

FORTITUDINE

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HISTORIANS AND ARTISTS KEEP A LOOKOUT ON MARINES IN THE MIDDLE EAST . . . COL RUTH CHENEY STREETER REMEMBERED FOR FEISTY LEADERSHIP AND PATRICIAN STYLE . . . SQUADRON'S DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISLAND MATRIARCH . . . HISTORICAL PROGRAM NOTABLES RETIRE . . . FLIGHT LINES: AH-1J SEA COBRA

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FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Volume XX

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This quarterly bulletin of the Marine Corps historical program is published for Marines, at the rate of one copy for every nine on active duty, to provide education and training in the uses of military and Marine Corps history. Other interested readers may purchase single copies or one-year subscriptions (four issues) from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Memorandum from the Director:

Festschrift: General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.	3
Foundation Honors Quantico Historian, Veterans Group	6
Historical Program Stalwarts Shaw and Bonnett Retire	7
<i>Command Museums and Historical Displays:</i> Parris Island, Western Bases Boast Museum Aid Groups	8
First Director's Actions Shaped Women's Future in Corps	9
<i>Historical Quiz:</i> Marine Authors	11
Historians, Artists Record Events in the Middle East War	12
Strong Backs As Well As Sketchbooks Needed by Artists in Combat	13
Marine Flyers Make Peace with Planters in Wartime Efaté	15
<i>New Books:</i> World War II Studies Continue to Be Favored Reading	16
Colonel Charles Waterhouse, Artist-in-Residence, Retires	17
<i>Mentioned in Passing:</i> Officers Who Fought Century's Early Wars Mourned	19
<i>Answers to Historical Quiz:</i> Marine Authors	20
<i>Flight Lines:</i> AH-1J Sea Cobra	21
<i>Part VI of a Chronology, May 1954-May 1975:</i> The U.S. Marine Corps and the Vietnam War: 1969	22
<i>Acquisitions:</i> Enlisted Marine's 1839 'Coatee' Bought for Museum	24

THE COVER

Though his own family wouldn't recognize him, the Marine on the cover is 1stLt Charles B. Starks III of the 1st Marine Division's Task Force Ripper in the Persian Gulf area. Lt Starks' portrait, in field protective mask, was drawn by LtCol Keith A. McConnell, USMCR, one of a number of artists sent to the Middle East area at the behest of the History and Museums Division to record their impressions of the war, the people, and the places. The artists accompanied a group of historians who began the painstaking tasks of accumulating the documentation, oral interviews, artifacts, and photographs which will be needed to write an objective history of the Desert Storm campaign. Beginning on page 12, Acting Chief Historian Benis M. Frank describes the division's early efforts to track Operation Desert Shield, followed by its many steps taken to record properly the momentous events of Operation Desert Storm.

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.

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BGen Simmons

Festschrift: General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the Fall 1990 issue of Fortitudine BGen Simmons invited readers of his "Memorandum from the Director: Remembering General Shepherd" to join in a Festschrift (a celebration in writing given as a memorial to a distinguished person) of the former Commandant, who died on 6 August 1990 at the age of 94, by sending in their personal recollections of Gen Shepherd for possible publication in the historical program bulletin, and for inclusion in his biographical files at the Historical Center. Among those responding were MajGen Robert R. Fairburn, USMC (Ret); BGen William J. Patterson, CF (Ret); Col Warren P. Baker, USMC (Ret); BGen F. P. Henderson, USMC (Ret); and LCdr Thomas J. Powell, USN (Ret).

'The Best Regiment of Marines'

As a company grade officer, I had little contact with then-Colonel Shepherd, but all of us knew he was there.

... he was a leader who made things happen. In the early days of 1942 when the regiment was being formed at Camp Elliott, company officers school for the regiment was held every Thursday at about 1600, and the instructor was always Colonel Shepherd.

The battalion officers standing officer-of-the-day watch frequently took notice of the fact that when the guard was inspected during the mid-watch, that the light in the regimental commander's office was on.

When the regiment hiked from Camp Elliott to Camp Pendleton, to be the first unit stationed there, the lead Marine was, of course, our regimental commander with his walking stick, which we all saw many times both in the states and in New Zealand.

So my recollection of General Shepherd is that of a leader who was always there. He was indeed the father of his regiment.

He wrote in a letter to Colonel Kenyon

on 7 August 1945, "To me there can never be another regiment like the 'Striking Ninth'. I saw it grow from infancy into manhood and its accomplishments in battle have more than justified my conviction that it was the best regiment of Marines that ever left the United States."

I believe he was most sincere when he made that statement, even though one can get into quite a discussion on the subject.



Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.

One evening at a reception at the Commandant's Quarters, I was having a brief discussion with then-retired General Shepherd when General Julian Smith joined the discussion on his own. General Shepherd stopped him by saying, "I am speaking with General Fairburn. He was a member of the Ninth Marines."

The last time I saw the General was in 1983 at Rancho Santa Fe when he and Mrs. Shepherd were the guests of the 7th ROC at our annual reunion. He had, as a colonel, administered the oath of office to the 7th ROC in January 1942 at Quantico, and was gracious enough to join us for the evening. He spoke for about 10 minutes and concluded by saying, "When I gave you gentlemen the oath of office, I did a damn good job." I am certain he always did.

*MajGen Robert R. Fairburn, USMC (Ret)
Albany, Georgia*

Honourary Commander of the Guard

I am the editor of the newsletter for the Fort Henry Guard Club of Canada, and I wrote the two pieces on General Shepherd [in the enclosed copy]. It may interest Marines that the General had this relationship with a Canadian organization (and a civilian one at that!):

I first met General Shepherd in the spring of 1955 when I accompanied Mr. and Mrs. [Ronald] Way and George Lilley to Washington to plan the first visit of the Fort Henry Guard. I was to see much more of him during the first week in July when the Guard performed at the newly built Marine Corps "Iwo Jima" memorial and at 8th and I. At the time General Shepherd appeared as an awesome person. He was Commandant of the Marine Corps, and in his 38th year of service at 59 years of age. He was a short, well-built man who appeared to be taller because of his military bearing and eight rows of ribbons.

A special parade was called one morning for General Shepherd to review the Fort Henry Guard. When he inspected the Guard, he really looked at them. We must have met his standard, however, because he accepted the position of Honourary Commander (which he held for 35 years!).

I was not present the next time General Shepherd had a chance to meet with the Guard. In 1963 he came to Fort Henry when the Marines from Marine Barracks, Washington were making their second trip to Fort Henry. It was at this occasion that the General presented the silver bowl that later became the "Shepherd Bowl" awarded each year to the senior student officer of the Guard. (In fact all of the commanding officers of the Guard since 1938 have their names inscribed on the trophy)

In 1964 when the Guard returned to Washington (by air—the one and only time), the Shepherds entertained at their home in Virginia. Ronald Way, each time he met the General, never ceased to be



Then-MajGen Shepherd, center, made time out from his World War II command to present a Purple Heart medal to Navy Radio Technician 3/C James J. Moses of Chicago, who was wounded while serving on board a carrier off the Philippines.

amazed at how much history he knew. At the time Ron and Taffy were deeply immersed in the research of Louisbourg, and in conversation with the General discovered that as a Marine Corps amphibious warfare instructor, he had studied Wolfe's campaigns against Louisbourg and Quebec.

My next meeting with General Shepherd was in 1973 when he came to Fort Henry on the occasion of the second re-union At the final banquet for the Guard, the General proudly wore his identity badge which proclaimed him FHG [Fort Henry Guard] 1

. . . General Shepherd was the greatest soldier I have ever met. He was a gentleman in the true sense of the word.

The Guard will probably never know just how much General Shepherd did to foster the FHG/USMC tradition of ceremonial visits. The General was more than a friend, he was proud of his association with the Guard and his position as Honourary Commander. His son wrote, "my father had a great admiration over the years for your elite organization. He proudly wore a blazer with your crest on its pocket. A photograph of the fort, as well as a plaque, hung on his bedroom wall. A miniature cannon was displayed on his bookcase."

*BGen William J. Patterson, CF (Ret)
Kingston, Ontario*

Keeping an Eye on 8th & I

Shortly after becoming CMC in 1952, General Shepherd expressed his interest

in improving the Sunset Parades (as they were then called) at the Marine Barracks, 8th and I. As executive officer of the Barracks from 1951-1954, I worked closely with the Commandant and with Colonels Jack Juhan and Phil Berkeley, the commanding officers during that period.

The Sunset Parades, which had been held at 5 p.m. on Thursday afternoon during the spring and summer, were moved to Fridays and opened to the general public. Hotels, tour agencies, radio and TV stations were notified, and the response

In September 1952, Gen Shepherd pauses on an official tour of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing facilities in Korea to stroke a fawn rescued by members of Marine Air Control Group 2. The Commandant okayed the pet's Korean-style shelter and grass-strewn yard.



(notwithstanding the late afternoon rush hour) was so great that it became necessary to call on the Metropolitan Police to direct traffic on 8th Street.

The custom of honoring dignitaries at the parades—the President, Vice President, the Cabinet, Members of Congress, and senior military officers—was also initiated by General Shepherd. Vice President Nixon was the senior government official to be honored in 1953. (The Eisenhowers had tentatively accepted but had to cancel out due to a conflict.) Each week a dignitary would be invited and appropriate photos were taken of the honored guest reviewing the troops as they marched past and also when he signed the leather-bound guest book.

When the Commandant was concerned that all Marines participating in the parades were not wearing at least campaign ribbons from the Korean War, instructions went out to all MarCorps installations adding this new requirement to the criteria for transferring personnel to 8th and I. On one occasion we came up with a plan which assured us a regular input of Korean [War] veterans: an officer from the Barracks would fly to Korea and return on the same troop transport with 2,000-3,000 troops who were being rotated back to the U.S. During the return trip, he would screen the Marines and select those who



On the same tour of the 1st MAW in Korea in September 1952, Gen Shepherd enjoys a chat over frontline sandbags with Sergeants Gerald J. Jorgenson, center, and William A. Beebe, both of whom belong to a forward ground control intercept squadron.

met our “ceremonial qualifications.” It wasn’t long before all Marines in the parades were wearing ribbons!

General Shepherd also kept close tabs on the Drum and Bugle Corps and the Marine Band with an eye on how they could be spruced up. He arranged for us to send the two drum majors and two musicians from each to London for a month with the Royal Marines musical organizations. As a result of this visit, the “slow march,” bearskin hat, the new baton, and the colorful markings on the drums were added.

General Shepherd continued to take a personal interest in just about everything that went on at the Barracks, and gave us his full support in everything we did. As he once told us, “When I had duty at 8th and I as a major during the 1930s, I was unable to make any changes.”

At the end of the parade season we received a letter from one of the bus tour companies in Washington stating that it was the consensus of the tourists that the Sunset Parade was by far the best part of the tour.

*Col Warren P. Baker, USMC (Ret)
Fairfax, Virginia*

A Virginia Gentleman

As a role model. When he was CO of 215 in Quantico in the 1930s I was lieutenant in 1/10. He was admired by all of us kids as the kind of a CO we wanted to be someday. Sometimes, when all the crops were

in, the 1st Brigade would go up to Manassas for maneuvers in the late fall.

