war functions.

And,

Nearly every civilian is familiar with the terms *strategy* and *tactics*, and nearly all intelligent patriots know that the former has reference to the general plan for the employment of the nation's

fighting forces and the latter to the manner of fighting. But, if we may judge of the matter from the silence of books on the Science and Art of War, the conclusion is irresistible that the military themselves know next to nothing about Logistics.

The Marine Corps does not appear in Thorpe's book nor do the words "amphibious operations," although he does make passing mention of advanced base forces. A straight-line relationship between *Pure Logistics* and the subsequent development of a viable amphibious doctrine at Quantico cannot be demonstrated, but it can be assumed some of the individual officers involved had read and were influenced by the book.

The evolution of amphibious doctrine is a large subject in itself. It is enough to say, in the way of a very quick summary, that our doctrine was built on an analysis of the mistakes made by the British at Gallipoli in 1915 and that by 1934 Marine Corps thinkers had collected their findings into a *Tentative Manual for Landing Operations*.

The two major logistical considerations

inherent in the tentative doctrine were the matters of ship loading and unloading, and the ship-to-shore movement.

Most of the contributors to the *Tentative Landing Operations Manual* were veterans of World War I and they perceived the ship-to-shore movement in terms of their experiences in Western Front attacks in 1918; that is, the equivalent of an artillery preparation, approach march, deployment, and assault by infantry.

Two major problems to be solved were getting the troops off the ships and into their landing boats and then controlling and guiding their movement to their assigned beaches. The general concept was that the troops and landing craft should be transported together. That is, the attack transport was envisioned as a tactically self-sufficient ship capable of transporting and landing the embarked troops.

"Combat unit loading" of the transports was considered the key to amphibious logistics. It was seen as a practical process designed to make supplies and equipment immediately available to the assault troops in the order needed, disregarding, to a large extent, the amount of cargo space that might be wasted.

Each amphibious ship's company was to have a Marine officer who was designated the TQM or transport quartermaster, the equivalent of today's combat cargo officer.

The *Tentative Manual* provided for a beach party commanded by a naval officer designated as the beachmaster and a shore party commanded by an officer of the landing force. The beach party and shore party were independent of each other.

This concept did not get a realistic testing until landing exercises in the summer of 1941. There was a considerable delay in unloading because of the divided responsibility and an inadequate number of labor troops. The deficiencies were duly reported by the landing force commander, MajGen Holland M. Smith, to the Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet, Adm Ernest J. King, and by the summer of 1942 the consolidation of the beach and shore parties under landing force control was reflected in a change to *FTP-167*, the successor to the *Tentative Manual*.

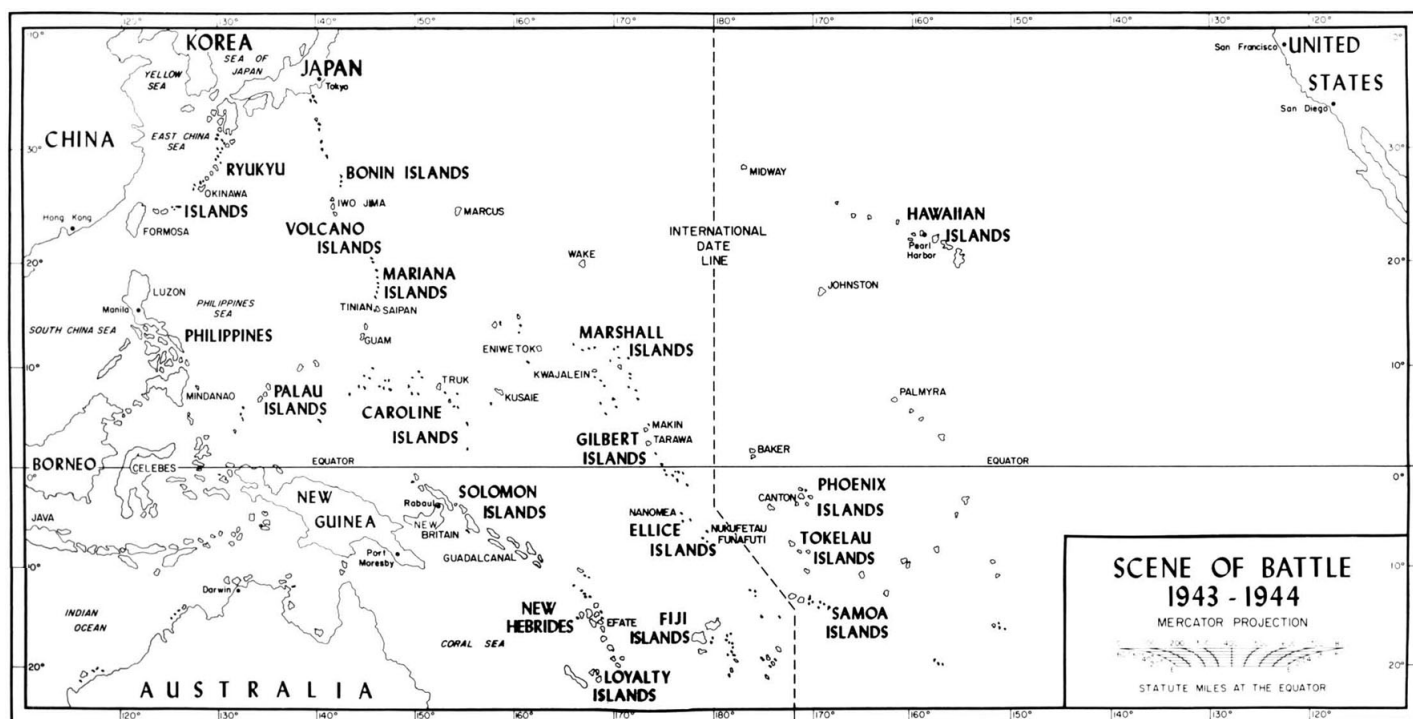
The Marine Corps had also moved toward solving the labor problem by adding a pioneer battalion to the Marine division. The pioneer battalion was the immediate ancestor of the shore party battalion which, in turn, has now become the landing support battalion.

I was a second lieutenant undergoing instruction at Quantico during the summer of 1942 and I remember well that there were certain fundamental rules that were drilled into us. One was that a Marine should never be separated from his

pack; the ship that carried him should also carry everything he needed to fight. Another rule was not to put all your eggs in one basket, or, more correctly, spread loading so that the loss of one ship and its contents would not jeopardize the operation. And you had to be able to unload selectively so that flow of weapons, equipment, and supplies ashore and its contents would be responsive to the demands of the tactical situation.

As for the ship-to-shore movement, all the basic types of landing craft derived from the famous Higgins boat were well along in their development by 1938. Similarly, the Roebling "Alligator," invented for rescue work in the Florida Everglades, was adopted by the Marine Corps in 1940 and became the prototype of the IVT family of amphibian tractors. Roebling did not have facilities for mass production of his "Alligator" and the first production model of what was designated the IVT(1) came off the assembly line of the Food Machinery Corporation plant at Dunedin, Florida, in July 1941.

Not much thought was given to continued logistical support once the landing force was ashore. The pat answer was that after the Marines had established an adequate beachhead, the Army would land behind them and provide a generous logistical tail until the Marines could leave to go fight some other place. A variation





Department of Defense (Marine Corps) Photo 110128

*LVTs carry the initial Marine assault force toward Iwo Jima at H-hour on 19 February 1945. Since Iwo is not surrounded by a reef, planners expected an easier transfer of logistical items.*

*But a heavy sea broached many landing craft and experimental use of pallets to mount out up to 50 percent of units' supplies, in the absence of special handling equipment, was unsuccessful.*

to this optimistic solution was that the Navy would land behind the Marines with all the paraphernalia needed to establish an advanced base. The first testing, in a limited and almost catastrophic way, of this rudimentary logistic doctrine would come at Guadalcanal in the late summer of 1942.

The D-4 (we were not yet using the designation G-4) of the 1st Marine Division at the time of Guadalcanal was Lieutenant Colonel Randolph McCall Pate, a future Commandant. The planning time for the Guadalcanal operation was almost impossibly short. The second echelon of the 1st Marine Division arrived at Wellington, New Zealand, on 11 July 1942 and was immediately put to work loading out the division. Most of the supplies were still in their commercial pack and these cardboard boxes deteriorated rapidly in the incessant rain. Despite all the difficulties, the division was able to sail from Wellington, with 60 days of supplies and 10 units of fire, on 22 July.

There were two simultaneous landings on 7 August, one on Tulagi and one on Guadalcanal itself. There was some stiff fighting on Tulagi but for-

tunately there was no Japanese resistance at the water line at Guadalcanal where the main effort was being made. Before the day was done the Guadalcanal beaches were in a mess. The 500-man 1st Pioneer Battalion just could not handle the unloading from the landing craft onto the beaches and then the movement to the supply dumps. The division commander, MajGen Alexander A. Vandegrift, would not draw down on his fighting strength to provide additional working parties. The Navy did put some sailors ashore to help. From the Guadalcanal experience came the rule of thumb that it took a hundred men on the beach for each ship that was discharging cargo. Air attacks that afternoon further interrupted the unloading. Next day there were more attacks, but fortunately for the Marines, the Japanese concentrated their attention on the shipping rather than the beaches. That evening RAdm Kelly Turner, the amphibious task force commander, informed Vandegrift that he would be taking his transports out of the objective area in the morning.

Before the night was over, a bad situation got worse. A Japanese surface task force came into Sealark Channel, separating Tulagi from Guadalcanal, and, in what

came to be called the Battle of Savo Island, sank most of the cruisers in the screening force. Next day Kelly stayed with his transports as long as he dared, but when he sailed away on the afternoon of 9 August the Marines were left on the beach with just four units of fire and a scant 37 days of rations. For two months or more the Marines ashore at Guadalcanal stayed alive by virtue of scant supplies landed in the first 48 hours, captured Japanese stores, and emergency resupply brought in by transport destroyer "blockade runners" and air transport. Malaria and malnutrition caused far more casualties than Japanese bullets.

The 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion landed with the division at Guadalcanal and a company of the 2d Amphibian Tractor Battalion landed at Tulagi. Their LVTs were not used to land troops but purely as cargo carriers. Much of the work of moving supplies from beach dumps to permanent sites was done by amtracks. Later they were used with mixed success as artillery prime movers. There were also brave but misguided efforts to use them as light tanks and armored personnel carriers.

The first real testing of LVTs as assault vehicles in the ship-to-shore movement would come a year later. At Tarawa the 2d Marine Division had to land directly against a heavily fortified beach. On the tiny island of Betio, the Marines intended to land 732 wheeled and tracked vehicles plus 205 trailers. An orderly logistical effort would require that beach party and shore party units land with the assault battalions.

The shore party plan for Tarawa was predicated on there being enough space within the beachhead for the unloading of supplies and evacuation of casualties. But during the first day at Betio the assault waves were not able to clear the beach; they fought with their backs against the sea. It had been assumed that much of the unloading of incoming boats could be concentrated at the long pier that jutted out into the lagoon from the waist of Betio island. A trickle of supplies moved by landing craft—LCVPs and LCMs—to the end of the pier and from there could best be moved to the front lines by LVTs. During much of the first day, the wounded were placed in rubber boats and towed by hand to the edge of the reef where they were transferred to landing craft. Later, as LVTs became available, the wounded were brought back by tractor to the end of the pier, given emergency treatment, and then moved by landing craft back to the transports.

The great positive logistical lesson of Tarawa was that amphibian tractors could cross reefs and then go on to land troops and supplies on a hostile beach. Tarawa

also proved that a transfer could be made at the reef line from landing craft to amphibian tractors.

While these epic events were taking place in the Pacific, I was still safely at Quantico. After graduating from the Reserve Officers Course—the wartime equivalent of The Basic School—in late August 1942, I was kept on at Quantico to be a platoon leader in the Officer Candidates Course which was then expanding. After awhile it was discovered that I had graduated from Lehigh University. It was assumed that if I was from Lehigh I must be an engineer, and I was made an instructor in map reading. No one seems to have noticed that I actually had graduated with a degree in English and journalism.

After a little more than a year at Quantico, I was transferred, as a first lieutenant, to the Training and Replacement Command at Camp Lejeune and I sailed from Norfolk with a replacement company in December 1943 and after some adventures en route I arrived at the transient center in New Caledonia in January 1944. The Bougainville operation was still being fought. It was determined that by virtue of my being a Lehigh graduate and an instructor in map reading at Quantico that I was a trained engineer and I was ordered, to Branch 3, 4th Base Depot.

No one at the transient center was quite certain where Branch 3, 4th Base Depot, might be or even what it was, but it was reported that it had come off Bougainville and was somewhere in the middle Solomons. It was suggested that I go to

Guadalcanal and inquire as to its whereabouts.

I took passage on an LST bound for Guadalcanal. It was the first time I had ever seen an LST. I was very seasick. At that time, as I remember, the Navy still tethered barrage balloons to the fantails of landing ships, the theory being that obliging Japanese bombers would fly into the cables.

My LST went to Tulagi rather than Guadalcanal which lay ominously across Iron Bottom Sound. At Tulagi I learned that my Branch 3, 4th Base Depot, was at Banika, one of the Russell Islands, some miles to the north. I got a ride to Banika on a patrol craft of some sort.

Once there I learned that the 4th Base Depot had been activated at Noumea, New Caledonia, a year earlier, on 1 April 1943, as a direct result of the logistical logjam in the South Pacific. Despite the Army's best efforts there was a confused tangle of equipment and supplies piled up at New Caledonia and Guadalcanal which had threatened to sideline the New Georgia operation. The 4th Base Depot, with 61 officers and 1,367 men, moved first to Guadalcanal and then to Banika to relieve the situation.

They had done a good job at both New Georgia and Bougainville. To support Bougainville they had established a forward base at Vella Lavella and then Branch 3 had moved to Punuata, a little island just off the Cape Torokina beaches which proved to be a favorite dumping ground for Japanese medium bombers.

*Snapshot from the official "Guam Operation" scrapbook of "Fifth Field Depot, Supply Service, FME, Pacific, 21 July to 30 Aug. 1944" shows weather-proofed Ordnance Company equipment area. Scrapbook is recent addition to Historical Center collection.*





*The 5th Field Depot's Guam scrapbook, which Gen Simmons shot of the "engineer assembly department" in 1944. FMFPac as a young officer helped to compile and design, includes snap- Supply Service became FMFPac Service Command in June 1945.*

About the time of my arrival, Branch 3, 4th Base Depot, was redesignated the 5th Field Depot. It was organized as an over-large battalion with seven organic companies: Headquarters, General Supply, Engineer, Signal, Ordnance, Motor Transport, and Military Police.

I was assigned to the Engineer Company and, because of my supposed expertise in mapping, was made the Survey and Reconnaissance officer. As such I was sent to the neighboring island of Pavuvu to help lay out the camp for the 1st Marine Division which was returning from Cape Gloucester. It is enough to say that the 1st Marine Division despised its camp at Pavuvu.

At this time it was expected that the next operation for the I Marine Amphibious Corps and the 3d Marine Division would be a landing against Kavieng, a large Japanese base on New Ireland. This operation was cancelled, but a detachment from the depot did go with the 4th Marines on what turned out to be the bloodless conquest of Emirau Island, off of Kavieng.

The center of gravity of the Marine effort in the Pacific was now shifting from the South Pacific to the Central Pacific. In the offing was the Marianas campaign with landings planned for Saipan, Guam, and Tinian in that order.

D-day for V Amphibious Corps at Saipan was 15 June 1944. A 7th Field Depot had been organized for the Saipan landing. The landing of III Amphibious Corps at Guam, originally set for 18 June, had to be delayed because of the great naval air battle known as the Marianas Turkey Shoot, until 21 July.

During the assault 5th Field Depot was to provide shore party teams to the 3d Marine Division, which was to land near Asan north of Agana on Guam, and to the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, which was to land near Agat south of Agana. The first of these teams began landing on the heels of the assault battalions at H plus two hours. Under their respective Shore Party commanders, the 5th Field Depot teams along with other service and pioneer units began the business of landing supplies over the shelf-like coral reef jutting out a quarter to a half mile from the beach. Chief Japanese interference was from isolated strong points and sniper fire, with occasional sporadic mortar and light artillery fire. On the brigade front, one 75mm Japanese gun in the nose of coral that separated White from Yellow beaches knocked out 17 amtracks.

Pontoon barges were brought in lashed to the sides of LSTs and anchored just off the reef's edge to be used as unloading platforms for the transfer from landing craft to LVTs and DUKWs—a "DUKW" was a rubber-tired amphibious truck developed by the Army which was particularly useful for the landing and movement inland of artillery ammunition.

My own particular job, primarily, was to verify the suitability of the supply dump locations that we had picked out largely on the basis of aerial photographs. To our dismay, most of the nice smooth patches of open grassland we had selected turned out to be unusable rice paddies. The best site allocated to us was at the base of Orote peninsula and it was the scene of a bloody

tank and infantry battle a day or so before our occupancy. In cleaning up the area we buried nearly a thousand Japanese in an area of less than a hundred acres. The rats, flies, and smells of the area were beyond adequate description.

