

# FORTITUDINE

BULLETIN OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

HISTORICAL BULLETIN VOLUME XXVII

FALL 1997

NUMBER 2

PASS THIS ISSUE ON  
TO ANOTHER MARINE



FINAL VOLUME IN MARINE CORPS' OFFICIAL VIETNAM WAR HISTORIES DETAILS 1968 ... DIVISION BIDS FAREWELL TO HISTORIAN BENIS M. FRANK ... AT SWORD'S POINT ACROSS ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND ... A FINE SOUVENIR OF THE CHINA MARINES MUSEUM GETS PRISTINE 'BLACKSHEEP' FLIGHT JACKET ... EVOCATIVE PHOTO ALBUM JOINS COLLECTION

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

PCN 10401220100



**HISTORY  
AND MUSEUMS  
DIVISION**

Marine Corps Historical Center  
Building 58, Washington Navy Yard  
901 M Street, Southeast  
Washington, D.C. 20374-5040  
Telephone (202) 433-3534

**DIRECTOR EMERITUS**

BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret)

**DIRECTOR**

Col Michael F. Monigan, USMC

*Secretary to the Director:*

Ms. Kristen M. Reed

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

Vacant

**HISTORICAL BRANCH**

*Branch Head:* Vacant. *Head, Histories Section/Chief Historian:* Vacant. *History Writing Unit:* Dr. Jack Shulimson; Mr. Charles R. Smith; LtCol Leroy D. Stearns, USMC; Maj James G. Antal, USMC; Mrs. Wanda F. Renfrow. *Oral History Unit:* Mr. Richard A. Long; Mr. David B. Crist. *Reference Section:* Mr. Danny J. Crawford; Mr. Robert V. Aquilina; Mrs. Ann A. Ferrante; Miss Lena M. Kaljot; Mrs. Shelia Gramblin. *Archives:* Mr. Frederick J. Graboske; Mrs. Amy C. Cohen. *Personal Papers:* Mrs. Joyce C. Hudson, *Official Papers.*

**MUSEUMS BRANCH**

*Branch Head/Officer-in-Charge, Air-Ground Museum, Quantico:* LtCol Robert J. Sullivan, USMC; *Head, Museums Section/Chief Curator:* Mr. Charles A. Wood. Mr. Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas, *Material History:* Mr. John G. Griffiths, Sgt Dieter Stenger, USMC. *Ordnance:* Mr. Mitch Garringer, SSgt Troy H. Lumpkin, USMC, Cpl David Nieves, Jr., USMC. *Restoration:* Mr. Michael E. Starn, *Aeronautics:* Mr. Ronald J. Perkins, Mr. Ronnie D. Alexander, *Exhibits:* Mrs. Nancy F. King, *Uniforms:* Mrs. Jennifer L. Castro, *Registrar:* Mrs. Kathryn R. Trout, *Programs Assistant, Operations/Security:* 1stLt Darren S. Boyd, USMCR; SSgt Anthony J. Pastella, USMC; Cpl David Trelinski, USMC; Cpl Chad G. Paquette, USMC; Cpl Tobias T. Pasky, USMC; PFC Larissa Morgan, USMC.

**MARINE CORPS MUSEUM UNIT, WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
*Exhibits:* Mr. James A. Fairfax; Mr. Gordon Heim. *Marine Corps Art Collection:* Mr. John T. Dyer, Jr.

**SUPPORT BRANCH**

*Head/Division Executive Officer:* LtCol Leon Craig, Jr., USMC. *Editing and Design Section:* Mr. Robert E. Struder; Mr. William S. Hill; Mrs. Catherine A. Kerns. *Library:* Miss Evelyn A. Englander. *Administration:* 2dLt Joseph E. Donald, USMC; SSgt Myrna A. Thomas, USMC; Sgt Joslyn V. Benjamin, USMC; Sgt Marelo P. Harris, USMC; LCpl Karlton T. Smith, USMC; Cpl Michael L. Danielson, USMC. *Security Unit:* Sgt Anthony U. Greene, USMC; Cpl Edward M. Hartzell, USMC; LCpl Kevin W. Ratay, USMC.

*Senior Editor/Editor, Fortitudine*  
Mr. Robert E. Struder

# FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Volume XXVIII

Fall 1997

No. 2

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 four-issue subscriptions from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office. The appropriate order form appears in this issue.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

*Memorandum from the Histories Section: Ben Frank's 43 Years of Marine Service*  
*Charles R. Smith* . . . . . 3