On one of these Jack Tabor and I shared a two-man wall tent on the way to the officers’ shower. The water was unheated, except for what the sun would give it during the day. But every morning, right after reveille, Lem would go by to take a

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, seated, presents the newly designed Marine Corps seal, which the President autographed, to Gen Shepherd during a White House ceremony on 22 June 1954 establishing the seal by executive order. Looking on are, from left, Assistant Secretary of Defense Fred A. Seaton; LtGen Gerald C. Thomas, USMC; Secretary of the Navy Charles S. Thomas; and Congressman Donald L. Jackson of California.



shower while we covered under blankets. No one else ever did to my recollection, but we all admired him for his courage. (I never dreamed then that I would also be CO 215.)

On making CMC. When he was summoned back to Washington to be interviewed by the President for CMC I was G-3 FMFPac. CinCPac gave him his VIP plane for the trip and he took me along to do some work for him at Hq, MarCorps. I think his aide, Jimmie Ord, was along also—or some other officer. We were in D.C. two or three days, as I recall. On the day of his interview we got word to meet him at the plane at a certain hour in the late afternoon.

He arrived promptly on time, we boarded the plane and took off. I asked how the interview had gone and he replied that he thought very well. But when his steward brought us our dinner later I was sure that he was going to be the next CMC. We had beautiful filet mignon and a bottle of fine French claret.

Lem the Virginian. I got to see his devotion to people, places, and things Virginian more than most. My wife, Eva Holland, was a daughter of the Holland family of Eastville, Virginia (FFVs of the Eastern Shore division. Eastville’s popula-

tion is still about 350 and as the county seat of Northhampton County has the oldest continuous court records in the U.S.).

Her oldest brother Edward was a lieutenant in the Navy in WWII and afterward married a Driver girl from Norfolk, Virginia's [Mrs. Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.] sister, I think. Anyhow the Shepherds and Hollands became lifelong friends and visited each other frequently. When Eva graduated from college in 1932 she went to Quantico to teach 5th grade in the post school. When the Shepherds came they somehow knew through the "Virginia Cousin" grapevine that she was there and she immediately became a frequent guest in their home. Lem would introduce her as "my cousin Eva Holland." How people became cousins in Virginia never ceased to amaze me.

We were married at Christmas 1937 while I was at Fort Sill and came back to

Quantico in the spring of '38 for duty with 1/10. Soon after we got there we were invited to a cocktail party at the Shepherds. The guests were mostly lieutenant colonels, majors, and couple of captains and colonels, and me, a second lieutenant. I never felt so out of place in my life. Eva already knew all of them and had a great time.

For the rest of my time in the Corps I admired him as a true Virginia gentleman, as well as a splendid Marine.

*BGen F. P. Henderson, USMC (Ret)
Moorestown, New Jersey*

Two Anglophiles

My regimental commander of the 3d Marines, 1952-54, was Colonel Robert H. Williams, USMC; he didn't carry a walking stick, but was never without his "swagger stick."

When General Shepherd, the Commandant, returned from an inspection

trip to Korea he paid a visit to the 3d Marines at Camp Fuji, Japan. Colonel Williams honored him with a regimental review and a regimental mess night.

He was rewarded with a "Dear Bob" thank-you note upon the General's return to Washington. Shortly after this . . . Colonel Williams was ordered to 8th and I as commanding officer. Williams, like Shepherd, was influenced by British tradition.

*LCdr Thomas J. Powell, USN (Ret)
Brackettville, Texas*

EDITOR'S NOTE: For commenting letters and additional materials for Gen Shepherd's biographical files, thanks also to: Mr. Henry Aplington II; Mr. Victor L. Betcher; Col Ed Condra, USMCR; Maj-Gen John S. Grinalds, USMC; Mr. R. Bruce Heilman; Mr. Charles J. Leonard; GySgt Joseph G. Lommerse, USMC (Ret); and Mr. Clarence W. Martin. □1775□

Foundation Honors Quantico Historian, Veterans Group

by Charles R. Smith

Secretary, Marine Corps Historical Foundation

DR. V. KEITH FLEMING, JR. was the recipient of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation's 1990 General Wallace M. Greene, Jr. Award, for his book, *The U.S. Marine Corps in Crisis: Ribbon Creek and Recruit Training*. Col John G. Miller, USMC (Ret), recipient of the award in 1989 and chairman of the 1990 Awards Committee, presented the award to Dr. Fleming at the Foundation's annual Awards Dinner, held at Quantico's Harry Lee Hall on 4 November 1990.

Dr. Fleming, a former historian with the History and Museums Division, is now head of the Historical Section, MAGTF Warfighting Center at Quantico. As a Marine officer, he commanded a rifle platoon in the U.S. intervention in the Dominican Republic in 1965, and the following year assumed command of a rifle company in the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam.

The Marine Corps in Crisis chronicles the Ribbon Creek incident of 1956, where in a Marine drill instructor led his recruit platoon into a tidal stream at Parris Island, resulting in the drowning of six men. The book not only examines the incident itself, but also the social and political implications it had for the Marine Corps during the 1950s.

The General Wallace M. Greene, Jr. Award is named for the twenty-third Commandant of the Marine Corps, who during his distinguished career, gave stature to the Corps' historical program. Gen Greene was also a founding member of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation. The award is given to the author of each year's outstanding nonfiction book pertinent to Marine Corps history as judged by the Foundation.

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

V. Keith Fleming, Jr.



the 1990 Colonel John H. Magruder III Memorial Award. Named for the first director of the Marine Corps Museum, the Magruder Award is given to an individual, institution, or organization for excellence in depicting Marine Corps history in exhibits or displays in a museum or similar setting.

The recipient in 1990 was the Guadalcanal Memorial Museum of Kalamazoo, Michigan. The museum, an element of the Kalamazoo Aviation History Museum, is an activity of the 2,800-member Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans Association, which includes not only Marines but Army and Navy veterans of the campaign as well. Through the use of artwork, maps, photographs, and dioramas, the museum tells the story of the fight for Guadalcanal and honors its heroes.

The 100 members and guests attending, including the guests of honor, LtGen and Mrs. Ernest T. Cook, Jr., also heard a presentation by Col Donald S. Lopez, USAF (Ret), Deputy Director of the Air and Space Museum and former Flying Tiger, who provided insights into the air war over China during World War II, in the form of an anecdotal history of the campaign. □1775□

Historical Program Stalwarts Shaw and Bonnett Retire

by Benis M. Frank
Acting Chief Historian

CHIEF HISTORIAN Henry I. "Bud" Shaw, Jr., and Archives Section Head Mrs. Joyce E. Bonnett have retired upon completion of long service as employees of the History and Museums Division of Headquarters Marine Corps. At a joint retirement ceremony on 31 October 1990, Mr. Shaw could report 39 years of federal civilian service, and Mrs. Bonnett could tally 27 years.

Mr. Shaw is a veteran of World War II who served with the 1st Marine Division on Okinawa and in the occupation of North China. He is a native of Westchester County, New York, and a graduate of Haddonfield, New Jersey High School. He went to The Citadel for a year—1943-1944—before joining Marines fighting in the Pacific.

On his return from active duty service he attended Hope College in Michigan where he joined the Michigan National Guard. He reached the rank of sergeant first class in a heavy machine gun unit and took his discharge when he graduated from Hope with a bachelor of arts degree *cum laude* in history.

In 1949-1950 he was a candidate for a master of arts degree, which he received in 1950 from Columbia University. He was called up by the Marine Corps Reserve that same year and assigned to Schools Troops at Quantico, first as an infantry squad leader and then as an editorial assistant on the staff of the *Marine Corps Gazette*.

UPON HIS SECOND RELEASE from active duty in 1951, Mr. Shaw joined what was then the Historical Branch, G-3 Division, at HQMC, and continued to serve in the Marine Corps historical program through its many changes since. His first official publication was *Okinawa: Victory in the Pacific*, which he co-authored with Maj Charles Nichols and which was the last of 15 World War II monographs

Henry I. Shaw, Jr.



Photos by Lena M. Kajlor

published by the branch. He was co-author of four out of the five hardcover official histories of Marine operations in World War II and also was chief editor of the last four volumes.

Mr. Shaw co-authored the division's twice reprinted *Blacks in the Marine Corps*, and served as editor of all of the official operational and functional histories of the war in Vietnam published to date. In addition, he wrote or edited a large number of brief histories of Marine units, bases, and activities.

He has written extensively in military history professional publications, and has had 50-plus signed book reviews in historical and general circulation periodicals and newspapers. He also wrote *Tarawa* for a Ballantine Books series on World War II.

Mr. Shaw is a member and officer or former officer of a long list of professional and honorary societies. He is a founding member of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation and was its secretary from 1979 to 1985. He is a life member and is long-time secretary of the 1st Marine Division Association.

THE ORGANIZATION with which he has had the longest and closest association probably is the Company of Military Historians; he was editor of the Company's periodical, *Military Collector & Historian*; editor-in-chief of all its publications; and consulting editor. He is a fellow of the Company and has been a governor and president. In 1988 he was awarded the Company's Distinguished Service Award.

His other honors include two awards of the Marine Corps Superior Civilian Service Medal. Of Mr. Shaw, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, Director of Marine Corps History and Museums, said:

If I had to choose a single word to describe Bud Shaw, it would be "integrity." This has never been more obvious than in his performance as senior civilian and counsellor in the History and Museums Division. It is also obvious in the high professional standards of our publications.

Joyce E. Bonnett is a native West Virginian who began working at Headquart-

ers Marine Corps in 1959, and joined what was then the Historical Branch, when it was situated in Building Number 3, Henderson Hall. She was appointed Head of the Archives Section in 1974 and has held those responsibilities since. As BGen Simmons said of Mrs. Bonnett at her and Mr. Shaw's luncheon:

Joyce's story of upward mobility is one that she can very well be proud of and one from which the Historical Program has profited . . . In the course of her 27 years with the History and Museums Division, Joyce has received a number of awards and commendations for outstanding performance. We have received many compliments on the organization and availability of our archives, and many personal compliments for Joyce . . . She has been our EEO officer and we have benefited from her counsel and advice . . . Some years ago I asked Joyce to work at a personal level in the professional development of the young women who were joining our staff at the clerical level. This she has done quietly and well and in so doing has herself been a superb role model . . . I will miss Joyce's cheerful, willing ways. I will miss passing her office in the morning and catching her smile and the wave of her hand.

Following Mr. Shaw's retirement, Benis M. Frank, head of the Oral History Section, is acting chief historian, while his assistant, Mrs. Meredith P. Hartley, is acting section head. Replacing Mrs. Bonnett on an acting basis is Capt Roberta E. Breden, who is assisted by Ms. Joyce C. Conyers, former assistant to Mrs. Bonnett. □1775□

Joyce E. Bonnett



Parris Island, Western Bases Boast Museum Aid Groups

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

MARINE CORPS Recruit Depot, Parris Island sends good news. Area retired Marines are organizing the Parris Island Historical and Museum Society.

Objectives of the society are "To promote understanding of the history of Parris Island through its early discovery and expansion with particular emphasis on the role of the Marine Corps in its development, and secondly, to render financial support and develop a Museum Gift Shop operated by volunteers to be located in the existing and very successful Parris Island Museum." Parris Island's famous "Iron Mike" statue has been adopted as the society's logo or totem.