After about a week of shore party operations the 5th Field Depot pulled its pieces together and began functioning as a unit, moving increasingly into a garrison mode. By the end of the month the depot was in a semi-permanent 1,000-man camp with five smaller camps for outlying companies and sections. In addition to its organic companies, two ammunition and six depot companies had been added to the depot. The rank and file of the ammunition and depot companies were black Marines. All officers were white. Both kinds of company had black NCOs but the more technical ammunition companies had white staff NCOs.

The 3d Marine Division stayed on at Guam. The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade went back to Guadalcanal and became the 6th Marine Division.

With the organization of Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, in August 1944 all the field depots and base depots were brought together into a Supply Service. At that time, in addition to the 5th Field Depot at Guam and the 7th Field Depot at Saipan, there was a 1st Field Depot in New Caledonia, a 3d Field Depot in New Zealand, and a new 8th Field Depot being formed in Hawaii. The 4th Base Depot remained in the Russell Islands and there was a 6th Base Depot at Oahu.

Peleliu had been fought while we were still mopping up on Guam. Iwo Jima would come next. Eighth Field Depot was ear-marked to go to Iwo in support of V Amphibious Corps which would include the 3d, 4th, and 5th Marine Divisions.

Since Iwo is not surrounded by a reef, it was supposed that all types of landing craft would be able to beach without the time-consuming transfer at the reef line. This supposition led V Amphibious Corps to authorize subordinate units to mount out up to 50 percent of their supplies on pallets. Pallets were something brand-new to the Marines. I remember that the 5th Field Depot established a "pallet factory" on Guam where, with the help of a working party from the 3d Pioneer Battalion, a rude assembly line was set up and pallets turned out at the rate of 350 a day. It was also planned to use Marston matting to overcome the trafficability problem of soft sand and volcanic ash.

The first wave of LVTs hit the beach at 0859 on 19 February 1945, one minute ahead of schedule. It was an open beach and a heavy sea was running. The landing of supplies was difficult. Many of the landing craft broached.

Pallets were not a great success. They were heavy and awkward. There was no special handling equipment. There weren't even proper tools to cut the steel banding. In many cases this was done with bayonets or by Marines swinging axes.

The Marines left Iwo on 27 March. There was one more great battle to be fought before the war would end—Okinawa. The Tenth Army would have two corps at Okinawa. One would be the Army's XXIV Corps. The other would be the III Amphibious Corps with the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions.

To quote an Army historian, the logistics plan for Okinawa "was the most elaborate one of its kind developed during World War II, involving prearranged movement of both assault and cargo shipping over vast ocean distances." The supply line stretched 6,000 miles across the Pacific, with 11 different ports of call, to support the mount-out of 193,852 troops encumbered with some 824,567 measurement tons of cargo loaded into 458 assault transports and landing ships. After the assault phase, a staggered series of supply shipments would replenish the Tenth

Army in accordance with a prearranged schedule.

To assist in logistical planning and preparations, FMFPac established a 1st Field Service Command in the Marianas, to concern itself primarily with the 2d and 3d Marine Divisions, and a corresponding 2d Field Service Command on Guadalcanal to assist the 1st and 6th Divisions. These Field Service Commands were essentially liaison units between the supported units and the Marine Supply Service in Hawaii. In some minds, they were an unnecessary echelon.

The 7th Field Depot, veterans of Saipan, was assigned to the III Amphibious Corps for Okinawa. The Army's XXIV Corps and our III Amphibious Corps landed abreast across the Hagushi beaches on the western side of the narrow waist of the island on 1 April. There was no opposition.

The initial lack of resistance allowed the Marines to get ashore at an accelerated rate, but this upset the unloading schedules. There weren't enough landing craft to bring both troops and cargo ashore. Trucks and other prime movers were also slow in getting landed and it soon developed that neither Marine division had enough motor transport to supply itself adequately nor to move its artillery.

Initially the beaches were worked by battalion shore parties. By nightfall the divisions had assumed control of shore party operations. There was a coral reef. LVTs and DUKWs shuttled cargo across the reef. Only at high tide could landing craft cross over the reef and then only at certain places.

Unloading was further disrupted by *kamikaze* attacks against the shipping, the congested nature of the beaches, and the difficulties of movement inland because of the poor roads which the spring rains turned into bottomless mud. A chronic shortage of artillery ammunition was aggravated by the sinking of three ammunition ships by *kamikazes*. Even so, the immense tonnages I mentioned earlier making up the assault and the echelon of resupply were all unloaded by the end of April.

The III Amphibious Corps began the campaign with four LVT battalions and a total of 421 amphibian tractors. By the end of the operation there were only 146

tractors still in operation. Supply of the front lines was sometimes done by air drop, sometimes in very imaginative ways. As for example, Marine torpedo bombers were used to drop prepackaged loads to both the Army and the Marines.

The mount-out for Okinawa had demonstrated that the Marine Corps supply system in the Pacific was overly cumbersome. There were also great morale problems in the Supply Service. There were serious racial problems. The ammunition companies, who had a definite mission and who tended to have better officers, performed better and had better morale than the depot companies. The depot companies, who were parcelled out in working parties, did not have this sense of mission. They needed good leadership and in many cases they did not get it.

The Chief of Staff, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, BGen Merritt A. Edson, began to give the organization of the Marine Supply Service and its related morale problems some personal study. This was "Red Mike" Edson who had commanded the 1st Raider Battalion and the 5th Marines on Guadalcanal, who had also been at Tarawa and Saipan, and who had the Medal of Honor, the Navy Cross, the Silver Star, and two Legions of Merit.

On 1 June 1945, Supply Service, FMFPac, was redesignated as Service Command, FMFPac. The 7th and 8th Field Depots became the 7th and 8th Service Regiments. Instead of one large battalion, the service regiments were subdivided into three manageable battalions. Shortly thereafter Gen Edson was made commander of Service Command.

He recognized the importance of what we then called "public relations" and what is now called "public information" to morale. He wanted the Marines of Service Command to have pride in what they were doing and to get some recognition for it. He had a good public relations officer detailed to his staff and that officer knew me. I was sent to Okinawa with a very fine photographer to see if I couldn't get some favorable publicity for the 7th Service Regiment. That gave me the opportunity to observe the mount-out for China. But also, by that time, the war had ended and so must this piece on Marine Corps logistics in World War II. □1775□

## Saw China Marines Sail Away; That Was No Arisaka!

### LEFT BEHIND IN SHANGHAI

A footnote to the article "On the Trail of the China Marines" (*Fortitudine*, Winter 1986-1987). After World War II I was in North China for a time in charge of public affairs for the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, and returned as a civilian in 1947, based in Shanghai, as a U.S. Information Service officer.

With the advance of the Communist army our military was ordered out. In Tsingtao, our major naval base, some 1,600 Marines sailed away leaving one battalion afloat in case needed to evacuate Americans.

Although warned to leave by our Consulate, some 2,000 Americans remained in Shanghai. We worked up an elaborate evacuation plan. Shanghai was divided into sections. A member of the Consulate living in that part of town was appointed as leader and issued a shortwave radio. Collection points were established: the Columbia Country Club, the American School, and the Consulate itself.

Each section leader was assigned a squad of Marines from the 700-man force living on the USS *Bayfield* anchored in the Whangpoo. The main collection station was on the Whangpoo opposite where the *Bayfield* was moored. A messhall was established, supplies laid in, while *Repose*, a Navy hospital ship stood by.

The idea was, in a crisis, word would be spread by radio and runners. Americans were to head for the nearest collection center. Here, Marines would help keep order. Passports would be given a quick examination. People would be moved by truck, through back alleys, if necessary, to the central collection point where they would be taken out to sea.

In April 1949, a million Chinese Communist troops swarmed across the Yangtze, in the process catching the British sloop, *Amethyst*, like a sitting duck. China's rivers had become a dangerous place for foreign warships. Our Navy ships, waiting for evacuation, were ordered to up anchor and leave for the ocean. They were the last Marines in China for a generation.

Meanwhile, I, along with a small group,

was asked to "stay behind" in Shanghai. Our Consulate was on the Bund, next to the British Consulate, overlooking Garden Bridge Park, Garden Bridge, and Soochow Creek.

As the Nationalists retreated they left their rear guard stretched out along Soochow Creek. The Communists came from the other direction and our Consulate wound up in no-man's-land. We took a lot of hits, but that is another story. Six months later the Communists allowed some of us to leave.

Maj Earl J. Wilson, USMC (Ret)  
Potomac, Maryland

### SHARP-EYED MARINE READER

I had the opportunity of reading an article in *Fortitudine*, Vol XVI, Number 2 of Fall 1986 about the Japanese military rifles. It really stimulated my enthusiasm upon seeing the photograph of the rare "Type 44" Arisaka carbine donated by GySgt Carl R. Lobb, in which I myself per-

sonally own one but of a different model.

During the early invasion of the Philippine Islands by the Japanese Imperial Forces, several battles were recorded from Lingayen, San Manuel and Porac areas. Philippine and American soldiers fought the attacking enemy fiercely until the futile surrender on Bataan. The Japanese suffered heavy losses but at the same time captured many firearms from the retreating Philippine and American troops.

The U.S. Enfield M1917 was the service rifle issued to the Philippine Army while the Springfield M1903 and the M1 Garand were used by the American soldiers at that time. Thus, I would like to note that on the second photograph featured on the same page of the article, the Japanese soldiers shown debarking on the island of Corregidor did not carry any type of Arisaka rifles but in reality were armed with U.S. Enfield M1917 rifles. These rifles were probably some of the captured firearms from the landing at Lingayen through the fall of Bataan. The wooden stocks, placement of sling and the front sight assem-

*Reader LCpl Mario D. Dizon says Japanese infantrymen in this photograph from Fall 1986 Fortitudine are armed with the U.S. Rifle M1917 (Enfield), not Arisaka rifle models.*



*And he appears to be right. A Japanese 1905 Arisaka, top, is distinguished from the U.S. M1917 rifle below by the features he mentions: stock, sling placement, and sights.*



blies definitely show proof of recognition. But I would like to admit that I do not have any knowledge as to why those particular Japanese soldiers were carrying captured weapons.

LCpl Mario D. Dizon, USMC  
VMA(AW)-242, MCAS El Toro  
Santa Ana, California

## KOREA'S HELICOPTER 'FIRSTS'

In Winter 1986-1987 *Fortitudine* Col Houston "Tex" Stiff and LtGen Victor H. Krulak comment on "Korean War Chronology" of the Fall 1986 issue and HMR-161's introduction into the Korean War. The History and Museum's Division's *A History of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161*, pp. 4-5, clarifies the matter. Operation Windmill I was the first operation of 161 in Korea, a resupply and evacuation mission to Hill 673 on 13 September 1951 in support of 2d Battalion, 1st Marines fighting for Hill 749. Windmill II on 19 September was another resupply mission in support of the 5th Marines, although 2/5 was not specifically mentioned. Operation Summit, two days later, lifted the Division Recon Company to Hill 884 on the division's exposed extreme right flank and was thus the first troop lift. Operation Blackbird, on 27 September and again involving 2/1, was indeed the first night troop lift traversing a tortuous mountain gorge into the "Punchbowl."

Col Brooke Nihart, USMC (Ret)  
McLean, Virginia

## THE BELL OF BALANGIGA

It seems necessary that I open this letter with a resounding pun—your article "Waller at Samar" in the Spring 1986 edition of *Fortitudine* certainly rings the bell with Army readers who have served with the 9th U.S. Infantry. When I reported to the 9th Infantry at Fort Lewis in 1948, the Bell of Balangiga—the relic of the massacre of Company C on 28 September 1901, which you so well reported—was in our small regimental museum, along with the Liscum Bowl and other treasures. But we made a sudden departure for Korea in July 1950, and only recently did I inquire into the present status of the bell.

I enclose a recent letter from the Curator of the 2d Division Museum at Camp Casey, Korea, which indicates that the bell is in his custody, but may soon be moved back to Fort Ord, California. . . .

Your article was another reminder of the several historical associations of the Army's 9th Infantry and various Marine units. Before Samar, there was their joint service in the Boxer Rebellion. The 9th was, along with the 23d, in the Army's Third Brigade in the AEF's 2d Division (the home of the Marine Brigade of the 5th and 6th Marines), and I can give personal account that the 9th Infantry and the 5th Marines were in the Naktong Perimeter of Korea in summer 1950.

Col Rolfe L. Hillman, Jr., USA (Ret)  
Arlington, Virginia

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Karl R. Wolff, curator/director of the 2d Infantry Division Museum, Camp Casey, Korea, wrote to Col Hillman that the Balangiga bell has been in Korea since the 2d Division's return in July 1965. It has been on display at the museum since.*

"Many artifacts of the 9th are on display also at the museum on loan, however, the Bell is the property of the Center of Military History therefore, a request of the 2d of the 9th to the Center of Military history has been made to return it to Fort Ord," he wrote. "The Center of Military History is the deciding factor. I have not been informed of the decision as of yet to release."

## HOLDS CORPS AIR TEST TITLES

On occasion I read or hear statements to the effect that certain individuals were the Marine Corps' first jet and/or helicopter pilots. As I'm now in my 74th year with little prospect of again passing a flight physical, I thought it best to set the record straight. I am both the Marine Corps' first jet and helicopter pilot. The circumstances are as follows:

In May 1943 I was ordered to the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland, where I served as a flight test pilot until January 1945. In that capacity I flew a number of new and experimental aircraft including the first U.S. jet and helicopter. To verify the above I attach a copy of my flight log and an article that appeared in *Naval Aviation News* in March 1963, en-

titled, "They Flew the U.S. Navy's First Jets."

By way of explanation the first attached sheet of my flight log (July 1944) shows

July 1944					
Date	Type of Machine	Number of Machine	Duration of Flight	Character of Flight	Pilot
7-5-44	JRC-1	55772	1.2	T	SEIF
7-5-44	"	"	1.2	T	LT. Cdr. Wood
7-5-44	RB-1	39292	.9	R	SEIF
7-11-44	F7F-1	80260	1.0	R	SEIF
7-18-44	YP59-A	10012	.7	E	"
7-22-44	G4H-1	29270	.5	R	"
7-22-44	PBY-1	32238	2.0	R	"
7-25-44	JRC-1	55772	.7	T	"
7-25-44	JRC-1	55772	.5	T	"

18 July as the date of my first flight in Bell Jet YP59-A, Bureau Number 00012. This flight is also confirmed in the *Naval Aviation News* article.

My first helicopter flight was on 30 March 1944 in an experimental Sikorsky machine XHNS-1, Bureau Number 39034. I was accompanied by a Lt. Cdr.

MAR. 1944					
Date	Type of Machine	Number of Machine	Duration of Flight	Character of Flight	Pilot
3-7-44	JRC-1	55772	.6	M-T	SEIF
3-8-44	B-26F	96239	2.5	R	SEIF
3-9-44	B26F	96239	1.5	R	SEIF
3-10-44	PBY-1	35094	.8	R	SEIF
3-10-44	"	"	.7	R	SEIF
3-11-44	FM-2	15853	1.3	K	SEIF
3-11-44	PV-1	27873	1.0	E	SEIF
3-16-44	RB-1	39293	1.5	E	SEIF
3-17-44	RB-1	39293	1.0	R	SEIF
3-22-44	JRC-1	55772	.7	D	SEIF
3-30-44	HNS-1	39034	.7	E	SEIF
3-31-44	RB-1	39293	.8	R	SEIF

Miller, USNR, who had some previous experience in Pitcairn autogiros but none in helicopters. We made twelve flights together between March and October 1944. On 3 November 1944 I made a solo flight of 0.8 hours in XHNS-1, Bureau Number 39046. I flew several additional solo flights after that date until relieved of flight test duty in January 1945.

I attach no particular significance to the events other than I had the good fortune of special duty assignment at an exciting time in aviation history.

Col Desmond E. Canavan, USMC (Ret)  
Hanover, New Hampshire

# Donated Ammo Pouch Helped Save Khe Sanh Vet's Life

by John H. McGarry III

In battle, strange incidents sometimes occur which make participants stop and wonder. Military historians are familiar with the many occasions when Civil War soldiers' lives were saved by bibles, diaries, or common everyday objects contained in coat pockets.

Such seemingly magical incidents are not confined to the nineteenth century, witness the case of Sgt Charles B. Saltaformaggio, USMC.

A native of Metairie, Louisiana, Sgt Saltaformaggio arrived in the Republic of Vietnam in November 1966. He was serving with Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines. On 30 April 1967, halfway through his tour, his unit was ordered to assault Hill 881 near the soon-to-be-famous Khe Sanh combat base. In a letter written to his family a few weeks later he describes what happened:

*Sgt Charles B. Saltaformaggio poses for an October 1967 snapshot in Vietnam. His letters home form a part of his donation.*



I'm on Hill 881, we have been here since May 2 when we finally took it and held it. . . but April 30 when we first came up this hill the lead was flying hot and heavy.

We first came to Khe Sanh to help 3d Battalion, 3d Marines off of Hill 861. Then three days later 881 had to be taken and held. The North Vietnamese hard core were on top and dug in. Third Platoon of Kilo and Mike Company of 3/9 were first up . . . but they were hit hard and pinned down . . . so my platoon was sent up to get them down. We got up there, got pinned down ourselves for about an hour, but finally got the wounded off right before dark.