**1968 Volume Completes Vietnam History Series**

*Dr. Jack Shulimson* . . . . . 7

**Number of Historical Center Interns on Rise**

*Charles R. Smith* . . . . . 10

**Young Historians Win Fellowship Support**

*Charles R. Smith* . . . . . 11

**Gone Mad for Mamelukes in England and Scotland**

*Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas* . . . . . 12

**New Books: Alexander's Fellowship of Valor Major Corps History**

*Evelyn A. Englander* . . . . . 14

**Historical Quiz: Marines in World War I**

*Justin P. Asher* . . . . . 15

**Vogel Map Recreates 1906 Peking Legation Quarter**

*BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret)* . . . . . 16

**Marines Ship Out Again on the Venerable Constitution**

*Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas* . . . . . 17

**Acquisitions: Blacksheep Flight Jacket is in 'Ace' Condition**

*Sgt Dieter Stenger, USMC* . . . . . 19

**On a 'Trunk Trek' with a Museums Branch Mission Team**

*1stLt Darren S. Boyd* . . . . . 20

**Answers to Historical Quiz: Marines in World War I**

*Justin P. Asher* . . . . . 21

**Marine Corps Chronology: January-October 1898**

*Robert V. Aquilina* . . . . . 22

**Photo Album Donation Evokes a Marine Era**

*Frederick J. Graboske* . . . . . 24

**ABOUT THE COVER**

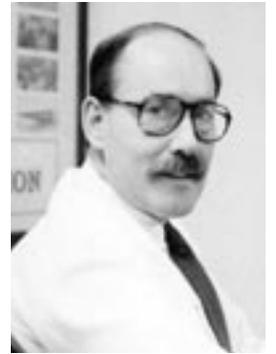
"The Vietnam War with a Cast of Thousands" is the tongue-in-cheek title given by curators of the Marine Corps Art Collection to this oil-on-canvas painting by Robert Benney. Benney, a professor of art, has been a member of combat art programs for the World War II War Department and the Vietnam-era Marine Corps. His sketches and paintings, particularly those from Saipan and Eniwetok during World War II, are widely published and his works hang in major museum collections. Benney's own title for this talented and sympathetic painting is "Vietnam Interlude, I Corps Area," and reflects a progression of events he witnessed, when a mountain village attacked by Viet Cong soldiers was aided by a Marine medevac: "Skillful corpsmen and fire squads swiftly separate living from dead. After on-the-spot first aid, survivors are loaded on choppers and flown back to base hospital areas," he wrote. The story of the Marines in Vietnam in 1968, the year when this painting was made, is covered in an official history just published by the History and Museums Division. See page 7.

*Fortitudine* is produced in the Editing and Design 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

**For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402**

## *Memorandum from the Histories Section*

# Ben Frank's 43 Years of Marine Service



*Charles R. Smith*

Benis M. Frank began his first "Memorandum From the Chief Historian," with a salute to the retiring director, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret). A year and a half, and six "Memorandums," later Ben Frank has retired after 43 years serving both as a Marine Corps enlisted man and officer, and for the past 36 years as a civilian historian advancing to become the Marine Corps' Chief Historian.

While I will not be following in his or BGen Simmons' footsteps by writing the lead article for this bulletin of the Marine Corps' historical program, I can appreciate the time, effort, and thought that went into preparing their memorandums for each issue. Ben said in his first memorandum that he

had a hard act to follow; I would like to repeat that sentiment.

Ben Frank, in the words of the Commandant, Gen Charles C. Krulak, has "made a real difference." That difference lies not only in his contributions to Marine Corps history and the larger field of military history, but also in his constant willingness to share his knowledge and expertise with others; he mentored more than a generation of Marine Corps and military history scholars and professionals, and Marines in the field conducting their first oral history interviews. But more about that later.

Although born in Amsterdam, New York, Ben grew up in Stamford,

Connecticut, where his father owned a drug store and where Ben, when old enough, tended the soda fountain and kept the store when his father went home for lunch or dinner. Inheriting a love of classical music from his father, he took up the clarinet early, but switched to the oboe when he joined his high school orchestra.

Tutored by an accomplished oboist, who later became solo oboist for the New York Philharmonic, Ben did so well that he was accepted at the Juilliard School of Music. The year

*The 1st Marine Division Band, under the direction of CWO William H. Robison, Jr., gives its first formal concert at Victoria Square in Tientsin, China. The new tune "First*

*Marine Division" was heard for the first time. A young and musical Ben Frank, survivor of both the Peleliu and Okinawa landings, is at the extreme left, holding his oboe.*





*Marine Combat Correspondent PFC David J. Piel holds microphone as 1st Marine Division Connecticut Marines record Mother's Day greetings on Pavuvu in 1944. Pvt Frank of 18 Morgan Street, Stamford, is second from left.*

was 1942 and the war was on, but as Ben later noted: "it was eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die, and so I decided to go to the University of Connecticut with a bunch of friends instead." But after one semester he left and decided to volunteer for immediate service as soon as he turned 18 in February 1943. The last thing his mother said as he boarded the train for Hartford where he would be examined by the Selective Service was: "Whatever you do, don't join the Marine Corps."

"I of course neglected to heed those words, and I have always delighted in the fact that I did," he said. On 6 March, he raised his right hand and was on his way to Parris Island. Suppressing his musical background and instead stressing his after-school work with the railroad, he was sent to electrician's school and then to engineer's school after boot camp. Volunteering for overseas duty he wound up in the spring of 1944 at Pavuvu in the Russell Islands where he joined the 1st Marine Division on its return from the Cape Gloucester campaign and was assigned to the 17th Pioneers. "When I found out what the Pioneers did," Ben later said, "I got myself auditioned by the director of the division band as an oboist, and was accepted."

He made both the Peleliu and Okinawa landings with the bandsmen, and when the war ended went to North China with the 1st Marine Division on occupation duty. Stationed in Tientsin he frequented the Jewish Club Kunst, social center of the exiled Russian Jewish community. There he learned a little Russian that would come in handy when, following his discharge, he entered the University of Connecticut in the fall of 1946 to major in history and Russian language. He joined the Marine Corps Reserve and was commissioned under the Meritorious Regular and Reserve

NCO program in 1950, by which time he had begun graduate work at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. The subject of his master's thesis was the employment of U.S. Marines in Nicaragua.

When the Korean War broke out, he was assigned on the recommendation of LtCol Gordon D. Gayle, then head of the Historical Branch, to the 1st Provisional Historical Platoon at Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. "FMFPac under General Lemuel Shepherd," Ben later commented, "was a salutary place to be for a young bachelor Marine lieutenant, and I probably could have stayed there for my entire tour, but I wanted a regular commission and needed to go to Basic School before being considered." In September 1951, he joined the 11th Special Basic Class at Quantico and after graduating was sent to Korea where he was assigned to the 5th Marines as a staff officer, first in intelligence and then in logistics. "Not a noteworthy combat tour," he remembered.

As many returning veterans, he returned home with no idea of what he was going to do. He worked in retailing while continuing his Russian studies and in 1960 was hired by the State Department to become a Russian language expert in the intelligence division. While awaiting his security clearance, he married and

*In 1953, while on rest and recuperation leave from Korea, Lt Frank, center, meets and talks with Eleanor Roosevelt at the Miyako Hotel in Kyoto, Japan.*





*Capt Frank, Assistant S-4 of the 5th Marines in Korea, meets with a G-4 officer at the 1st MarDiv command post after the truce in Korea in 1953.*

started a family. Through a Korean War buddy he learned of a vacancy at Headquarters Marine Corps in the Historical Branch, went for an interview, and was hired in June 1961, beginning what would be 36 years of uninterrupted service.

