

# FORTITUDINE

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NEW COMMANDANTS' CORRIDOR CAPTURES CORPS' HISTORY FOR PENTAGON VISITORS . . . REMODELED LEJEUNE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING HONORS MEMORY OF JULIAN C. SMITH . . . RUSSIAN ARMED FORCES MUSEUM DIRECTORS SEE HISTORICAL CENTER . . . 'PRINCETON PAPERS' PROVIDE RICH STUDY RESOURCE FOR MARINES

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# FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Volume XVIII

Winter 1988-1989

No. 3

This quarterly bulletin of the Marine Corps historical program is published to educate and train Marines in the uses of military and Marine Corps history.

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## THE COVER

Visitors to the Secretary of the Navy's offices on the 4th deck of the Pentagon are now able to appreciate a brief history of the Marine Corps in the form of reproduction portraits and narrative paintings displayed in the new "Commandants of the Marine Corps Corridor." Portraits of 27 of the 29 Commandants are interspersed by works evocative of their periods. The corridor includes contemporary works, among them "U.S. Marine Reservist," a pencil-and-charcoal drawing from sketches produced on a NATO winter exercise in Norway in 1984 by Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR, and the cover of this issue. Features of the corridor and a report on its development are provided by Chief Curator Charles Anthony Wood, beginning on page 12.

*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 bulletin is printed on 70-pound, matte-coated paper by offset lithography.

## An Appreciation of LtGen Julian C. Smith



*BGen Simmons*

There have been a confusing number of Marine Corps generals named "Smith." In World War II the quiet figure of MajGen Julian C. Smith stood in the shadow of the formidable, sometimes sulfurous, LtGen Holland M. ("Howlin' Mad") Smith. But no Marine division commander was more loved than was Julian Smith by the members of his division, the 2d Marine Division, and particularly those who were with him at Tarawa.

So it was entirely appropriate and almost inevitable that the new headquarters of the 2d Marine Division at Camp Lejeune would be named for Julian Smith. That new headquarters is a remodeling of the old Post Hospital on Hospital Point, a remarkably handsome red brick building in the Federal style that would not look out of place on the campus of a prestigious Eastern university, say the University of Virginia.

Dedication of the new headquarters, which houses the command elements of II Marine Expeditionary Force, as well as of the 2d Marine Division, was on 1 February 1989, the 48th anniversary of the activation of the division. It was a splendid ceremony, carefully planned and orchestrated by the present division commander,

MajGen Orlo K. Steele, who has a deft touch for such things.

The ceremony took place in front of the portico of the building against a backdrop of Marines standing with the battle colors of the regiments and battalions of the division on the circular drive. The Commandant, Gen Gray, was present. It was his idea, while he was Commanding General, 2d Marine Division, along with the then base commander, now



*1stLt Julian C. Smith, photographed sometime around 1912, was called a "high brow" by his CO, Smedley D. Butler.*

retired LtGen Charles G. Cooper, that the hospital would make an admirable headquarters.

Also present was LtGen Ernest T. Cook, Jr., in his capacity as CG II MEF, and a good number of other generals and senior officers, active and retired, as well as a hundred or so members, counting wives, of the 2d Marine Division Association. But the cynosure of the occasion was Mrs. Harriotte Byrd Smith, Julian's widow, better known to all, and with good reason, as "Happy" Smith.

I had the honor of giving the dedicato-

ry speech, a task that I enjoyed researching and delivering.

Julian Constable Smith was born on 11 September 1885 in Elkton, Maryland. His father was the postmaster of that little farming community. Young Julian received his bachelor of arts degree in 1908 from the University of Delaware. Such bald facts are easy to come by. One has to dig a little deeper to learn that he worked all the time that he was in school, both as a clerk in his father's post office and for the local newspaper. He had hoped to go to law school but he graduated in the middle of a recession. He had liked the taste of military training that he had gotten at the University of Delaware, so he borrowed \$300 and went to Washington to take the examination for a commission in the Marines.

There were 225 applicants and Smith placed 15th. Amongst the other new lieutenants were Alexander A. Vandegrift and Roy S. Geiger. Smith and his classmates were ordered to active duty on 6 February 1909. They were sent off to basic training by crusty MajGenComdt George F. Elliott who gave them just one bit of advice: "Don't get married while you're a second lieutenant."

The equivalent of today's Basic School was then at Port Royal, South Carolina—the future site of Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island. Young Julian graduated ninth in his class and was ordered to sea duty. His nautical experience up to this point was limited to sailing a boat in Chesapeake Bay. He had never even seen a battleship until he boarded the *Rhode Island* at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on 27 December 1909. The 15,000-ton battleship had a mixed main battery of four 12-inch and eight 8-inch guns. Marines manned a secondary battery of eight 3-inch guns. In February 1910 *Rhode Island* sailed southward for winter training at Guantanamo. The Atlantic is not pleasant in February and the young lieutenant got memorably seasick, particularly

### Sources

In addition to the biographical files held in the Reference Section of the Marine Corps Historical Center and official records, the writer made extensive use of the transcript of the oral history of LtGen Julian C. Smith. The interviews underlying the oral history were conducted by Mr. Benis M. Frank during a three-month period from November 1967 to January 1968. Also of great value are the personal papers of Gen Smith, held by the Center and recently painstakingly cataloged by Maj Joe F. Myers, USMCR.—EHS



*In 1928 Maj Smith was captain of the Marine Corps Rifle and Pistol Team which won all four national Service matches.*

while digging around in the double bottoms taking inventory of soap and oilskins.

In gunnery practice, 2dLt Smith was proud that his eight 3-inch guns scored highest in the fleet in torpedo boat defense. Training at Guantanamo also included rifle marksmanship and organization of the Marine detachments from four battleships into a provisional landing party battalion.

Guantanamo was followed by elaborate battle and scouting maneuvers in European waters. Smith got to see Paris and London, and then it was back to Guantanamo because there was trouble brewing in Mexico. Marine detachments from 11 ships of the Atlantic Fleet were formed up into a provisional brigade.

In July 1911 he was detached from the *Rhode Island* and ordered to Marine Barracks, Philadelphia. After a time spent at the rifle range, he was assigned to the new Advanced Base School. In May 1912 the Marines intervened in Cuba in what was called the Negro Rebellion. Smith sailed for Cuba with the 1st Provisional Marine Regiment in the *Prairie*, a converted merchant liner much used as a transport by the Marines. Still a second lieutenant, he found himself protecting American sugar

and mining interests at such places as Santa Cecilia and Los Canos.

Promoted to first lieutenant, he came home to Philadelphia at Christmastime 1912 to find orders to Panama waiting for him. In Panama he joined Smedley D. Butler's battalion which had just returned after some remarkable adventures in Nicaragua.

The Panama Canal was being dug but was not yet finished. Butler, who had hardly a high school education himself, called Smith a "high brow" because of his college education and put him into artillery.

Mexico was by now in the midst of a chaotic revolution and the Marines landed at Veracruz on 21 April 1914. Butler's Panama battalion formed part of the 1st Marine Brigade. Smith, commanding a platoon of 3-inch landing guns, was embarked in the battleship *Minnesota* and did not get ashore until the second day. By then there was no real organized resistance although a good deal of sniping was still going on.

Detached for duty with the Army, Smith stayed at Veracruz until late November when he was once again ordered to Philadelphia for further duty with the 1st Brigade. In August 1915 the Marines began what was to be a 19-year intervention in Haiti. Smith sailed for Port-au-Prince in the battleship *Tennessee* as adjutant of the 2d Battalion, 1st Regiment. Later he was given command of the 6th Company.

In May 1916 the 6th and 9th Companies were loaded into the ever-present *Prairie* for an excursion to Santo Domingo. Two opposing factions were fighting for control of Santo Domingo city. The two-company Marine battalion landed at Fort Geronimo on the outskirts of the city. Smith made a reconnaissance for which he was later commended and the two companies held their ground until enough reinforcements arrived to march into the city and to split apart the two conflicting forces.

The battalion then reembarked and moved around the island to the port of Monte Cristi on the north coast. Monte Cristi was taken after some fighting and held for two weeks until the 4th Marine Regiment could arrive from San Diego. There was then a march to Santiago. The 6th Company was the rear guard and there

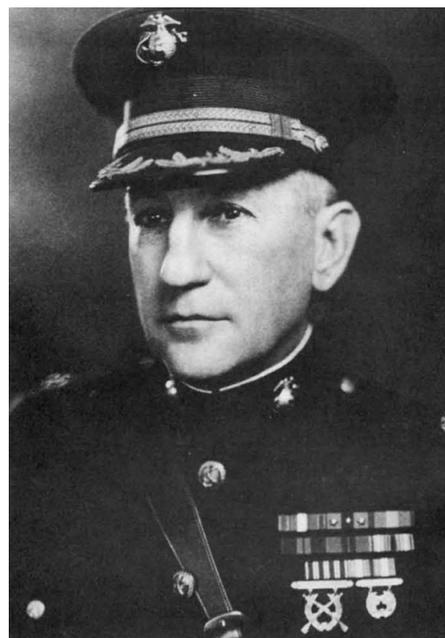
was some considerable fighting in which Smith showed his mastery of that new weapon, the machine gun. After Santiago was secured, Smith was put in charge of the railroad that ran from Santiago to Puerto Plata.

In December 1916 he returned once again to Philadelphia, the home of the Advanced Base Force, and was given command of a mine-laying company. He was promoted to captain in March 1917, a month before the war with Germany began. There was no mission in this new war for Marine mine-laying companies, which had harbor defense mines, not land mines. In August 1918, Smith, newly promoted to major, requested a transfer to Quantico for duty with the next regiment to be formed for service in France. He was temporarily assigned as an instructor in the Marine Officers Training Camp. By the time he received command of the 2d Machine Gun Battalion the war was over.

Early in 1919 his battalion was sent to Cuba where something called the Sugar Intervention was going on. His battalion, as part of the Brigade, went into camp on San Juan Hill.

In June 1919, Major Smith returned once again to Philadelphia and after a short time was transferred to Headquarters, Marine Corps, in Washington. In August 1920 he was sent to Quantico, where he commanded the 6th Machine Gun Bat-

*When Col Smith was promoted to brigadier general in 1941 he was ordered to London as observer of the war in Europe.*



talion. In June 1921 he was ordered to duty as Force Marine Officer on the staff of the Battleship Force, Atlantic Fleet, with the personal endorsement of MajGen-Comdt Lejeune that he was "an expert in rifle practice and machine guns." The admiral's flag was first in the *Arizona*, then in the *Arkansas*, and then in the *Wyoming*.