It was all hell that day. I had one real close call. . . Sgt Butterworth, myself, and another member of my squad made a run (across a 25-yard clearing). . . We hit the deck right at the tree line and found a bunker. I threw a grenade in it and was still out in the clearing when one of those little gentlemen popped up on my right and started shooting at me. He didn't mess around either. They all had automatic rifles, and the dirt was flying all around me. When I got to cover I had a hole in my pants leg, and a small nick on my knee . . . a small cut on my arm, and a bruised rib from another round. . . All in all it was a little too close for peace of mind.

The burst of fire from the AK-47 automatic weapon was closer than Sgt Saltaformaggio knew at the time. Like any other infantryman in Vietnam, he was carrying plenty of spare ammunition. This included an extra pouch for M-16 magazines which he wore on the back of his ri-



*Round from an AK-47 automatic weapon passed through the ammo pouch and was deflected from the center of the sergeant's back by the magazines stored inside.*

fle belt. Upon inspection, he found that a round from the Vietnamese burst had passed through the pouch and been deflected away from the center of his back.

The other wounds that he received, as he thought, proved to be minor. Had the pouch and magazines not deflected the accurate round, this certainly would not have been the case.

Mr. Saltaformaggio made a visit to the Marine Corps Historical Center last year. He later wrote to the curatorial staff to inquire if the Museum would be interested in the personal letters that he wrote during his tour in Vietnam. He also said that he had a pouch and two magazines from his service days. When the staff learned of the unusual story behind the equipment, they asked if he might be interested in donating these as well. The package arrived and the items were examined.

The pouch itself shows a medium-sized tear from the entry of the bullet. The magazines show how the round entered and was deflected away, permanently bending and tearing the stamped sheet-metal case.

These recent acquisitions to the Marine Corps Museum collection will help to document the equipment used by Marines in Vietnam, and one of the more unusual experiences of a Marine in combat. □1775□

# 'Hill 881 South': San Antonio's Vietnam Memorial

by Austin Deuel III

I started writing this looking over the hood of a bright, fire-engine red, 18-wheeler Peterbuilt, its twin stacks straining with the roar of the engine and their shining surfaces reflecting the soft West Texas dawn breaking before us on the flat horizon. The monument follows on its trailer, the covering of fresh morning dew drying by the winds of its journey. I'm reflecting on the events of the last ten and one-half months of work to complete this memorial and the twenty years of pain for me and millions of other Vietnam veterans and their families which are its reason for being.

This event started twenty-one years ago at a Western Art Show in Death Valley, California, which led to a hill in Vietnam called "Hill 881 South" in April of 1967. Through a driving force I cannot explain, I wound up joining the Marine Corps again as a Private First Class to become a combat artist in Vietnam. This hill was my first involvement in a major combat action though not, I'm sorry to say, my last. 881 South turned out to be one of the bloodiest encounters of the war for the Marine Corps. It exposed me to the extreme horrors of war, both physically and emotionally, that were to scar me and many others forever. I know this part of the war was the same as any other wars in history. Our difference was yet to come. . . the going home! We came home to rumors and facts of the unpleasant response to our



*Plaster form from which the bronze casting would be made rests in the Scottsdale, Arizona, studio of artist Austin Deuel III. In the sculpture, Deuel recalled a Marine radioman aiding a dying comrade on Hill 881 South at Khe Sanh in April 1967.*

homecomings. We made plans for our arrivals to scatter over this country and melt back into its society with as low a profile as possible, trying to put our lives back together while living with the scarlet letter V for Vietnam. The burden of this war morality, which publicly went from war to murder, fell on those who served. The events that followed have continued that tone of judgement such as granting am-

nesty to those who fled to Canada. Who grants amnesty to those with no legs or arms, or those who live in the VA hospitals with only one chance to check out and that is by death? Those who served did not know they had a choice, either legally or morally. This, plus other actions, has added much trauma to the wounds like a staph infection.

The outpouring of emotion on this trip came as a great surprise to us. When seen, the memorial seemed to lance a nasty boil, pouring forth the emotional pus of these past times for a final time, and destroying the destructive grip it has had on our lives. We who were initially involved in the memorial's beginning hoped for its importance to be seen and felt, but what was happening was beyond our wildest thoughts. After so many years of stifled emotions, the dam breaking was spontaneous and heartfelt. Glen said it best, "It's title should be 'Truth' which was so lacking in Vietnam."

This all came to pass because those involved in its concept and its being were Vietnam veterans. John D. Baines, the driving force and the man who commissioned the piece, served two tours—one as

Fortitude readers may believe that all interpretation of Marine Corps history either originates with or is supported by the History and Museums Division. Of course, this is not so. We often learn of extramural historical activities in a roundabout way, frequently from alumni and friends, sometimes by the public press. San Antonio's Vietnam Memorial falls into this category. Col Houston "Tex" Stiff, Marine combat commander in two wars and combat artist in Vietnam, called to tip us off about the accomplishment of his Scottsdale, Arizona neighbor and fellow Marine Corps artist in Vietnam, Austin Deuel III. Deuel created the heroic-scale statue of a Marine radioman succoring a dying comrade on Hill 881 South near Khe Sanh. The article on this page is Deuel's account unedited and in his own words of moving the huge bronze casting from his studio to its final resting place in San Antonio, the help by fellow Marines, and the emotional impact it made during the trip across the southwest and at its destination. Except for John Baines, a SeaBee and SEAL, who commissioned the sculpture, it was an all-Marine project. Yet we didn't know about it; Public Affairs didn't know about it; nobody sent us newspaper accounts of the dedication. It was only through a personal contact that we learned about the inspiring memorial.



a Navy SEAL; Glen Kirkpatrick, who made the arrangement for the truck to haul the memorial and finished his truck driving career with this last load, served two tours in Force Recon USMC; and there were countless other veterans who assisted.

You never realize those who have been touched by this war until a project such as this is started. I've known John and Ann DiTommaso in the art business for years. They stumbled onto this project in its final days of completion. It came out that Ann's brother, a PFC in the Marine Corps and from Texas, was killed May 1, 1967, nearly the same time as this battle. She came every day until its final loading on the truck to head for its permanent home in San Antonio. She gave me, Glen and

*The bright, fire-engine red, 18-wheeler Peterbuilt truck, top, which was used to transport the bronze to San Antonio stops for gas in El Paso, Texas. At a West Texas rest stop, right, a truck driver and his blind brother "see" the memorial, the brother by touching it with his hands. In place on its pedestal in downtown San Antonio, below, "Hill 881 South" attracts ribbons, flowers, flags, notes, and photographs from visitors. Deuel recalls at the dedication the sound as "a squad of marines in full combat gear pulled the covering off the monument, that far off whoop-whoop-whoop that pulses in your ears, then the sudden appearance of a formation of Hueys overhead and the radioman on the monument looking up at them."*



Bobby (the two truck drivers) a small yellow rose, then tied a yellow ribbon to the memorial and gave me one large yellow rose for her brother. I told her I would put it under its final resting place for him. We had no idea this was just the beginning of our trail of tears.

**W**e stopped that first night in Eloy at the Toltec 76 truck stop. Eloy, in Spanish, means the land of the forsaken. The owner allowed us a prestigious spot for parking the truck for viewing and insisted on feeding us dinner and breakfast. Glen could not sleep; he kept an all-night vigil with the memorial. By morning it was streaming with added yellow ribbons. One truck driver went into the gift shop in the night and bought three yellow T-shirts to tear up for the additional

ribbons for those who wished to use in memory of a loved one or friend. Written messages and money were also left during the night; some messages were short, with just a name or "we miss you." One remembering note found in the new day's light read,

We called you Little Feather,  
You were our friend.  
Your body is gone now  
But your spirit lives on  
Inside this statue.  
You live still  
And in our hearts  
You always will.  
I miss you, Ben.

Sgt. Ben J. Hogan (Little Feather)  
Missing in Action, August, 1970.

Glen and I cried with so many others to come on this trail to San Antonio. As we drove further, more sorrows were tied to the monument, now streaming with yellow tears. Even at night its magic could not be hidden by the darkness and its speed of 65 mph.

The CB screeched, "Where are you going, woman?"

She replied, "Did you see the statue?"

He: "What statue?"

She: "The one on that red Peterbuilt. I'm going to get a better look."

Her 18-wheeler pulled alongside and slowed with her bewildered follower in his truck. Glen, who was running the front door in my truck, broke in with his deep, slow Texas drawl, "That's the Vietnam War Memorial for Alamo City."

The woman truck driver said, "I was a medic for five years, 1967 to '72."

Glen answered, "You might've taken care of me, darlin'!"

She said, "I only took care of the marines."

Glen said, "I was a marine!"

She replied, with sadness showing in her voice, "There were so many, I wouldn't remember." Then she added, "That statue has a lot of feeling. Whoever did it was there. Well, I'm going to Florida and when I get to Alamo City, I'll look it up."

Glen said, "You do that. We all love you, darlin'," as the tail lights of her truck disappeared into the darkness of a New Mexico night.

Glen and Bobby and I still were not prepared for the events of the next day as we penetrated deep into Texas. Just before the turnoff on 10 to San Antonio, the most desolate part of the trip, other 18-wheelers requested we stop at the upcoming rest stop before the turnoff so they could have a better look. We pulled in with a dozen trucks peeling off behind us, and parked at an angle across the truck parking area. The trucks lined up for a look, standing there like giant caterpillars, the headlights creating a haunting stare. A cool West Texas breeze blew briskly over the area and there was nothing as far as the eye could see. The quiet was shattered by the easy idle of those giant diesels tapping out their patient wait as their drivers gathered around for a look-see. One driver had his brother with him who was obviously his constant companion. His brother was blind and the driver guided him over to the lowboy trailer the monument was using as its temporary pedestal and helped

him onto it and to the bronze to allow him to "see" with his hands. There wasn't a dry eye in the place. A woman truck driver walked up to me, grabbed my hand and with a thankful squeeze said, "Thanks."

Glen, Bobby and I gathered ourselves as we had so many times to head down the final stretch. . . Alamo City.

We arrived the next morning in misty rain and by that afternoon, the monument was placed in its final resting place to stay until the end of civilization.

Sunday, November 9, was the unveiling at which I was surrounded by friends and family and the great spirit of the Alamo. I met my foxhole buddy, now Sgt. Major Dick Schaad (until this event I hadn't known if he'd lived through his next tour) and Don Hossack (the radioman depicted on the memorial), who was wounded on the hill and the only radioman to survive, now a detective in Kalispell, Montana. There were the usual speeches by dignitaries, two jet fly-bys, then that so-familiar sound to all as a squad of marines in full combat gear pulled the covering off the monument, that far off whoop-whoop-whoop that pulses in your ears, then the sudden appearance of a formation of Hueys overhead and the radioman on the monument looking up at them. I didn't think I had any more tears in me, but they came! Then the surge of the crowd for a closer look, veterans openly crying and hugging each other, then placing their medals on the monument. The bouquets of flowers grew by the minute, American flags, notes, photographs. This continued for days. I tried to go back for a moment by myself later, but even at 2:30 in the morning small groups of people were still there.

I've been through some great highs in the art world and some special moving moments through public reaction to my work. One such moment was the opening of an art show called "The Vietnam Experience" in 1982 in New York City. But to have a piece of artwork turn from art to an altar, as happened in San Antonio, is moving beyond description.

Glen had made one last early morning visit to the monument. I met him there to say goodbye. "It rained just a little bit," he said. "Austin, you won't believe it. It cries!" He and I hugged for a last time, sealing the moment forever between us.

□1775□

*Some of the people involved in the memorial project, most of them Marine veterans of the Vietnam War, gather for a dedication photograph. Subsequent visitors were so numerous that even at 2:30 in the morning small groups were still there. One volunteer said to Deuel, "It rained just a little bit. Austin, you won't believe it. It cries!"*



# Steps Taken to Improve Memorials to Pacific War Dead

by Robert V. Aquilina  
Assistant Head, Reference Section

In recent years, the History and Museums Division has noted an increasing interest among Marine veterans of World War II in the battle monuments of the Pacific region. Typically, a concerned veteran, or veterans' group, will inquire as to the proper procedures for renovating an already existing monument in need of repair, or of the feasibility of planning and constructing an entirely new memorial. Indeed, American visitors to the sites of the various World War II campaigns in the Pacific are often puzzled by what appears to be a disparity in the number of Japanese versus American war memorials and monuments.

Following World War II, monuments commemorating U.S. Marine Corps campaigns in the Pacific theater were erected at Wake Island, Tarawa, Guam, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa, and a plaque was dedicated at Honiara, Guadalcanal. The relative paucity of suitable American monuments in the Pacific can be explained partially by the divergent Asian and American cultural and religious attitudes towards memorialization of the dead, and partially by the proximity of the Pacific battle sites to Japan. Several ongoing efforts have been initiated recently, however, which should help to rectify the present status of American monuments in the Pacific region.

The federal agency responsible for commemorating the services of American forces in foreign countries is the American Battle Monuments Commission. It is responsible for the erection of suitable memorial shrines and for maintaining permanent American military burial grounds overseas. Three World War II memorials were erected by the Commission on United States soil. The East and West Coast Memorials commemorate by name the missing in action and those lost or buried at sea in American Atlantic and Pacific coastal waters. The Honolulu Memorial commemorates the missing in action and those servicemen lost or buried at sea in the Pacific War areas of World War II other than the Southwest Pacific, and the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. In addition, the 14 overseas World War II cemeteries administered by the Commission contain small museums with battle

maps. The use of these sites as burial grounds, including the Manila Cemetery in the Republic of the Philippines, has been granted to the United States in perpetuity and without charge or taxation, by the host governments concerned.

The National Park Service is proceeding with plans to develop and maintain a centrally located "Pacific National Historic Park." This park, located on Guam, is to "commemorate the bravery and sacrifice of those participating in the campaigns of the Pacific theater during World War II." In addition, the Secretary of the Interior has been authorized to conduct a "study of additional areas associated with the Pacific campaigns of World War II" to determine their suitability as parks and/or locations for memorials. In order to ensure these Pacific sites were accurately located and historical events adequately interpreted, a historian from the National Park Service was assigned to research official records of World War II, with the cooperation and assistance of the Marine Corps, as well as the other Armed Forces.

A tangible result of these cooperative research efforts was the official dedication on 20 October 1986 of the Roi-Namur Battlefield as a National Historic

Landmark. The World War II landing beaches on Saipan, Mariana Islands, along with the Peleliu battlefield, Palau Islands, have also been designated by the Secretary of the Interior as National Historic Landmarks.

In addition to the efforts of the American Battle Monuments Commission and the National Park Service, a number of veterans' groups are striving to construct memorials and monuments in the Pacific. For example, the 2d Marine Division Association has worked closely with the Government of the Republic of Kiribati in constructing a new memorial on the island of Tarawa in commemoration of the pivotal battle waged there in 1943. The 6th Marine Division Association, likewise, is working with Japanese groups to construct a suitable memorial on Okinawa.

The Marine Corps is not authorized to expend appropriated funds for the erection of memorial plaques, historical markers, or monuments. Consequently, the burden for erecting specialized plaques and memorials honoring Marine Corps campaigns in the Pacific rests with the designated federal agencies and commissions. The History and Museums Division continues to provide significant historical research support and encouragement to these efforts. □1775□

*Monument on Guam honoring four Marine Corps Medal of Honor recipients from World War II campaign on the island was completed in 1984, funded by the Korean Marine Association of Guam. New Pacific National Historic Park will be on Guam.*



# The Historical Center at Age Ten: Retrospective and Prospective

by Col Brooke Nihart  
Deputy Director for Museums

After five years of planning and 18 months of construction, the Marine Corps Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard opened 12 May 1977 with an elaborate reception. Guests included commandants past and present, distinguished Marines, Navy luminaries, and Administration officials.

Aside from the exciting interior architecture of the freshly minted Center itself, the main attraction was the art exhibition filling the Special Exhibits Gallery of the main floor Museum. Arranged by the late Col Raymond Henri, first head of the combat art program during the Vietnam War, and one of his combat artists, CWO Wendell A. "Tex" Parks, the show traced the history of the Marine Corps through contemporaneous art.

Also in place for the opening were the standing exhibit cases of the Time Tunnel, which replicated the exhibits in the old museum at Quantico, plus new material, and the display which is a tribute to the heroism of Marines at Iwo Jima, including the two American flags flown from atop Mount Suribachi.

The second and third floors were open for inspection as well. The second featured well laid out offices and conference rooms plus cleverly designed cubicles for the

historical writers and carrels for visiting historians. Main feature of the third was the large, open 25,000-volume library in what was once a sail loft, lighted by roof skylights and supported by uninterrupted trusses. Also on the top floor were the Personal Papers Collection, Military Music Collection, Archives, Reference Section, and multipurpose room where meetings, lectures, and receptions came to be held.

Ten years later the same functions are performed on these floors. The Marine Corps Historical Foundation and photograph researcher's offices have been added to the third floor, while the library has grown to 35,000 volumes and the Military Music Collection has been moved to the newly expanded and renovated Marine Band library at the nearby Barracks.

The ten-years span has seen the completion and publication of most of the *U.S. Marines in Vietnam* series of histories—1954-1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1970-1971—with 1969 about to go to the printers. *Chaplains with Marines in Vietnam*, 1962-1971, and *A History of the Women Marines*, 1946-1977, plus numerous squadron and regimental histories have been published. Registers of personal papers collections of former commandants Clifton B. Cates, George Barnett, and

John H. Russell were published, with the register of the Thomas Holcomb papers being readied for publication. The Publications Production Section set the type for all of these works on its computer-based Compugraphic typesetters and laid them out ready for the printer. These tasks included the quarterly publication of *Fortitudine: Newsletter of the Marine Corps Historical Program* which, in these years, grew from an eight-page typescript journal to a 36-page slickpaper periodical.