During those 36 years, Frank co-authored the fifth and final volume, *Victory and Occupation*, in the official *History of the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II*. He wrote or compiled two books on the Okinawa campaign; a biography of Adm William F. Halsey, commercially published; and the official *U.S. Marines in Lebanon, 1982-1984*. The latter he considers his most memorable project. Not only did he conduct extensive interviews with the Marines of the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) returned from Lebanon to Camp Lejeune, but he also joined the 24th MAU, their replacement in Beirut, for a first-hand look. He did the same in Panama and his interviews and background materials provided the basis for LtCol Nicholas E. Reynolds' *Just Cause: Marine Operations in Panama, 1988-1990*, another official history. In addition, he wrote a number of pamphlet histories and numerous articles and essays for dictionaries, encyclopedias, and professional journals. As chief historian he was the general editor of the 50th anniversary series of pamphlets on Marines in World War II, an arduous task of melding the work

of 17 different authors into a coherent whole.

However, his single largest contribution is in the field of oral history. As head of the oral history program for a quarter-century, he pioneered the effort for the Marine Corps and, in large part, for all the armed services. During that time he developed a great body of oral memoirs, conducting more than 500 one-on-one interviews with Marines ranging from commanders to corporals in the field, recording their insights and experiences. He authored *A Do-It-Yourself Oral History Primer*; an indispensable tool for the first-time interviewer, and edited *The Marine Corps Oral History Collection*

*Oral Historian Frank talks with a member of Marine Security Force Company, Panama, on his interview and fact-finding trip to the Canal Zone after Operation Just Cause.*



*Catalog*, a source for any serious student or researcher in Marine Corps history. Through his efforts, the Marine Corps has captured, documented, and transcribed the most significant combat experience and policy decisions of the Corps' leadership in this century. His development of oral methodology and his willingness to share those methods go far beyond the Marine Corps. When asked, he assisted several other governmental agencies in establishing oral history programs of their own, patterned after his tried and true policies and procedures. "No one is apt to dispute," as BGen Simmons, the division's Director Emeritus, noted, "that he is the acknowledged dean of military oral historians."

In addition to his official duties, he was a member of many organizations, each reflecting his multifaceted interests. For several years Ben served as host for the Military Classics Seminar, the monthly gatherings where a military classic is examined. He also has been an active member, and often an officer or director, of a number of professional and fraternal organizations, including the American Military Institute, the Company of Military Historians, the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, the 1st Marine Division Association, and, of course, the Oral History Association. His over-



*President Frank of the Virginia Scottish Games strikes a pensive pose in a cloud of pipe smoke at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Cathering in Linville, North Carolina, in 1982.*

riding interest, however, is in all things Scottish, notably Scottish music, Scottish bagpipes, and Scottish dancing. In full Highlands regalia he was a regular at the annual Scottish Games held in the Middle Atlantic region.

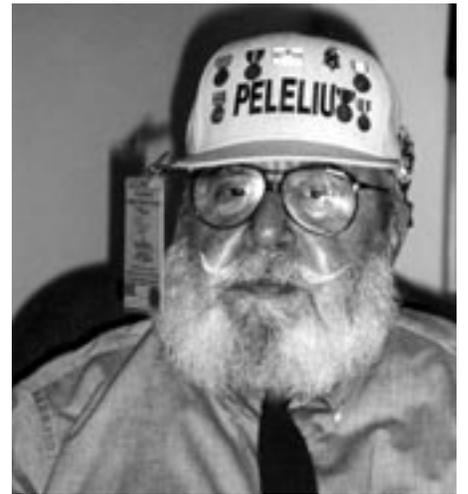
On 25 September, more than 150 of his family, friends, and colleagues gathered at Bolling Air Force Base Officers Club, including the directors or chief historians from all the service historical offices. Among the many tributes was that of Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr., 23d Commandant of the Marine Corps, who noted that: "As a friend and colleague for more than 40 years I want to thank Ben for his outstanding service in our historical program." Capping off the event, BGen Simmons decorated Ben with the Secretary of the Navy's Distinguished Civilian Service Award. The citation read:

For nearly 43 years of devotion to duty, professional integrity, and personal contributions which have benefitted the Marine Corps and the Department of the Navy. Mr. Frank has been a driving force of the Marine Corps Historical Program and the principal architect of the Oral History Program. In this rich collection, the military careers of

the Corps' most prominent leaders are well documented with their own personal recollections, insights, and authoritative perspective on major policies, warfighting campaigns, and the rich history of the Marine Corps during this century. Under his personal tutelage and authorship, a vast number of well-received, critically acclaimed histories have been published documenting the Marine Corps experience from the Revolutionary War to the most recent combat experience in Southwest Asia. These histories represent for future generations the ethos and traditions of the Corps, bathed in warfighting spirit and bonded by the core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Mr. Frank has represented the Marine Corps and Department of the Navy with distinction at the highest levels of government and within the professional historical community. He has dedicated his life to his love of history and his personal, enduring contributions are evident in a dynamic and robust Marine Corps Historical Program.

In his comments at the luncheon, after the retirement gifts were presented, BGen Simmons thanked the former Chief Historian for "his gifts to Marine Corps history, and to the military history profession."

*BGen Simmons decorates Frank with the Secretary of the Navy's Distinguished Civilian Service Award at Frank's retirement luncheon.*



*Wearing what he proclaims to be his favorite hat, Frank contemplates retirement in his Chief Historian's office in 1997.*

Although Ben Frank has vacated the "glass booth," as the Chief Historian's office is known, he plans to work on a number of articles and can still be found on the Internet, chatting on Marine Corps and military history topics. In addition, a number of well-deserved trips are in the works, the first to Russia. But before he starts his globe trotting, he needed some repair work done to his knees which he received in October.