In 1923 Smith returned to Washington to serve a four-year rather dry spell in the Office of the Chief Coordinator, Bureau of the Budget. A good deal of his duties had to do with the disposal of World War surplus property.

He left Washington in late summer 1927 to attend a year-long course at the Army Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth. On graduation in 1928 he was detailed as captain of the Marine Corps Rifle and Pistol Team. The team won all four National Service matches that year and 17 out of 28 National Rifle Association matches. Interspersed with rifle and pistol matches was time spent as an instructor in tactics at the Field Officers Course at Quantico.

Twenty years had passed since he had listened to the Major General Commandant's advice not to marry young. In 1929 he married Harriotte Byrd. Her first husband, Captain William Carl Byrd, a Marine aviator, had been killed in an aircraft accident in Nicaragua the year before.

In August 1930 Smith himself was sent to Nicaragua at the express request of the U.S. Marine Jefe Director of the Guardia Nacional. Smith was made the Chief of Staff of the Guardia and this carried with it the Nicaraguan ranks, first of colonel and eventually brigadier general, although his Marine Corps grade stayed that of a major. This Guardia service also brought him the Navy Cross for personal leadership against the Sandinistas.

The Marines, Smith among them, left Nicaragua in January 1933. His next station was Quantico where his first assignment was to be senior member of the board appointed to write a detailed *Review of the Organization and Operations of the Guardia Nacional de Nicaragua, 1927-1933*, parts of which read strangely like the Marine experience in Vietnam. There were also fleet exercises to test out the new amphibious doctrine being developed at Quantico.

In June 1934 he became Director of the



*In his most esteemed role, MajGen Julian C. Smith, in helmet at right, Marine commander of the first true amphibious assault of World War II, leads an after-action inspection of Tarawa by officers, including Adm Chester A. Nimitz, directly behind.*

Basic School at Philadelphia and in October was promoted to lieutenant colonel after 14 years as a major.

In April 1935 he was ordered to Headquarters in Washington for duty with the Division of Operations and Training, the famous "Pots and Pans" division. By contrast to his years as a major, he, in his words, "practically jumped through the grade of lieutenant colonel," with a promotion to colonel in August 1935 and assignment as Director of "Pots and Pans" in July 1936. In April 1937 he was switched to director of Personnel.

In June 1938 he received a plum assignment, command of the 5th Marines, 1st Marine Brigade, then at Quantico. This involved him in more fleet exercises in the Caribbean.

He stayed at Quantico until his promotion to brigadier general in June 1941 when he was ordered to London to serve briefly with the Naval Attache, American Embassy, as an observer of World War II which was already in its second year.

He returned in August 1941 to be the commanding general of the Training Center at Quantico. He was promoted to major general in October 1942, at about the same time as the Training Center was moved to New River, North Carolina.

In April 1943 he was detached for overseas duty and on 1 May took command

of the 2d Marine Division, then resting in New Zealand and not yet fully recovered from the effects of Guadalcanal.

In *Follow Me!*, the official history of the 2d Marine Division in World War II, the writer, Richard W. Johnson, speaks of Julian Smith's "entirely unassuming manner and friendly hazel eyes" and also of his "determined personality that could be forcefully displayed in decisive moments." Johnson goes on to say, "His concern for his men was deep and genuine."

I am not going to go into detail on the assault of Tarawa Atoll. You will perhaps remember that Gen Smith had to attack Betio Island with just two-thirds of his division because the 6th Marines was held back in landing force reserve. The landing was made on the lagoon side of the island because that shoreline appeared to be less heavily defended and also the lagoon waters were more sheltered.

The Navy admiral in charge of the naval gunfire bombardment optimistically promised, "We do not intend to neutralize it [meaning the island], we do not intend to destroy it. Gentlemen, we will obliterate it."

Gen Smith, normally soft-spoken and unassuming, was offended. He replied, "Even though you Navy officers do come in to about a thousand yards, I remind you that you have a little armor. I want you to know that Marines are crossing the



By December 1944 MajGen Smith headed the Department of the Pacific and soon was to be commander at Parris Island.

beach with bayonets, and the only armor they'll have is a khaki shirt."

A New Zealand major on Smith's staff had warned him that the tides at Tarawa were irregular and that there might be as little as three feet of water over the reef at high tide. At best, Smith could see only a 50 percent chance of landing craft clearing the reef. Marines in landing craft faced the prospect of wading ashore half-a-mile or more in the face of Japanese fire.

The 2d Marine Division landed at Tarawa on 20 November 1943. Gen Smith's command post was in the battleship *Maryland*, the best place for him to be to control his division during the landing phase. By noon, he had committed all of his reserves except one battalion. He asked for the release of the 6th Marines. While he was awaiting a reply he began organizing his division headquarters and combat support group into a provisional infantry battalion which he intended to lead ashore in person if his request for the reserve regiment was denied. The 6th Marines was released to the division late in the day, too late to be landed on D-day. The fresh regiment began landing on the morning of the 21st and the tide of battle turned.

Smith moved his command post ashore early on the 22d and at 1330 on the following day, after 76 hours of the most bitter fighting possible, he was able to announce that organized resistance was at an end. There had been a staggering price of 3,381 American casualties.

But Tarawa had been the first true amphibious assault of the war and it had proved the validity of the Navy-Marine Corps amphibious doctrine. The blueprint worked out at Quantico and tested in fleet exercises was thus verified for future amphibious victories both in the Pacific and the Atlantic.

Robert Sherrod in his *Tarawa: the Story of the Battle* quoted Gen Smith as saying, "We made mistakes, but you can't know it all the first time. We learned a lot which will benefit us in the future. And we made fewer mistakes than the Japs did."

Gen Smith continued in command of the 2d Marine Division until April 1944 when he was named Commanding General Administrative Command, V Amphibious Corps. The transfer deeply hurt him. He wrote to his old friend and 1909 classmate, Vandegrift, who was now a lieutenant general and Commandant of the Marine Corps, that he believed it reflected upon his ability as a division commander and that he hoped he would still be considered for a tactical command.

Gen Vandegrift wrote back that he was amazed that Smith regarded his new assignment as a demotion and that he, Vandegrift, considered him to be the No. 2 Marine in the Pacific area. Shortly thereafter, Holland M. Smith, who had been

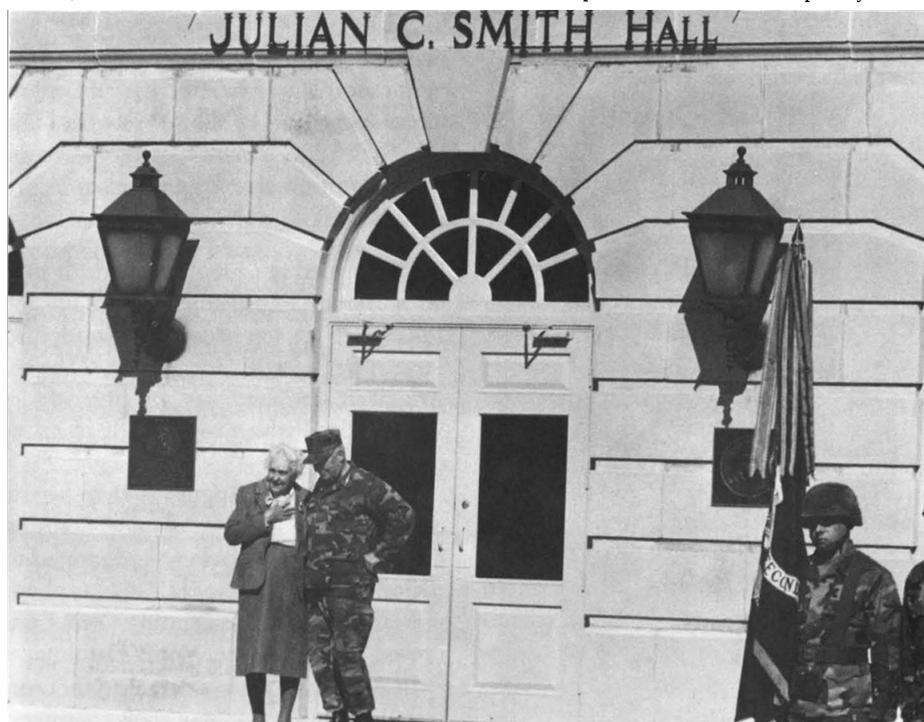
Commanding General, V Corps, was made commanding general of a new headquarters, Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific, and Julian Smith was named his deputy. This made him indeed the No. 2 Marine in the Pacific.

As it happened, Julian Smith would have another tactical role to play. In July 1944 he was named Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops, Third Fleet. As such he did much of the planning for the assault of the Palau Islands. The opposition at one of those islands, Peleliu, promised to be as bitter as at Tarawa.

Gen Smith did not command the actual landing. This was in the hands of another old friend and 1909 classmate, Roy Geiger, as Commanding General, III Amphibious Corps, and it was the 1st Marine Division that made the landing. D-day was 15 September 1944 and not until 25 November was the final pocket of Japanese resistance destroyed.

Meanwhile Gen Smith had been detached to return to the States and, after temporary duty at Headquarters, was given command in December of the Department of the Pacific with headquarters in San Francisco. He was transferred from there in January 1946 to Parris Island where he commanded the Marine Corps

Harriotte Byrd "Happy" Smith is joined by the Commandant, Gen Alfred M. Gray, at the dedication of Julian C. Smith Hall, new headquarters of the II Marine Expeditionary Force and the 2d Marine Division at Hospital Point at Camp Lejeune.



Recruit Depot until October 1946 when he was ordered home to await retirement on 1 January 1947.

In 1949 he founded the 2d Marine Division Association and was its first president. This Association and its scholarship program were his greatest interests in his retirement years. In these years he lived in Alexandria, Virginia. He died on 5 November 1975 at the age of 90 after long illness.

At the time of his retirement, he was raised in grade to lieutenant general for having been specially commended in combat. Any one of his three highest awards would have qualified him for this promo-

tion. There was his Navy Cross for heroism in Nicaragua, his first Distinguished Service Medal for Tarawa, and his second Distinguished Service Medal for the capture of the Palaus. But it is for the assault on Tarawa as the Commanding General of the 2d Marine Division that we remember him best and the citation for that Distinguished Service Medal says it very truly:

“ . . . by his brilliant leadership, resolute tenacity, and gallantry in the face of terrific opposition, he inspired his officers and men to heroic heights of endeavor in combatting and overwhelming a relentless, fanatical enemy. His valiant devotion to duty in the successful completion of an exacting and vital assignment reflects the

highest credit upon Major General Smith, his command and the United States Naval Services.”