Other sections of the Center were equally busy in these years. The Historical Reference Section, which started the decade responding to about 1,500 queries each year now answers 6,000 written, telephoned, and walk-in queries for historical information about Marines and their Corps. At the same time it researches and compiles 50 or 60 lineage and honors statements for Marine Corps units.

The oral historian conducted about 200 interviews which were transcribed and accessioned. In addition to in-depth career interviews and field interviews, there were instituted issue-oriented interviews as with members of the Security Guard Battalion, including all the Iran hostages. On-the-scene and follow-up interviews of Lebanon and Grenada participants were conduct-

*Director of Marine Corps History and Museums BGen Edwin H. Simmons sits amid the rubble of reconstruction work in an area of the mid-19th century building, later a Marine barracks,*

*which would become his office in the new Historical Center, in a photograph from the Spring 1976 issue of Fortitudine. The Center opened on 12 May 1977 with an elaborate reception.*





*Distinguished guests at the 1977 opening of the Center were Dr. Felix W. de Weldon, left, sculptor of the Marine Corps War Memorial—the Iwo Jima Memorial, and then-Commandant Gen Louis H. Wilson, Jr. Bronze casting of scale model is in the Museum.*

ed and proved to be important sources of research material for monograph histories of the two deployments. All living former Commandants have been or are in process of being interviewed in depth.

The official archives are held by the Center and include the Corps' operational records all under the same roof as other research collections. This facilitates the work of researchers and writers in a synergistic manner. The Archives Section also leads in the declassification of non-current records and can call up from the Federal Records Center in nearby Suitland, Maryland, operational records dating back to 1941.

By 1979 the Center was squared away enough that one of the Director's more ambitious goals could be undertaken. This was the organizing of an unofficial support group to help the Historical Program in ways that couldn't be done with only appropriated funds. Key members of the staff plus friends of the program such as Col Robert D. Heintz, Jr.; Gordon Heim; LtGen Alpha A. Bowser; Billy Bob Crim; Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr.; Robert Sherrod; Maj Richard Spooner; and Col Barry Zorthian banded together and incorporated the Marine Corps Historical Foundation. The Foundation has grown to nearly 1,500 members and has supported the program by sponsoring receptions for museum show openings, purchasing rare historical material, making research

grants, and presenting awards for historical writing and art.

The Center has its own program of professional development seminars for the staff but also with Historical Foundation members, Headquarters staff officers, and other service historians invited. Seminars are conducted monthly and annual themes have included military history research resources in the Washington area, the Marine Corps in the 80s and 90s, uses of military history in analysis and planning, and writing military history. Speakers have included prominent academicians, senior officers of all services, and policy-making government officials.

**T**he Center staff hasn't accomplished all of this unassisted. Since 1977, 55 interns from local universities including the Naval Academy have been afforded the opportunity to acquire valuable professional experience for academic credit while making a solid contribution to Center goals. The Historical Foundation supports the interns with lunch and commuting money. It also has supported with grants two doctoral fellows and two master's degree fellows, the latter a new program. The Foundation's goal is to fund one PhD grant and three MA fellows per academic year.

The Museums Branch didn't rest on its laurels after crafting the Time Tunnel exhibits and the opening art exhibition. It

installed eight dioramas of Marine battles from 1800 to 1918 from the old museum at Quantico and the Marine Corps Memorial and Museum in Philadelphia in a small gallery under the title "Marines in Miniature." A fine collection of early American firearms donated by former Marine Thomas A. Grant, Jr., was installed in innovative cases inserted into the deep window cuts in the Center's thick brick walls. The muskets and rifles exhibited trace the weapons which armed Marines from the Revolution to 1900. Numerous small single-topic exhibits have been shown for short periods near the Museum entrance as well as a case to present noteworthy "Recent Accessions" to the collections.

The Museums Branch also has found time to initiate and direct the establishment and growth of the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico, the reinterpretation and design of the Marine Corps Memorial and Museum at New Hall in Philadelphia's Independence National Historical Park, assistance to the Command Museum at MCRD Parris Island, and changing exhibits and art shows in the Headquarters Marine Corps lobby.

The creation and exploitation of fine art is a major part of the Museum program. The two-fold program strives to recreate on canvas important events of the Corps' history and to cover current operations, where possible. This resulted in the creation of series by Col Charles Waterhouse on "Marines in the Revolution," "Marines in the Conquest of California," and "Marines in the Frigate Navy." All three exhibitions have been shown widely in the United States with "Revolution" finding a permanent home in New Hall and "California" at Camp Pendleton. "Frigate Navy" is soon to appear at the Navy-Marine Corps Museum, Treasure Island, San Francisco. During the decade Marine combat artists have covered NATO exercises in Norway, Germany, and Greece-Turkey; maneuvers at Twentynine Palms; aircraft tests at Patuxent River; interservice rifle matches and The Basic School at Quantico; and Beirut. A Marine artist, LtCol Albert M. "Mike" Leahy, under Navy auspices covered Grenada. These works plus those earlier accessioned works from Vietnam, Korea, World War II, and earlier years form a corpus of over 6,000 pieces which are constantly being drawn upon for loan shows to Marine and public sector ac-

tivities and for hanging in the offices of general officers and senior civilian officials.

The activity most apparent to the visitor over the years has been the changing major exhibitions in the Museum's Special Exhibits Gallery. The gallery, a 20- by 100-foot room paralleling the Time Tunnel, has been the scene of over a dozen shows, usually filling the entire space. The exhibitions of art normally have lasted for about six months while those exhibiting three-dimensional objects being more demanding of mounting and captioning usually continue in place for a year or more.

The initial show of historical art was followed by Col Waterhouse's "Marines in the Revolution" series. "Wings of Gold," a showing of aviation art was next and then an exhibition of early-to-current recruiting posters and recruiting materials. The powerful charcoals of artist Kerr Eby, who covered the campaigns of Tarawa, Bougainville, and Cape Gloucester in late 1943, followed. One of the more popular shows was LtCol David Douglas Duncan's "This is War," 101 salon photographs which have been shown widely elsewhere as well as at the Historical Center. Col Waterhouse's series of historical reconstructions on "Marines in the Conquest of California—1846" and "Marines in the Frigate Navy—1798-1834" were shown as was "Through the Wheat—Marines in World War I," a combination of art, weapons, uniforms, and equipment. "Arms and Men" traced the technological development of Marine infantry weapons—individual, crew-served machine guns, portable firepower weapons, infantry mortars, and antitank weapons—relating them to changing organization and tactics. It remained in place for 18 months and still may be seen at the Center by special appointment.

More recently exhibitions have been:

"Every Clime and Place," a show of Marine combat artists covering ten years of NATO exercises, maneuvers, and deployments from 1975 to 1985; "Marine Corps Uniforms, 1983," original paintings by Reserve Maj Donna J. Neary reproduced as a widely distributed series of prints; "Grenada and Lebanon," with both art and souvenirs from those deployments; "From Dawn to Setting Sun—Marines in the Pacific War," with every campaign from Iceland and Pearl Harbor to the Occupation of Japan and North China recount-

ed with weapons, uniforms, insignia, medals, flags, maps, photographs, and documents; and finally, just removed, "75th Anniversary of Marine Corps Aviation—A Tribute," a 41-piece exhibition of aviation art from 1912 to the present. In-house designed posters advertised the exhibitions while catalogs were available to visitors. Openings usually featured a reception hosted by the Museums Branch or the Historical Foundation and attended by staff and museum and art community colleagues, Foundation members, Headquarters Marines, and distinguished officials.

While all this was going on, the Museums Branch found time to provide exhibits and exhibit material to command museums. "From Dawn to Setting Sun," for example, has just been shipped to the Parris Island Museum. A system of easily portable modular exhibits has been designed and a number of topical exhibits created which circulate to Headquarters, the Naval Academy, and to various activities at Quantico. Recently, the exhibit on "FDR and the Marines," contained in five of the three-by-four-foot modular cases was relocated to Camp Pendleton.

All-in-all, the activities and results achieved by the History and Museums Division in its new Historical Center quarters have been remarkably productive. This has been due to several factors: the synergistic effect of consolidating Historical and Museums Branches plus the art program under the same roof for the first time; the acquisition of Compugraphic computer-based typesetting equipment for setting type for all publications as well as all Museum labels, and several Lexitron word processors exceded by Headquarters; institution of a computer-based catalog for all Museum holdings; and a continuous advance on the learning curve by all activities. All this has been accomplished with no increase in staff. How the tempo of activities and production could be further increased is not apparent, especially if prospective cuts in staff due to budgetary constraints need ever to be placed into effect. But it has been an exciting 10 years and the Marine Corps has become much more aware of its history.

The future of the Center holds much promise. We have entered the computer age with our museum inventory computer, our Lexitron word processors, and our Compugraphic typesetters, but the best is

still to come. We have already received 10 Leading Edge personal computers and printers and expect about 20 more during the summer; enough for one for every historian and curator. Production is expected to increase commensurately.

A new major exhibit will be mounted in the Special Exhibits Gallery this summer titled "Multi-National Force 1900: Marines in the Boxer Rebellion." It will include weapons, uniforms, medals, and equipment of the campaign, plus more than 400 photographs, many never before published. At about the same time a new exhibit, "Women Marines: 1946-1977," will be installed at the end of the Time Tunnel. A number of the Time Tunnel exhibits will be upgraded this year with more to follow. The modular exhibit program will continue to expand with more of the small special exhibits being made available beyond the Washington area.

The Command Museums program is expanding as well through the initiative of local commanders and with help from the Museums Branch. The San Diego Recruit Depot Museum will open this year. MCAS El Toro has established an outdoor aviation museum near its main gate with a dozen historical aircraft, some of which were supplied by the Air-Ground Museum. MCAS Cherry Point and the town of Havelock are cooperating in a plan for a joint aviation museum while Camp Pendleton is exploring ways to raise money for a museum to memorialize Marines in the Pacific.

On the Historical Branch side of the house, the two volumes of the Vietnam War operational histories series for 1968 are well underway, are the 1971-73 and 1973-75 volumes and a volume on Marine legal affairs in Vietnam. A major history, "Marines in the Frigate Navy, 1798-1835," which will make use of Col Waterhouse's paintings of the same title, is also well on the way.

The art program continues apace with a series on current aircraft in prospect. Artists will continue to cover current exercises and developments while Col Waterhouse and Maj Neary will continue to produce paintings of Marine Corps historical events.

The Historical Center will undergo a refurbishment over the next year with interior repainting and a replacement of some of its carpeting scheduled. □1775□

# Fifty-Five Student Volunteers Have Aided Center's Work

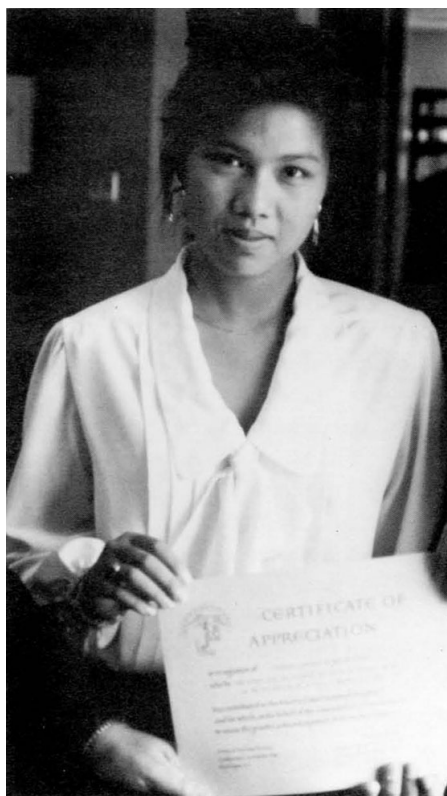
by Henry I. Shaw, Jr.  
Chief Historian

Over the 10 years since the History and Museums Division moved its offices and collections into the Marine Corps Historical Center building in the Washington Navy Yard, it has been fortunate in having 55 interns, mostly college juniors and seniors, to serve as professional staff assistants.

Most of these students have majored in history, political science, American studies, museology, or international relations, but a smattering have had majors in other liberal arts fields. Some few have been fortunate enough to be paid for their efforts through an on-again, off-again government program of enlisting college-level summer clerk-typists. Most, however, have worked at the Center, or at Quantico's Museums Branch Activities facility, for college credits or work experience. Since 1983, however, all unpaid interns have received a small daily expense allowance (basically, "carfare and lunch money") through the courtesy of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.

Both the colleges and universities concerned and the individual interns have realized that experience in a field which might become a lifetime's vocation is an invaluable job-hunting credential. Indeed, in the museum field, it is doubtful that any college graduate, no matter how good his or her academic credentials are, will be hired as a beginning professional who has not labored as an intern or volunteer in some aspect of museum operations. The requirement for related work experience is not quite as firm yet for beginning non-academic historians, but is fast becoming that way. The competition for museum positions and for jobs as public historians (now the "in" title for non-teaching historians) is fierce and demanding.

One of the first things that interns learn is that superior academic records and advanced degrees are commonplace among the curators and historians with whom they work. They also find that these mentors like what they are doing and tend to stay working at it for a full career. Result—there is a tradition of academic excellence to qualify for a job and a limited number of jobs available. Every up-



*Sue Luangkhot of the Madeira School in Washington, D.C. was one of the latest student interns to serve at the Center.*

check in an applicant's background, and a meaningful internship is a big upcheck, improves the chances of being hired.

An internship at the Historical Center or the Quantico facility, where the Marine Corps' reserve museum collections are held, is viewed by the division and by the schools concerned as a two-way proposition. The division profits by having qualified professional assistants to help eliminate backlogs and perform needed tasks that have been set aside because of limited staff. The schools profit by having an opportunity to place their students in work situations that enhance their professional worth and recognize this value with academic credit.

For a variety of reasons, including the fact that some schools do not have internship programs, and those that do charge credit-hour fees, many college students seek internships on their own just for the experience. It is the division's practice that

these students obtain school or faculty recognition of what they are doing and meet the same criteria of performance expected of those who are working for credit.

An internship is a time-consuming proposition. In general, the division expects that an intern will work at least one half day a week, preferably a full day or more, for a semester's duration. Many interns, particularly those who work in vacation periods, spend weeks of full-time effort at the Center or at Quantico. Since each intern is assigned to a division staff member for supervision, instruction, and evaluation, there is a mutual need to have an internship period of significant length.

The requirements of meeting the division's workload are paramount in assigning interns. Within that context, that the needs of the Marine Corps come first, there is wide latitude for suiting the intern's background and interests to the tasks at hand. As the Center's brochure on college internships states:

Opportunities exist for qualified students to work as reference historians (servicing information requests from public and official sources); research historians (performing research, largely in primary source collections); historical writers' assistants (researching material to support ongoing writing projects); curators' assistants (cataloging and collating collections of aircraft, weapons, artifacts, uniforms, military art, military music, and personal papers); librarian and archivist assistants (cataloging and collating books and periodicals and official operational records); exhibits apprentices (design and fabrication); and museum registrars' assistants (participating in the automatic data processing registration of museum acquisitions and existing collections).

Because of the location of the Historical Center and the facility at Quantico, the majority of student interns have come from Washington-area colleges and universities. These people have, for the

most part, integrated their internship time into their regular class schedules. There have been, however, a significant number of interns who have come from schools in other parts of the country, as summer college clerk-typists, in vacation periods, or as is the case with Hope College in Holland, Michigan, as part of a semester in Washington for honor students. The first Hope student to work for the Division, Peter Maassen, helped the Reference Section make a work-while-moving switch from Headquarters Marine Corps to the Center in 1977. The latest Hope student to gain experience as a reference historian, Daniel S. Stid, who was at the Center for six weeks early in 1986, has just been awarded a Rhodes scholarship. Applications have just been received and approved from three Hope students who will be working at the Center in the 1988 spring semester.

Hope College has sent seven of its students to work at the Center over the past decade, but the intern championship clearly belongs to Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Nineteen students from that school have served as historians, curators, and registrar assistants since 1977, both in Washington and at Quantico. Since 1984 five midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis have served as interns in their limited vacation time and two more are programmed to serve in 1987. Not surprisingly, all of them intend to make the Marine Corps a career.

The Center has even had three interns, on a carefully selected basis, from local area prep schools. The first of these, Ian C. McNeal, who pioneered in a pilot intern program of the Fairfax County School System in 1983, has worked in the Reference Section each summer since and graduates this year from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. The last, Sue Luangkhot, is a Laotian refugee student at the Madeira School, who helped compile the appendices of one of the Vietnam War operational histories this past spring.

All in all, the Division's internship program has been rewarding, both to the Historical Center and to the individuals involved. It is refreshing and revitalizing for a professional staff member to work closely with a young person who wants to learn and has the ability to learn and perform. The learning process for the intern

## Senior Assistants Make Major Contributions

The Center receives high-quality assistance from others than its student interns, too. While a number of individuals have volunteered from time to time to help out with specific tasks to be done at the Center, two Marine Corps Historical Foundation members have been so consistent in their efforts and regular in their attendance that they have become for all intents parttime members of the staff. Both of these men, long known to be interested in Marine Corps history in its many forms, made the same decision when they retired from their final career positions, to get involved in the Center's professional activities.