He also can look back upon 36 years during which he created a legacy. Thanks to Ben Frank's efforts, future historians can read and hear the words of the men and women who shaped the Marine Corps in this century. □1775□

# 1968 Volume Completes Vietnam History Series

by Dr. Jack Shulimson  
Head, History Writing Unit

The History and Museums Division has completed its nine-volume Vietnam operational series with the recent publication of the capstone volume, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Defining Year, 1968*, thus becoming the first of the Armed Services historical programs to finish its Vietnam histories. Since the year 1968 was the year of Tet, Khe Sanh, Hue City, and Dai Do, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam, 1968* is, as the title implies, the defining volume of both the war and the series.

The entire Vietnam series is the outgrowth of the vision of the Director Emeritus of the History and Museums Division, Brigadier General Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret). When Gen Simmons took the helm of the division in 1972, he perceived the need to tell the story of the Marine Corps in Vietnam in an open arena rather than as classified studies that would remain unpublished even when released. At the time, he outlined a series of monographs from the beginning of the Marine advisory effort in 1954 through the Easter offensive of 1972. With the fall of South Vietnam in 1975, the Director extended the series to include a concluding work that would cover both the evacuation of Americans, allies, and certain Vietnamese from Saigon and the capture of the *Mayaguez*.

While originally conceived as preliminary monographs, it soon became clear that these volumes would have to stand on their own merits and required extensive research in both Marine and other documentary sources. To cover the initial reference requirements, the division published in 1974, *The Marines in Vietnam, 1954-1973, An Anthology and Annotated Bibliography*. This anthology reprints several articles from the *Marine Corps Gazette* and the *Naval Institute Proceedings* that covered briefly the various aspects of the Marine participation in the war to include the advisory effort, the combat



and combat support experience, and the logistic sustaining of the Marine forces. The Division reprinted the anthology and bibliography in 1983, and issued in 1985 an expanded and revised edition to include new material.

Two other works also complement the operational histories and the anthology and bibliography. These are the functional histories, *Chaplains with Marines in Vietnam, 1968-1971* by Cdr Herbert J. Bergsma, USN, and *Marines and Military Law: Trial by Fire* by Marine LtCol Gary D. Solis, completed with the cooperation of the respective staff agencies. In each case, the sponsoring agency, in the former work, the Navy Chaplain Corps, and in the latter, the Marine Corps Judge Advocate Division, provided the author and the History and Museums division the resources and editorial direction. Bergsma's book was published in 1985 and Solis' in 1989.

The main Vietnam historical effort of the Division, however, remained the operational histories. The first volume in the series, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Advisory and Combat Assistance Era, 1954-1964*, came out

in 1977. Authored by Marine Reserve Capt Robert H. Whitlow, who had just completed his master's thesis at the University of Kentucky on the U.S. advisory period and was brought on active duty to serve with the Historical Division, this book covers in detail the activities of the Marine advisors to the Vietnamese Marine Corps, the deployment of the first helicopter squadrons to Vietnam as part of Task Force Shufly, and the various Vietnam-related preparations of Marine units in the Western Pacific.

The following year, 1978, the division published the second volume in the series, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Landing and the Buildup, 1965*. Co-authored by Jack Shulimson, the senior civilian historian on the Vietnam project, and Marine Major Charles M. Johnson, this book details Marine activities during that fateful year when the war escalated and the United States committed major American combat units to the conflict. The narrative traces the landing of the 5,000-man 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade and its transformation into the III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF), responsible for the war in Vietnam's I Corps, the five northern provinces of South Vietnam.

The third volume in the series, published in 1982 and authored again by Shulimson, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966*, continues the account of III MAF into its second year of the war. The year which had begun with hopes to consolidate the three Marine enclaves in Vietnam ended with two Marine divisions committed to the war and facing a new threat in the so-called demilitarized zone (DMZ) dividing the two Vietnams—the incursion of North Vietnamese regulars.

In 1984, the division issued its fourth volume in the series, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Fighting the North Vietnamese, 1967*. Authored by two Marine officers, LtCol Lane Rogers

and Maj Gary Telfer and one civilian, V. Keith Fleming, Jr., all of whom served in Vietnam, this work details the change in focus of the III MAF war. With the entry of North Vietnamese regulars into the DMZ, the Marines turned over most of southern I Corps to the U.S. Army's Task Force Oregon, which later became the Americal or 23d Infantry Division. Throughout the year, the 3d Marine Division fought a conventional large-unit war against the NVA in the DMZ. The 1st Marine Division based at Da Nang continued both offensive and pacification operations in that large populated base area.

Breaking chronology, the next book, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Vietnamization and Redeployment, 1970-71*, actually the seventh volume in the series but published in 1986, described the turnover of the III MAF bases to the U.S. Army and the redeployment of the large Marine units from Vietnam. Authored by Dr. Graham A. Cosmas, now a senior historian with the U.S. Army's Center of Military History, and LtCol (now MajGen) Terrence P. Murray, USMC,

the book not only tells of the withdrawal of Marine units from Vietnam, but also the strains placed upon the Marine Corps by a lengthy and inconclusive war.

Again published out of chronological sequence in 1988, the sixth volume in the series, authored by Charles R. Smith, a former Army enlisted historian with the 101st Airborne Division in 1969, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: High Mobility and Standdown, 1969*, begins the account of the Marine withdrawal of units from Vietnam. While during 1969, the 3d Marine Division conducted a series of mobile heliborne operations in Quang Tri Province including Operation Dewey Canyon which extended into Laos, it at the same time prepared to turn over its area of operations to the U.S. Army. By the end of November, the division had departed for Okinawa, leaving only the 1st Marine Division and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing as the Marine elements of III MAF. The Marine redeployment had begun.