The 1 February 1989 naming ceremony ended with a march past of a slice of today's 2d Marine Division. None of the vehicles or weapons in the line of march would have been familiar to Gen Smith. The camouflage uniforms might have reminded him of his scout elements at Tarawa, but the new helmets would have looked strange and maybe even disconcerting to him. What he would have known was the way the Marines in the 2d Marine Division carried themselves and the proud look in their eyes. That hasn't changed.

□1775□

## Readers Always Write

### A Fellow 'Flying Tiger' Views Boyington's Record

Your Winter 1987-1988 issue with an article by Col. Quilter titled “One-of-a-Kind Marine Aviator Pappy Boyington Dies,” and your Spring-Summer issue with a title “Question of Who Is Corps' Top World War II Ace Continues,” suggests that you might welcome a letter from me regarding Boyington's claims with the AVG Flying Tigers since I was the “official scorekeeper.” I was president of our Confirmation Board.

When a large group of us returned to the U.S. in the fall of 1942 on the *Mariposa*, which had been converted to a troop transport, I went to the CAMCO office [administrative headquarters] in New York. I was shown payment records for myself and others including Boyington. I was paid for 6½ Japanese planes destroyed and Boyington was paid for 3½. We know that Boyington and others made additional unsubstantiated claims which were not included in the totals for which they were paid. I believe . . . the only reliable claims are those for whom the pilot was paid.

There has been only one revision of the claims records to my knowledge. In 1984 Bob Neale, commander of Squadron One and Boyington's commander, and I, who were the only surviving members of the board, granted Robert B. Keeton a claim of a Mitsubishi twin engine bomber he shot down over Toungoo, Burma, 3 February 1942.

When I was recruited for the AVG in

the summer of 1941, I left VF-6 as an ensign flying Grumman fighters from the deck of the USS *Enterprise* at North Island. When the AVG was disbanded I returned to the U.S. where I accepted a commission in the Army Air Force. I eventually became group commander of the 354th P-51 Fighter Group in England where I was awarded the Medal of Honor for defending a group of Flying Fortresses from annihilation. I left the military service at the end of the war but remained in the Air Force Reserve from which I retired in 1966.

BGen James H. Howard,  
USAFR (Ret)  
Belleair Bluffs, Florida

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Twice an ace, BGen Howard is credited with 7.33 kills with the Flying Tigers and 13.33 victories as a career total in both theaters of World War II.*

#### SEEKS 1942 4TH MARINES INFO

Thank you for noting in the Spring-Summer 1988 issue of *Fortitudine* (page 23) the Bataan and Corregidor Collection . . . [at] the U.S. Military Academy Library.

The collection . . . was donated . . . in honor of my uncle, Alexander Ramsey Nininger, Jr., USMA Class of '41 . . . killed on Bataan, January 12, 1942, while serving with the 57th Infantry Regiment. His exploits led to the posthumous award of the first World War II Medal of Honor.

The collection contains . . . an unpublished 1951 master's thesis . . . by a form-

er Fourth Marine, Grant John Berry. Unfortunately, I have not been able to find much else concerning the Fourth . . . between the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and the fall of the Philippines to the Japanese in May 1942.

I would be most grateful if you would ask your readership for copies of any material [on] the Fourth Marines, during this . . . tragic episode in our history.

John Alexander Patterson  
USAID-Box 10  
FPO New York 09527-0008

#### ALLIES WEREN'T OFFENDED

Your memorandum of the history of the term “Expeditionary” (*Fortitudine*, Vol XVIII, No. 1, Spring-Summer 1988) causes me to add this historical footnote: When I learned that General Westmoreland was opposed to the Marine designators MEB and MEF on the ground that they were offensive to our allies, I asked several Vietnamese generals directly if they had any such reservations. Generals Thi, Khan and Khang all reacted the same way, “Never even thought of it.” I remonstrated with Westy, but he was unmoved. I'm pleased that we have gone back to the historic term.

Perhaps the readers of *Fortitudine* would be interested to know that *First to Fight* has gone into a fourth printing.

LtGen Victor H. Krulak,  
USMC (Ret)  
San Diego, California

# Collection Adds Medals, Papers of WWI Officer Hero

by Jennifer L. Gooding  
Registrar

“During gas alarm on the morning of June 6, while on duty at Regimental P. C., was notified that the 8th Machine Gun Company, with the 17th Infantry Company following, could not find the route to go into action. Finding the 8th Machine Gun Company with the Infantry Company, LtCol Feland led them through Champillion which was being shelled and sent them in. Finding that the infantry was not the 17th Company, but part of the 66th, he returned through Champillion, found the 17th Company, took them according to plan of Battalion Commander. He then went to the P. C. of the 1st Battalion Commander, volunteered to perform any duty that would help, which assistance was of value, displaying a high type of courage.”

LtCol Logan Feland, later a major general, was at the time of this action executive officer of the 5th Marine Regiment, and cited in general orders no. 40 of Headquarters 2d Division, American Expeditionary Forces, dated 5 July 1918. For this and many similar valorous actions, as lieutenant colonel and colonel, Feland received the Army Distinguished Service Cross and the Army and Navy Distinguished Service Medals (the Navy with two gold stars) and was made an officer of the French Legion of Honor. Today the medals and personal papers relating to Maj-Gen Feland's Marine Corps career are a part of the Marine Corps Museum's collection thanks to Mrs. Harman L. Hoffman of Williamsburg, Virginia. Mrs. Hoffman is a collateral descendant of Gen Feland.

Gen Feland is regarded as one of the outstanding figures in the history of the Corps. He was born in 1869 in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and served his country for 35 years. He joined the Corps in 1899 after having served with the Army in the Spanish-American War with the 3d Kentucky Infantry. Early Marine Corps service included expeditions to the Philippine Islands, Cuba, Panama, and other locales. During World War I, Feland was with the

first contingent of American forces to go overseas in May of 1917 and was involved in all of the major engagements in which the Marines participated. Feland later commanded the 2d Brigade in Santo Domingo and in Nicaragua.

Gen Feland was cited with unusual frequency for his courage and ability to command and direct troops during the heat of battle in World War I, attested to by the many citations in the collection praising his bravery and professionalism in the field. For his conduct during the bloody fighting in Belleau Wood, Feland received the Army Distinguished Service Cross. He was awarded the Army and Navy Distinguished Service Medals for the “extraordinary skill” and “highest qualities of leadership” he displayed during the Aisne-Marne Defensive and the fighting at Chateau Thierry.

The Museum received Gen Feland's entire collection of decorations. In addition to the medals already mentioned, the collection includes the Silver Star with two oak leaf clusters, the World War I victory medal with five battle clasps, the Cuban

*Order sent by Col Feland calls for ceasefire at 1100 on the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918. Message was for Maj George W. Hamilton of 1st Battalion.*



*MajGen Logan Feland, USMC, retired as Commanding General, Department of the Pacific after 35 years in the Corps.*

Pacification Medal, the Philippine Campaign Medal, and the 2d Nicaraguan Campaign Medal. The French Government awarded the Croix de Guerre to Feland an extraordinary six times (with one gold star, two bronze stars, and three bronze palms).

Among Gen Feland's personal papers are original notebook pages written as a colonel and commanding officer of the 5th Marines during the final days of World War I, and a copy of a message to Maj George W. Hamilton, USMC, Commanding Officer of the regiment's 1st Battalion, dated 11 November 1918, written at 0910, and ordering a ceasefire at 1100.

In 1941 in memory of Gen Feland, the Navy named a naval transport after him, the USS *Feland* (APA 11). Feland had served on numerous ships early in his career, including the battleships *Oregon*, *Massachusetts*, and *Indiana*.

Gen Feland retired on 1 September 1933, as Commanding General, Department of the Pacific. He died on 17 July 1936 in Columbus, Ohio, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. □1775□

# Soviet Military Museum Leaders Tour Historical Center

by Col Brooke Nihart, USMC (Ret)  
Deputy Director for Museums

Six Russian military museum directors visited the Marine Corps Historical Center on Saturday, 17 December 1988, as part of a two-year U.S.-Soviet "military contact activities" program.

The visitors were greeted and escorted to the Center's conference room where Director of History and Museums, BGen Simmons, discussed the role of the Marine Corps and detailed the historical program. He was followed by Deputy Director for Museums, Col Nihart, who explained the museums program and what the guests would be seeing in the Center and Museum.

These briefings were followed by a tour of the Center. The highlight for the visitors appeared to be our suite of computers: computer-driven typesetting; library computer connected to a nationwide network; computer cataloging of collections; and desktop computers at nearly every workstation for word processing and other tasks. One Russian officer remarked ruefully that they had 20 million casualty cards and no computer to retrieve information from them.

The group was quite interested in the Center's research resources, especially the Oral History Collection, the Reference Sec-



Mr. J. Michael Miller, Curator of Personal Papers, discusses features of the collection with Capt Aleshin, Col Grichuk, and LtGen Federov. Mr. Miller is showing a collection of captured papers of Nicaraguan Augusto Sandino, to illustrate conservation.

tion, the Archives, and the Personal Papers Collection. At the latter, curators J. Michael Miller and Paul W. Hallam showed features of these holdings, emphasizing development of finding aids and conservation as well as demonstrating their unique computer and indexing system.

The two-year program of military contact activities was announced in July 1988 by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm William J. Crowe, Jr., and Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergei F. Akhromeyev. It was agreed that the visits be without public fanfare and, as a result, this first programmed visit was very low

Clockwise around the table, Capt A. M. Aleshin; LtGen S. Y. Federov, SAF (Ret); Col Nihart; BGen Simmons; interpreter; Capt P. P. Boyko; Col M. Y. Kravchenko; Col V. T. Pasechnikov;

and Head of Delegation Col V. S. Grichuk. Chalkboard bears message in Russian "Welcome Russian Military Museum Directors." Seeing it, Capt Boyko added, "Spasibo," or "Thank You."