Mr. George C. MacGillivray, who retired from the position of cartographic librarian at the Central Intelligence Agency in 1982, almost immediately went to work identifying, regularizing, collating, and refurbishing the Center's extensive map collections. Through his knowledge and contacts in the government cartographic and photo reconnaissance fields, he has also added significantly to the collections. He was the key figure in producing an exhibit on the maps used at Guadalcanal, which has had extensive exposure in the Washington area. Drawing on his own service experience in the 1st Marine Division during World War II, he has frequently helped embellish exhibits of that era with maps and other graphics.

Col James Leon, an artillery officer whose service career spanned more than 27 years of active duty during three wars, also put in a decade of work with Raytheon Corporation before re-retiring. Like George MacGillivray, he was an early member of the Historical Foundation and his interest in the Marine Corps' past was long evident. When he indicated that we could expect to have him on board as a volunteer for a couple of days or more a week, there was a host of suggestions and requests for his expertise. He elected to work in the Personal Papers area and has steadily added to the number of collections that are cataloged and ready for researchers' use. Without Col Leon's help, the backlog would be far less manageable than it is. He knows the Corps over the past half century, he often knows the people and incidents involved in the papers he is regularizing, and when he doesn't recognize what is shown in old photos and descriptions, he engages the staff old-timers in memory hunts that usually are successful.

George MacGillivray and Jim Leon have now joined the ranks of volunteers like Laura Dennis, mentioned and pictured in the story on the publication of *A History of the Women Marines, 1946-1977* (*Fortitudine*, Fall 1986), and Margaret Greenwood, who has been involved with the Museum Shop since its inception in 1977, who have been with us so long and so frequently that they are part of us. We can't really picture operating without them.—HIS

*Cartographic expert George C. MacGillivray, left, shows a discovery to Division Director BGen Simmons, center, and noted author Herbert C. Merillat.*



may include the realization, as it has in a few instances, that the work of historians or curators is not for them. More often, the internship deepens the enthusiasm for a career field or avocational interest.

A copy of the College Internship

brochure, as well as those describing the Dissertation Fellowships, Master's Thesis Fellowships, and Research Grant programs may be had by writing to:

Marine Corps Historical Center (HDS)  
Building 58

Washington Navy Yard

Washington, D.C. 20374-0580

College students, and professors interested in internships are encouraged to contact the Chief Historian at (202) 433-3839.

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## Students Who Together Gave a Decade of Service to Marine History

Peter Maassen	Hope College	1977	Stuart M. Kohn	George Washington University	1983
Laurie R. Mansell	Mary Washington College	1978	Scott W. Macolino	U.S. Naval Academy	1983
Valerie D. Dykstra	Dordt College	1978	Ian C. McNeal	Fairfax Schools/VPI	1983-1986
Cheryl A. Stewart	Carlow College	1978	Paul A. Shelton	U.S. Naval Academy	1984
Perry Flint	American University	1979	Richard A. Webster	Hope College	1984
Matthew J. Kelly	Mary Washington College	1979	Norman L. Cooling	U.S. Naval Academy	1985
Ann E. Hodgson	Mary Washington College	1979	Catherine Corrigan	Gallaudet College	1985
Thomas W. Roach	Franklin College	1979	Callie Dalton	Mary Washington College	1985
Elizabeth A. Bean	Mary Washington College	1979-1981	Jennifer L. Gooding	Mary Washington College	1985
Jack L. Edlund	Mary Washington College	1979	George Keyworth	American School	1985
Michael Green	Kenyon College	1980	Robert A. Klyman	University of Michigan	1985
Barney Reilly	Mary Washington College	1980	Craig D. Messner	American University	1985
Heidi Zinkand	Dordt College	1980	Kerry L. Miller	University of Virginia	1985
Daniel P. Zinkand	Dordt College	1980-1981	Paul W. Ritsema	Hope College	1985
Roderic H. Slayton	Mary Washington College	1980-1981	Frederick W. Smith	U.S. Naval Academy	1985
Susanne Tedeschi	Mary Washington College	1980-1981	Calvin Struyk	Dordt College	1985
Carolyn S. Green	Mary Washington College	1981	Melissa Spivey	Mary Washington College	1985
Katherine W. Holland	Mary Washington College	1981	Jane Williams	Mary Washington College	1985
Nancy A. Kaiser	Mary Washington College	1981	Rolf Glessner	American University	1985-1986
C. Jean Sadlowe	Mary Washington College	1981	Neal Conners	American University	1985-1986
Sharon A. Schweissinger	Mary Washington College	1981	Richard Galvin	U.S. Naval Academy	1986
Karl Stegenga	Hope College	1981	Daniel D. Stid	Hope College	1986
Daniel A. Thomas	Mary Washington College	1981	Helen Sydavar	University of Maryland	1986
Timothy McGee	Hope College	1982	Laura Tuennerman	College of Wooster	1986
Michael D. Visconage	University of Maryland	1982	Tracy Woodall	Presbyterian College	1986
Theresa H. Butler	Mary Washington College	1983	Sharon Bittner	Sweet Briar College	1986-1987
Jill K. Chandler	Hope College	1983	Sue Luangkhot	Madeira School	1987
			James L. DiBlasi	State University of New York	1987

## Historical Quiz: Marines in the Movies

by Lena M. Kaljot  
Reference Historian

Identify the following movies:

1. A fictionalized account of the heroic defense of Wake Island, this 1942 film succeeded both as wartime propaganda and engrossing entertainment.
2. Produced in 1949 and considered the "classic" Marine Corps picture relating to World War II, this film starred John Wayne in the story of a tough Marine sergeant and his unit fighting through the invasions of Tarawa and Iwo Jima.
3. This 1957 film starred Jack Webb in the story of a tough drill instructor at Parris Island and the intensity of Marine Corps recruit training.
4. Tony Curtis starred as Ira Hayes in this 1961 film recounting the story of the Iwo Jima flag raiser.
5. This film, produced in 1976, tells the World War II story of a young man (Jan-Michael Vincent) who is washed out of Ma-

rine boot camp in 1943, and takes on the identity of a Marine hero.

6. In this 1978 film, Bruce Dern portrayed a Marine captain who went off to war leaving his wife, played by Jane Fonda, to fall in love with a paralyzed Vietnam veteran (Jon Voight).
7. This 1980 film starred Robert Duvall as a combat hero from World War II and Korea having difficulty adjusting to the peacetime Marine Corps of the early 1960s.
8. Lou Gossett, Jr., received an Academy Award for his portrayal of a Marine drill instructor at the naval aviation officers' school, who tries to break cadet Richard Gere in this 1982 film.
9. Gene Hackman portrayed a "hard-bitten" Marine leading a privately financed raid into a Laotian prison camp to free American men missing in action, in this 1983 film.
10. This 1986 futuristic thriller starred Sigourney Weaver, accompanied by a detachment of Space Marines, returning to fight deadly extraterrestrials that have overrun an Earth colony.

(Answers on page 31)

# Among Queries, Gen Kelley's on Predecessors in China

by Danny J. Crawford  
Head, Reference Section

May 1987 marked the 10th anniversary of the Reference Section's operations at the Marine Corps Historical Center. Since the section's voluminous files, filled with information on nearly every aspect of Marine Corps history, were moved from the Navy Annex in Arlington, Virginia, to the newly refurbished Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard in 1977, more than 50,000 requests for historical information have been answered.

Last year was the busiest yet for the Reference Section as responses were made to more than 6,300 written, telephonic, and in-person inquiries. In addition, reference historians prepared more than 60 sets of lineage and honors certificates sent to Marine Corps units around the globe. More than 20 commemorative naming suggestions were received, researched, and prepared for the Commandant's decision. The section also produced its fifth consecutive chronology of Marine Corps events, the latest one consisting of over 125 events significant to the Marine Corps during 1986. The chronology was published in the May 1987 issue of *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*.

Vietnam veterans' requests continue to grow in volume. Most write or call concerning the records of operations in which their units participated, while others in-

quire about the Center's multivolume publications series, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam*. Some request information to assist in filing a claim with the Veterans Administration and a few ask help in dealing with post-traumatic stress disorders.

Relatives of Marines have always been a major source of inquiries. Recently, for example, the sister of a Marine officer who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Vietnam called for help. She was visiting Arlington National Cemetery and was unable to locate her brother's grave which she had never seen. We were able both to assist her and to provide additional information on her brother's service.

A similar request came from the sister of a Marine killed on Iwo Jima. Her brother was originally buried on Iwo Jima but was later reinterred in the U.S. National Cemetery in Honolulu. Her family was planning a vacation trip to Hawaii and wanted to make the pilgrimage to the gravesite. We were able to provide her with the information she needed from the casualty report, including the section and grave number.

A more unusual request came via a long-distance call from New Zealand. The caller was the son of a Marine stationed in New Zealand in World War II and had

been told that his father was killed in 1943. Now, 40 years later, he was trying to see if the father he had never met had died, or might still be alive. Casualty cards did not indicate the Marine had been killed or wounded in the war, but we have yet to positively identify him from the available information.

In preparation for the Commandant's visit to the People's Republic of China this spring, Gen Kelley asked the History and Museums Division to see who was the last CMC to visit mainland China. The Reference Section reviewed the biographical files of the Commandants, along with other pertinent records, and determined that Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift made an inspection trip to mainland China in October 1946. Among the items located in the records were copies of the Commandant's travel orders, his itinerary, and photos of the trip.

The section provides continuing assistance to authors and scholars. Recently, J. Robert Moskin has been working on an updated edition of his popular *The U.S. Marine Corps Story*. As for the earlier editions of the book, Reference Section has assisted in obtaining information and verifying facts for the edition due out later this year.

In the past few months other researchers have worked on a wide variety of topics including:

- Marine fighter squadrons in World War II
  - History of recruit training in the Marine Corps
  - Biographical information on Archibald Henderson
  - Development of the Roebling Amphibian Tractor
  - Marines in the War of 1812
  - Unit awards for the Vietnam War
  - The Air War over North Vietnam
  - Casualties at the Chosin Reservoir
  - The Confederate States Marine Corps
  - Marine poems and songs
  - History of MCAF Quantico
  - 1st Radio Battalion casualties in Vietnam
- 1775□

*Reference Section research discovered that the last Commandant of the Marine Corps to visit China before Gen Kelley was Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift, front row left, who was photographed reviewing the 1st Marines in Tientsin on 19 October 1946.*



# Fort Fisher Panorama Boosts Marine Historical Art Series

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas  
Assistant Officer in Charge,  
Museums Branch Activities, Quantico

Col Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR, is putting the finishing touches on a large, panoramic painting of the 1865 assault against Fort Fisher, the key to the Confederate haven for blockade runners at Wilmington, North Carolina. This painting is the second in the History and Museums Division's Historical Art Series, following after one completed on the capture of abolitionist John Brown by Marines at Harpers Ferry (*Fortitudine*, Fall 1986.)

The Fort Fisher campaign was covered in a recent issue of *Fortitudine* ("Director's Page," Summer 1986) which focused on the beginnings of the modern amphibious assault. It was this aspect of the campaign that the division's Historical Art Committee wanted to emphasize in the painting by bringing together, in one scene, as many characteristics of early amphibious operations as could be presented.

One of these characteristics was the early use of closely controlled naval gunfire support. In addition, among the ships firing at Fort Fisher on 15 January 1865 were monitors and an armored steam frigate, precursors of the emerging "steel" Navy.

*Col Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR, artist for the History and Museums Division's Historical Art Series, works on his recreation of Civil War-era sailors and Marines in ships' boats along the Atlantic Coast at Fort Fisher near Wilmington, North Carolina.*



The ships' boats, cutters, and launches, which transported soldiers, sailors, and Marines ashore, carried the bow-mounted boat howitzers designed by contemporary naval ordnance expert, RAdm John A. Dahlgren. Although the howitzers were not fired during the attack, the combination of the small boats and guns might be considered to be the genesis of the armed assault craft of later years.

Aside from the amphibious aspects of this campaign, the committee also wanted to illustrate the undress uniform adopted by the Marine Corps after the Harpers Ferry action and worn into the mid-1870s. There also was a good opportunity to include some of the more interesting small arms and weapons carried by sailors and Marines during the Civil War.

Research on this project began in August 1985 with an examination of our holdings at the Marine Corps Historical Centers library. The *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion* were carefully read as were Miller's *Photographic History of the Civil War* and *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*. The Reference Section



*Capt William H. Parker, USMC, appears in the painting as the lieutenant commanding Marines of the USS Vanderbilt.*

provided some much-needed likenesses of Marine officers present at the assault, while the Curator of Special Project's files yielded uniform details not generally known. Information from our museum files on uniforms, accoutrements, and small arms was supplemented with drawings and uniform plates from the *Journal of the Company of Military Historians* and the compendium, *American Military Equipage, 1851-1872*, published by that organization.

A framework of research was built from the information found in the Historical Center, but many details were still unknown. Several days were spent across the street in the Naval Historical Center's excellent library, which holds a very good collection of personal accounts published soon after the Civil War. While at the Naval Historical Center, a veritable treasure trove of photographs was retrieved from the files of the Navy's photographic curator, Mr. Charles R. "Chuck" Haber-



*An excellent reference for Col Waterhouse was this rare photograph of the USS New Ironsides taken in 1864, from the Henry Clay Cochrane personal papers collection.*

*Preliminary sketch by Col Waterhouse for his Fort Fisher painting shows Marines afloat beyond the stern of the USS Minnesota. The advisory committee wanted the painting to emphasize some characteristics of early amphibious operations: closely con-*

lein, Jr. In these photographs were detailed views of all the ships that would be shown in the painting. Unfortunately, none of the images of the *Minnesota's* stern were from the 1865 period, causing a temporary setback, as this is a central part of the painting. The view now seen in Col Waterhouse's painting is a result of group detective work based on the ship's original plans, views of her sister ships in 1863-1867, and photographs of her rebuilt stern in the 1870s.

Outside of the Washington Navy Yard, research was carried on in the offices of Time-Life Books in nearby Alexandria, Virginia; at the National Archives and Records Service; and at the Smithsonian Institution.

The staff of Time-Life Books, who are no strangers to the Marine Corps Muse-

um's collections, was most helpful in opening their research files. Likewise, Records Group 127 at the National Archives was examined to see if any of the Marine officers at Fort Fisher made any separate reports to the Commandant on the campaign or to the Quartermaster on items carried, worn, or fired. Finally, Dr. Harold Langley of the Smithsonian Institution's Department of Naval History tried to locate a surviving example of a ship's boat for Col Waterhouse to photograph.

While on a fishing trip to the Wilmington area in early October, as the principal researcher I visited Fort Fisher, and with the assistance of the state park's staff, went through the files held at the park to ensure that no interesting details had been overlooked. An attempt to photograph the fort was disappointing. The Atlantic Ocean has reclaimed the seaward defenses

*trolled naval gunfire support by an emerging "steel" Navy, and the use of ships' boats, cutters, and launches with bow-mounted boat howitzers, akin to the armed assault craft of later history. Small arms and weapons carried at the time also could be shown.*



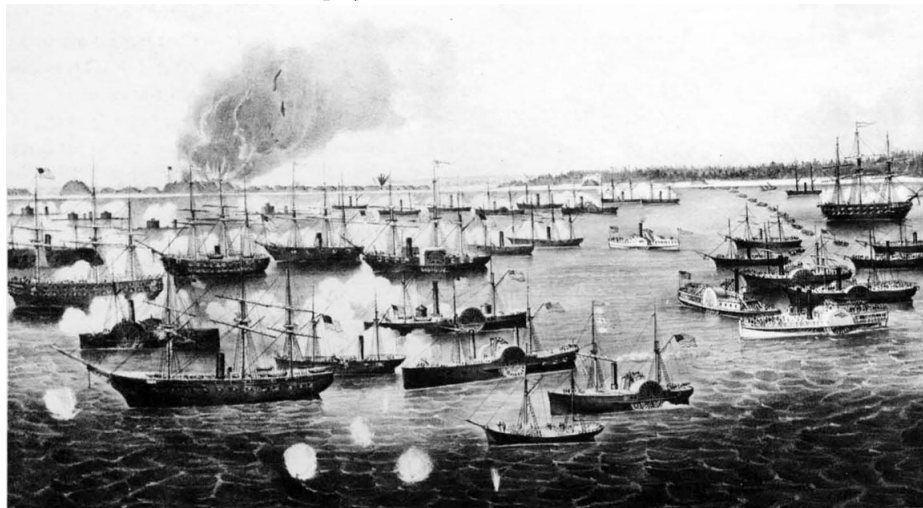
of the fort and high-rise condominiums are stacked over the beach where the soldiers, sailors, and Marines moved into position for the attack.

The bulk of the research was completed by the first week of October and the job of pulling together the details to suggest a cohesive scene began. Using the map of the ships' placement in the *Official Records*, a vantage point for the viewer which showed all the amphibious aspects was chosen. This was to be a line from the USS *Minnesota* to the corner bastion later attacked by the sailors. Just to the viewer's right are the monitors, *Mahopac*, *Canonicus*, and *Saugus*, all behind the armored screw frigate, USS *New Ironsides*. There are very few good views of this strange ship, but one was found in a recataloging of the Henry Clay Cochrane collection in the Museum's Personal Papers Collection. This ship is important in naval history, since it signalled the end of the wooden sailing navy.