The next two volumes, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The War that Would Not End 1971-1973*, and *U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Bitter End 1973-1975*,

came out respectively in 1991 and 1990 and treat the interim and final period when the large Marine units had departed. In the first of these, the two authors, LtCol Curtis G. Arnold (who wrote the initial draft) and Maj Charles D. Melson (who revised the text and brought the book to completion) have as their central theme the Communist Easter offensive of 1972. In northern I Corps, U.S. Marine advisors with the Vietnamese Marine Division played a prominent role in helping to maintain the Vietnamese division as a disciplined fighting force and still capable of bringing the fight to the enemy after its initial reverses. Marine air units also returned to Vietnam and then deployed to the "Rose Garden" base in Thailand for a short period to assist the South Vietnamese in containing the enemy offensive.

Similar to the 1971-1973 history, the 1973-1975 account was the collaboration of two Marine officers, Maj George R. Dunham and Col David A. Quinlan. Col Quinlan, who was a participant in some of the discussed events, provided the initial draft and Maj Dunham completed the task. This

*The final volume to be published in the Marine Corps' official histories of the war in Vietnam, The Defining Year, reflects the commitment of large numbers of Marines to the war and chronicles the many bloody encounters with the enemy, some of them major battles, of 1968. Below, in*

*February 1968 men of the 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, double-time across an exposed field during a search-and-destroy mission as part of Operation Kentucky near Con Thien.*

Department of Defense (USMC) Photo A650034



book describes the series of events leading to the disastrous end of the war and the Marine Corps' involvement in the subsequent evacuations from both Cambodia and Vietnam. Finally in a epilogue, it provides an account of the bizarre capture and recovery of the American container ship SS *Mayaguez* off Koh Tang Island that cost the Marines 14 lives.

This brings us up to the 1968 volume and its explication of the momentous events of that year, especially Tet, which determined that there would be no quick fix to the war. This book, however, documents that 1968 was more than just the Tet Offensive. The bloodiest month of the war for the U.S. forces was not January nor February 1968, but May 1968 when the Communists launched what was called their "Mini-Tet" offensive. This was followed by a second "Mini-Tet" offensive during the late summer which also was repulsed at heavy cost to both sides. By the end of the year, the U.S. forces in South Vietnam's I Corps, under the III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF), had regained the offensive. In December 1968, enemy-initiated attacks had fallen to their lowest level in two years.

Still, no one was about to predict victory and the Communists were far from defeated. The various "Tet" offensives had provided a benchmark for both sides, forcing both to reassess their strategies. After the last "mini-Tet," the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong scaled down their large-unit war, probably out of both weakness and the expectation that the Americans would eventually withdraw. While Tet was a military setback for the Communist forces with the decimation of the Viet Cong and many of their political cadre in the South, the American government, people, and military establishment also realized that there was a limit to American participation in the war.

Although largely written from the perspective of III MAF and the ground war in I Corps, the volume also treats the activities of Marines with the Seventh Fleet Special Landing Force, activities of Marine advisors to South

Vietnamese forces, and other Marine involvement in the war. Separate chapters cover Marine aviation and the Single Manager of Air controversy, artillery, logistics, manpower, and pacification.

As in most of the division's publications, this book is largely based upon the holdings of the Marine Corps Historical Center. These include the official unit command chronologies, after-action reports, message and journal files, various staff studies, oral histories, personal papers, and reference collections. In addition, the authors have used the holdings of the other Services and pertinent published primary and secondary sources. Most importantly, nearly 230 reviewers, most of whom were participants in the events, read draft chapters and made substantive comments.

As have most of the volumes in this series, the 1968 book has been a cumulative and cooperative history. LtCol Leonard A. Blasiol researched and wrote the initial drafts of the chapters on Khe Sanh as well as Chapters 17, 19, and 21 covering operations at Da Nang and southern I Corps following Tet and the account of Operation Thor in Chapter 26. Charles R. Smith researched and drafted Chapters 18, 20, and 22 relative to

operations in northern I Corps from July to December. Capt David A. Dawson researched and wrote the manpower chapter, Chapter 27. Dr. Shulimson researched and wrote the remaining chapters, edited and revised the entire text, and incorporated the comments of the various reviewers.

Dr. Shulimson heads the History Writing Unit and is a graduate of the University of Buffalo, now the State University of New York at Buffalo. He earned his master's degree in history at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and his doctorate from the University of Maryland, College Park, in American studies. Mr. Smith, is a senior historian in the Division, is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara, and received his master's degree in history from San Diego State University. LtCol Blasiol is an experienced artilleryman and a graduate of Tulane University, New Orleans, with a degree in history, and of the Marine Corps Command and Staff College. Capt Dawson holds a bachelor of arts degree in history from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; a master's degree in history from Kansas State University, Lawrence, and is now working for his doctorate at Ohio State University, Columbus. □1775□

*Gen Charles C. Krulak, Commandant of the Marine Corps, examines a copy of the new volume presented to him by Dr. Jack Shulimson, center, the primary author, and co-author Charles R. Smith.*



# Number of Historical Center Interns on Rise

by Charles R. Smith  
Historian

Since its tentative beginnings in the mid-1970s, the History and Museums Division's high school and college intern program has flourished. This past summer showed it to be continuing to grow. Funded by the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, which provides a small stipend of \$25 per day to defray incidental, lunch, and transportation expenses, the program consists of two categories of interns: those who perform their duties for college credit and those who volunteer on their own, with school recognition given for the experience they receive in the interchange with civilian archivists, curators, historians, and active-duty Marines. Since May, 15 interns have served in various offices throughout the division.

At the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico, interns have helped sort and regularize various collections of uniforms, weapons, and equipment. In the process, they often have cleaned and repaired the artifacts, and assisted in every aspect of the Museum's cataloging effort. This past summer, Erica Wickstrom, a junior majoring in social science secondary education at Humboldt State University in Eureka, California, assisted the regular staff in regularizing and reorganizing several collections and updating loans and entering data from the 1985-1990 accession records into

*Intern Erica Wickstrom, a senior at California's Humboldt State University where she is working on a degree in social science secondary education, assisted staff members in reorganizing several important collections at the Air-Ground Museum.*



*A sophomore majoring in business administration at Baltimore's Morgan State University, Ameri R. Barksdale worked in the Official Papers Unit where he assisted with records declassification and logging in and filing unit command chronologies.*

the Museum's REGIS computer system. A Civil War enthusiast, she was able to visit a number of the area's battlefields during her stay.