*BGen Simmons exchanges ceremonial vodka toasts with Capt Aleshin and LtGen Federov, while Capt Boyko is satisfied with coffee. Gen Federov, who is 78 years old, is the only one of the group who fought in World War II and is a much-decorated pilot.*

key. It will be followed by 16 other exchanges, including medical personnel, historians, ship visits, visits by the JCS Chairman and service chiefs, band visits, war college visits, and rifle and pistol competitions.

After the tour of the Center's working

spaces the group returned to the conference room where coffee and tea were offered and mid-morning toasts exchanged with vodka. Each visitor was presented a set of 12 Marine Corps uniform plates by Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR; a lapel pin bearing the eagle, an-

chor, and stars of the Marine Corps uniform button and also the insignie of the Historical Center; and a portfolio containing a copy of *Fortitudine*, the *Guide to the Marine Corps Historical Center*, a list of publications, and museum folders. The Russians responded with pins from their museums and a print illustrating the steam frigate *Alexander Nevsky*, which visited New York during our Civil War.

## The Delegation

The Soviet delegation was a cross-section of their military, with the three services, the general staff, and the main political directorate being represented.

**Col Valentin Sergeyevich Grichuk** headed the delegation and represented the Department of Military History, General Staff. He was born in 1934 and entered the Army in 1953. Col Grichuk is a graduate of the Armor School, the Frunze Military Academy, and the Voroshilov Military Staff Academy.

**Capt First Rank Pavel Platonovich Boyko** represented the Military Culture and Art Department, Main Political Directorate. He was born in 1945 and entered the Navy in 1964. Capt Boyko is a graduate of the Lvov Higher Political-Military Institute.

**Col Vitaliy Terentayevich Pasechnikov** is Director of the Central Museum of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union in Moscow. He was born in 1934 and entered the Army in 1953. Col Pasechnikov also is a graduate of the Lvov Higher Political-Military Institute.

**Capt First Rank Aleksey Mikaylovich Aleshin** is Director of the Central Navy Museum in Leningrad. He was born in 1938 and entered the Navy in 1957. Capt Aleshin is a graduate of the Frunze Naval Academy in Leningrad.

**Col Mikhail Yakovlevich Kravchenko** is Director of the Military History Museum of Artillery, Engineers, and Communications in Leningrad. He was born in 1937 and entered the Army in 1956. Col Kravchenko also graduated from the Lvov Higher Political-Military Institute.

**LtGen Sergei Yakolevich Federov**, Soviet Air Force (Retired), is Director of the Soviet Air Force Museum. He was born in 1910 and served from 1932 to 1972. Gen Federov graduated from the Lenin Political-Military Academy and is a highly decorated veteran of World War II.

—FBN

After being refreshed, the visitors began their museum tour with examination of a special exhibit created by curators Miller and Hallam and exhibit specialists Mr. Benny Lenox and SSgt Leroy M. Dyas. The exhibit featured material from the Henry Clay Cochrane collection (See *Fortitudine*, Fall 1988, "With Lincoln at Gettysburg," for an earlier Cochrane adventure). Cochrane, as a captain of the Marine Guard on the USS *Lancaster* visited St. Petersburg and Moscow for the coronation of Czar Alexander III in 1883. Cochrane was an omnivorous collector of photographs of his travels abroad, which he then turned into "magic lantern" slides for his lecture tours. On exhibit were his slides of his Russian visit and the coronation, paper programs and illustrations of the coronation, and his slide projector. The visitors displayed great interest in this memorabilia from Russia's Czarist era of 105 years ago.

The balance of the museum tour stressed various exhibit and interpretive techniques. The major exhibit, "The Ea-

gle and The Dragon," on Marines in the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, was of further interest to the visitors for its portrayal of foreign troops in China, including Russian. Each of the group was given a poster of the exhibit and copies of the photographs of Russian troops.

The day before, the group was given a similar program by the Navy Historical Center and Museum also located in the Navy Yard. On Monday, 19 December, the Russians were flown to Pensacola, Florida, for a visit to the Naval Aviation Museum and USS *Lexington*. From there they flew to Fort Knox, Kentucky, for the U.S. Army's Armor Museum and then to Wright-Paterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to view the Air Force Museum.

A return visit by service museum directors is tentatively set for 26 February-4 March. It is anticipated that the writer will represent the Marine Corps Museum. In May the military historians' exchange will begin with United States service historians travelling to the Soviet Union. BGen Simmons expects to represent the History and Museums Division on that visit.

□1775□



Col Nihart describes the contents of portfolios and uniform prints to be given as gifts, as LtGen Federov looks on and Col Pasechnikov shoots scene with his camcorder.

Col Grichuk looks at Henry Clay Cochrane's "magic lantern" as Capt Aleshin, Capt Boyko, Col Pasechnikov, and Col Kravchenko look at Cochrane's slides of Russia in 1883. The exhibit of Cochrane's souvenir material was a high point in the Russians' visit.



## New Books

# Modern Warfare Methods Start at Civil War, Book Says

by Evelyn A. Englander  
Historical Center Librarian

The library of the Marine Corps Historical Center searches out recently published books of professional interest to Marines. These books are available from local bookstores or libraries:

*The American Civil War and the Origins of Modern Warfare* . . . Edward Hagerman. Indiana University Press. 366 pp. 1988. The author describes how the Civil War has affected modern land warfare up through World War II. Its armies were the first to face the full impact of mid-nineteenth century technology on weapons, communications, and logistics. Civil War commanders also had to go beyond their inherited Napoleonic traditions and create new tactical organizations. They were also the first to engage in the type of trench warfare that reached its fruition in World War I. Hagerman traces these changes through detailed discussions of

the various campaigns in the Civil War. \$37.50

*Fire Arrow: A Novel*. Frank Allen Leib. Presidio Press. 350 pp. 1988. *Fire Arrow* begins with the terrorist hijacking of 65 Navy personnel and dependents aboard a DC-8 chartered by the Defense Department. The hostage Americans are held at a Libyan airbase under threat of execution.

Set against the background of Russian-American relations, the U.S. prepares the rescue (Operation Fire Arrow) while Russian Spetsnaz commandos are on the ground in Libya and Libyan forces are preparing to defend their territory. The author had previously served with the Navy in Vietnam. \$18.95.

*Attack Helicopters: A History of Rotary-Wing Combat Aircraft*. Howard A. Wheeler. Nautical and Aviation Publishing Co. of America. 117 pp. 1988. A his-

tory of combat helicopters from their use in providing logistical support and medevac assistance to their role as air-to-surface or air-to-air combatants. The author covers the contributions of Germany, France, Britain, and the Soviet Union, though his emphasis remains the use and development of military helicopters by the various armed forces of the U.S. Includes their use by Marines in Korea, Vietnam, and Grenada. Photographs. \$22.95.

*The American Experience in Vietnam*. Clark Douglas and Stephen Weiss and the editors of the Boston Publishing Co. Illustrations selected by Kathleen A. Reidy. W. W. Norton. 352 pp. 1988. A one-volume, well illustrated history of the Vietnam War by the editors of Boston publishing's 25-volume "Vietnam Experience" series. Black-and-white and color photographs. Bibliography. \$39.95



*New walnut paneling, special lighting, and highly polished floor distinguish the new Marine Commandants' Corridor seen here from the "E" Ring end of Corridor 6 on the Pentagon's 4th Deck. The corridor serves Navy Department executive offices.*



*Secretary Ball on 10 November cuts the ribbon opening the corridor, applauded by, from left, Mrs. Robert H. Cushman, widow of the 25th Commandant; Gen Paul X. Kelley, 28th Commandant; Gen Alfred M. Gray, 29th Commandant; and, to the Secretary's right, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, Director of Marine Corps History and Museums.*

*"Repulse of the Highlanders, New Orleans, 1815" by Col Waterhouse complements portrait of LtCol-Comdt Franklin Wharton.*



# Navy Secretary Dedicated To History of Corps and

*by Charles An  
Chief C*

**M**arine Corps history, seen through the lives and times of the 28 Commandants who have held the office, is newly on display in the Pentagon in Washington, in the "Commandants of the Marine Corps Corridor" inaugurated at the end of 1988.

Secretary of the Navy William L. Ball III, joined by the Commandant, Gen Alfred M. Gray, cut a ceremonial ribbon opening the corridor in a combined dedication-Marine Corps Birthday celebration last 10 November. Also participating in the ribbon-cutting were Gen Paul X. Kelley, 28th Commandant of the Marine Corps; Mrs. Robert E. Cushman, widow of the 25th Commandant; and BGen Edwin H. Simmons, Director of Marine Corps History and Museums. The ceremonial scissors, once used, were placed on a plaque and presented by the Secretary to the Commandant, in commemoration of the event. The corridor serves Navy Department executive offices off Rings A through E on the Pentagon's 4th Deck.

Following the dedication, the traditional cutting of the Secretary of the Navy's Marine Corps Birthday Cake was held,

# tes Pentagon Corridor nd Its Commandants

thony Wood  
urator

with the first piece going to the oldest Marine present from the Secretary's staff, Col Donald W. Johnson, a division director, and the second to the youngest, Cpl Brian Salsgiver, receptionist for an assistant secretary. The dedication-birthday ceremonies were observed by more than 200 invited guests.

A Marine corridor in the Pentagon was suggested first in 1978 by then-Navy Secretary W. Graham Claytor, Jr., to then-Commandant Gen Louis H. Wilson, who assigned the project, to use Corridor 7 for the purpose, to the History and Museums Division. The exhibit mounted by the division was titled "First to Fight," covered Marine historical events from World War I to 1978, and was dedicated in a ceremony presided over by a deputy under secretary of the Navy.

In August 1979, meetings held among representatives of the division, the Secretary's staff, and the Pentagon's facilities management office recommended the embellishment of two areas on the fourth deck, one to honor Chiefs of Naval Operations and the other to commemorate Commandants of the Marine Corps. Likenesses of these senior officers displayed in their respective areas would complement portraits of Secretaries of the Navy exhibited on Ring E, known as the Naval Executive Corridor.

In 1984, Secretary of the Navy John H. Lehman, Jr., implemented the 1979 plan,



*"Aerial Resupply – 2 October 1918,"* by Charles L. Lock refers to the period of MajGen George Barnett, the 12th Commandant, who led the Corps during its expansion for World War I. Lock memorializes four valiant Marine airmen who aided French allies.



Chesley Bonestell's *"View from Suribachi,"* presents the amphibious landing on Iwo Jima from the vantage point of heavily shelled Mount Suribachi. The World War II operation was staged under 18th Commandant, Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift.