Retired Marines and others who wish to join and participate may call the president, SgtMaj David Robles, at (803) 522-1446; the secretary, Maj Peter S. Beck, at (803) 524-0007; or, on Hilton Head, LtCol Neele S. Barner, treasurer, at (803) 842-5712. The Society's mailing address is P.O. Box 5202, Parris Island, South Carolina 29905.

The MCRD command museum meanwhile continues to grow. The curator, Dr. Stephen Wise, has been joined by museum professional W. Allen Roberson, as registrar and museologist.

The large World War II exhibit "From Dawn to Setting Sun," formerly at the Historical Center in Washington, is expected to attract increased interest as the 50th anniversary of the war is upon us. The Korean War exhibit, created at Parris Island, attracted interest last year, marking the 40th anniversary of that war.

THE MCRD San Diego command museum has burgeoned through the activity of the West Coast retired Marine community and the enthusiastic support of Depot Commanding General, MajGen John S. Grinalds. They have organized the MCRD San Diego Museum Historical Society, recruited a corps of volunteers to assist museum director George Kordela and operate a museum store, published a newsletter, and sponsored a three-tier (staff NCOs, company grade officers, and field grade officers) series of warfighting

symposia at the museum. Mail address is P.O. Box 85, MCRD San Diego, California 92140.

IN ADDITION TO standing exhibits on Marines at San Diego the museum is featuring "The Eagle and The Dragon: Marines in the Boxer Rebellion" shown for two years to wide acclaim at the Marine Corps Historical Center. It is augmented by Maj Arthur Weiss's collection of medals issued by many countries to their troops defending the Peking Legations or with the China Relief Expedition. Col Charles H. Waterhouse's 12 paintings, "Marines in the Conquest of California," are also exhibited, as are David Douglas Duncan's famous photographs of Marines in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Recent acquisitions include a 1918 Ford Model-T ambulance ingeniously exhibited on the second deck and a pair of Japanese 70mm battalion howitzers captured on Guam and donated by LtGen Edward A. Craig. Another prize is a M1921 Thompson Sub-Machine Gun, serial number 1175. It was presented to LtCol Thomas C. Turner, director of Marine Corps aviation in 1930, by Nicaraguan President Jose M. Mancada. Upon Turner's death shortly after, his widow gave the gun to MajGen Walter G. Farrell, who donated it to the museum complete with all accessories and web gear.

The 4th Marines was based at San Die-

go from 1914 until 1927 when it departed for Shanghai. While the museum has been scouting for material relating to the 4th, the Museums Branch in Washington has sent it the old blue color carried by the 4th in those days. The Society has raised money for a badly needed professional job of restoration and framing.

The society's annual meeting was combined with its annual "Breakfast with the Commanding General" on 20 November. The society's second annual Oktoberfest to benefit the museum was a month earlier, on 20 October in the museum courtyard. Featured was the MCRD Band and Color Guard, and a German band.

THE COMMAND aviation museum at MCAS El Toro is in advanced stages of completion under the leadership of BGen Jay Hubbard and a team of local retired and air station Marines. World War II squadron headquarters building 243 will house small exhibits and offices while adjacent hangar 244 will shelter the more fragile of the 20 aircraft already in hand.

Historical displays include aircraft as "gate guards" at air stations and elsewhere. These aircraft are carried on the inventory of the Museums Branch but are maintained in good appearance by the hosting station. Eighteen historical aircraft are in this category at 10 air stations and other facilities. □1775□

This 1918 Ford Model-T ambulance, one of the latest acquisitions of the command museum of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, is displayed on the second deck.



First Director's Actions Shaped Women's Future in Corps

by Col Mary V. StremLOW, USMCR (Ret)

COL RUTH CHENEY STREETER, first director of the United States Marine Corps Women's Reserve (USMCWR), made Marine Corps and military history when she was commissioned a major and sworn in by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox on 29 January 1943. On 30 September 1990, at the age of 94, she died of congestive heart failure at her home in Morristown, New Jersey.

Mrs. Ruth C. Streeter was not the first woman selected for active duty in the World War II Marine Corps. A few weeks earlier, a civilian clothing expert, Mrs. Anne A. Lentz, who had helped design the uniforms for the Women's Reserve, became the first commissioned officer with the rank of captain.

The selection of Ruth Streeter to head the USMCWR came after months of discussion and stalling. It was a well-known fact that the Commandant, LtGen Thomas Holcomb, was opposed to the formation of a women's reserve, but the urgent need for combat troops caused the question to be restudied. In October 1942, acting on the recommendation of the M-1 section of the Division of Plans and Policies, Gen Holcomb wrote the Secretary of Navy that, "... in furtherance of the war effort, it is believed that as many women as possible should be used in noncombatant billets, thus releasing a greater number of the limited manpower available for essential combat duty."

ON 7 NOVEMBER 1942, just three days before the 167th birthday of the Marine Corps, the Commandant signed the document that made the USMCWR official. The Corps was the last of the services to admit women. Early estimates called for an initial strength of 500 officers and 6,000 enlisted women by 30 June 1943, with a total strength of 1,000 officers and 18,000 enlisted women by 30 June 1944.

Col Mary V. StremLOW, USMCR (Ret), is the author of A History of the Women Marines, 1946-1977. She currently is Deputy Director of the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs in Albany.



Ruth Cheney Streeter, who in 1940 wanted to be a submarine spotter and so learned to fly, relished her Marine commission.

It fell to Mrs. Streeter, a woman who had never before held a paying job, to facilitate recruiting, training, administration, and uniforming of the new Women's Reserve.

Mrs. Streeter, 47, president of her class at Byrn Mawr despite completing only two years of college, wife of a prominent lawyer and businessman, mother of four including three sons in the service, and for 20 years active in New Jersey health and welfare work, was selected from a field of 12 outstanding women recommended by Dean Virginia C. Gildersleeve of Barnard College, Columbia University. Dean Gildersleeve chaired the Advisory Educational Council, which had previously played a role in the selection of LCdr Mildred McAfee, Director of the WAVES.

Col Littleton W. T. Waller, Jr., Director of Reserve, and his assistant, Maj C. Brewster Rhoads, travelled across the country to personally interview all candidates. Meanwhile, discreet inquiries were made about the nominees. Mrs. Streeter must have seemed an obvious choice. She was confident, spirited, fiercely patriotic, and high-principled. Discussing the interview in later life, she said, "As nearly as I can make out, Gen Holcomb said, 'If I've got to have women, I've got to have somebody

in charge in whom I've got complete confidence.' So he called on Gen Waller. Gen Waller said, 'If I've got to be responsible for the women, I've got to have somebody in whom I have complete confidence.' And he called on Maj Rhoads. So then the two of them came out to interview me."

HAVING PASSED MUSTER with both Col Waller and Maj Rhoads, Mrs. Streeter was scheduled for an interview with Gen Holcomb. In the course of the first meeting, the question he asked repeatedly was whether she knew any Marines. Dismayed and sure she would be disqualified because she didn't know the right people, she answered honestly that she knew no Marines. In fact, this was to her advantage, because the Commandant feared that if she had friends in the Corps, she might have been inclined to circumvent the chain of command. After the interview, Col Waller told her that he thought it went well, but the appointment would have to await the approval of the Secretary of the Navy. Mrs. Streeter knew that wouldn't be a problem since Secretary Knox was a close friend of her mother and her in-laws, and her husband had been the Secretary's personal counsel.

Throughout her life, Ruth Streeter was a devoted Marine, but the Corps had not been her first choice. After the fall of France in 1940, Mrs. Streeter was certain we would be drawn into a war. German submarines were sinking American ships a mile or two off the shores of New Jersey in plain sight of Atlantic City. So, fully intending to be a part of the war effort, she learned to fly, earning a private and later a commercial pilot's license. Later, she bought her own small plane and joined the Civil Air Patrol in the summer of 1941. Although her plane was used to fly the missions aimed at keeping the enemy subs down, Mrs. Streeter, to her enormous frustration, was relegated to the position of adjutant, organizing schedules and doing "... all the dirty work."

Undaunted, she continued to hone her skills, flying her plane that wouldn't go above 8,000 feet and navigating by looking at terrain, especially "... any handy

railroad tracks going where I wanted to go." She enjoyed everything about flying, including the element of danger. Once, when flying in a thickening fog over the Allegheny Mountains, with the next ridge completely veiled, she suggested that they "... go up in the clouds and count to ten and come down on the other side."

Early in the war in Europe, British women were flying planes in England and she was certain American women would be organized to ferry planes to Europe. When, at last, the Women Air Service Pilots (WASPS) were formed under the leadership of Jackie Cochran, Mrs. Streeter was 47 years old, 12 years beyond the age limit. She tried to enlist, but was rejected four times before meeting Jackie Cochran and then she was rejected the fifth time.

IN JANUARY 1943, before the public knew about the Marine Corps' plan to enlist women, Mrs. Streeter tried to join the WAVES. She asked if she could fly in the Navy and was told she could be a ground instructor. She declined. A month later she found herself in Washington, the first director of the USMCWR. Col Streeter never lost interest in flying and was keenly aware of the strides made by military women in the field of aviation in recent years. But, the restrictions imposed in World War II still rankled. Years later, when an interviewer suggested that it must have been particularly pleasing that so many women reservists (WRs) were employed in aviation billets, she was quick to respond, "It wasn't pleasing. It was aggravating." In her view, for WRs, the field of aviation had its feet firmly on the ground.

Although she served on active duty just under three years, and with tongue-in-cheek occasionally referred to herself as a director with nothing to direct, Col Streeter nonetheless set an unmistakable style for women's service: she was a woman of integrity without accompanying stodginess; she had a zest of life and adventure without recklessness; she was a confident, articulate leader unfettered by self-importance. She could laugh at herself and recognized the humor inherent in the unlikely mission of melding 19,000 women into the Marine Corps.

Col Streeter learned her first lesson in military organization when, unable to garner support for innovative policies, she made the mistake of going to Col Waller

for sympathy, saying, "I've got so much responsibility and no authority." He replied, "Col Streeter, you have no responsibility either." Conceding that this revelation about her position was a severe blow, she rationalized that it was fortunate that no one besides Col Waller realized how little authority she had.

IT WAS COL STREETER'S FATE to be more than the Corps bargained for. Her fast-burning energies, steady flow of suggestions, and habit of offering opinions nettled some of the old salts. By her own count, Col Waller threw out 50 percent of her "screw ideas."

At the end of her first year as Director, she submitted an annual report as she had been accustomed to while serving on various civilian boards of trustees. Gen Waller's executive officer, Col Gale, looked at it and told her, "Col Streeter, the Marine Corps doesn't issue annual reports. It's 170 years old and it doesn't issue annual reports." She just said, "Well, you know, we're only a year old, and I just thought you might be interested."

She never submitted another annual report, but at the war's end, together with her assistant, LtCol Katherine A. Towle, she compiled "A History of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve — A Critical Analysis of Its Development and Operation 1943-1945." Its purpose was to avoid repetition of the errors made in the operation of the Women's Reserve. Col Streeter, in the introduction, wrote, "It is certain that no nation will again seek world domination without first attempting to eliminate the United States of America. Should this result in a long struggle, women will certainly be used in the military services—probably more of them than have been so used in World War II."

THREE THEMES OF THE REPORT would continue to be matters of concern to future Directors of Women Marines for several decades: the role of women in the Corps, the position of the Director of Women Marines, and the responsibility of women officers for enlisted women Marines.