The remaining interns worked alongside staff members at the Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard. Assigned to the Reference Section, Justin P. Asher, a student in military history at the University of Maryland, College Park, assisted the reference historians with requests from researchers for muster rolls and unit diaries, biographical materials, casualty information, as well as information on a variety of Marine Corps subjects. To receive academic credit, he was required to write a 20-page paper on his experiences at the Center.

Working with staff members in the Official Papers Unit of the Archives Section were: Shana J. Swain of the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore in Princess Anne, Maryland; Ameri R. Barksdale and Kevin Coleman from Morgan State University in Baltimore; and a returning intern, Thomas A. Ferrell, a graduate in history from Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C. The unit's interns assisted with the declassification of documents, oversaw the delivery of

World War II and Vietnam War records to the Federal Records Center at Suitland, Maryland, and entered pertinent information into several of the unit's databases.

The largest number of students interned in the Center's Personal Papers Unit. Working under the unit's head, Amy C. Cohen, and Foundation volunteers were: Allison Crawford, a senior psychology major at Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey; Sgt Neil Peterson, USMC, from the Citadel, majoring in history; Cdt Duane Daunt, a history major at the U.S. Air Force Academy; James Corbin, a senior in history at Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin; Regina Timmons, a junior at Suitland High School in Maryland; and Maisha Harris, a junior in communications at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore. The unit's interns processed and inventoried a number of important collections, among them those of Commandants Greene, Cates, and Zeilin and Generals Geiger and Fuller, in addition to cataloging the Center's more than 5,000 Korean War photographs and arranging and entering individual maps of the more than 10,000-item map collection into the unit's Lotus Approach finding aid program.

The remaining three interns were assigned to three others of division's

*A student at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Missouri, Sarah M. Polak was assigned to the Oral History Unit, where she edited three career interviews in addition to aiding a large number of researchers.*





*Virginia Polytechnic Institute history major Terry M. Jones interned in the Art Unit where he helped in accessioning, inventorying, and conserving the division's large fine art collection.*

units. Terry M. Jones, a student at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University at Blacksburg, Virginia, accessioned, inventoried, document-

ed, and captioned works in the Center's more than 6,500-piece fine art collection. A student at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Sarah M. Polak was assigned to the Oral History Unit where she not only assisted researchers, but also edited transcripts and aided in establishing a new catalog interview retrieval system. James E. Cypher, a senior at Loyola University in New Orleans, assisted both the active-duty and civilian historians of the Center's History Writing Unit. The subject of his work varied with the number of on-going historical projects—from Vietnam to combat service support in Desert Shield and Desert Storm and Marine evacuation operations in West Africa.

While the individual investment in the program is small, the dividends

have been great. While here, the student interns play an important role in almost every aspect of the division's operations. They, in turn, not only learn about the Marine Corps and its history, but also see how professional archivists, historians, and curators operate. Although the pay is small, as one intern pointed out, "working with the Center, combined with living in Washington and meeting other intern students from all parts of the country, has proven to be one of the most valuable experiences of my undergraduate development. It has further consolidated my resolve to become a professional historian and expanded my interest in military history. Although some of my assignments were tedious,...that alone justifies my experience." □1775□

## Young Historians Win Fellowship Support

*by Charles R. Smith  
Historian*

In the eight years since reinstating its Fellowships Program, the Marine Corps Historical Foundation has reached out to young historians from coast to coast. In some of the most prestigious universities as well as in less well known schools, this support has helped to focus young scholars on the work of writing Marine Corps history.

The two dissertation fellowships awarded this year focus on the Corps of 70 years ago, but as the chairman of the Foundation's grants and fellowships committee, Col Gerald C. Thomas, Jr., USMC (Ret), noted: "both are relevant to modern concerns with the Pentagon's newly defined "Operations Other Than War." Whether in the Haiti or Dominican Republic of the 1920s or the Somalia or Bosnia of today, many tasks and concerns are the same and these forthcoming studies will have immediate relevance."

This year's recipient of the Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. Memorial Dissertation Fellowship is D'Arcy Brissman of Duke University. Her dissertation will examine the transformations that occur when occupation forces, with their dual roles a peace-

keepers and nation builders, collide with indigenous attitudes about the military. Specifically looking at the administration of the Marine occupation of Haiti, with which Gen Shepherd served for more than three years, may offer insights into the hidden difficulties of foreign military deployments.

Normally the Foundation awards a single dissertation fellowship, but due to the academic ability of the applicant and relevance of the topic, a second full fellowship was awarded to the University of Maryland's Rebecca A. Lord. Examining an often-neglected aspect of Marine Corps history, her study will trace the development and significance of public health policies implemented by Marine units during the American occupation of the Dominican Republic from 1916 to 1924. These public health reforms provides, as Ms. Lord notes, "a valuable insight into the powerful role the Marines played as arbiters of social change in the lesser developed regions of the Western Hemisphere."

The LtCol Lily Gridley Memorial Master's Thesis Fellowship was awarded to Christopher G. Suhre of Texas

Tech University. Working under the tutelage of the director of the university's Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict, he will be studying the Marine Corps' Combined Action Platoon Program in Vietnam. No novice to the study of Marine Corps history, Mr. Suhre spent a summer as a graduate intern in the archives section of the Marine Corps Research Center at Quantico. □1775□

*Recipient of a Foundation dissertation fellowship, Rebecca A. Lord will be examining Marine Corps-implemented public health policies in the Dominican Republic.*



# Gone Mad for Mamelukes in England and Scotland

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas  
Curator of Material History

While conferring with LtCol Charles H. Cureton, USMCR, during the research for an article on the British-made M1826 Mameluke Marine Corps officers' sword owned by ColComdt John Harris (see *Fortitudine*, Summer 1993), the extent to which the British Army used mameluke-type swords often came up in our conversations. Although we knew that British general officers; the diplomatic corps; at least one volunteer yeomanry regiment, the 17th Lancers; and the 15th and 18th Hussars wore this type of sword for full dress in the post-Napoleonic period, we were not certain if this was the limit of its use in Britain. In subsequent meetings with advanced sword collectors, this same question was raised, but not answered. Which British regiments actually carried this type of sword and what are the similarities and differences between the British mamelukes and the sword adopted by the Marine Corps in 1826?