Col Waterhouse's vivid recreation of the World War II amphibious assault on "Tarawa," at 10-by-5 feet, is the largest artwork

and the "anchor" of the Commandants' Corridor. It is prominently situated at the entrance to the Naval Executive Corridor.





*Three Marines are heavily dressed against the bitter Korean cold in November 1950, in "Village Near Hagaru" by the world-famous combat artist John Groth. The sketch represents the wartime leadership of Gen Clifton B. Cates, the 19th Commandant.*

deciding that the CNO portraits would be displayed along Ring A between Corridors 6 and 7, and Corridor 6 between Rings A and E, and the CMC portraits would be hung along Corridor 7, also between Rings A and E. Renovation of the CNO portion began early in 1984, with projected remodeling of the Marine Corps corridor to begin in October of the same year.

Both areas were to have new walnut panel wainscoting and molding; new

*Gen Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., was 24th Commandant when Maj Albert M. Leahy, USMCR, painted "Checking It Out." A Marine cautiously searches an enemy bunker during heavy fighting at the Cam Le Bridge near Da Nang, Vietnam, in August 1968.*



off-white, striated vinyl wall covering above the wainscoting; doors refinished in a walnut color with brass hardware and heralds; newly installed lighting for general illumination; and direct lighting for proper illumination of the art. Although the 1979 plan called for installation of original portraits, curatorial concerns meant that, in fact, few of these fragile and irreplaceable paintings reasonably could be left unattended in public areas. At the recommendation of then-Commandant Gen Kelley,

Secretary Lehman accepted the substitution of high-quality photographic reproductions on canvas of all of the Commandants' portraits.

The Marine Corps looked upon the installation of art in the Commandants' Corridor as an opportunity to project the Corps' image in a well-defined space. The excellent reproductions of the portraits would be displayed in chronological order, supported by additional reproductions of valuable Marine Corps art reflecting the periods of individual Commandants. In a remaining area, original art representing the contemporary Marine Corps also could be hung.

The Chiefs of Naval Operations Corridor was completed early in 1986. When that corridor was dedicated in June, Secretary Lehman told Gen Kelley that he personally wanted to approve the Marine Corps plan before it was executed. Gen Kelley's plan, essentially what is exhibited today, was approved on 21 July. The History and Museums Division completed the required preparation of framed exhibits in August 1986, but the refurbishment of the corridor itself was then still incomplete.

On 14 November 1987 the History and Museums Division was informed that work on Corridor 7 would be completed by 1 February 1988, and on 19 January Gen Simmons was able to notify Gen Gray that the corridor was available for hanging the exhibit.

The entire exhibit was temporarily mounted on the second deck of the Marine Corps Historical Center to afford the Commandant and his staff the opportunity to view and critique it before installation. Gen Gray approved the collected artwork on 25 March and the division began installing materials in the Pentagon. On 17 June, Gen Simmons reported to the Commandant that the hanging of the exhibit was completed, and suggested that the dedication ceremony be held on 10 November to gain enhanced recognition of this tribute to the Commandants by coinciding with the Secretary of the Navy's traditional Marine Corps Birthday observance.

Presented in the Commandants' Corridor are reproductions of more than 60 pieces of art belonging to the Corps. Portraits of just 27 of the 29 Marine Corps Commandants are displayed, because no

portrait of the 4th Commandant, LtCol Anthony Gale (1819-1820), is known to exist, and the portrait of the current Commandant, Gen Gray, has not yet been painted. The original paintings from which the copies were made hang in the more protective environment of the Commandant's House at Marine Barracks, 8th & I, in Washington.

The "anchor" of the Commandants' Corridor is the 10-by-5-foot original painting, "Tarawa," by Col Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR, artist-in-residence at the Marine Corps Historical Center. This painting, depicting the famous World War II battle in heroic scale, is situated prominently at the junction of Corridor 7 and Ring E, at the entrance to the Naval Executive Corridor.

Interspersed among the portraits on both sides of the corridor are works of art portraying significant events, or which are otherwise evocative, of the periods of tenure of the Commandants appearing in adjacent paintings. Most of the works complementing the portraits were painted by Marines.

The chronological arrangement begins with the first Marine officer, Maj Samuel Nicholas, whose portrait is reproduced from a "reconstructed" painting in oils by Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR. Although Maj Nicholas was never formally titled as such, tradition holds his service to be that of the 1st Commandant. Next to the Nicholas portrait, "Landing at New Providence" is reproduced from among works in Col Waterhouse's suite of paintings, "Marines in the Revolution." It shows Continental Marines in their first amphibious assault, which resulted in the capture of Fort Montagu, one of two forts which guarded the island of New Providence in the Bahamas.

Beside the portrait of the 2d Commandant, LtCol Franklin Wharton, is the reproduction of "The Assault on Derna, 27 April 1805," from Col Waterhouse's series of paintings, "Marines in the Frigate Navy." This historical reconstruction shows the Marine action, under the leadership of Lt Presley N. O'Bannon, which resulted in the first raising of the American flag on captured foreign territory. Wharton's portrait itself is a historic reconstruction, painted by LtCol John J. Capolino in 1950.



*The 26th Commandant, Gen Louis H. Wilson, Jr., saw his Marines travel to Northern Europe for NATO exercises. Accompanying the troops was Maj John T. Dyer, Jr., USMCR, whose painting shows Marine LVTP-7s in the town square of Eutin, Germany.*

Among portraits of later Commandants is the reproduction of the oil portrait from life of MajGen George Barnett, the 12th Commandant (1914-1920), executed by Richard Norris Brooke in 1916. Gen Barnett led the Corps during its rapid expansion for World War I and successfully pressed to ensure that a Marine regiment was on board the first convoy to leave for France, living up to the Corps' tradition of being the "first to fight."

The portrait is flanked by two other reproductions, "U.S. Marines at Belleau Wood, June 1918," by SSgt Tom Lovell, USMCR, and "Aerial Resupply—2 October 1918," by Charles L. Lock. SSgt Lovell's painting in oils portrays Marines in hand-to-hand struggle with stubborn German defenders of the machine gun nests which infested Belleau Wood. The original watercolor painting on paper by Lock is a chronicle of the actions of Marine aviator Capt Francis P. Mulcahy and his observer, GySgt Thomas L. McCullough, and Capt Robert S. Lytle and his observer, GySgt Amil Wiman, as they flew through heavy German fire to drop more than 2,600 pounds of food and stores to a surrounded French infantry regiment.

There are 21 "panels" in the configuration of the Commandants of the Marine Corps Corridor, each containing at least one Commandant's portrait and one or

more supporting artworks. Room has been allocated to receive portraits and representative art for the current and future Commandants.

Occupying this extra room in the interim are works by two contemporary Marine artists, Maj Neary, the artist of the reconstructed Nicholas portrait, and CWO-2 Alex Young, USMCR. Maj Neary is represented by four pencil-and-charcoal drawings executed from sketches produced while on a NATO winter exercise in Norway in 1984. CWO-2 Young's four watercolor paintings are derived from his assignment covering the 24th Interservice Rifle Matches at Quantico in 1986.

The Commandants' Corridor is included on the daily public guided tours of the Pentagon. More than 49,000 people take part in these tours each year. □1775□

DISTINGUISHED guests attending the dedication of the corridor included H. Lawrence Garrett III, Under Secretary of the Navy; Kenneth P. Berquist, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower & Reserve Affairs); Everett Pyatt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Shipbuilding & Logistics); Thomas F. Faught, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research Engineering & Systems); Robert H. Conn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management); and Lawrence L. Lamade, General Counsel.

Also attending were MajGen John S. Grinalds, USMC, Deputy Director, Force Structure, Resources & Assessment Directorate (J-8); RAdm John K. Ready, Director, Program Appraisal; and RAdm Everette D. Stumbaugh, Judge Advocate General of the Navy.

Representing the History and Museums Division, in addition to Gen Simmons, were Col Marguerite J. Campbell, USMC, Deputy Director for History; Col Brooke Nihart, USMC (Ret), Deputy Director for Museums; Henry I. Shaw, Jr., Chief Historian; and Charles Anthony Wood, Chief Curator.

# Notable Amphibious Doctrine Papers Given to Center

by Benis M. Frank  
Head, Oral History Section

The day after Thanksgiving 1987, I drove a van north to Princeton University's archives building to retrieve 13 boxes containing valuable historical material relating to the development and employment of Marine Corps amphibious doctrine and techniques. The labels on the boxes read "Princeton University Marine Corps Historical Project." This, in fact, was the effort which resulted in the publication in 1951 of *The U.S. Marines and Amphibious War* by Jeter A. Isely and Philip A. Crowl.

As Gen Merrill B. Twining noted in his interview with the Oral History Section, a wealth of talent and experience resided in Quantico at the end of World War II with the Marine officers who had served in one or more of the six Marine divisions which fought in the Pacific and had participated in one or more of the campaigns conducted by those divisions. At the Marine Corps Schools at this time, an effort was underway to capture the lessons learned in the amphibious operations of the Pacific War by publishing a series of so-called "blue books." Meanwhile, in Washington, another war was being waged on a battlefield which extended from Capitol Hill to the White House over the proposed unification of the Armed Forces. Before the opening guns were fired, doc-

trinal positions were being dug in by each of the services, in the paper war that was going on during Congressional hearings preceding legislation of the National Defense Act of 1947. Gen Twining, then at Quantico, was not surprised to learn that anti-Marine forces were saying that the Marine Corps "historically had never had anything to do with the development of amphibious operations."

Gen Twining "saw the danger, informed Jerry Thomas [BGen Gerald C. Thomas, then head of the Plans and Policies Division at Headquarters Marine Corps], and interested him in a project to get our pre-war effort recorded, to have a professional writer investigate and write for us. I suggested Gordon Craig of Princeton." Craig had been a Marine officer during the war and, in fact, had worked for Gen Twining at the Marine Corps Schools.

Following the end of World War II, a veritable flood of operational accounts of battles, memoirs of admirals and generals, and other like publications deluged the public. As Isely and Crowl mentioned in their article about the book (*Marine Corps Gazette*, December 1950), up to that time there had been but few attempts at a scientific analysis of the doctrines and techniques employed in World War II, and

that this held true of the Pacific campaigns as a whole. They also noted that their book was an attempt to correct the situation, and that *The U.S. Marines and Amphibious War* was not planned as another operational history, but "as a story of the Marine Corps' development of the doctrine of amphibious war in the period between the two wars [and] of the application of that doctrine in the Pacific." The book resulted from an agreement between Princeton University and Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift, approved by Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal on 28 April 1947. Even though it was sponsored by the Marine Corps, this was not to be an official history. The agreement stipulated that the manuscript would not be altered by the Marine Corps except to correct factual errors and to delete material that was still classified. Also, the agreement said quite clearly that the Commandant "will have no competence to alter or modify the findings of the authors or the conclusions reached in the study."