Asking the question, "Are they women or are they Marines?," Col Streeter challenged Marines to decide whether they expected women to be primarily useful or ornamental. She found it demoralizing to have carefully indoctrinated the WRs in

the customs of the Corps, when it was evident that the Marine Corps had not been indoctrinated on how to treat the WRs. Privates expecting to be addressed by military rank and their last name were more likely to be called by their first name or addressed as "Miss." Col Streeter observed that this habit caused the women to react as civilians and in turn it led to complaints that the women were not military enough.

As Director, Col Streeter was on the staff of the Personnel Department. While giving great credit to the courtesy and cooperation of all the men at Headquarters with whom she worked, she recognized the limitations of this arrangement. She argued that the Director would be in a better position to deal with all branches, and that her cognizance over all women Marines and all matters affecting them would be better recognized if she did not come under any particular branch. Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift, then Commandant, agreed and based on Col Streeter's strong recommendation, helped ensure that the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, PL 625, contained a provision that the Director of Women Marines would be detailed to duty in the Office of the Commandant to assist him in the administration of women's affairs.

WHILE IT IS accepted military tradition that officers look out for their troops, Col Streeter believed this is even more strongly so in the Marine Corps, and further, she felt it was critical that the public know that special care is taken of young women enlistees. She credited her own motherly image for some success in the country's acceptance of women in the Marine Corps and she admonished that all future women officers must recognize their responsibility to their troops.

In the years between the end of World War II and the passage of PL 625 on 12 June 1948, WRs were discharged, first from posts and stations and later from assignments in Washington, D.C. While policy dictated a rapid demobilization of the women, there was good deal of indecision as certain officers at Headquarters lobbied to retain WRs working on the administrative details of disbanding a wartime force. The pending legislation to form some sort of a permanent women's military organization—a notion favored by the Army and Navy but opposed by most Marine leaders—led to a bewildering flur-

ry of contradictory announcements. Eventually, recognizing that women were going to be granted career status, at least in an inactive reserve, the Marine Corps rescinded the requirement that Women Reserve officers resign.

Those on active duty were allowed to request assignment to inactive duty and those already separated were sent a letter asking them to rejoin the Reserve. Upon request they could be reappointed to the permanent rank held upon resignation.

Former colonel, Mrs. Streeter applied for a Reserve commission but her request was denied because of a legal restriction that precluded the appointment of more than one woman colonel in the Reserve. Thus, Mrs. Streeter, who shepherded the wartime Women's Reserve from its inception to its initial demobilization and, at the end, voluntarily gave up terminal leave so her successor, LtCol Towle, might assume the position of Director with its rightful rank of colonel, became the only woman denied the privilege to be reappointed to her rank. The Commandant, Gen Vandegrift, made a recommendation in her favor, but the Navy Judge Advocate General insisted there would be no exceptions. He later revised his decision and Mildred H. McAfee Horton, the WAVE Director, was given Reserve status as a captain.

SUBSEQUENT, FUTILE EFFORTS were made by Col Towle and two Commandants, Gen Vandegrift and Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd. It was not until 1959, through the persistence of Col Julia E. Hamblet, Director of Women Marines, that the situation was satisfactorily resolved. In a letter to the Chairman, Board of Corrections of Naval Records, then-Commandant Gen Randolph McC. Pate, wrote, "Correction of Mrs. Streeter's records would erase an apparent inequity and allow her to be affiliated with the Marine Corps Women's Reserve which she was so instrumental in establishing. This correction would afford the Commandant of the Marine Corps great satisfaction." He also wrote to Mrs. Streeter, "In view of your outstanding contribution to the Corps, I sincerely hope you will not deprive me of the opportunity of recommissioning you as a Colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve."

On 25 June 1959, Ruth Cheney Streeter was reappointed a colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve and retired.

That was, by no means, the end of her lifelong interest in the Corps that gave her the opportunity to serve her country as few women of her time could hope to do. She carefully followed new developments and policy changes until the end of her life. And for their part, the Marines never forgot the feisty, level-headed woman who set the course for women Marines—a course that hardly wavered from 1943 until 1977. Directors of Women Marines sought her advice and kept her informed; WRs wrote to her years after the war; and when she was hospitalized in her mid-eighties, she cherished messages from the Commandant and women recruit platoons.

IT IS FITTING THAT the final tribute Col Streeter received from her beloved Corps was bestowed by the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association at its annual conference in the spring of 1990. It was delivered to her daughter, Lillian, and it read, "Colonel Streeter's uncommon dedication to our country, her high order of professionalism, and her unswerving support for the Marine Corps and its Reserve component epitomize those personal qualities and the deep-felt patriotism embodied in the meaning of the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association highest award: *Non Sibi, Sed Patriae*—"Not for self, but for Country."

Col Streeter was active in volunteer, community, and political organizations in

New Jersey after the war, serving as a delegate to the state's constitutional convention in 1947 and a Presidential elector in 1960. She donated an air raid shelter to her township in 1948 and served as chief of civilian defense. As a member of the state's Veteran's Service Council, Col Streeter was a strong advocate for veterans' benefits, most particularly in the areas of medical care, housing, education, and training, but she caused a political stir when she spoke out against the flat bonus asserting that a price cannot be put on patriotism. She was vilified by veterans organizations and received hundreds of damning letters; but she also received messages of support from veterans and their families. Although the governor was besieged with demands for her removal from office, he ignored her letter of resignation. In the end, a silent majority in New Jersey, all veterans or families of veterans, resoundingly defeated the referendum for a bonus.

COL STREETER'S HUSBAND, Thomas W. Streeter, a lawyer and banker, died in 1965. Her survivors include three sons, Thomas S., Frank S., and Henry S.; a daughter, Lillian S. L. Chance; 17 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

As the colonel wished, the Women Marines Association provided the guard of honor at her funeral. □1775□

Historical Quiz

Marine Authors

by Lena M. Kaljot
Reference Historian

Match the following Marine authors with the titles of their books:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <i>The Reminiscences of a Marine.</i> | a. LtGen Victor H. Krulak |
| 2. <i>Baa, Baa Black Sheep.</i> | b. Col John W. Thomason |
| 3. <i>Soldiers of the Sea: The United States Marine Corps, 1775-1962.</i> | c. Gen Lewis W. Walt |
| 4. <i>John Glenn: Astronaut.</i> | d. MajGen John A. Lejeune |
| 5. <i>Fix Bayonets!</i> | e. Col Gregory "Pappy" Boyington |
| 6. <i>Strange War, Strange Strategy: A General's Report on Vietnam</i> | f. Bill D. Ross |
| 7. <i>Fields of Fire</i> | g. Hon. James H. Webb |
| 8. <i>Semper Fidelis: The History of the United States Marine Corps</i> | h. Col Robert D. Heinl, Jr. |
| 9. <i>First to Fight: An Inside View of the U.S. Marine Corps</i> | i. Col Allan R. Millett |
| 10. <i>Iwo Jima: Legacy of Valor</i> | j. LtCol Philip N. Pierce and Karl Schuon |
- (Answers on page 20)

Historians, Artists Record Events in the Middle East War

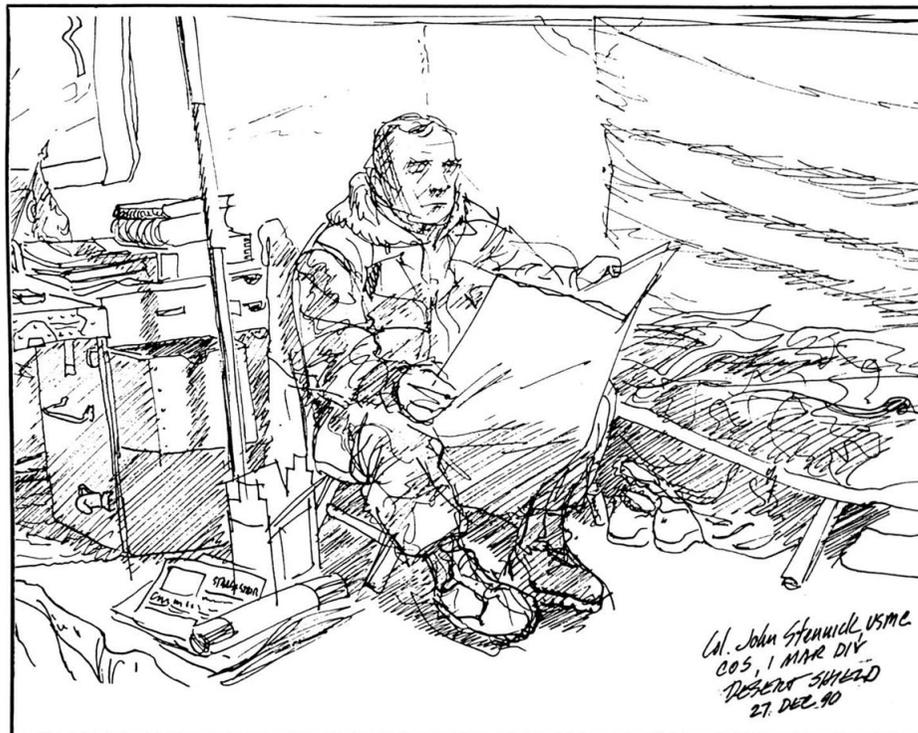
by Benis M. Frank
Acting Chief Historian

WITH THE LAUNCHING of Operation Desert Shield, the Marine Corps History and Museums Division reviewed and set in motion its contingency plans for the coverage of such events. One of the first steps taken was to identify the Marine units deployed to Saudi Arabia, to remind them of the historical reporting requirements of the *Manual for the Marine Corps Historical Program* (MCO P5750.1F).

Perhaps the most important aspect of the historical collection effort is the "command chronology," a documented report to the Commandant of the Marine Corps covering the significant events of Marine organizations. This is the basic historical record of the character and experience of each reporting unit and reflects the missions and tasks assigned to and executed by it. Normally, each Fleet Marine Force unit down to and including battalion/squadron and separate company/battery level is required to submit a command chronology semiannually. In the present circumstances of Operation

Desert Storm, reporting FMF units must submit their chronologies monthly. In addition to the command chronologies, the record of Desert Storm also will be found in situation reports and message traffic and other documentation, as well

Col H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR (Ret), field coordinator for the Combat Art Program, sketched Col John F. Stennick studying newspapers from home. Col Chenoweth volunteered for the overseas assignment during the earliest days of Desert Shield.



LtCol Keith A. McConnell, USMCR, who lives and works in California, headed for the Persian Gulf in the period of the ground campaign and, on 28 February, drew this Saudi officer riding atop his armored vehicle through liberated Kuwait City.

Desert Storm, reporting FMF units must submit their chronologies monthly.

In addition to the command chronologies, the record of Desert Storm also will be found in situation reports and message traffic and other documentation, as well

as in the oral history interviews conducted in Saudi Arabia and at stateside bases, which eventually will be sent to the History and Museums Division.

In addition to preparing and submitting command chronologies, commanders also are required to collect and preserve material which will document the activities of their individual commands for the historical record. To fulfill these requirements, commands establish command historical programs which assign command historians, maintain unit historical summary files, keep an account of Marine Corps historical properties under the cognizance of the command, and, as appropriate, establish local oral history interview centers.