Some of these questions were partially answered this past August when, thanks to an unexpected inheritance, I was able to take my family on a three-week trip to Great Britain. While this was intended as a "family" vacation, we were able to visit several sites which had mameluke swords on display and others which had new and exciting exhibit methods and concepts which I wanted to see for possible contributions to plans for the Marine Corps Museum. Visiting these museums would not be a problem, since our family vacations over the past six years have, for the most part, centered on military history sites: from Fort Taylor in Key West, Florida, to Fort Michilimackinac in Mackinaw, Michigan; and, from Fort Laramie in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to Fortress Louisbourg in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. In fact, my long-suffering wife (who refers to her honeymoon in 1971 as "60 nights in the back seat of a Volkswagen on the Western Front") has termed the other person in the



Photo by Linda Smith-Christmas  
*Members of the "military history voting bloc": curator Ken, son Ian, and daughter Cassandra tour the artillery emplacements at Bamburgh Castle in the north of England.*

front seat and both riders in the back seat as the "military history voting bloc."

Upon arrival at Heathrow, we drove our rental car (very judiciously!) to Windsor Castle, where, still suffering from jet-lag, we toured the extensive armory galleries after watching the 11 a.m. changing of the guard. In addition to several British cavalry mameluke sabers, there was a wonderful sampling of Indo-Persian *shamshirs*, the sword after which the European version of the "mameluke" is patterned. Further, there were at least two presentation mameluke

*The mameluke sword carried by the Warwickshire Yeomanry is very similar to this one dating to 1825 and donated in 1978 to the Marine Corps Museum in Washington, D.C., by J. H. Stutts.*

swords, both dating from the Napoleonic or Regency periods. Unfortunately, there were very few, if any, artifact labels, as the Victorian-style exhibits were set up more to impress the visitors from a visual standpoint, than to show the arms as artifacts.

Two days later we were at Warwick Castle, where the armory had a nearly exact copy of a mameluke-style saber which was donated to the Marine Corps Museum in 1978 and has been on exhibit in the Time Tunnel ever since. This sword had been acquired many years ago by the donor in an antique shop in Norfolk, Virginia, and we had always assumed that it was made in Britain. Now, I found that the Warwickshire Yeomanry (volunteer cavalry) carried a saber just like it. In addition to the mameluke, this armory has an extensive collection of interesting and curious ordnance items, as well as many of the standard British arms and medieval suits of armor. A visit to this castle is an all-day affair, as their living history interpretations of mounted knights and archers are worth hours, and the tour of the Duke of Warwick's private apartments (with exhibits by Madame Tussaud's) is an experience not to be missed.

On our next stop, we found yet another mameluke sword. This was a diplomatic sword (nearly identical to the Pattern 1831 British general officer's sword) which had been purchased in 1921 and carried by the father of a close friend whom we vis-

Photo by LtCol Charles V. Mugno, USMC





Photo by Linda Smith-Christmas  
*Dunvegan Castle in Scotland displays one mameluke sword, carried by a member of the McLeod family who served in India.*

ited in north Lincolnshire. The original owner of the sword, Professor L. W. Rushbrooke-Williams, had been a political advisor to the Maharajah of Kutch during the Prince of Wales' visit to India in 1921 and was required to wear the sword as part of his full-dress diplomatic uniform. His son, a former captain in the Rifle Brigade during World War II, had the sword hanging in his study, among his other collections of medals and badges and, after we examined the sword, agreed to have it photographed for our files. After a short drive northwards, we stopped in the city of York and went through the new Jorvik Viking Center, and picked up some ideas from their very effective museum exhibits. Unfortunately, our timing prevented us from visiting the new Royal Armouries at Leeds.

Farther on, at Bamburgh Castle on the north coast of England, a marvelous armory contained yet two more examples of British Napoleonic War-era mameluke swords. The castle was restored in the Victorian period by the famed inventor and industrialist, William George Armstrong, Baron Craggside, and is still occupied by the family. Situated on a high crag over the North Sea, it is impressive, not

only from the outside, but also in the museum collections. These included the armory, the collection of 18th and 19th century artillery on the ramparts, and a small museum dedicated to Armstrong's contributions to the development of ordnance.

Over the border in Scotland, we were pleasantly surprised to find a full-color reproduction of Col Charles Waterhouse's painting, the "Repulse of the Highlanders at New Orleans" prominently displayed in one of the exhibits at the regimental museum of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in Stirling Castle. The historical details for this painting, and many others, had been researched by the Marine Corps Museum staff for Col Waterhouse when he was working as the artist-in-residence with the History and Museums Division. In addition to the marvelous collections of Scottish basket-hilted broadswords, we found one mameluke sword, which had been presented to a junior officer of the regiment during the Napoleonic Wars, on display in this same area of the museum. The museum also boasted a very informative and evocative exhibit on World War I, as well as the impressive displays of mess silver and mementos which are the hallmark of all the British regimental museums. The visit to this castle also produced

some exciting exhibit ideas from the recently-opened "Medieval Kitchens" exhibition.

Our next stop was at the regimental museum of the famed 42d Royal Highland "Black Watch" in Perth, Scotland. Among the incredible array of significant artifacts on display, there were two mameluke swords in the exhibits: one was a Pattern 1831 general officer's sword, and the other one was very similar to our "Harris" sword. Further along in the museum, I was gratified to see that the U.S. Marine Corps was featured in their treatment of the Korean War. While viewing that exhibit, I was privileged to meet two other visitors, both "Black Watch" veterans of Korea, who were very complimentary about the contributions of the Marine Corps during the Korean War. They fondly reminisced about the time that their regimental pipes and drums serenaded the Marines of the 1st Marine Division during the celebration of the Marine Corps birthday in November 1952.