Once the angle was selected, the question of the figures in the foreground was tackled. We had likenesses of only two of the eight Marine officers involved, and one of them was already ashore when the projected scene took place. Therefore, we decided to include one boat of Marines and sailors from the USS *Ticonderoga*, and one from the USS *Vanderbilt* under the command of Marine Lt William H. Parker, as we had a clear photograph of Lt Parker from our files.

Judging by the time that the ships launched their boats, it is conceivable that

*The Waterhouse painting views Fort Fisher from a point just to the left of the finished Currier and Ives lithograph by the celebrated Miss Palmer, based on her earlier sketch. Both the sketch and the lithograph are in the collection of the Marine Corps Museum.*



*Pencil and watercolor sketch of the bombardment of Fort Fisher is a contemporary work of Miss Fanny F. Palmer, an artist for Currier and Ives, from information provided to her by veterans of the campaign, and used by Col Waterhouse as source material.*

both could have met under the *Minnesota*'s stern. The boat from the *Ticonderoga* was used because it matched our rendezvous time and supplied an interesting historical note: Marines armed with tin-plated Spencer rifles. Since we had no likeness of the officer commanding the *Ticonderoga*'s detachment, Marine Lt Charles Williams, he has his back to the viewer as he hails Lt Parker.

The completed research "package" was checked by the committee and given to the artist in late October. This was, in itself, an innovation in the division's methods.

In the past, both artist and researcher had been plagued by a lack of organization of the research material. A new concept, initiated for the Harpers Ferry painting, was further developed in the Fort

Fisher project. It is based on the Museum's exhibit-scripting method and consists of an identical pair of loose-leaf binders containing research information provided for both the artist and the researcher. The binders are organized into standardized sections of research material to be followed regardless of the subject of the painting. All of these "scripts" begin with a historical summary of the entire campaign, and then move to a section which contains a narrative describing the proposed scene of the painting, complete with source notes and comments.

The next section consists primarily of maps and various views of the geophysical area to be shown, followed by sections on personalities to be depicted, uniforms and weapons, and finally a section on ships, buildings, or architecture.

With this new approach, more information can be added as it is found, corrections can be made, and the artist and the researcher both have all of the same information at their fingertips when they discuss the painting by telephone.

This system has also been adopted now by our other historical artists and is being used by Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR, in her painting of Maj Smedley D. Butler's attack on Fort Riviere during the first Haitian Campaign. All of the principal researchers are using this method for the next three paintings expected to be completed in the next four years: Perry at Shuri Castle in 1854, Huntington's Battalion at Guantanamo in 1898, and Heywood's Battalion at Matachin, Panama, in 1885.

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# Marine Guards, Foreign Service Have 200-Year-Old Ties

by Danny J. Crawford  
Head, Reference Section

The two-centuries-old relationship between the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Foreign Service is well documented in the files of the History and Museums Division, and the gathering of information continues. During the past decade lengthy interviews have been conducted with members of the Marine Security Guard (MSG) program, both officers at the MSG Battalion at Quantico and enlisted watchstanders returning from assignments around the globe—including the Marines held hostage at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and others completing tours in such volatile posts as Beirut, Islamabad, and San Salvador.

On 15 December 1986, the Commandant and the Secretary of State signed a new Memorandum of Understanding, outlining the use of Marines at the Department's foreign posts and superseding the previous agreement of December 1977. The ceremony marked the 38th anniversary of the first formal understanding, which established a regular MSG program in December 1948. The 1986 agreement came one week after the Commandant had authorized an additional 100 Marines for diplomatic security duties.

In January 1987, the Department sent an airgram to its overseas posts transmitting news of the signing and including a research paper originally prepared by the Reference Section of Marine Corps History and Museums Division on the beginnings of the MSG Battalion. That brief historical essay is repeated beginning on page 28.

Nearly 15,000 Marines have served as "Ambassadors in Blue" since 1948. The instances of outstanding service they recorded are numerous. Often, Marine watchstanders have been the only line of resistance to riotous mobs bent on the destruction of American lives and property. More than 25 Navy Unit Commendations and Meritorious Unit Commendations have been awarded to MSG detachments, a level of achievement unsurpassed by any other Marine units. Below is a brief chronology of Marine security guards in threatening situations; in many of these incidents, Marines were seriously wounded or lost their lives faithfully serving their country:

**25 June 1950.** Members of the Marine Security Guard (MSG) detachment in Seoul, Korea, were alerted to prepare for evacuation when the North Koreans began their invasion. Over the next three days the Marines got little or no sleep as 1,500 Americans were evacuated to Japan and classified documents were burned. Two of the Marines were on the last plane out as the Communists entered Seoul. . . . **7 January 1956.** Two MSGs at the American Consulate in Jerusalem held off a large, angry mob that was attempting to force its way into the consulate. The heroic efforts of MSgt Bertrum Strickling and Cpl Thomas E. Rhodes won the time needed for a company of Arab Legion reinforcements to arrive and disperse the mob. . . . **31 July 1956.** Sgt Lloyd E. Shank, the sole Marine on duty at the American Embassy in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, found himself in the midst of rifle and machine gun fire and exploding mortar rounds. Sgt Shank stood fast despite the heavy fire between rival Honduran troops which made it impossible for anyone to reinforce him. . . . **24 May 1957.** The Marines of the Taipei Security Guard detachment were faced with a screaming mob of several thou-

sand Chinese. The small Marine guard, realizing that any show of force could result in the death of the embassy staff including several women, proceeded to evacuate the staff from the building. One Marine was wounded in the evacuation. . . . **31 January 1968.** The American Embassy in Saigon was attacked by a team of heavily armed Viet Cong sappers in the early morning. Marine guards and military police counterattacked and repulsed the Viet Cong attackers. Among those killed in the embassy defense was Cpl James Marshall—the first MSG killed in the line of duty. . . . **26 September 1971.** Sgt Charles W. Turberville of the Marine Detachment, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, was killed in a terrorist attack during a sports event. Four other MSGs were wounded when Communist terrorists attacked U.S. Mission personnel with hand-grenades during an embassy softball game. . . . **29 April 1975.** Two MSGs were killed in an artillery attack during the Saigon evacuation while providing security for the Defense Attache Office at Tan Son Nhut airport. Cpl Charles McMahon, Jr., and LCpl Darwin D. Judge were the third and fourth MSGs to die in the line of duty. . . . **30 April 1975.** The MSG detachment at the American Embassy in Saigon assisted in the evacuation of 7,000 U.S. citizens and refugees. Securing the embassy against large crowds while completing the destruction of classified material, the Marines were finally lifted by helicopter from the embassy roof at 0730—the last official U.S. Government personnel to leave Vietnam. . . . **23 April 1977.** The Ethiopian government informed the American Consulate General in Asmara, Ethiopia, that it had four days to close and remove all American personnel from Asmara. Members of the MSG detachment worked around the clock performing duties far in excess of their normal responsibilities to effect an efficient and successful withdrawal. . . . **26 August 1977.** MSGs at the American Embassy in Moscow discovered a fire on the eighth floor of the Chancery, sounded the alarm and evacuated all occupants. They then escorted Soviet firemen and safeguarded classified material and equipment despite intense heat and smoke. . . . **16 December 1978.** A large, hostile mob numbering in the thousands broke into the Embassy grounds in Taipei, Taiwan at 2330. The MSGs executed riot control procedures with chemical agents to repulse the mob. . . . **14 February 1979.** The American Embassy, Tehran was attacked and seized by armed militants and several Marines were captured. Two Marines were wounded; one of them, Sgt Kenneth L. Kraus, was taken from his hospital bed and held hostage for a week before being released. . . . **30 October 1979.** The American Embassy Compound at San Salvador, El Salvador was attacked by 200 armed demonstrators. The MSG detachment, under intense fire and suffering two Marines wounded, successfully repulsed the attackers. . . . **4 November 1979.** The U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran was attacked and ordered to surrender. Among the embassy employees taken hostage were 13 MSGs. The MSGs were able to hold off the large mob for several hours, permitting the destruction of much of the Embassy's classified material, before being ordered to surrender by the senior State Department official present. . . . **21 November 1979.** The American Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan was surrounded and subsequently attacked and burned by hostile demonstrators. Although one Marine, Cpl Steven Crowley, was killed on the roof, the MSG detachment under MSgt Lloyd Miller succeeded in safely evacuating the 140 Americans and foreign service nationals from the embassy. . . . **20 January 1981.** Nine MSGs were among the 52 American hostages released after 444 days in captivity in Iran. The Americans were flown to a U.S. Air Force base in Wiesbaden, West Germany, after the U.S. and Iran signed an agreement on 19 January. The Marines had been held prisoner since the Tehran Embassy was overrun on 4 November 1979. . . . **17 March 1981.** Three Marines in San Jose, Costa Rica, were wounded when the vehicle carrying them to guard duty at the embassy was hit by a command-detonated mine. The vehicle was destroyed and Sgt Steven Garcia of New York City suffered two broken legs. . . . **31 January 1982.** Marines of the MSG detachment in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, responded to a fire in one of the American Embassy buildings and were instrumental in extinguishing the blaze. A Marine inside the building was badly burned and was evacuated to the United States as a result. . . . **7 June 1982.** The embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, was the subject of a rocket and machine gun attack which caused minimal damage. A Marine was wounded by shrapnel but continued in a full-duty status. . . . **24 June 1982.** The American

Embassy in Beirut was secured then abandoned due to severe fighting in the area. Remaining personnel were relocated to the ambassador's residence in the nearby city of Yarze. Nine Marines of the MSG detachment provided security. . . . 18 April 1983. A large car-bomb exploded at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, causing massive structural damage and killing 61, including 17 Americans. Marine Cpl Robert V. McMaugh, on duty at Post 1, was among those killed. . . . 14 December 1983. Marines assigned to the U.S. Embassy MSG detachment in Kuwait experienced a suicide attack similar to earlier ones in Beirut, when an explosives-laden truck crashed into the embassy compound, killing five and in-

juring 37. There were no American casualties. . . . 20 September 1984. A van driven by a suicidal terrorist, careening past concrete barricades and heavy gunfire, exploded in front of the U.S. Embassy Annex in east Beirut, killing 25 people and injuring dozens of others, including U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew and four Marine security guards. . . . 19 June 1985. Four off-duty Marines and two American businessmen were among 13 people slain when terrorist gunmen opened fire on an outdoor cafe in San Salvador, El Salvador. The Marines, who were embassy security guards, were unarmed and dressed in civilian clothes when the attack occurred.

## Historical Essay

# Message Sent to U.S. Diplomatic Posts with Marine Security Guards

*Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, General P. X. Kelley, provided the Secretary of State with a paper entitled, "The Origins of the Marine Security Guard Battalion," prepared by the History and Museums Division of the Marine Corps. An expanded version of the paper, prepared by Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State is attached. The Secretary of State and Commandant signed a new Memorandum of Understanding on December 15, 1986, commemorating the 38th anniversary of the first formal signing on December 15, 1948.*

The close ties between the Marine Corps and the State Department date back to the early days of our republic. From the raising of the U.S. flag at Derna, Tripoli, and the secret mission of Archibald Gillespie in California, to the 55 days at Peking, Marines have served many times on special missions as couriers, guards for embassies and legations, and to protect American citizens in unsettled areas. The Marines provided Legation Guards at Tokyo (1869), Seoul (1888, 1884-1896, and 1904-1905), and Managua (1913-1925). Following the suppression of the Boxer Rebellion in China in 1900, there had been considerable competition in the armed forces over which service should furnish Legation Guards in Peking—the Army or the Marines. In 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt issued a Presidential Order which directed that the Marine Corps should furnish the Legation Guard. On September 12, 1905, a Marine company relieved an Army unit at Peking. A Legation Guard remained on duty in Peking until World War II.



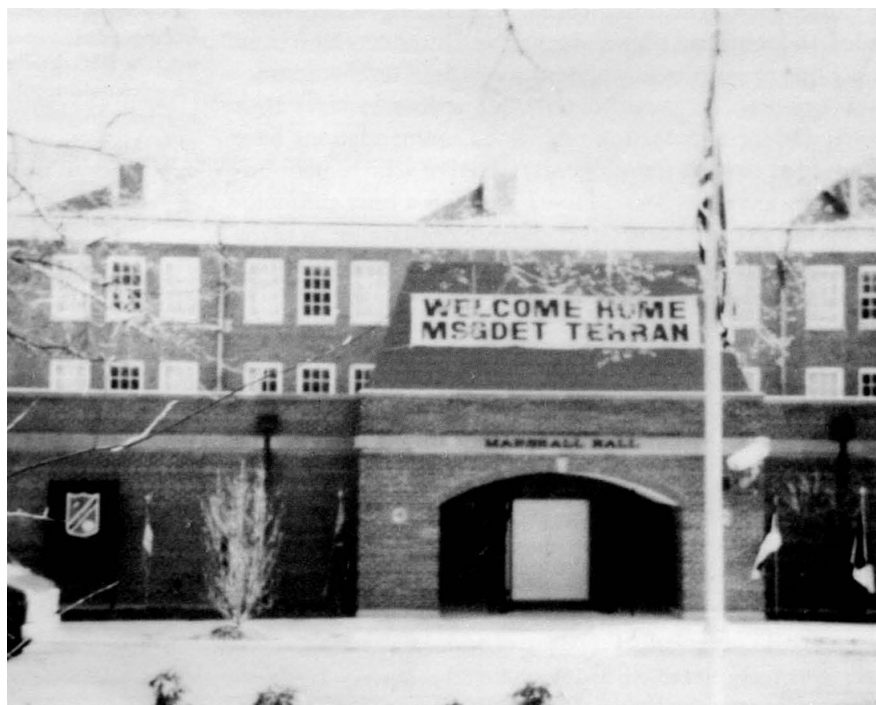
*Riddled seal of the U.S. Embassy, Saigon, in 1968 is at the MSG School.*

Prior to 1949, the State Department generally followed the practice of hiring civilians, American and foreign, for the protection of its establishments abroad. This practice in many cases had proven unsatisfactory and led the State Department in 1947 to re-examine the problem of obtaining sufficient guards of appropriate caliber for the protection of Foreign Service posts.

Early in 1947, the State Department informally approached the War Department to see if military guards might be supplied to Foreign Service posts. The War Department indicated interest in the proposal, but given substantial cuts

*(Continued on page 29)*

*Sign over front entrance to Marshall Hall, MSG Battalion Headquarters at Quantico, Virginia, welcomes home the nine Marine Security Guards held hostage for 444 days after the November 1979 takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran.*





*Two Marines stand watch in front of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, which was partially destroyed by a terrorist bomb attack on 18 April 1983. Marine Security Guard Cpl Robert V. McMaugh, on duty at Post 1, was among those killed.*

*(Continued from page 28)*

in military appropriations being effected at the time, could not respond positively. On September 8, 1947, the idea was again raised within the State Department with additional provisions that would relieve the War Department of any unusual expense. According to the internal Department of State proposal, the War Department would pay only the cost of basic salaries and equipment, while the State Department would incur the expense of transportation, rentals, and cost of living. It was estimated that the State Department could obtain three times as many military guards as could be supported by appropriations for civilian guards; at the same time, the War Department could use the attraction of world-wide service as a recruiting inducement. It was further suggested that a working committee of State Department officers be appointed to discuss the matter with the appropriate War Department officials.

Before any further steps were taken in this direction, the Legal Adviser of the Department of State counseled that under the Foreign Service Act of 1946 the Department of State should seek such an agreement with the Navy Department rather than the War Department. He cited Section 562 of the Act, which stated:

"Sec. 562. The Secretary of the Navy

is authorized, upon request of the Secretary of State, to assign enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps to serve as custodians under the supervision of the principal officer at an embassy, legation or consulate."

The provisions of Section 562 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946 provided a legislative sanction for an association which had long served American interests abroad and for the assignment of Marine Corps officers under the oversight of the principal officer at the foreign service establishment. The Department of State henceforth direct-

ed its efforts toward cooperating with the Department of the Navy and the Marine Corps in order to bring an efficient security guard force into being. Initial scenarios prepared within the Department of State projected that the Marine Corps guards would be "assigned to the staff of the local Naval Attache," but be "under the administrative direction and subject to the discipline of the principal officer of the post."

Next began the series of discussions between the two Departments which led to the formal establishment of the Security Guard Program. In February and March 1948, budgetary and personnel limitations of the Foreign Service Staff increased pressure toward the completion of an agreement on Marine Guards, and surveys of the posts in the field were made to ascertain the number of Marines that would be needed. One initial proposal was that Marines would be assigned only to the less troubled areas of the world, while civilian guards served at the more sensitive posts. By April 1948, the political divisions of the Department of State and the Marine Corps, on an informal basis, agreed in principle to the use of Marine Corps personnel for guard duty at Foreign Service establishments. After further discussion within the Department of State, Under Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett approved a proposal to this effect and on June 22 requested Secretary

*(Continued on page 30)*

*The nine Marine Security Guards who were among 52 American hostages of the revolutionary government in Iran for more than a year, meet with then-Commandant Gen Robert H. Barrow after their 20 January 1981 release.*



(Continued from page 29)

of the Navy John L. Sullivan to authorize the assignment of not more than 300 Marine Corps personnel for duty abroad in Foreign Service guard detachments. Lovett informed Sullivan that the Department of State would pay for salary compensation, allowances, travel and for civilian clothing, when necessary. His letter also indicated that the guards would be part of the staff of the Naval Attache, who would be responsible for matters of Naval administration and discipline; it then quoted Section 562 of the 1946 Foreign Service Act specifying that the guards would serve under the supervision of the principal officer at the embassy, legation or consulate. Representatives from both Departments were designated to work out the details, and by July 20, 1948, assignment of the initial 300 Marines was authorized by Acting Secretary of the Navy John N. Brown.