MEMBERS OF THE Reserve Mobilization Training Unit (History) DC-7 were alerted by the division to their imminent orders to active duty. The MTU has two missions: to provide specialized assistance to the division with respect to historical research and writing, archival cataloging, museums design and management, and art; and to prepare selected members of the unit for service as field historians with the Fleet Marine Forces during contingency operations or mobilization.

Accordingly, the commanding officer

HOW DO YOU SUPPLEMENT A MRE?



DEHYDRATE A CAMEL!

Sgt Charles Grow, who did sheaves of serious sketches, made some humorous—as in his “How do you supplement a MRE?”

of the MTU, Col Charles J. Quilter II, USMCR, and LtCol Charles H. Cureton, USMCR, were ordered to active duty for assignment in Saudi Arabia; they left the United States on 9 November 1990 to join the staff of I Marine Expeditionary Force. Col Quilter is a naval aviator who flew fighter-attack aircraft in Vietnam, and in civilian life is a captain for Delta Airlines. LtCol Cureton in civilian life is the principal staff officer on museum affairs at the Army Training and Doctrine Command. Both Quilter and Cureton are published historical writers. Following briefings at the Marine Corps Historical Center and before leaving for Saudi Arabia, each was given a letter of instruction by the Director of Marine Corps History and Museums detailing their duties while in the field. Col Quilter was designated the deputy director for field activities. LtCol Cureton went out as a field historian. The I MEF commander additionally designated Col Quilter an assistant chief of staff, G-3 (his-



Col Chenoweth visited the Marines' Thunderbolt Range, sketching well-used targets and comical “Camel Crossing” warnings.

Strong Backs As Well As Sketchbooks Needed by Artists in Combat

by John T. Dyer, Jr.
Curator of Art

THE FIRST TWO U.S. Marine active-duty combat artists to be sent to the Southwest Asia (SWA) reported to the Marine Corps Historical Center on 30 November 1990, for briefings and letters of instruction.

Col H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR (Ret), volunteered for assignment as field coordinator of the Combat Art Program. He already has turned in 16 drawings and paintings of Marines embarking from Beaufort, South Carolina, by air, and Morehead City, North Carolina, by ship. Chenoweth completed these as a civilian volunteer before, but in anticipation of, his request for active duty being approved by the Secretary of the Navy. The pieces were installed as a timely show in the foyer gallery at HQMC along with 11 paintings and drawings from Operation “Just Cause” in Panama by former Marine Tony Stadler.

Sgt Charles Grow, USMC, with four paintings finished and four almost so from his earlier “Portraits of Vehicles” project for the historical art program is the first enlisted Marine artist to cover “Desert Shield” and “Desert Storm.” He joined Col Chenoweth, who was then laying the groundwork for all artists, civilian and military who might follow to SWA.

Sgt Grow, assembling his gear, reminded me of a World War II cartoon by Bill Mauldin showing Willy and Joe—two heavily laden, exhausted, World War II GI’s—trudging along a dirt road in France. The caption has Willy saying to Joe: “Ya wouldn’t git so tired if ya didn’t carry extra

stuff. Throw th’ joker outta yer decka cards.” If Sgt Grow carries cards he should eliminate the whole deck. In addition to his duffle bag holding two pairs of boots, underwear (thermal and regular), socks, towels, toilet items, eye glasses (2), wooley-pulley sweater, green jungle utilities, PT gear, packets of powdered Gatorade and beef jerky, Christmas and birthday cards, a “Charlie” uniform (green trousers and khaki shirt), civilian clothing (dreams of liberty) and a whistle, he sometimes will tote an M17A1 field protective gas mask, decontamination kit with hood and extra filters, a chemical protective suit with gloves and boots, an ALICE pack with frame, web belt, ammunition pouches, canteens, first aid packet, shelter half, tent pegs and poles, Kevlar helmet and body armor (flak vest), sleeping bag, poncho, combat utility knife (K-Bar), waterproof bags (2), desert camouflage utilities, scarf, night desert parka with liner and trousers, desert camouflage covers for pack and flak vest, a 9mm Beretta automatic pistol, and a most important compass.

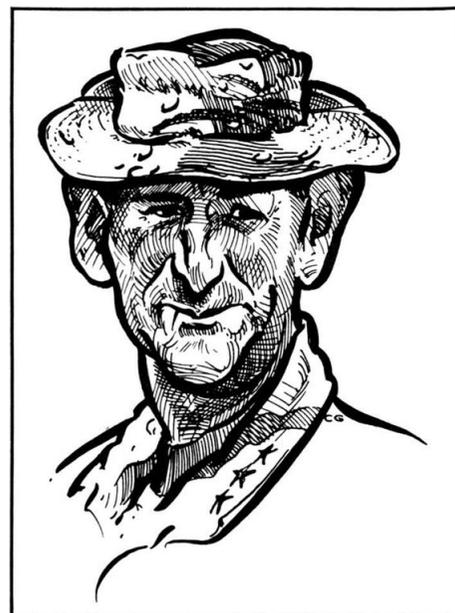
Sgt Grow carries a special sketch kit for art supplies. Trimmed to a minimum, it still weighs 25 pounds. The kit holds flash light, sketchpads, a small watercolor block, pens, pencils, watercolor palette, paints, and brushes. He’ll carry a Pentax K-1000 camera with a 35-70mm zoom lens and a number of rolls of film. Col Chenoweth is outfitted similarly and with his combat art experience in Korea and Vietnam, advised Sgt Grow on what to assemble and carry.

tory), to act as the command's advisor on historical matters. Col Quilter was tasked with contacting the commanders, command historians, and staffs of all subordinate units in I MEF to advise them regarding their support of the historical program. Both he and LtCol Cureton are conducting oral history interviews, screening and designating documents to be preserved, collecting artifacts, and ensuring that Marine Corps still and motion picture and videotape coverage meets historical documentation needs.

Upon their arrival, the two historical officers visited deployed Marine units to obtain a first-hand account of activities since their initial landings. Besides taking responsibility for preparing the I MEF command chronology, Quilter and Cureton developed a guide to preparing command chronologies for commanding officers and their staff historians. A new member of the team is LtCol Dennis P. Mroczkowski, USMCR, a museums specialist and curator of the Army's Casemate Museum at Fortress Monroe, who, upon arrival in late January 1991, was assigned by Col Quilter as staff historian of the 2d Marine Division, with LtCol Cure-

ton similarly assigned to the 1st Marine Division. Subsequently, in February, two additional Reserve historical officers were sent to join I MEF: LtCols Ronald J. Brown and Frank V. Sturgeon, the former a school teacher and football coach from Michigan and the latter a Washington, D.C. architect. Brown was to be assigned to cover the Marine forces afloat while Sturgeon was to cover the 1st Force Service Support Group.

IN EARLY DECEMBER 1990, another important element of the Marine Corps Historical Program, combat art, was to begin being collected under the direction of Col H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR, (Ret). An experienced combat artist who was recalled to active duty to become the art program field coordinator, he and Sgt Charles Grow, USMC, an emerging military artist, were both sent to Saudi Arabia. These two, in turn, were joined in February 1991 by LtCol Keith McConnell, an artist by profession. Like the historical officers, Col Chenoweth and Sgt Grow covered Operation Desert Shield and the opening days of Operation Desert Storm. LtCol McConnell arrived in Saudi Arabia



LtGen Walter E. Boomer, I MEF's popular commanding general, is the subject of a good-natured portrait by Sgt Grow.

in time to join the others in covering the ground operation. In March, both Chenoweth and McConnell returned to the Historical Center to convert their field sketches into finished artwork.

With the end of the ground operations of Desert Storm, the Reserve historians and artists have been amassing important documentation, photographs, videotapes, oral history interviews, and artifacts for shipment to the Marine Corps Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard. They have assisted reporting units in preparing their command chronologies. When they return to the Historical Center they will begin collating and putting into order the Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm documents they collected and also begin writing brief monographs about the operations of each of the respective units to which they were assigned. In the end, these monographs and other primary source materials will be used in the preparation of an official history of Marine Corps operations in the Persian Gulf.

NOT SINCE THE Korean War, when the Marine Corps assigned teams from the 1st Provisional Historical Platoon to the 1st Marine Division and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Korea, has there been such a large-scale collection effort, or have Marine Corps historians, as such, been assigned to cover combat operations on the scene. □1775□

LtCol McConnell portrayed some of the dismay Marines felt at the destruction wrought on Kuwait by Iraqi occupiers, in this drawing of two members of the 1st Marine Division trying to wash soot and oil from hands and faces at Kuwait International Airport. The airborne grime from burning oil wells fouled bodies, uniforms, and equipment.



Marine Flyers Make Peace with Planters in Wartime Efate

by Elizabeth H. Quilter

AFTER A BRIEF stay on Midway in early 1942 with Squadron 221, and before the battle of Midway, Capt Charles J. Quilter and a few other flymates were transferred to Ewa, Oahu, where a new squadron, 212, was being formed under the command of LtCol Harold W. "Joe" Bauer.

We Marine wives, of course, were not supposed to know the future destination of the squadron. However, Quilter and I had established a code of sorts which led me to the library to look up likely spots. I chose Tongatabu. I was wrong. Efate was the correct answer, located below Guadalcanal with Espiritu Santo somewhere in between.

Enroute and within flying distance of New Caledonia, Quilter lifted off the carrier *Hornet* in his Wildcat. In transit, his fuel line broke. As the plane began its inexorable descent, Quilter spotted the outline of a Japanese sub in the water below. The plane skimmed the waves, belly-landed, and began to sink. Quilter barely had time to crawl out of the cockpit and to snatch his inflatable rubber raft. As he rowed towards nearby land, a crowd gathered on the shore. Arms waving frantically, they shouted, "Regardez les poissons!" which Quilter gathered to mean sharks, although he never saw any.

On shore, he was given dry clothes and escorted to the office of the local gendarmes where he reported his plight to the proper authorities. He also reported his sighting of the sub.

The world is indeed a small foxhole. At that time, my brother, Ens Mort Howe, USNR, was on duty at CinCPac in Makala-

pa across from Pearl Harbor. He worked in Communications. As he was watching the "ticker tape" spew out its news, he caught the name "Quilter." The message told of the ditching of the Wildcat. The message abruptly broke off. Howe, not knowing the fate of the pilot, scrambled through the tapes on the floor, finally found "pilot safe and on shore."

Quilter reported back to his squadron, which was temporarily bedded down at Tontutu, New Caledonia. Upon arrival, he was greeted with hoots and jeers from fellow officers who couldn't wait to tell him that his "sub" was nothing more than a sunken islet.

A FEW DAYS LATER, he was summarily ordered to a secret U.S. Army camp whose commander was a well-known general. Quilter flinched: "I'm going to be bawled out and deranked. My career is finished!" He borrowed a Jeep, got directions, and pressed on to the unknown hideaway. The only thing he had not bargained for was the popping out of well armed sentries from bushes along the narrow roads.

Destination arrived at, he was ushered into the general's command center. Quilter came smartly to attention. The general spoke in a gruff voice: "Well, Quilter, by now you know what your sub turned out to be. But don't feel too bad. I had a unit sent into that area and they caught a couple of 'Nips' operating a ra-

dio. Thought you'd like to know. Dismissed!"