Isely and Crowl, both professors of history at Princeton and both naval officers in the recent war, were designated the authors by the President of Princeton University. To supervise the work, the

*Among World War II Pacific campaigns examined by Isely and Crowl was the assault on Peleliu and the subsequent battle for its Japanese airfield. Their book settled questions on the origins of U.S. amphibious operations in favor of the Marine Corps.*



university president established an editorial board consisting of Dr. Craig as chairman; Joseph R. Strayer, chairman of the History Department at Princeton; Robert G. Albion, professor of history at Harvard University; and Francis R. B. Godolphin, Dean of the College at Princeton. Like Craig, Godolphin was a Marine officer in World War II.

The research for the book was done by the authors and five research assistants in the files of the Records Section, Marine Corps Schools, and of the Historical Division at Headquarters Marine Corps. As each chapter was completed, drafts were sent for comment to Army, Navy, and Marine Corps officers who had participated in the campaign covered by that chapter and were thus competent to review them. This resulted in a large collection of responses which are extremely interesting and valuable, and are in the boxes obtained by the Historical Center from Princeton in 1987.

In addition, the authors and editorial board held a series of seminars attended by Marine officers who participated in either the planning for or conduct of a landing—or both—to discuss the chapter which had been written about that particular operation. The Marines would take the train to Princeton from Washington, Quantico, or, in a few cases, Norfolk. They would have dinner and then begin a discussion of the operation, commenting on the draft chapter under consideration. Not a few of these seminars lasted long into the night. Inevitably, either one of the authors or a research assistant would take notes and record the seminar discussions. These notes, too, are amongst the material retrieved from Princeton.

A perusal of the acknowledgements at the beginning of the book reveals the quality of the reviewers, military as well as civilian, including such respected writers and historians as Hanson W. Baldwin; Bernard M. Brodie; W. Frank Craven; Edward Meade Earle; Kent Roberts Greenfield; John Miller, Jr.; Samuel Eliot Morison; Louis Morton; Albert F. Simpson; and Robert R. Smith. In fact, Adm Morison was very cooperative, and made available to Isely and Crowl appropriate draft chapters of his monumental 15-volume history of naval operations in World War II. Initially, the authors were not going to ask Dr. Earle to review the draft manuscript

of their book because, as an advocate of strategic bombing, he was thought to be unsympathetic to the Marine Corps, and was quoted as having said that he thought the Marine Corps was an American foreign legion and that the Marines' first loyalty was to the Corps and not the country.

Some of the reviewers were extremely meticulous and painstaking in their comments. Adm Raymond A. Spruance, for example, provided many pages of handwritten comments on the chapters he was asked to review, and Gen Oliver P. Smith returned 20 pages of single-spaced, typewritten comments on the Peleliu chapter alone. In the comment file was a note from then-Col Wallace M. Greene, Jr., to Dr. Crowl, recommending that the authors visit all the locations of Marine operations in the Pacific, beginning at Pearl Harbor, to obtain an on-the-scene view of each landing.

Chapters dealing with certain operations generated fuller and more heated responses than others. There is, for instance, considerable correspondence regarding the Iwo Jima chapter, most of the comments centering on the Marines' perception of a lack of adequate naval gunfire preparation of Iwo before the landing. Naval gunfire at Iwo remains a point of contention today. When the late MajGen Donald M. Weller's transcript is accessioned into the Oral History Collection, one will be able to read the comments of the V Amphibious Corps naval gunfire officer regarding naval gunfire at Iwo.

In the boxes also is Jeter Isely's 19-page memo of two conferences he held regarding Tarawa. The first was a joint conference at the National War College with VAdm Harry E. Hill, Southern Attack Force commander in the operation, and LtGen Julian C. Smith, who commanded the 2d Marine Division in the landing. The second meeting was with Gen Smith alone. Of these two conferences, Isely commented:

This arrangement of conferences between the three of us on the first day, and between Smith and myself alone in the second day, was fortunate. Adm Hill is impetuous and monopolized the first conference. He made some good points, but on the whole his suggestions were trivial and

sometimes selfish. The fortunate aspect about the arrangement was that Adm Hill's having monopolized the conversation all Friday afternoon served to open Gen Smith up in a counter blast against Hill and against Holland Smith on the second day. Gen Smith thinks slowly but thoroughly. Without exception his comments upon the Tarawa chapter were well founded and constructive.

Two years later, in 1950, Gen Smith sent a letter to Isely, commenting on another part of the book, taking exception to a quote the authors used from LtCol Clyde H. Metcalf's *History of the Marine Corps*, in which Metcalf had attributed the high morale of the Marine Corps to its small size. Smith wrote, "I do not agree that our small size is the reason for our high morale, although it may be a contributing factor. Smallness sometimes causes an inferiority complex, and is often conducive to low morale. It could easily become so to the Marine Corps. I feel very strongly that our morale can be attributed to many factors. Marines have always had duty that required rigid discipline, smartness and strict attention to duty. . . . I also point to the fact that when we reached our peak strength of nearly half a million men that our morale in no wise deteriorated because of our increased strength."

Then there is a copy of a letter from Gen Eisenhower, written when he was President of Columbia University, commenting on the following Isely statement: "The basic theme I wish to give the book is that once any arm has perfected the technique of crossing a well-defended beach—an attack against a large land mass becomes a relatively simple operation." Gen Eisenhower did not agree and exhibited his attitude about amphibious operations by saying in turn, "Of course, the word 'simple' is a relative one, but what I am getting at can be expressed in this way: In some respects the attack against a defended beach is the simplest of all tactical maneuvers."

Commenting on the book's Peleliu chapter, RAdm George H. Fort, who commanded the Western Attack Force in the landings, wrote Isely and Crowl, "I believe that the Palau operation has been underestimated. Were it not for the untimely

deaths of Gens Geiger and Rupertus so soon afterwards, I feel sure that they would have helped clarify the situation. Iwo Jima was done by the so-called Central Pacific 'First Team' and received widespread publicity and acclaim. As Gen Geiger once said, 'The only difference between Iwo Jima and Peleliu was that at Iwo Jima there were twice as many Japs on an island twice as large, and they had three Marine divisions to take it while we had one Marine Division to take Peleliu.' "

A survey of the correspondence in the papers shows that FAdm Chester W. Nimitz took umbrage at the use in the book of the expression, "the fundamental controversy between Gen MacArthur and Nimitz immediately after the Battle of Midway . . . ." According to Adm Nimitz, "there never was a controversy between Gen MacArthur and me at any time during our association in the Pacific . . . . I would regret very much if the word *controversy* crept into the history of the Pacific War because of my recollection of the use of that word in the real controversy that took place between [Adms] Sampson and Schley after the Battle of Santiago in the Spanish-American War. My relations with Gen MacArthur were all that could be desired and our differences of opinion were quite normal and were invariably settled in conferences or exchanges of views."

Those seeking controversy, however, can find it in two packages of correspondence included in this collection. Central to the controversy was LtGen Robert C. "Nelly" Richardson, Jr., commander of U.S. Army, Central Pacific Area, and a *bete noir* to both Adm Nimitz and LtGen Holland M. Smith, commander of V Amphibious Corps. In the first package, Richardson wrote a "Secret—For Adm Nimitz Eyes Only" in late December 1943. In this letter, Gen Richardson discusses and denigrates the role of Gen Smith and V Amphibious Corps in the Pacific War. The letter foreshadows what came to be the Smith vs. Smith controversy on Saipan, where Marine Gen Smith relieved Army Gen Ralph Smith, commander of the 27th Division. In paragraph 8 of the nine-paragraph, four-page December letter, Gen Richardson wrote: "I feel that as a tactical headquarters the Fifth Amphibious Corps is an unnecessary echelon of command and that it has no means, combat or service, to fur-

ther the successful capture, defense, or development of bases in the Central Pacific Area." He then made two recommendations: "a. The responsibilities assigned to the headquarters of the Fifth Amphibious Corps be restricted to administrative duties in connection with USMC troops in the Central Pacific Area. b. When the time arrives for the employment of a tactical corps as such in the Central Pacific Area, both the corps headquarters and the corps troops, combat and service, be furnished by the Army."

Nimitz apparently sent the letter for comment to Gen Vandegrift, who had become Commandant on 1 January 1944, and who reacted to Richardson's letter 10 days later in a five-page reasoned response, rebutting all that the Army general had written. With respect to Gen Richardson's attack on Gen Holland Smith, the Commandant wrote, "Sub-paragraph 'e' constitutes a gratuitous insinuation concerning the professional ability of the Commanding General, Fifth Amphibious Corps, and by inference, states that Gen Richardson considers himself more thoroughly qualified to pass on the tactical plans for difficult amphibious operations. MajGen Holland M. Smith has for the last four and one-half years commanded units engaged in training for, and the conduct of amphibious operations . . . . It should be pointed out that at least three Army Divisions, the 1st, 3rd, and 9th, which have actually executed amphibious operations, received a considerable portion of their training under Gen Smith's command." There is no indication of any further correspondence on this matter.

The second package contains a variety of documents—transcripts of radio broadcasts, statements and memos for the record, letters, reports, and endorsements—13 in all—which deal with the relief of MajGen Ralph C. Smith, USA, by LtGen Holland M. Smith on Saipan. Without going into all the material in this group, it suffices to say that a good idea is given of the heat generated as well as of the perspective of each of the major players as reflected in their statements. The story of the relief and the events leading up to it was reported by *Time-Life* war correspondent Robert Sherrod, whose articles appeared in the 28 August 1944 issue of *Life* and the 12 September 1944 issue of *Time*. The publication of these articles exacerbated

the situation caused by the relief itself and led to Gen Richardson's and Adm Nimitz' objections, and to Nimitz' recommendation to Adm Ernest J. King, CominCh/CNO, that Sherrod's credentials be revoked and that he be kicked out of the Pacific theater. Adm King endorsed Nimitz' letter and forwarded it to the Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen George C. Marshall. In his endorsement, King identified Sherrod as the author of the two articles and said, "His article in *Life* contains nothing derogatory to the 27th Division; it may possibly give the Marines too much credit, but this does not warrant barring Mr. Sherrod as a correspondent. The article in *Time* was presented for review to War Department Public Relations and Navy Public Relations. Neither took exception to it. In the circumstances, there is no ground for rescinding the accreditation of Mr. Sherrod." Responding to Adm King, Gen Marshall concurred, and then noted that "relationships between Marine and Army forces on Saipan deteriorated beyond mere healthy rivalry. Corrective measures are needed if we are to remove the potentiality of similar troubles in our future operations." He also told Adm King that Gen Ralph Smith was transferred from the theater "in order to obviate all possible embarrassment to the Joint Command." And there the matter stood, waiting to be revived in the post-war period when personal memoirs, official studies, and popular histories were written.