**B**efore drawing up implementation plans, the chiefs of mission at posts around the world were queried as to whether Marines would be welcome and useful as guards at their posts. If indications were that Marines would be an asset to post security, the mission would seek permission from each host government concerned to use them as security guards.

Preliminary discussions to negotiate a formal agreement between the two

Departments pertaining to use of the Marines at Foreign Service posts were held during August and September 1948 and resulted in a Tentative Agreement, reached by September 20, 1948. According to the agreement, salaries were to be paid by the Marine Corps, but the State Department assumed the obligation for allowances when government facilities were not available. The Marine Corps would also provide transportation to the point most convenient to the post. Other topics such as the administrative relationship between the Marines and the Foreign Service post, placement and training of personnel, medical care, and reimbursement procedures would be determined by interdepartmental working groups. On the basis of these first 300 Marines, it was estimated that the United States would realize a savings of \$160,750 per year over the employment of a similar number of civilian guards, with the added advantage of having young, trained guards under military discipline. The target date for having Marines in the field was set at October 25, 1948. They were to be provided with five to ten days of training before being sent out.

One subject considered in these discussions was the sensitivity of host countries to the presence of uniformed military personnel at diplomatic missions. It was agreed that the Marines should serve in uniform whenever possible, although the Department of State

pointed out that at certain posts (the example given was Cairo) the wearing of civilian clothing would be advisable. On October 23, 1948, the Department of State referred the matter to President Truman, noting that certain countries had prohibitions against wearing uniforms off duty and might even object to them being worn while on duty. Also, "there are several countries in which it is hoped that Marines may be assigned, but which would undoubtedly refuse entry permission were their military status known." Therefore, the Department requested that Marine personnel could be assigned to other parts of the world without uniforms and without revealing their military status, if the Secretary of State found that such an assignment was warranted by individual circumstances. President Truman approved this procedure on November 5. This policy on the wearing of uniforms remains in effect, although the general experience has been that Marines wear their uniforms while on duty in Foreign Service posts.

**D**uring the fall of 1948, other details were ironed out through further discussions between the two Departments. Marines were to be responsible to the principal officer, through the Senior Marine Commissioned or Non-commissioned Officer and the Naval Attache, where assigned, and under the direct control of the principal officer for post security functions. The State Department assumed full responsibility for medical care of Marines at the posts and established a civilian clothing allowance of \$300 for temperate zone posts and \$239 for tropical zone posts. Specific assignment of individuals became the joint responsibility of the State Department and the Marine Corps, with the State Department developing the over-all placement schedule. On November 29, 1948, the Department of State finally presented to the Secretary of the Navy a draft "Memorandum of Agreement" between the two Departments on the subject of Marine guards. On December 15, 1948, a formal "Memorandum of Agreement," incorporating these points, was signed between the Department of State and the Secretary of the Navy on the use of

(Continued on page 31)

*Graduates of the Marine Security Guard School in October 1958 are inspected at Headquarters Marine Corps by then-LtCol Richard E. Roach, Company F commander. The expanded school is now located at MCDEC, Quantico, Virginia.*



(Continued from page 30)

Marines as security guards at overseas foreign posts.

This agreement cleared the way for 83 Marines to begin brief training sessions at the Foreign Service Institute during January 1949. Subsequently, on January 28, 1949, the first 15 Marine Security Guards departed Washington for their overseas assignments—6 for Bangkok, and 9 for Tangier—after receiving training with the Foreign Service Institute. A letter of instruction to the field, coordinated between the Marine Corps and the Regional Bureaus of the Department of State, was then circulated in order to outline the uses to be made of the Marines in the Foreign Service. By May 1949, over 300 Marines were assigned as Foreign Service guards at posts throughout the world.

In July 1954 a letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., set out more strict requirements for Marines seeking

Foreign Service duty. The letter called for close screening and careful interviewing of candidates followed by several weeks of formal schooling covering all phases of security work and a general indoctrination of the Foreign Service. As a direct outgrowth of General Shepherd's letter, the first formal training courses for Marine Security Guards began at Headquarters Marine Corps, Arlington, Virginia on November 4, 1954. The four-week course was initiated to enlarge and improve the training program to prepare 40 to 50 Marines each month for their new assignments.

Several revisions of the historic 1948 "Memorandum of Agreement" have further modernized administrative and control procedures concerning the use of Marines as Marine Security Guards. On February 10, 1967, the Marine Security Guard Battalion was activated to replace Company F, Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. The activation of the Marine

Security Guard Battalion was the result of a recognition of a need to provide more responsive and thorough support to the increasing numbers of Marine Security Guards throughout the world.

In Marine 1979, the Marine Security Guard Battalion moved from Henderson Hall at Headquarters, Marine Corps to a new location aboard Marine Corps Development and Education Command, Quantico, Virginia.

Today, over 1,200 Marine Security Guards serve at 138 posts: 97 of the posts are at embassies, 20 at consulates, and one at the American Interests Station in Cuba, where the United States does not have diplomatic or consular relations. The limited Marine Security Guard Program begun in 1948 has thus expanded over the years to a comprehensive world-wide program where U.S. Marines can be depended upon to guard the security of American diplomatic posts in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps.

## New Books

### Two Firms Sell Reprints of Korean War Volumes

by Evelyn A. Englander  
Historical Center Librarian

Two publishers have recently announced the availability of reprints of volumes of the series *U.S. Marine Operations in Korea, 1950-1953*. All five volumes in the series originally published by the Historical Branch, Headquarters, Marine Corps have just been reprinted by Robert J. Speights. The volumes are available for \$19.95 each, plus \$2.00 postage and handling for each volume. They can be ordered from Speights at 1506-G Thornridge Road, Austin, Texas 78758-6213, telephone: (512) 836-0458.

Battery Press, P.O. Box 3107, Uptown Station, Nashville, Tennessee 37219, is reprinting Volume III, *The Chosin Reservoir Campaign*.

Volumes I - III have also been reprinted by University Microfilms, 300 North

Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-1346; and Volumes I - IV, by Scholarly Press, Inc., P.O. Box 160, St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48080.

Battery Press has also reprinted *The U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima* by Ray Henri, et al., and *Uncommon Valor, Marine Divisions in Action*, by George McMillan, et al.

Latest volumes in the Osprey Men-at-Arms series include: (165) *Armies in Lebanon 1982-84*. (166) *German Medieval Armies 1300-1500*. (169) *Resistance Warfare 1940-45*. (170) *American Civil War Armies (1): Confederate Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry*. (171) *Saladin and the Saracins: Armies of the Middle East 1100-1300*. (172) *Prussian Cavalry of the Napoleonic Wars (2) 1807-1815*. (173) *The Alamo and the War of Texas Independence 1835-36*. (174) *The Korean War 1950-53*. Each book: 48 pp., \$7.95. The books on *Armies in Lebanon* and *The Korean War* may be of special interest. *Armies in Lebanon 1982-84*. Samuel M. Katz and Lee E. Russell. Color plates by Ron Volstad. Osprey. 48 pp., 1985. Traces the situation in Lebanon, 1982-1984. Color plates of the uniforms of the various forces involved, including: the Israelis, the Lebanese Militia and Phalange, the Syrians, the PLO, the PFLP,

the Druze, and the Multi-National Forces. Illustrated with photos and color plates. \$7.95. *The Korean War 1950-53*. Nigel Thomas and Peter Abbott. Color plates by Mike Chappell. Osprey. 48 pp., 1986. Follows the course of the war. Like other books in the series includes photographs and color uniform plates, including one of a U.S. Marine, winter field dress, 1953. \$7.95. □1775□

## Answers to Historical Quiz

### Marines in the Movies

(Continued from page 22)

1. "Wake Island"
2. "Sands of Iwo Jima"
3. "The D.I."
4. "The Outsider"
5. "Baby Blue Marine"
6. "Coming Home"
7. "The Great Santini"
8. "An Officer and a Gentleman"
9. "Uncommon Valor"
10. "Aliens"

## Corps Mourns Medal of Honor Holder Gen Frank Schilt

*by Benis M. Frank  
Head, Oral History Section*

GEN CHRISTIAN F. "FRANK" SCHILT, USMC (RET.), a veteran Marine aviator, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Nicaragua in 1928, died on 8 January 1987 at the age of 92. Gen Schilt was born in Illinois on 18 March 1895, enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 1917, and served in the Azores with the 1st Aeronautical Company. In June 1919, on completion of flight training, he received his wings and was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant, to begin a career of nearly 40 years in Marine Corps aviation. His initial assignments were to aviation units in Santo Domingo and Haiti, and in 1927, he was assigned to Nicaragua. The previous year he placed second in the Schneider International Seaplane Race at Norfolk, Virginia. His career pattern during the interwar years consisted of a mix of schools and flight assignments. Prior to U.S. entry in World War II, Col Schilt was assigned to the American Embassy in London as Assistant Naval Attache for Air, and as such, travelled extensively in the war zones observing British air tactics in North Africa and the Middle East. Upon his return to the United States in August 1941, he became 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Engineer and Supply Officer, and accom-

panied the wing to the South Pacific to participate in the Guadalcanal campaign and the consolidation of the Southern Solomons. His assignments during the remainder of the war were as Cherry Point station commander and chief of staff of the 9th Marine Aircraft Wing. He returned to the Pacific in 1945 to become Island Commander, Peleliu and then CG, Air Defense Command, 2d MAW, on Okinawa. In July 1951, he commanded the 1st MAW in Korea and the next year Gen Schilt became first Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. In 1953, he commanded Aircraft, FMFPac. His last assignment was as Director of Aviation at Headquarters, Marine Corps, in the rank of lieutenant general. Upon his retirement in April 1957, he was advanced to four-star rank because of having been decorated in combat. Gen Schilt was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery on 13 January 1987.

MAJGEN WILLIAM T. FAIRBOURN, USMC (RET.), a member of the famed Basic School class of 1935, which provided the Marine Corps with two Commandants and a host of general officers, died on 21 February 1987 in Salt Lake City, Utah, at

the age of 73. Gen Fairbourn was born 28 June 1914 in Sandy, Utah, and was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant upon graduation from the University of Utah. A school-trained artillery officer, Gen Fairbourn commanded the Marine Detachment in the *Chester* during the early part of World War II and took part in the raids on Tulagi, the Marshalls, and the battles of the Coral Sea and Midway. He commanded the 2d Battalion, 12th Marines in the Bougainville, Guam, and Iwo Jima operations. Following the war, he served in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations; was G-3 of FMFLant at Norfolk; and attended the Naval War College. While Director of the 1st Marine Corps District, he was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and then assigned as Director of Reserve at Headquarters Marine Corps. He became the Assistant and then Division Commander of the 1st Marine Division, from July 1962 until August 1965. In July 1962, Gen Fairbourn commanded the 5th Marine Expeditionary Force during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In 1965, he became Deputy Director, Plans and Policy Directorate, J-5, on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired on 1 September 1967, serving the final three months

*Then-LtGen Schilt in 1955*



*MajGen Fairbourn*



*MajGen Olson in 1971*



of his 32-year career as a special assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps. Gen Fairbourn was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery on 2 March 1987.

MAJGEN HARRY C. "CHAN" OLSON, USMC (RET.), 32d Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps, died on 21 December 1986 in Charleston, South Carolina at the age of 68. A native of Des Moines, Iowa, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps after receiving a bachelor of arts degree from Drake University. He served with the 2d Marine Division in the Saipan and Tinian operations, and the Okinawa campaign. At the time of the Korean War, he was a G-4 staff officer at Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, and then was assigned to the 1st Marine Division in Korea, where he took part in three campaigns. Following the Korean War, Gen Olson remained in the logistics field. At the beginning of the Vietnam war, he was serving as force supply officer at FMFPac. He was promoted to general officer rank in 1967, at which time he assumed command of the Force Logistic Command in South Vietnam. Succeeding assignments were as CG, Marine Corps Supply Activity, Philadelphia; CG, Marine Corps Supply Center, Barstow, California; and Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps at HQMC. He was reassigned to Barstow in 1974 and retired on 1 September that year. Gen Olson was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on 24 December 1986.

RADM FRANK T. NORRIS, MC, USN (RET.), died at the age of 71 at Bethesda Naval Hospital on 25 April 1987. He served with the 1st Marine Division in the battle for Guadalcanal and was Chief of Medicine at Camp Lejeune from 1947 to 1950. From 1962 to 1965, he commanded the naval hospital at Camp Lejeune.

BGEN KIRK ARMISTEAD, USMC (RET.), a veteran Marine aviator who was awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism for leading an attack against a superior force of Japanese bombers in the Battle of Midway, died at the age of 74 on 2 April 1987 in Santa Ana, California. Gen Armistead was commissioned in the Marine Corps following graduation from the University of San Francisco in 1935. He

received his wings following flight training at Pensacola, and reverted to inactive duty in 1939 and was recalled for active service in 1941. In World War II, he commanded Marine Fighter Squadrons 221 and 224 in the Battle of Midway and then Guadalcanal. He returned to the U.S. as a flight instructor in November 1942, and then was reassigned to the Pacific as operations officer and then executive officer of Marine Aircraft Group 31 in the Marshalls. For the remainder of his career, he remained in Marine Corps aviation, filling command and staff billets. At the time of his retirement in September 1959, he was the MCAS, El Toro, G-2. Memorial services were held for Gen Armistead at MCAS, Tustin, California on 7 April 1987.

BGEN HAROLD D. HANSEN, USMC (RET.), a graduate of the Naval Academy, Class of 1927, died on 4 January 1987. Gen Hansen was born in Ithaca, Nebraska on 27 June 1904, and commissioned a Marine second lieutenant on 2 June 1927. Prior to World War II, he served in Haiti, at the Depot of Supplies in Philadelphia, and at Parris Island, as well as at other posts and stations. During World War II, he was G-4 of Aircraft, FMFPac. In the postwar period, Gen Hansen was primarily assigned to supply billets, such as command of the Supply Activity in Philadelphia and as Assistant Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps, the assignment he held when he retired in July 1961. Gen Hansen was buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors on 9 January 1987.

BGEN HOYT MCMILLAN, USMC (RET.), who was a battery commander in the 6th Defense Battalion on Midway Island when the Japanese attacked in World War II, died at the age of 74 on 10 February 1987 in Conway, South Carolina. Gen McMillan was a native South Carolinian, and was born in Mullins on 27 November 1913. Upon his graduation from The Citadel in July 1935 he was commissioned into the Marine Corps. His initial assignment after completion of The Basic School was to the 5th Marines, and from 1938-1940, he served at the Marine Barracks, Coco Solo. He joined the 6th Defense Battalion in February 1941 and moved with his unit to Midway Island in September of that year. Upon his detachment from the battalion, he was assigned to the Tenth Army as an



*Then-Col McMillan in 1958*

assistant planning officer for the Okinawa campaign. In August 1945, he became the senior Marine officer and assistant operations officer on the staff of Gen MacArthur, remaining in this billet well into the occupation of Japan. His final assignment before his retirement on 31 January 1958 was G-2/G-3 of Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. Gen McMillan was buried at Lakeside Cemetery, Conway, South Carolina, on 12 February 1987.

LTCOL ERNEST H. "GUS" GIUSTI, USMCR (RET.), a Marine Corps historian from 1950 to 1955, died at the age of 68 of a cardiac arrest in Jamaica, New York, on 21 February 1987, while enroute home to Arlington, Virginia, from an overseas trip. Born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, he attended private schools in that state and was attending Dartmouth College when World War II began. He enlisted in the Marine Corps, attended OCS, and became a dive bomber pilot, participating in three Pacific campaigns, during which time he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star, and the Air Medal with one Silver and four Gold Stars. He remained in the Marine Corps Reserve following the war and subsequently retired as a lieutenant colonel. With the end of World War II, he returned to Dartmouth to complete his college education, graduated in 1947, and then earned a master of arts degree in political science at Georgetown University. While a Marine Corps historian, LtCol Giusti was the author of *Mobilization of the Marine Corps Reserve in the Korean Conflict*, as well as a num-



*Then-Capt Giusti in 1945*

ber of articles on air operations in Korea. He joined the Historical Division of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in July 1955, remaining there until his retirement in 1977. During this time, he served as chief of the Special Projects Branch and eventually be-

came Chief Historian of the JCS. LtCol Giusti was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 26 February 1987 with simple military honors.