During this interim, preparations were being made on Efate for the squadron's arrival. This was at Roses Field, later known as Bauer Field after Joe was killed in action. A runway was formed by cutting down coconut trees on a copra plantation belonging to a Mme. Bladiniere. Madame was furious at the wanton destruction to her property and let it be known she considered the Marines to belong to a sub-human, unmentionable species, and that she, her daughters, and her house were strictly off limits.

Now all this took place before the big battles up at Guadalcanal, and time, for the moment, hung heavily. I received a picture of a light-skinned, small-breasted Polynesian girl whom Quilter claimed was keeping his tent neat. But any surviving squadron mates will tell you that this young woman doesn't have the appearance of the *dark-skinned* natives of Efate, who were said also to have phenomenal prowess while nursing babies.

ONE DAY THE still-irate Madame was overheard to lament the fact that her boar had gone sterile for lack of proper nourishment. This was considered a disaster because there would be no piglets for the future Bastille Day celebration. Quilter got the bright idea of cordoning off a garbage area. Orders went out that all slops and leftovers from the Mess Hall

Then-Capt Quilter is sixth from right in this group portrait of Marine Fighting Squadron 212 taken at Roses Field on Efate in the summer of 1942. The airfield was later renamed for LtCol Harold W. "Joe" Bauer, standing to the left of Quilter, after Bauer was killed in action in November. 1stLt R. E. "Cowboy" Stout kneels second from left.

Elizabeth H. Quilter lives in Laguna Beach, California. The widow of MajGen Charles J. Quilter, USMC, she writes occasionally for Fortitudine to remind readers that Marine wives have shared significantly in the making of the Corps' history. Her son, Col Charles J. Quilter II, USMCR, is in Saudi Arabia as History and Museums Division Deputy Director for Field Activities.



were to be dumped into the pit. The boar knew a good thing when he saw the salubrious mess, and waded in. Soon little piglets made their way into the world.

Madame thawed ever so slightly. She invited Quilter for coffee. Quilter never took sugar or cream with his "java." Unfamiliar with the French *cafe au lait*, he accepted a cup of thick black syrup. To the astonishment betrayed by the raised eyebrows of his hosts, he drank the concoction straight and had the caffeine jitters for the next 24 hours.

Quilter's next project, as an ardent Catholic, was to get Madame's permission to take her youngest daughter, Henriette, to church, from whence she had slightly lapsed. He had noticed that Henriette had one crossed eye. He talked to Dr. Martin, the squadron doctor, whose only busy-ness at that time was handing out atabrine pills. Overcoming Madame's extreme reluctance, the doctor operated on Henriette's eye with great success.

Eh bien! Madame was so pleased she invited the entire squadron to her house to celebrate Bastille Day. It was *une fete superbe*: roast piglets and five kinds of ice cream! It probably was on this occasion that Henriette fell into unrequited love with "Cowboy" Stout who, alas, was lost at Peleliu. I began to receive many letters from Henriette written in half English and half French, to which I replied in half French and half English.

A FEW YEARS AGO, my South Pacific cruise ship stopped at Efate. While visiting some tourist trap, I approached an imposing islander who spoke quite good English. I asked him if he knew anything about the Bladiniere family. "Oh yes," he replied, "my father knew them all. He helped build all the roads and Bauer Field. Madame, she leave the plantation and she die last year in Paris." But why didn't I ask specifically for Henriette? A grave sin of omission! □1775□



"To Captain Quilter, an affectionate souvenir from a little girl," is the photo inscription penned by Henriette Bladiniere.

New Books

World War II Studies Continue to Be Favored Reading

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 bookstore or library:

Histories

Life, World War II. Philip B. Kunhardt, Jr., editor. Little, Brown, 446 pp., 1990. A photographic history of the war with more than 1,000 photos from the original issues of *Life* magazine. It is arranged chronologically with an introductory text for each of the seven years covered from 1939-1945. \$50.00

The Second World War. John Keegan, Viking Penguin, 608 pp., 1990. John Keegan, formerly lecturer at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, is now defense correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph*. His previous books include *The Face of Battle*, *Six Armies in Normandy*, and *The Mask of Command*. He divides this single-volume history into four topics: narrative, strategic analysis, battle analysis, and "themes of war." Each of the bat-

tles chosen illustrates the nature of a distinctive form of warfare: air warfare (the Battle of Britain); airborne warfare (the Battle of Crete); carrier warfare (Midway); armored warfare (Falaise); city warfare (Berlin); and amphibious warfare (Okinawa).

The "themes of war" include war supply, war production, occupation, strategic bombing, resistance and espionage, and secret weapons. \$29.95

Biographies

Eisenhower: Soldier and President. Stephen E. Ambrose, Simon and Schuster, 635 pp., 1990. A one-volume version of the author's earlier two-volume biography of Eisenhower, published in 1983-84. The author is professor of history and director of the Eisenhower Center at the University of New Orleans. He covers Eisenhower's war years, his tour as Supreme Allied Commander, and his years in the White House. \$29.95

God's Samurai: Lead Pilot at Pearl Harbor. Gordon W. Prange with D. M. Gold-

stein and K. V. Dillon, Brassey's (US), Inc., 349 pp., 1990. The story of Mitsuo Fuchida, the naval aviator who led the Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor and participated in many of the fiercest battles of the Pacific (including Midway, the Marianas, and Leyte Gulf). He was in Hiroshima in the days immediately before and after the bombing and was aboard *Missouri* at the surrender ceremonies.

In conversations with Gordon Prange, Fuchida gave a memorable portrait of his mentor, Adm Yamamoto, and vivid accounts of the Tokyo war crimes trials and the occupation. Fuchida himself returned from the war a changed man, spending his later years as a Christian evangelist.

The late Professor Prange taught history at the University of Maryland. Donald M. Goldstein, a retired Air Force officer, teaches at the University of Pittsburgh. Katherine V. Dillon is retired from the Air Force. Dillon and Goldstein both worked with Prange on all five of his previous books, including *At Dawn We Slept* and *Miracle at Midway*. \$21.95

Colonel Charles Waterhouse, Artist-in-Residence, Retires

by John T. Dyer, Jr.
Curator of Art

COL CHARLES H. WATERHOUSE, USMCR, the Marine Corps Historical Center's artist-in-residence, retired from active duty on 19 February after 18 years of graphically portraying much of the Marine Corp's early history. At a ceremony that evening which also marked the opening of a retrospective exhibition of his official paintings, Col Waterhouse was presented the Legion of Merit by the Commandant, Gen Alfred M. Gray. He additionally received the Distinguished Service Award of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.

A Marine veteran of World War II, wounded as a young corporal on Iwo Jima, Waterhouse was a freelance artist, magazine and book illustrator, art teacher, and veteran civilian combat artist of the Vietnam War when he was selected for a specialist commission in the Reserve to prepare a series of color prints for the Marine Corps' observance of the U.S. bicentennial.

WATERHOUSE WAS BORN in Columbus, Georgia, on 22 September 1924. He attended public schools in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts, where he eventually would become an instructor. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in

"Marines in the Conquest of California," second of Col Waterhouse's historical series, illustrates Marine activity in Southern California in the mid-1840s. Here, "Landing at Monterey, 7 July 1846," shows Marines and sailors preparing to secure the town.



Col Waterhouse in 1967 pauses for a photograph next to a prisoner-of-war hut made from a "Conex box" in Vietnam. During his visit in March 1967, Waterhouse drew more than 300 sketches, many of them now part of the Marine Corps Art Collection.

August 1943 and soon was assigned to the 5th Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, California. Taking part in the invasion of Iwo Jima on 19 February 1945, he was wounded on D-Day plus two. When his military service eventually was completed he worked as a staff artist for an insurance

company and, from 1950 to 1973, pursued his career as a freelance artist, in particular as illustrator of adventure books and magazines. He volunteered for the U.S. Navy Art Program and went to Vietnam under its auspices, producing works which now also are in the art collections of the U.S. Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

In May 1973 Waterhouse accepted his commission as a Marine major and began an intense two years at the drawing board and easel, with pauses for trips to research libraries and to historic sites for visual references. The product of this early activity will be, for future historians, writers, and researchers, a guide to what the Marines of the Revolutionary War looked like: uniforms or their lack, and weapons and equipment, at the scenes of the battles and amid the bloodshed. The series is composed of 14 large works in acrylic paints on Masonite panels, accompanied by 14 pen-and-ink maps locating each of the historic actions shown in the paintings. Additionally, Waterhouse produced more than 70 drawings on 11 plates to illustrate the official written history *Marines in the Revolution*. Four smaller, related paintings



"Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" shows then-Cpl Waterhouse just after he received a gunshot wound to his left arm during the battle for Iwo Jima in February 1945. Waterhouse enlisted in August 1943 and was assigned to the 5th Marine Division

were finished to complement exhibition of the entire series, now on long-term loan to the National Park Service for display at New Hall, part of the Independence Hall historical area in Philadelphia.

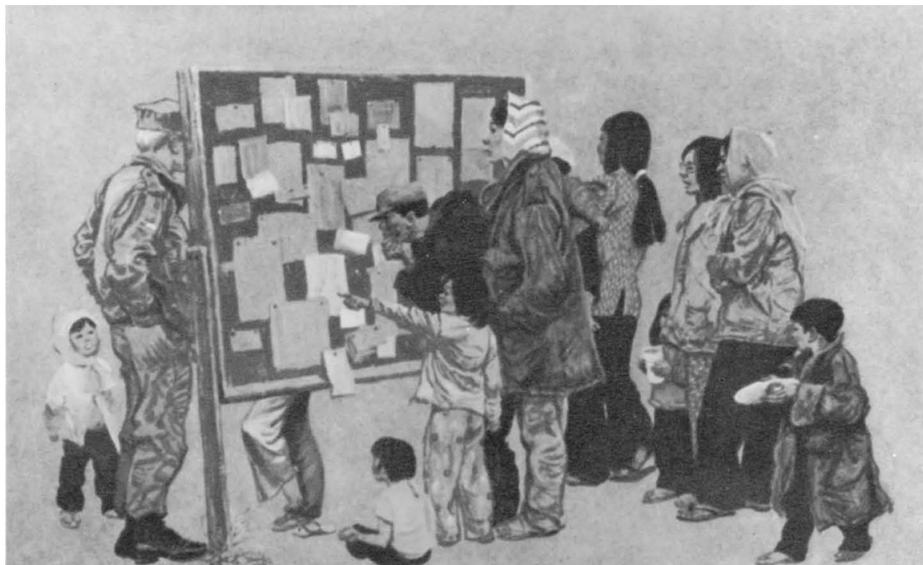
RECEPTION FOR THE various pieces of the "Marines in the Revolution" series was so warm that Waterhouse was asked to accept a five-year extension of his active duty, and repeat extensions kept him at his easel until his retirement. The service time he accumulated includes his two years spent in World War II. Waterhouse revisited Iwo Jima under more peaceful circumstances during his later active duty, and subsequently rendered 14 paintings recalling his own experience and the story of the island battle. Over the years that Waterhouse spent as artist-in-residence he completed several long-term projects, most aimed at making available art which portrays the major events in Marine Corps history not otherwise well-represented in the Corps' art collection. Among these are "Marines in the Conquest of California," 12 large panels in acrylics with 12 related pen-and-ink maps and smaller support works. After display in Washington, D.C., and at Camp Pendleton, California, they now are on long-term loan to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum at San Diego. "Marines in the Frigate Navy," Waterhouse's third series on a major theme, like "Marines in the Revolution," also is composed of 14 acrylic paintings and associated pen-and-ink maps, and also became a

set of color prints well known to Marines as decorative and educational art in most barracks.