Of the publication of the Isely-Crowl book, Gen Twining perhaps stated it best when he noted, "I will say that the origins of amphibious operations is now definitely settled and will never rise again." And so it hasn't.

*The U.S. Marines and Amphibious War* has served several important purposes. First, it is a well-written, accurate, and documented institutional memory for the Corps of its successes and failures during its operations in World War II and the reasons for each. Second, published during the continuing heat of the unification fight, it served to remind the other services and Americans as a whole of the role the Marine Corps played doctrinally and tactically in the victory in World War II. Finally, it tells a story with which all Marines, present and future, should be familiar. □1775□

## LtGens Buehl and Buse Die, Were HQMC Chiefs of Staff

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

### *LtGen Louis H. Buehl III*

LtGen Louis H. Buehl III, USMC, Chief of Staff, Headquarters Marine Corps, died of a stroke on 5 October 1988 at the age of 56, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 10 October 1988 with full military honors. Born in Pittsburgh, Gen Buehl was a Marine option NROTC scholarship student at Miami University of Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1954, and commissioned in the Marine Corps. In his 34 years of active service, Gen Buehl commanded every level of infantry unit from platoon to brigade. He was a recruit series commander, a Marine officer instructor at the University of Michigan, and the commander of Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. In addition, he filled many staff billets. He served two tours in Vietnam—the first, 1964-65, as Staff Secretary of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Staff Secretary of III MAF. During his second tour, 1970-71, he was on the staff of the Commander, Naval Forces, Vietnam, as Force Amphibious Operations Officer and Force Combat Support Officer. He obtained a master's degree in Asian studies from the University of Michigan, and was a graduate of

both the Naval and Air War Colleges. He also completed the Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He commanded the 2d Battalion, 8th Marines, 1974-1975, during its deployment with the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. From 1980 to 1982, when he was promoted to brigadier general, he commanded the 3d Marines; upon promotion in April, that year, he took command of the 1st Marine Brigade. He received his second star in 1985 and was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps as Deputy Chief of Staff for Reserve Affairs. The following year, Gen Buehl was made Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and in 1987, was advanced to lieutenant general and designated the Chief of Staff, HQMC, the billet he was filling at the time of his death.

### *LtGen Henry W. Buse, Jr.*

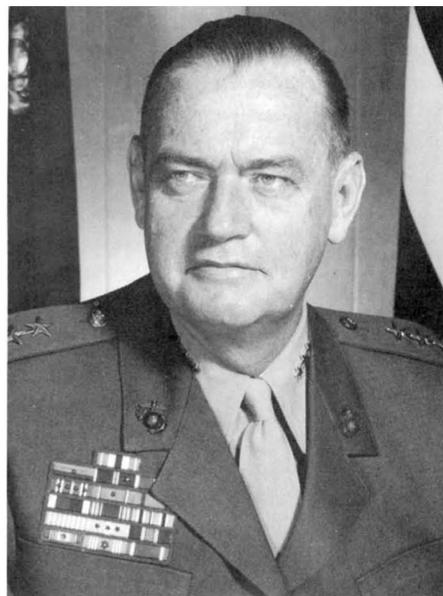
LtGen Henry W. Buse, Jr., USMC (Ret), 76, a veteran of three wars in 35 years of active duty, died at his home in Severna, Maryland, on 19 October 1988. Appointed to the Naval Academy from Pennsyl-

vania, Gen Buse was a member of the Class of 1934, and was commissioned into the Marine Corps that year. After Basic School, he served in several assignments, including a tour of sea duty on board the *Oklahoma*, and a year as a student at the Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He joined the 1st Brigade at Quantico and embarked with it to Guantanamo Bay in September 1940. The following year, when the brigade was redesignated the 1st Marine Division, then-Capt Buse commanded the division's 1st Scout Company, holding this command until 1942, when, in New Zealand, he was named Assistant G-3 of the division. He filled this billet for the whole of the Guadalcanal campaign. At the beginning of the Cape Gloucester operation he commanded the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, and then was transferred to the 5th Marines as executive officer; he commanded the regiment in the Talasea operation. During the interwar period, LtCol Buse served in a variety of staff and command billets, including command of the 22d Marines at Quantico and the 6th Marines at Camp Lejeune. In the Korean War, he returned to the 1st Marine Division as its

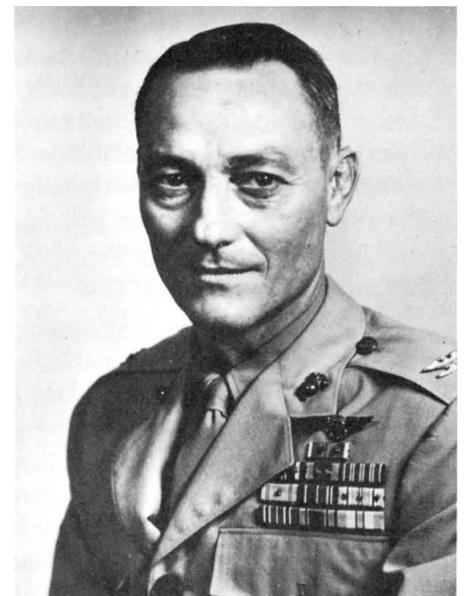
*LtGen Louis H. Buehl III*



*LtGen Henry W. Buse, Jr.*



*Then-Col Frank H. Schwable in 1949*



chief of staff. Following Korea, Col Buse was chief of staff at Parris Island, at FMFPac, and FMFlant. In 1958, he was promoted to brigadier general and began a three-year assignment as Marine Corps Liaison Officer to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. From the Pentagon, he went to Headquarters Marine Corps to become the G-3, and in 1962, went overseas again, to Okinawa to take command of the 3d Marine Division. He returned to the States and to Headquarters in 1963 to become Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Policy. Four years later, LtGen Buse was appointed Chief of Staff of Headquarters Marine Corps. He became commander of FMFPac in 1968, his last tour of active duty before retiring in 1970. A varsity lacrosse player at the Academy, Gen Buse retained his interest in and support of athletics throughout his Marine Corps career. This interest continued on after retirement. For 20 years, he served as Secretary and member of the Executive Committee of the U.S. Olympic Committee. At the Memorial Service held for Gen Buse at the Naval Academy Chapel, former Commandant of

the Marine Corps Gen Louis H. Wilson delivered the eulogy, in which he referred to Gen Buse's Marine Corps service and to his personal warmth: "... his compassion and concern for others. His loyalty to individuals and institutions was evident in all that he did." Gen Wilson said that "... we should remember that the standards he set by personal example and his vision of the future are goals which Marines of today and tomorrow should seek in their pursuit of excellence." Gen Buse was buried in the Naval Academy Cemetery with full military honors on 24 October.

### *BGen Frank H. Schwable*

BGen Frank H. Schwable, USMC (Ret), who trained and commanded the first Marine Corps night fighter squadron to see action in World War II, died at the age of 80 on 28 October 1988 in Purcellville, Virginia. Born in Norfolk, Virginia, he was the son of Marine Col Frank J. Schwable, a veteran of the Boxer Rebellion and the Filipino Insurrection. Upon graduation from the Naval Academy in 1928, Gen

Schwable was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant and began flight training, receiving his wings in 1931. The following year he was assigned to Marine Utility Squadron 6-M in Nicaragua. In 1941, he went to England to train with the Royal Air Force in radar techniques and night flying tactics, and served as a naval observer in Cairo, studying RAF operations in the desert war. He took command of and trained VMF(N)-531, which he took to the Pacific war. Flying from Piva Strip on Bougainville, the squadron shot down 23 enemy aircraft; Schwable was credited with four of the downed planes and a probable fifth. During the Korean War, he joined the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in May 1952. The following July, he was shot down behind enemy lines and held captive until September 1953. Upon his return to duty, he was assigned to the Division of Aviation in Headquarters Marine Corps, remaining there until 1955, when he became Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic Aviation Safety Officer. He retired in June 1959. Gen Schwable was buried in Ebenezer Cemetery, Purcellville.

## *Answers to Historical Quiz*

### Marines in Cold Weather

*(Questions on page 24)*

1. From June to October 1891, U.S. and British Marines were called upon to patrol for seal poachers.
2. Construction of the Marine Barracks in Sitka was completed in 1892. The Marine garrison, however, withdrew from the Barracks in March 1912, until October 1939 when the Marine Detachment, Naval Air Station, Sitka, Alaska, activated and Marines were permanently assigned there.
3. Then-1stLt Joseph H. Pendleton served in Sitka from June 1892 to June 1894, and as a captain, he served there from November 1899 to March 1904.
4. On 29 June 1918, the USS *Brooklyn* put Marines on shore in Vladivostok, Siberia, to guard the American Consulate, and later, the Russian Navy Yard, in a period of unrest during the Russian Revolution.
5. In 1928, three Marines accompanied RAdm Byrd: Capt Alton N. Parker received a Distinguished Flying Cross, and GySgts Kennard F. Bubier and Victor H. Czegka each received a Navy Cross for his accomplishments.
6. Marine Gunner Victor H. Czegka served as general manager and supply officer, and received a second Navy Cross.
7. The 1st Marine Brigade (Provisional) was formally organized during June 1941, and included primarily the 6th Marines; the 2d Battalion, 10th Marines; and the 5th Defense Battalion.
8. During November and December 1950, 14 Marines were awarded Medals of Honor at the Chosin Reservoir: nine with the 7th Marines, three with the 1st Marines, and one each with the 5th and 11th Marines.
9. Originally activated at Camp Pendleton as the Cold Weather Training Battalion soon after the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center at Bridgeport, California, provides a center for teaching specific skills and tactics required to operate in winter and mountain situations.
10. During February and March 1966, Company L, 3d Battalion, 6th Marines, was attached to the III Battalion, Brigade North, Norwegian Army, for Exercise Winter Express.