CAPT LOUIS R. LOWERY, USMCR (RET), a noted World War II combat photographer, retired photographic editor of *Leatherneck* magazine, and a founder of the Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association, died 15 April at Fairfax Hospital, Fairfax, Virginia, at the age of 70. Lowery was probably best known as the man who photographed the first flag raising over Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima on 23 February 1945. When it was determined that this first flag was too small to be seen from the beaches, a second flag was sent to the heights, and its raising was captured on film by Associated Press photographer Joe

Rosenthal, earning him the Pulitzer Prize. In 1980, the Marine Corps honored both Lowery and Rosenthal for their combat photography, and the work of both men are featured in an Iwo Jima exhibit in the Marine Corps Museum in the Marine Corps Historical Center. During World War II, Lowery covered much of the hardest fighting in the Pacific, covering the Peleliu, Saipan, Tinian, Guam, and Okinawa operations, in which he earned two Purple Hearts. After the war, he returned to civilian life and remained with *Leatherneck* for more than 20 years, retiring in 1983. He was a native of Pittsburgh, and was a newspaper photographer there before entering the Marine Corps. He was buried in a simple military service at the Quantico National Cemetery on 21 April 1987. □1775□

## Report Lists MCHF Grants, Awards

*(Continued from page 38)*

ry. The program encompasses three levels. The first is directed toward undergraduate history majors and functions as a limited intern program which brings the student into the Historical Center for supervised work on assigned historical tasks. The second level is for graduate students aspiring to a master's degree in history, and the third is aimed at doctoral candidates. Two new fellowships were approved in 1986:

- **Mr. Michael A. Hennessy** was granted a fellowship of \$2,500 to assist in his pursuit of a master's thesis at the University of New Brunswick, working title, "Revolution and the USMC Conterinsurgency Response in I Corps; RVN 1965-1970."
- **Miss Elizabeth C. Bentley** was awarded a fellowship of \$2,500 in her pursuit of a master's thesis at Emory University, working title, "Ma and the Old Man," a study of early Marine aviation.

*Awards Program.* The Foundation has an annual award structure designed to encourage participation in the Marine Corps historical program.

- The Colonel Robert Debs Heinl, Jr., Award in Marine Corps History. In 1986, the seventh Heinl Award was won by **Mr. Russell Werts** for his *Marine Corps Gazette* article, "The Ghosts of Iwo." The Heinl Award is given annually for the best article pertinent to Marine Corps history published in the previous year and is not limited to those in Marine Corps publications but can be from any of the professional military periodicals or the other press. The Heinl Award is funded by specified general donations to the Foundation.
- The General Roy Stanley Geiger Award. This award was conceived to stimulate thought-provoking contributions of Marine aviation subject matter to the *Marine Corps Gazette*,

primarily by Marine aviation personnel. It was awarded for the first time in 1986 to **Maj Gerald W. Caldwell, USMC**, for his article, "The Destruction of the Soviet Air Defense System." The Geiger Award was established by **Col G. F. Robert Hanke** in memory of his father, Wing Commander Ralph Hanke, Royal Air Force.

- The General Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Award. The Greene Award was established late in 1986 and should be awarded for the first time in 1987 for the best book on Marine Corps-related subject matter published during 1986 or earlier.
- The Colonel John W. Thomason, Jr., Award. This annual award will be given for excellence in the field of combat art, including photography. Subject matter may be either historical depiction, or rendering of actual operations or training of the contemporary Marine Corps. No award was conferred in 1986.
- The Colonel John H. Magruder III Award. This annual award will be given for excellence in depicting Marine Corps history in exhibits or displays in a museum or similar setting. No award was conferred in 1986.

*Special Purpose Activities.* Programs managed within this fund category are those that can generally be described as supportive of the overall purposes of the Foundation but the donor(s) delineates the scope of the objective and limits the discretionary authority of the Foundation to use the funds for other purposes.

- The Commandant's House Fund. This steadily growing fund is available for the refurbishment and maintenance of the Commandant's House.
- The Marine Corps Band Fund. This fund, seeded by the Historical Foundation, was established for the purpose of providing readily accessible discretionary monies for enhancing the traditions, history, and musical excellence of the Marine Band. During 1986, the Foundation with CMC approval and that of the Secretary of the Navy, acquired an original music composition, *Deathtree*, for the Marine Band.

## D-558-1 Skystreak

by Jody Y. Ullmann  
Aviation Curator

The 1940s ushered in the beginning of the jet age with Germany, Italy, Great Britain, and the United States all having built and flown jet aircraft. During 1942 Allied scientists met to discuss the development an aircraft that could fly at transonic and supersonic speed (Mach 0.75-1.3). Although jet propulsion studies had been going on since 1923, no wind tunnel existed that could accurately measure the effects of the speeds on aircraft. In March of 1944 the Navy Department, the Army Air Forces,

and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA, the forerunner of NASA) met and decided that some form of large-scale research and testing would be necessary to obtain aerodynamic data required for the efficient and safe design of jet aircraft that would fly at speeds between Mach 0.75-1.3. Although various methods were considered, a manned aircraft appeared to be the quickest, most practical method. The Department of the Army built a rocket-propelled aircraft, the Bell X-1, which was

shown in the recent movie *The Right Stuff*, while the Department of the Navy built the jet engine-powered D-558-1 Skystreak.

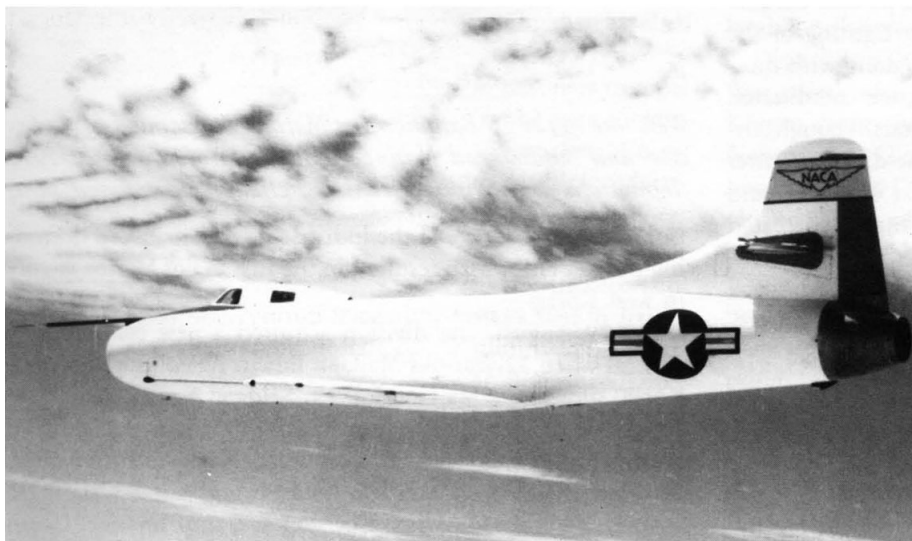
The Douglas Aircraft Company accepted the challenge and on 26 February 1945 produced the first design of the "Douglas Model 558 High Speed Test Airplane," powered by a General Electric TG-180 engine.

Construction of the first D-558-1 (BuNo: 37970) was begun January 1947, completed one year later, and unveiled to the public highly polished and painted a bright red, a requirement for experimental aircraft at that time. That led one observer to nickname the plane "The Crimson Test Tube." Later it was determined that white was visible for a greater distance and so all the aircraft were repainted white, with red control surfaces.

During initial airworthiness tests of Skystreak No. 1 (BuNo: 37970), flights by Maj Marion Carl, USMC, led to world speed records. The aircraft was then turned over to NACA April 1948 where it was used for parts for the other two Skystreaks. During the NACA testing of Skystreak No. 2 (BuNo: 37971) and Skystreak No. 3 (BuNo: 37972), each model was flown to its maximum speed at various altitudes and research was conducted on handling qualities, pressure distribution, tail loads, stability, and control.

The Skystreak program ended 10 June 1953 when Skystreak No. 3 made its 82d and final flight. Throughout the six-year program the three Skystreak aircraft flew a total of 229 test flights, and yielded data that proved to be of unestimatable value to the aircraft industry in the development of modern civilian and supersonic military aircraft.

Of the three D-558-1s built, only two have survived. Skystreak No. 1 (BuNo: 37970) is at the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida. Skystreak No. 2 (BuNo: 37971) was lost on 3 May 1948 when it crashed, killing NACA pilot Howard C. Lilly. Skystreak No. 3 is undergoing restoration at the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico where it will be displayed in its original white-and-red paint scheme. □1775□



*Of the three D-558-1s built, two have survived. Skystreak No. 3 is being restored at the Air-Ground Museum where it will be displayed in its original white-and-red paint scheme.*

### Technical Data

**Manufacturer:** Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc., El Segundo Division, El Segundo, California.

**Type:** Transonic research aircraft.

**Accommodation:** Pilot only.

**Power Plant:** Allison J35-A-11 non-afterburning turbojet engine (Allison-built version of the General Electric TG-180), with 5,000 lbs. of thrust.

**Dimensions:** Span, 25 ft.; Length, 35 ft., 8.5 in.; Height, 12 ft., 1.7 in.

**Weights:** Empty, 7,711 lbs.; gross, 10,105 lbs.; with two external tip tanks, 10,987 lbs.

**Performance:** Max speed, 650.796 m.p.h. at sea level; Service ceiling, 45,700 ft.; Endurance, 50 min. at maximum speed and altitude 40,000 ft. Climb, 9,220 ft./min.; 8,140 ft./min. with tip tanks.

**Armaments:** None.

## July-December 1952

*by Robert V. Aquilina  
Assistant Head, Reference Section*

As the western anchor of the Eighth Army front in Korea during the summer of 1952, the 1st Marine Division guarded the critical corridor leading to the South Korean capital of Seoul. The 35-mile Marine front was aptly compared to the trench warfare of World War I, as the front lines, or “Main Line of Resistance” (MLR) consisted of trenches and bunkers running along the ridgelines of hills. Across a precarious “no man’s land,” the Chinese began extending their own trench system during the spring of 1952 towards Marine lines.

Early on the morning of **9 August**, Chinese forces assaulted 1st Marines positions at Outpost Siberia, on Hill 58A, and the Battle for Bunker Hill began in earnest. The ensuing **9-16 August** struggle for the heights which commanded parts of the Marine MLR developed into some of the fiercest fighting of the Korean War. Intense Chinese small arms fire, along with mortars and artillery, was answered in full by Marine coordinated support fires—tanks, rockets, artillery, and mortars. Though successful in repelling the Chinese assaults on the division center during Bunker Hill, Marine casualties stood at 48 killed, and 313 seriously wounded in addition to several hundred treated and returned to duty. Increasing use of bullet resistant vests, along with timely helicopter evacuation of the wounded, saved the lives of many Marines. In the final analysis, it was the deter-

*Marines of Company D, 2d Battalion, 7th Marines man trench-lines near Changdo-Myon in October 1952. Hand-to-hand fighting with the enemy occurred at such bunkers late in the month.*



*Welcome to the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines is extended by parka-clad and sandbagged Marine guard despite 25 August 1952 floodwaters which immersed the battalion's command post.*

mination and courage of the individual Leatherneck in defending Bunker Hill which resulted in the first major Marine victory in west Korea.

On **29 August**, the division acquired a new commanding general when 52-year-old MajGen Edwin A. Pollock arrived in Korea, succeeding MajGen John T. Selden. A graduate of The Citadel with more than 30 years of military experience, MajGen Pollock earned the Navy Cross on Guadalcanal and the Bronze Star with Combat “V” on Iwo Jima during World War II. He commanded the 2d Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, just prior to his Korean assignment.

MajGen Pollock’s arrival in western Korea coincided with renewed Chinese attempts to dislodge Marines from their outposts in early September. Coordinated enemy assaults upon the 1st Marine Division’s right sector were repulsed in bitter close-in fighting. Casualties and damages were also severe in several outposts defended by attached Republic of Korea Marines during engagements with Chinese forces from **5-7 September**.

As truce negotiations continued at nearby Panmunjom, United Nations forces were alerted to the evident Communist interest in seizing disputed territory along the 38th Parallel. Certain critical terrain features such as Bunker Hill, along with a number of additional Marine outposts, were included in the areas under dispute by United Nations and Communist negotiators. The “indefinite” adjournment of armistice talks on **8 October** boded ill for Marines of the 1st Division. On **26 October** Chinese forces struck in force at the “Hook,” a key defensive salient along the eastern sector of the main line of resistance. The Hook, so named because of a prominent J-shaped bulge in its center, commanded the critical avenue of approach leading directly to Seoul.



*Deadly array of captured enemy weapons is displayed in the G-2 office tent at the 1st Marine Division's command post in Korea in August 1952. Included are a variety of mortar and artillery shells, machine guns, rifles, and a complete 60mm mortar.*

Chinese artillery and mortars supported assault troops, some of whom advanced to the main Marine trenches immediately south of the Hook. Hand-to-hand fighting ensued on several outposts, as Marines used grenades, pistols, rifles, and bayonets to repel the Chinese infantry. Marine aviation and tanks were successfully employed to limit the initial enemy penetrations. Counterattacks by Marine units on 27 and 28 October, with coordinated mortar and artillery strikes, succeeded in silencing Chinese guns and driving the enemy from Marine positions.

The 1st Marine Division paid a high price for its successful defense of the Hook. Losses totaled 70 Marines killed in action, 386 wounded, and 39 missing (including 27 confirmed prisoners-of-war). Chinese casualties were estimated at more than 1,300.

*Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps, front, followed by MajGen Edwin A. Pollock, 1st Marine Division commanding general, emerges from an 11th Marines bunker*

The valor of individual Marines was conspicuously present on the hills of western Korea during the bitter fighting of **September and October 1952**. Seven Medals of Honor, four of which were posthumous, were awarded to 1st Division Marines for gallantry from **August-September 1952**. Nor should the valor of the British Commonwealth Division and the Republic of Korea Marine Corps go unmentioned. Both forces provided effective support to the 1st Marine Division in repelling Chinese assaults against United Nations positions.

**T**he approaching Korean winter marked the end of large-scale offensives by both sides along the MLR in western Korea. Several localized Chinese and North Korean probing attacks against specific U.N. positions were thrown back by British, Canadian, and Ethiopian forces during **November and December 1952**.

On the diplomatic front, negotiations at Panmunjom reached a stalemate over the issue of repatriation of POWs. Communist representatives insisted upon repatriation to their native land of all Chinese and North Korean prisoners held by the United Nations Command. The United States was equally adamant that force should not be used in returning prisoners to their homeland, a principle that became known as voluntary repatriation.

Dissatisfaction at home over the slow progress of the Korean War, along with a promise that he would personally visit the Korean front, helped to secure the Presidential election in **November 1952** of the Republican candidate, Dwight D. Eisenhower. In early December, the President-elect began a four-day visit to Korea, where he was briefed at the 1st Marine Division command post by MajGen Pollock. The visit of the popular World War II hero rekindled hopes for peace in Korea. The battle-hardened veterans of the 1st Marine Division stood by their guns, cautiously awaiting what developments the new year would bring. □1775□

*during the Commandant's battlefield tour of the division in September 1952. Coordinated enemy assaults during this period were repulsed by the division in bitter close-in fighting.*



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## *Historical Foundation Notes*

# Annual Report Cites Burgeoning Rolls, Programs

Significant growth in membership and all program categories characterized the past year for the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, **MajGen John P. Condon, USMC (Ret)**, the Foundation president, told the Commandant of the Marine Corps in a February letter accompanying the Foundation's annual progress report. Among 1986 activities highlighted in the report were:

*Research Grants and Educational Fellowships.* Awards in both programs are approved after completion of an evaluation process which begins in the History and Museums Division and culminates with a final recommendation by the Grants and Fellowships Committee of the Foundation. The research subjects are uniformly confined to Marine Corps historical matters. These proposals were approved during 1986:

- **Mr. John Groth**, artist, to produce a series of drawings/paintings depicting training at The Basic School.
- **Dr. Kenneth Werrell** to prepare a research paper on "Marine Aviation Against North Vietnam."
- **Col Edward M. Condra III**, for the purposes of producing a portfolio of art relative to Marine Corps elements participating in a NATO exercise.
- **Mr. Jeffrey Millstein**, for purposes of locating, identifying, and photographing an example of every aviation insignia from the beginning of Marine Corps Aviation through the end of World War II.
- **Mr. Charles Dublin**, to identify and evaluate selected aspects of Marine Corps history during the period 1900-1960 using the career and perspective of Gen Clifton B. Cates as a baseline for analysis.
- **Dr. Brian Linn**, to examine U.S. Army and Marine Corps joint operations on Samar during 1900 and 1902.
- **Capt John C. Chapin**, to complete his manuscript on "A Brief History of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115."

The educational fellowships offered by the Foundation have as an underlying program objective the development of military historians with a special interest in Marine Corps history.  
(Continued on page 34)



17 February 1987

Dear General Condon,


My very sincerest appreciation for your very thoughtful letter of 9 February, in which you provide an informative and encouraging status report of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.

First, let me say that under your leadership it is obvious that the Foundation is on the proper course and at the proper speed. For this, our Corps is genuinely grateful.

Next, since this will be the last report I shall receive as the Commandant, let me take this opportunity to thank you, the Board of Directors, and the officers of the Foundation for your truly superb support to our Corps these past four years. We could never have asked for more enthusiasm and professionalism. To each of you I offer a heartfelt BRAVO ZULU.

With warmest best wishes for continued success, I am

Respectfully,

  
P. X. KELLEY  
General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Major General John P. Condon, USMC (Ret.)  
President  
Marine Corps Historical Foundation  
Building 58, Washington Navy Yard  
Washington, D. C. 20374