Since the completion of "Marines in the Frigate Navy," Waterhouse has finished five other equally painstakingly researched paintings on Marine historical themes: quelling John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry, in the attack on Fort Fisher during the Civil War, in battle at Cuzco Wells in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, on patrol in Panama in 1885, and with Commodore Perry on his early visit to Japan and Okinawa.

Other projects have included 10 acrylics-

Vietnamese refugees in May 1975 were quartered in temporary tent camps set up by Camp Pendleton Marines. Col Waterhouse travelled to Camp Pendleton for firsthand research; this painting from a resulting set is entitled, "Lost, Found, and Wanted."



on-Masonite panels inspired by the influx of Vietnamese refugees to Camp Pendleton in 1975, and the acrylics-on-canvas mural, nearly 11 feet long, of the Battle of Tarawa, meant as a commissioning gift to the USS *Tarawa* from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, but now a part of the Commandant's Corridor outside the offices of the Secretary of the Navy at the Pentagon.

The retrospective exhibit of Col Waterhouse's work currently in the Special Exhibits Gallery of the Marine Corps Museum contains nearly 160 paintings, 55 of them salon-size, most of them produced in acrylic paints on Masonite panels. They are accompanied by a large selection of drawings and sketches. Nearly all allude to events in Marine Corps history.

Upon entering the Gallery, viewers see the first major series for the Marine Corps to emerge from the Waterhouse studio, "Marines in the Revolution." Following is the smaller grouping of 10 paintings of new arrivals to America from South Vietnam at Camp Pendleton in 1975, and the artist's second series of large, historical paintings, the 12 panels of "Marines in the Conquest of California." Next is Col Waterhouse's third and final major series, familiar to most current Marines from the walls of barracks and offices, the 14 paintings of "Marines in the Frigate Navy." The final segment of the show is comprised of the five last projects, including the just-completed study of Commo Perry and his Marines on Okinawa. □1775□

Officers Who Fought Century's Early Wars Mourned

*by Benis M. Frank
Acting Chief Historian*

LtGen Joseph C. Fegan, Jr.

LtGen Joseph C. Fegan, Jr., 71, died in San Diego, California on 2 January after a long bout with cancer. Gen Fegan was born on 21 December 1920 in Los Angeles when his father, then-Maj Joseph C. Fegan, USMC, was serving there. While a student at Princeton University, he joined the Marine Corps Reserve and was a member of the first NROTC unit at Princeton. Commissioned in 1942, Gen Fegan served in three wars and at many posts in his 36-year career which ended in 1978.

Early in his Marine Corps service, he was an artilleryman, serving as a battery commander in the 14th Marines, with which he landed with the Marshalls and on Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima. He was awarded a Silver Star Medal for his heroic actions on Saipan. Gen Fegan commanded Company H, 5th Marines in Korea, where he was wounded and received a second Silver Star Medal for heroic achievements. Upon his return to the United States, he was assigned as executive officer of the Recruit Training Command at MCRD, San Diego, where he remained for a short time before he was ordered to Yale University as an instructor in the NROTC unit there during the period 1951-1953. Following a number of short tours elsewhere, and assignment to a Spanish language course, Gen Fegan

LtGen Joseph C. Fegan, Jr. in 1975



was assigned as Assistant Naval Attache in Madrid. At the end of this tour, he returned to Washington to become aide to Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., USMC (Ret), Chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board. While here, in 1958, Gen Fegan was selected to become executive officer of the Marine detachment consisting of the Parris Island Band, the Drum and Bugle Corps and the Silent Drill Team from MB, 8th and I, invited to participate in the Edinburgh Tattoo that year.

After he graduated from the National War College in 1966, he was ordered to Vietnam to become deputy director of the Combat Operations Center, MACV, in Saigon. A colonel in 1967, he returned home to assume command of the MB, 8th and I. After selection and promotion to brigadier general, he was assigned to Camp Lejeune to become, first, ADC of the 2d Marine Division, and then, with promotion to major general, he took command of Force Troops, FMFLant. His succeeding commands were the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa and the San Diego Recruit Depot. With his promotion to lieutenant general, he took over command of the Marine Corps Development and Education Command at Quantico, from which he retired in 1978.

Services for Gen Fegan were held in the chapel of the San Diego Recruit Depot on 5 January 1991, following which, his ashes were interred the same day in the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery with full honors.

MajGen Walter G. Farrell

MajGen Walter Greatsinger "Great" Farrell, 93, died 11 October 1990 in San Diego. Gen Farrell, also nicknamed "Hobolicker" for some unknown reason, came from a family of soldiers: two uncles fought in the Crimean War; his grandfather was a major general in the Indian Army; and his father, Patrick J. H. Farrell, fought as a British cavalry officer in the Egyptian, Sudan, and Afendi Wars, 1882-1886, and came to America in the early 1890s.

Gen Farrell was born in San Francisco

in 1897, but was raised in Chicago. He was active in athletics and hunting, and was to remain so almost to the end of his life. He joined Battery B, 1st Illinois Field Artillery, on 14 July 1916, the day it was called into federal service for duty on the Mexican border, and was mustered out in October to begin college that fall. In June 1917, after the United States declared war on Germany, he enlisted in the Marine Corps, went through boot camp at Parris Island, was discharged as a private on 8 October, and was commissioned the next day. He attended the Marine Officers' School at Quantico and after graduation was retained as a bayonet and knife-fighting instructor. He left for France in August 1918 after many requests for assignment to combat duty, and soon joined the 51st Company, 2d Battalion, Fifth Regiment as executive officer. He fought in the Meuse-Argonne offensive and then participated in the occupation of Germany.

After returning to the States, Lt Farrell requested and was assigned to duty in Haiti, where he remained until 1920, when he was detailed to flight training at Pensacola. His records indicate that while at Pensacola, he was restricted for five days for "unauthorized hunting on base." He became a naval aviator in 1922 and returned to Haiti. A championship-class swimmer,

Then-BGen Walter G. Farrell in 1946



he was in the trials for the 1924 U.S. Olympic swim team. During the interwar period, Farrell served at stateside bases and overseas—Central and Latin America, Guam, and China—as well as on carriers.

While serving with the 2d Marine Aircraft Group on the west coast in early 1941, together with fellow aviator Col Perry Parmelee, he was assigned to temporary duty at the American Embassy in London as Assistant Naval Attache/Assistant Naval Attache for Air. Together, both Marines flew to London via the Pacific route, stopping off along the way at British air bases in India, the Mediterranean war zone, and the Mid-East to observe Royal Air Force operations in combat.

Gen Farrell was the chief of staff and operations officer of the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing on the West Coast when the United States declared war on Japan. He deployed with the wing to the Pacific and took part in the battles for Guadalcanal, Rendova, and New Georgia. For “conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity” as chief of staff and operations officer of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on Guadalcanal, he was decorated with the Silver Star Medal. He also was a member of the reconnaissance team which surveyed the Russell Islands in February 1943 before they were occupied.

He returned to the States in November 1943 for a short period before going back out to the Pacific to become commander of all Marine air in the Hawaiian area and then commander of MAG-32. He was deputy commander of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Tientsin in early 1946, and returned to the States to retire in June following 29 years of active service. Because he had been decorated in combat, he was advanced to the rank of major general on the retired list. Memorial services with full honors were held for Gen Farrell on 17 October at the chapel of the San Diego Marine Recruit Depot. He was buried the next day in Fort Rosecrans Memorial Cemetery.

BGen Richard P. Ross, Jr.

BGen Richard P. Ross, Jr., who was twice awarded both the Legions of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal, died 6 October 1990 at the age of 84 at his home in Laguna Hill, California. A native of Maryland, Gen Ross was a member of the Naval Academy Class of 1927, and was commis-



Then-LtCol Richard P. Ross in 1944

sioned a Marine second lieutenant in June of that year. During his 30-year career, he served in Nicaragua and China, and at stateside posts and stations as well as at sea. He was on the *Oklahoma* when Pearl Harbor was attacked. After a short time at Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor with his detachment, Ross spent a year with Marine defense battalions before he went to Johnston Island in command of the 16th Defense Battalion.

He joined the 1st Marine Division at Pavuvu in June 1944 and fought with it as executive officer of the 5th Marines on Peleliu and in the landing on Okinawa. In May, during the course of the battle, he was given command of the 3d Battalion, 5th Marines on Okinawa, which captured Shuri Castle. LtCol Ross placed the American flag on its battlements, and was rewarded for his efforts with a tremendous barrage of incoming Japanese small arms and artillery fire.

Upon his promotion to colonel in August 1945, he took command of the 7th Marines in Tientsin, China. He was assigned to a number of commands, staff billets, and a tour at the National War College following the end of the war, and when he retired in June 1957, he was a staff member of the Net Evaluation Subcommittee, National Security Council. For having been decorated in combat, he was advanced to brigadier general on the retired list. Gen Ross was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 12 October with full military honors.

BGen John R. Groff

BGen John R. Groff, who, at his death at 100, was perhaps the oldest surviving Marine general officer, died 2 October 1990 at Oceanside, California. Born in Syracuse, New York, on 14 February 1890, he enlisted in the Corps in 1912. He landed in Vera Cruz in 1914 and served with the Sixth Regiment in France in World War I where he earned the Navy Cross and the Army Distinguished Service Cross, while participating in all the major actions of the regiment. Commissioned in the field in 1918, he marched with the Fourth Marine Brigade across the Rhine and to occupation duty in Germany. In the post-war years, he served in Haiti and at various Marine Corps posts and stations in the United States. During World War II, he was chief of staff of Marine Corps Base, San Diego, where he retired in 1946, after 34 years of active service. Gen Groff was buried in Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside, California, on 5 October with full military honors. □1775□

BGen John R. Groff in 1990



Answers to Historical Quiz

Marine Authors

(Questions on page 11)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. d | 6. c |
| 2. e | 7. g |
| 3. h | 8. i |
| 4. j | 9. a |
| 5. b | 10. f |

AH-1J Sea Cobra

by *Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas*
Curator of Material History

HELICOPTERS LAND regularly each day at the Quantico Marine Corps Air Facility, but on 31 August, a landing took place which was far from routine. An AH-1J Bell helicopter, an aircraft which dates back to the Vietnam War, arrived on the runway after a cross-country flight from the Naval Weapons Center at China Lake, California.

Negotiations for the acquisition of this helicopter started early this year when the Officer-in-Charge of the Marine Corps Air Ground Museum, LtCol William A. Beebe II, discovered the existence of the helicop-

ter, which had been relegated to the task of flying target drones for Navy tests. LtCol Beebe found out that it was to be sent to the aircraft "boneyard" at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona, and made arrangements to acquire it beforehand from the Navy. Although the AH-1J was not the most commonly used attack helicopter of the Vietnam War, it represented the culmination of helicopter design efforts which took place during the war.

In the early days of the war, the U.S. Army realized the need for a more efficient

attack helicopter than the converted UH-1B Bell "Iroquois" then being used. These utility helicopters converted into gunships supported Army ground operations which could not be supported as well by fixed-wing aircraft. The Bell Helicopter Company responded by designing a new fuselage around the engine, transmission, and rotors of the UH-1E, calling the new helicopter the UH-1H "Cobra."