# Cartoon 'Recruit' Skyler Fishhawk Becomes Bandsman

by Anne Skelly

When cartoonist Jeff MacNelly, creator of the comic strip "Shoe," decided to put his diminutive character, Skyler Fishhawk, in the Marine Band for the summer of 1988, he thought he'd be giving the little bird a break. Skyler is no stranger to the rigors of the Marine Corps—his Uncle Cosmo usually sends him some place for the summer—to camp (Camp Lejeune), to Paris (Parris Island), or to a summer job (with the "U.S. Marine Corporation"). "When I found out the new Commandant wants Marines to be combat-ready," MacNelly said, "I had [Skyler] going through the same stuff he's been going through for the last six or seven years, only carrying a tuba."

For about three weeks in the summer Skyler Fishhawk became a member of the Marine Band as envisioned by MacNelly. You won't find a member of "The President's Own" carrying a tuba while on combat-training maneuvers, but members of the band were amused at MacNelly's original conception of life in America's oldest band.

When Skyler's Marine Reserve unit was called up, he thought he'd get light duty by joining the Marine Band. But, he never realized how much work it is to polish a Sousaphone which is at least twice as large

as he is. Yes, Skyler concludes, the infantry has it easy. They can clean their "little M-16s" with a pipe cleaner. Skyler needs a ladder and a mop to get his instrument clean. "Combat?" asks Skyler, "You call that pressure? Hah! I'd like to see these infantry guys handle the kind of pressure we get in the band. Like playing a gig at the White House . . . and having to empty your spit valve."

Skyler's association with the Marine Band was formally recognized when he was named an honorary member of the Band's tuba section. Marine Band Director Col John Bourgeois presented MacNelly the membership during an autumn rehearsal in Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks, 8th & I.

MacNelly accepted the certificate for Skyler, who was "at the beach recuperating" from his stint as a Marine musician before school starts. Col Bourgeois introduced MacNelly to Skyler's tuba section leader, MGySgt Thomas Lyckberg. Lyckberg invited MacNelly to try on a Sousaphone, a large circular tuba used when the band marches. The cartoonist gamely complied and at the colonel's invitation sat in with the musicians for a couple of selections. (Unlike Skyler, who at one



At Sousa Band Hall, Marine Band Director Col John Bourgeois presents MacNelly a certificate naming "Shoe" cast member Skyler Fishhawk an honorary member of the band's Tuba Section. MacNelly said Skyler was particularly pleased because MacNelly is an honorary Marine pilot.

Cartoonist Jeff MacNelly visits the Marine Corps Museum where he is escorted through the "The Eagle and The Dragon" exhibit by Personal Papers Curator J. Michael Miller. MacNelly's award-winning, syndicated daily comic strip, "Shoe," is 11 years old.



point wished for "more Sousa and less march," MacNelly did not have to move from his seat while the Band played Sousa's "Glory of the Yankee Navy.")

Following his informal "audition," MacNelly thanked the band for its good humor in letting Skyler join its ranks for the summer. He explained that the award would thrill Marine Fishhawk. "He's been feeling low because I'm an honorary Marine attack pilot. Now he's an honorary member of the Marine Band, so I think we're even."

MacNelly has won three Pulitzer Prizes for his political cartooning with *The Richmond News Leader* and *Chicago Tribune*, and has twice won awards from the National Cartoonists Society. He began drawing "Shoe" about 11 years ago. He has been drawing political cartoons since 1970.

□1775□

## 'Over There:' The Marine Experience in World War I

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

Following its outstanding achievements at Soissons in **July 1918**, the 4th Marine Brigade reassembled near Paris, then proceeded on to Nancy, France, for a well-earned rest, while American divisions were being assembled and organized into an American army.

In late **July**, Gen John J. Pershing assigned Gen James G. Harbord, 2d Division commander, to the American Expeditionary Force's Services of Supply. The new division commander was Marine MajGen John A. Lejeune, who previously had proven his mettle as a brigade commander with the AEF. BGen Wendell C. Neville retained command of the 4th Brigade, with Col Harry Lee in command of the 6th Marines, and Col Logan Feland in command of the 5th Marines.

The month of **July 1918** also saw the arrival in France of Marine Corps aviators. In **January 1918**, the 1st Marine Aeronautic Company deployed from Philadelphia to Ponta Delgada in the Azores. The company was equipped and trained for seaplane operations and, until the armistice, would fly anti-submarine patrols. In **April 1918** the 1st Marine Aviation Squadron transferred from Louisiana to Curtiss Field in Miami, Florida, where it expanded into the 1st Marine Aviation Force. Three of the unit's four squadrons deployed in late **July** to Brest, France, under the command of Capt Alfred Cunningham. Operating out of bases in northern France, the eager Marine pilots initially trained with Royal Air Force (RAF) squadrons 213, 217, and 218, flying DH-4 bombers and Sopwith Camels. In **October 1918**, the Marine squadrons (including a newly arrived fourth squadron from Miami) began independent operations as the Day Wing of the North-

ern Bombing Group. By the Armistice, Marine aviators had participated in 58 missions, dropped 33,932 pounds of bombs, and were credited with shooting down four German fighters. Two Marines serving with 1st Marine Aviation Force were awarded Medals of Honor, while four Marine aviators were killed.

At dawn on **12 September 1918**, the 2d Division began an American offensive in the Saint Mihiel salient with the 3d Brigade leading the attack, and the 4th Brigade in reserve. Over the next three days, however, the 4th Brigade assumed the major attack role and steadily pushed back German forces. Although palling in comparison to the bloody struggles of Belleau Wood and Soissons, the battles of the 4th Brigade at Saint Mihiel cost nearly 900 casualties.

In late **September**, the 2d Division was attached to the French Fourth Army under Gen Henri Gouraud for the Meuse-Argonne offensive. A key terrain feature in the Champagne Sector was Mont Blanc ridge, which was heavily fortified by German forces with concrete bunkers and numerous machine gun positions. The Marine Brigade was assigned the unenviable task of a frontal assault against Mont Blanc, while supported by the 3d Infantry Brigade on the right and French forces on the left.

The Allied attack began on **3 October 1918** following an intensive preparatory artillery bombardment. At 0550, the 6th Marines went "over the top" with the 5th Marines in reserve. Despite intensive German shelling and machine gun fire which depleted the ranks of both regiments, the Marines seized the crest of Mont Blanc three hours after the assault began. The 5th Ma-

*Rapid firing raises clouds of dust as gas-masked Marines man trenches in the Meuse-Argonne offensive of November 1918. Ma-*

*rines assigned to the Army's V Corps were given the mission of leading the Allied attack into the heart of the German defenses.*





*Marines are dug in over what was a French wheatfield, as both 5th and 6th Marines join the battle in the Meuse-Argonne offensive.*

regiments seized an additional opportunity to secure the French objective as well, when elements of the regiment successfully assaulted the Essen Hook.

The following day, the 5th Marines charged down the reverse slopes of Mont Blanc towards St. Etienne. Bitter fighting ensued with the 4th Brigade losing more than 1,000 men on 4 October. German machine gun fire could not check the determined Marine advance, however. On 8 October a 6th Regiment battalion captured St. Etienne as part of a general attack by the 36th Division. The costly victories in early October entitled the 5th and 6th Marines to another award of the French Croix de Guerre, and Marines of both regiments to wear the red and green fourragere as a result of cumulative citations. An exhausted 4th Brigade, meanwhile, marched to the rear for a rest period in preparation for the final drive of the war. Within several weeks, the 2d Division was assigned to the American First Army's V Corps, and given the mission of leading the Allied attack into the heart of the German defenses in the upcoming Meuse-Argonne offensive.

On 1 November 1918, the 2d Division began the attack, with the 5th Marines on the right and the 6th Marines on the left. Successfully breaking the German defenses, the Marine advance covered over five miles on the first day of fighting. More than 1,700 German prisoners were taken, while 2d Division casualties remained mercifully low.

German forces now began a general retreat across the Meuse River, and Allied Headquarters was quick to exploit the advantage. On 10 November 1918, the 5th Marines made a night crossing of the Meuse against determined German resistance. On the following day, 11 November 1918, news quickly spread that an armistice had been signed. The war was over.

From December 1918 until July 1919 the 4th Brigade participated in occupation duty along the Rhine River. In August 1919, the 4th Brigade came home to Quantico, and was reviewed by President Woodrow Wilson in a parade at Washington, D.C.

The peak strength of the Marine Corps during World War I was about 75,000. Of this number, some 32,000 served in France.

*The regiments advanced over five miles on the first day of fighting. More than 1,700 German prisoners were taken.*

As always, the cost of victory had been high. The Marine Corps casualty total of 11,366 included 2,461 Marines killed or missing in action. Eight Marines were awarded Medals of Honor for gallantry in action against the enemy, with five of these Marines receiving both an Army and a Navy Medal of Honor.

The Marine Corps played a significant role in American participation in World War I, and emerged from the conflict with its prestige and popularity greatly enhanced. The heroism of the officers and enlisted Marines of the 4th Brigade ensured that future generations of Americans would not soon forget the sacrifices made at Belleau Wood, Soissons, Saint Mihiel, and Blanc Mont. □1775□

*Marines of the 4th Brigade join victory celebrations in Paris. The cost had been high: 2,461 Marines killed or missing in action of the 32,000 who served in France. Eight Marines were awarded Medals of Honor for gallantry in action against the enemy.*



## Historical Quiz

# Marines in Cold Weather

*by Lena M. Kaljot  
Reference Historian*

Identify the following:

1. A Marine detachment was provided to assist in this unusual assignment in the Bering Sea during 1891.
2. When was the first permanent Marine barracks established in Alaska?
3. What future commanding general at San Diego served two tours of duty at the Marine Barracks, Sitka, Alaska, during the late 1800s?
4. When did Marines land in Siberia?
5. In what year were Marines members of RAdm Richard E. Byrd's first Antarctic expedition?
6. How many Marines were assigned to RAdm Byrd's second Antarctic expedition, 1933 to 1935?
7. What Marine Corps unit was sent as the initial occupation force in Iceland in 1941?
8. How many Marines received Medals of Honor for heroism during the Chosin Reservoir campaign?
9. At what facility do Marines undergo primary cold weather training?
10. In what year did the Marines participate in their first joint exercise in Norway?

*(Answers on page 20)*