The new helicopter bore little resemblance to the UH-1E in that, instead of being seated side-by-side, the pilot now was seated behind and above the gunner in the sleek, streamlined fuselage. The amount of attack armament (machine gun, rockets, and 40mm grenade launchers) was also increased. The U.S. Army in Vietnam received its first Cobras in August 1967. In order to avoid confusion, the aircraft was assigned a new nomenclature of AH-1G, "AH" being the new acronym for "attack helicopter."

The Marine Corps, which had been flying converted UH-1B gunships, tried to obtain a number for close-air-support missions. Four AH-1G gunships arrived early in 1969 and Marines were flying these helicopters in combat by April of that year.

But the Marine Corps had a need for a dual-engine aircraft because of the Corps' amphibious mission. Although a disabled helicopter can sometimes auto-rotate to a relatively safe landing over land, it is generally lost if it loses power at sea. The Marine Corps identified this need as early as 1968, but had to wait until 1971 to deploy its first dual-engine AH-1J "Sea Cobra" in Vietnam. Powered by two Canadian-built Pratt and Whitney engines instead of the single Lycoming T-53-L-13 of the AH-1G, the new helicopter could fly faster than the AH-1G and deliver more firepower, since the AH-1J had a 20mm cannon in the nose turret in lieu of a machine gun and was also capable of carrying more rockets.

After its service in Vietnam, the AH-1J helicopter was flown until recent years. An improved version, the AH-1T, which had a longer fuselage and TOW missiles, was introduced in 1975. The "Sea Cobras" now in use are "W" models. □1775□



This Sea Cobra is the first of 49 readied for delivery to the Marine Corps by Bell Helicopter in Texas in 1969. It featured a three-barrel, turret-mounted 20mm cannon capable of firing 750 rounds per minute and could cruise at 185 mph and dive at 219 mph.

Technical Data

Manufacturer: Bell Helicopter Corporation, Fort Worth, Texas.

Type: Armed tactical helicopter.

Accommodation: Pilot and gunner or copilot.

Power Plant: Two 1,800 h.p. United Aircraft of Canada (Pratt & Whitney) T400-CP-400 engines.

Dimensions: Rotor diameter, 44 ft.; Length, 44 ft., 6 in.; Height, 13 ft., 6 in.; Span 10 ft., 3 in.

Weights: Empty, 6,503 lbs.; Heavy Combat, 9,821 lbs.

Performance: 142 knots at 2,000 ft.; Service ceiling, 10,000 ft.; Range, 131 nautical miles (medium combat load).

Armaments: 20mm gun in nose turret with 750 rounds. A combination of the following on the outer and inner pylons: LAU 68 rockets; LAU 61-A rockets; and SMM-11A miniguns.

The U.S. Marine Corps and the Vietnam War: 1969

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

Part VI of *Fortitudine's* continuing chronological series on Marine Corps participation in the Vietnam War focuses on 1969, a period in which newly elected President Richard M. Nixon adopted a policy of seeking to end active United States military involvement in the Vietnam War. Although the full range of Marine Corps military and pacification efforts continued within the I Corps Tactical Zone, the year 1969 also witnessed the gradual "Vietnamization" of the war, which would slowly reduce and ultimately end the Marine Corps' combat role. The majority of the following entries were excerpted from the History and Museums Division monograph, *U.S. Marines In Vietnam: High Mobility and Standdown*, 1969, which contains detailed examination of Marine Corps activities and operations in that country during 1969.

1 Jan—South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu suggested that the ARVN was "ready to replace part of the allied forces" in 1969.

5 Jan—U.S. President-elect Nixon named Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge to succeed Ambassador W. Averell Harriman as chief U.S. negotiator at the Paris talks. He also continued Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker at his post at Saigon.

20 Jan—Richard M. Nixon was inaugurated President of the United States.

As a victor surveying the spoils, Marine PFC Bernardo A. Blazek stands atop a wrecked prime mover for an enemy 122mm field artillery piece captured by the 9th Marines in Operation

22 Jan—Operation Dewey Canyon, perhaps the most successful high-mobility, regimental-size action of the Vietnam War, began in the Da Krong Valley of Quang Tri Province. Elements of the 9th Marines, with supporting artillery, were lifted into the enemy's Base Area 611. By the end of the operation (19 March), estimated enemy dead reached more than 1,600, and hundreds of tons of enemy weapons and supplies were taken.

31 Jan—U.S. military strength in South Vietnam numbered 539,000, of which 81,000 were Marines.

23 Feb—Communist forces launched a major offensive throughout South Vietnam, one day following the expiration of the Viet Cong-proclaimed seven-day truce for Tet.

25 Feb—Fire Support Bases Neville and Russell came under heavy enemy ground and mortar attacks, resulting in the loss of 30 Marines and the wounding of 79.

28 Feb—The 3d Marine Division ended Operations Scotland II and Kentucky. During Scotland II (15 April 1968-28 February 1969) more than 3,300 enemy troops were claimed killed, while Marine casualties included 463 killed. Operation Kentucky (1 November 1967-28 February 1969) resulted in over 3,900 claimed enemy killed, while 478 Marines were killed in action.

3 Mar—The Marine Corps received its first CH-53D assault helicopter. The helicopter, intended to replace the CH-53A in-

Dewey Canyon in January. The enemy destroyed two such large artillery pieces and their prime movers while fleeing the Marine advance. An estimated 1,600 enemy troops died in the operation.



roduced into Vietnam in late 1966, could transport four tons of cargo or 39 fully equipped combat troops.

9 Mar—1st Marine Division Operation Taylor Common ended in Quang Nam Province. The operation, which began on 7 December 1968, accounted for 610 captured and an estimated 1,400 enemy killed.

16 Mar—The U.S. battleship *New Jersey* (BB-62) departed the coast of Vietnam. Since her arrival in late September 1968, the *New Jersey* had fired 3,615 16-inch shells and nearly 11,000 rounds of 5-inch shells, mostly in support of 3d Marine Division operations along the DMZ.

26 Mar—LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr., replaced LtGen Robert E. Cushman, Jr., as CG, III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF). LtGen Nickerson had commanded the 1st Marine Division in his previous Vietnam tour.

30 Mar—III MAF engineers and Navy Seabees completed the construction of Liberty Bridge, which spanned the Song Thu Bon, south of Da Nang.

10 Apr—The first four AH-1G "Cobra" gunships arrived at Da Nang to begin air operations with Marine Observation Squadron 2.

15 Apr—MajGen William K. Jones replaced MajGen Raymond G. Davis as CG, 3d Marine Division.

27 Apr—A grass fire spread to Navy/Marine Ammo Supply Point 1, two miles southwest of Da Nang airfield, resulting in the destruction of 38,000 tons of ammunition.

30 Apr—Operation Virginia Ridge formally began with the 9th Marines encountering heavy resistance in the area between Cam Lo and the Rockpile.

10 May—Operation Apache Snow began in the southern Da Krong and northern A Shau Valleys, involving the 9th Marines and elements of the Army's 101st Airborne Division.

26 May—The 1st Marine Division, along with Korean and South

In camouflaged utility uniforms and face paint, members of a Marine patrol from Company B, 3d Recon Battalion, 3d Marine Division, warily stalk the jungle south of the DMZ in January.



Cpls Robert G. Olson and Charles S. Yeamen rumble into Operation Pipestone Canyon, eight miles south of Da Nang in June.

Vietnamese troops, began Operation Pipestone Canyon in the Go Noi island area, and ended in early November with an estimate of nearly 500 enemy killed.

29 May—The 7th Marines multi-battalion Operation Oklahoma Hills ended. Enemy deaths during the two-month operation were placed at 596, while friendly casualties numbered 53 killed and 487 wounded.

8 Jun—President Nixon announced that 25,000 troops would be withdrawn from South Vietnam by the end of August.

13 Jun—Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird announced that the 9th Marines, in addition to Army and Navy units, would be withdrawn beginning in mid-July.

11 Jul—MajGen Charles J. Quilter was relieved by MajGen William G. Thrash as CG, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1st MAW).

14 Jul—BLT 1/9 sailed from Da Nang for Okinawa, initiating Phase 1 of President Nixon's 25,000-troop withdrawal plan.

14 Aug—The 9th Regimental Landing Team completed its redeployment from Vietnam with the departure of the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines.

18 Aug—Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 362, the first unit of the 1st MAW to serve in Vietnam (arriving in April 1962), departed Vietnam.

3 Sep—North Vietnamese President Ho Chi Minh died.

7 Sep—Battalion Landing Team 1/26, lifted by Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265, began Operation Defiant Stand, in conjunction with the Korean Marines.

16 Sep—The second increment of the U.S. troop withdrawal from Vietnam which included more than 18,000 Marines, was announced by President Nixon.

15 Oct—Vietnam Moratorium demonstrations held throughout the United States.

7 Nov—The 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade was deactivated; I Marine Expeditionary Force was created as an amphibious ready force in the Western Pacific; and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (Rear) was activated in Japan.

26 Nov—The 5th Marine Division was deactivated and the 5th Marine Amphibious Brigade came into existence.

15 Dec—MajGen Edwin B. Wheeler relieved MajGen Ormand R. Simpson as CG, 1st Marine Division.

15 Dec—President Nixon announced that the third round of American troop withdrawals from Vietnam was to be completed by 15 April 1970.

31 Dec—Marine Corps strength in South Vietnam stood at 54,559, down from a peak strength of 85,755 reached in 1968.

□1775□

Acquisitions

Enlisted Marine's 1839 'Coatee' Bought for Museum

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

AN ENLISTED MARINE'S "coatee" of 1839 has been acquired with the help of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation and other benefactors. A coatee was a mid-19th century waist-length jacket, buttoned across the front and with tails at the back.

Occasionally a rare Marine Corps artifact comes on the market. Sometimes, as was the case with the 1839 coatee, it is sought avidly by other museums and carries a high price tag. The Marine Corps Museum was favored by a dealer who thought that the Marine coatee should be in the Marines' museum. He waited patiently for several months while the museum raised the wherewithal. The Foundation offered to purchase the coatee but with its reorganization and move to Quantico found itself unable to meet the full amount. An appeal was made to a generous Foundation sustaining member, Clifford V. Brokaw III, who came up with a third of the price. Profits

from the Museum Store were finally accumulated to a point where a check for the other two-thirds could be written.

The coatee will be used in an upgrading of the Museum's Time Tunnel case on the 1840s and Mexican War. The

The model of this nineteenth century tailcoat was worn by Marines for 20 years until 1859 uniform regulations changes.



1839 model coatee was worn for 20 years until a change in uniform regulations in 1859.

THE FOUNDATION budgets substantial amounts annually for various activities in the Marine Corps historical program which either cannot be funded with appropriated funds or are more expeditiously funded than with appropriated funds when time is of the essence. The first category includes grants for research resulting in publishable manuscripts or for masters theses or doctoral dissertations. The amounts earmarked for museum purchases are in the latter category. The few and rare 19th-century items coming on the market from a Marine Corps that seldom numbered more than 3,000, are often quickly snapped up by eager collectors. These grants and acquisitions are some of the main reasons behind creation of the Historical Foundation. □1775□