The next mameluke swords were found, actually by accident, in a museum which we were racing against the clock to visit. Since both children compete in Scottish fiddling contests, they had insisted on seeing the broken remains of James MacPherson's fiddle in the Clan

*Most of the British mamelukes encountered had ornate hilts, like the one on the Stutts donation in the Marine Corps Museum.*

Photo by LtCol Charles V. Mugno, USMC



MacPherson Museum on the road through the highlands to Inverness. MacPherson, a legendary fiddler and freebooter, had smashed it over a stone just before he was hanged, after composing a lament which is still very popular among all Scottish musicians. We found the fiddle, but also found two swords which had belonged to one of the clan who had risen to the rank of general after long service in India. In addition to his general officer's mameluke, he had also carried one with a dark grip, which appeared to be made from an amber-colored horn, instead of the usual ivory. The

MacPherson family numbered several notable military figures in its clan, and my daughter was able to conduct some research (with a very kind extension of their closing time) on the commanding officer of the 71st Highlanders at the 1781 Siege of Yorktown for an ongoing project of hers.

Several days later, we reached the Isle of Skye on the west coast of Scotland, and at Dunvegan Castle, we found our last mameluke sword. This sword was carried by a member of the MacLeod family serving in India dur-

ing the early 19th Century and was, again, very similar to the "Harris" sword in our collection. Although that was the last mameluke-type sword we encountered, we did see several other *shamshirs* in an assortment of Indian arms collected by the former Viceroy of India, Lord Curzon, in his ancestral estate at Kedleston, Derbyshire, before flying home from London a week later. Hopefully, some day, we can point interested researchers back to these swords and others to conduct the detailed research necessary for compiling a definitive work on the mameluke-style sword. □1775□

## New Books

# Alexander's *Fellowship of Valor* Major Corps History

by Evelyn A. Englander  
Historical Center Librarian

The library of the Marine Corps Historical Center receives many recently published books of professional interest to Marines. Most of these books are available through local bookstores and libraries.

*A Fellowship of Valor: The Battle History of the United States Marines.* Col Joseph H. Alexander, USMC, (Ret), with Don Horan and Norman C. Stahl. New York: Harper Collins, 1997. 413 pp. Col Alexander, author of *Utmost Savagery: Three Days of Tarawa, Storm Landings: Epic Amphibious Battles of the Central Pacific*, and co-author with Col Merrill L. Bartlett of *Sea Soldiers in the Cold War... 1945 - 1991*, as well as the volume on Tarawa in the World War II Commemorative Series, has written a readable history of the Marine Corps from the American Revolution through World War I and World War II, Vietnam, Desert Storm and the humanitarian relief expeditions in Haiti and Somalia. His narrative is accompanied by sidebars full of Marine Corps lore along with maps, illustrations, and combat photographs. Also available on video cassette from the History Channel (phone: 1-800-708-1776 to order the video) \$35.00 (for book)

*Making the Corps.* Thomas E. Ricks.



Col Joseph H. Alexander, USMC (Ret)

New York: Scribner, 1997. 320 pp. The author, Pentagon correspondent for the Wall Street Journal, traces the 63 recruits of platoon 3086 in 1995, from their respective homes to Parris Island, through Boot Camp there, and on into their first year as Marines. The vital role of the Drill Instructor in transforming young men into Marines is described. And though taking a different approach from *Fellowship of Valor*, Mr. Ricks too explains what is unique and special about the Marines and what sets these young men apart from their contemporaries and the rest of society right now. \$24.00

*Navy Football: Gridiron Legends and Fighting Heroes.* Jack Clary. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1997. 264 pp. Written by noted sports journalist Jack Clary, who has been involved with the history of Navy foot-

ball since publication of his book *Army vs. Navy* in 1965. This book describes Navy's football heroes, includes a history of the Army-Navy game, and provides play-by-play of many of Navy's most memorable games since their beginning in 1879, with illustrations, index, and bibliography. \$45.00

*The U.S. Marine Corps,* LtCol Charles H. Cureton, USMCR, London: Greenhill Books. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Stackpole Books 72 pp. Illustrated. Charles Cureton, a very active Marine Corps Reserve historian whose work is familiar to *Fortitudine* readers, has written this heavily illustrated book for the G.I. Series: *The Illustrated History of the American Soldier, His Uniform and His Equipment*, printed in Britain and published jointly by Greenhill and Stackpole Books. It offers a fine compendium of Marine uniforms through the years.—EHS

## New Books about Vietnam

*CAP Mot: the Story of a Marine Special Forces Unit in Vietnam, 1968 - 1969.* Barry L. Goodson. Denton, Texas: University of North Texas Press, 1997. 306 pp. (Vol 5, *War and the Southwest*) The story of the author's  
(Continued on page 15)



# Vogel Map Recreates 1906 Peking Legation Quarter

by BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret)  
Director Emeritus

A hand-drawn map of Peking's Legation Quarter, apparently drafted just six years after the Quarter was the scene of its famous siege by the Boxers, has been received from Mrs. Mary Barney Wortman Merrick.

Although undated, the map was almost certainly drawn by her father, the late MajGen Clayton Barney Vogel, who as a second lieutenant arrived in Peking on 18 September 1906 as part of the Marine detachment that relieved the Army as the guard at the American Legation.

The map measures 19 1/2 by 34 1/2 inches and is drawn in India ink on "tracing cloth" or glazed drafting linen. Such drawings were used as masters in the making of blue-prints.

General Vogel, always known as "Barney," was born in Philadelphia in 1882 and was commissioned in the Marine Corps after graduation from Rutgers University in 1904. He attended the School of Application, forerun-

ner of today's Basic School, at Annapolis, graduating in November 1905. At the School of Application he would have learned the rudiments of field sketching, drafting, and map making.

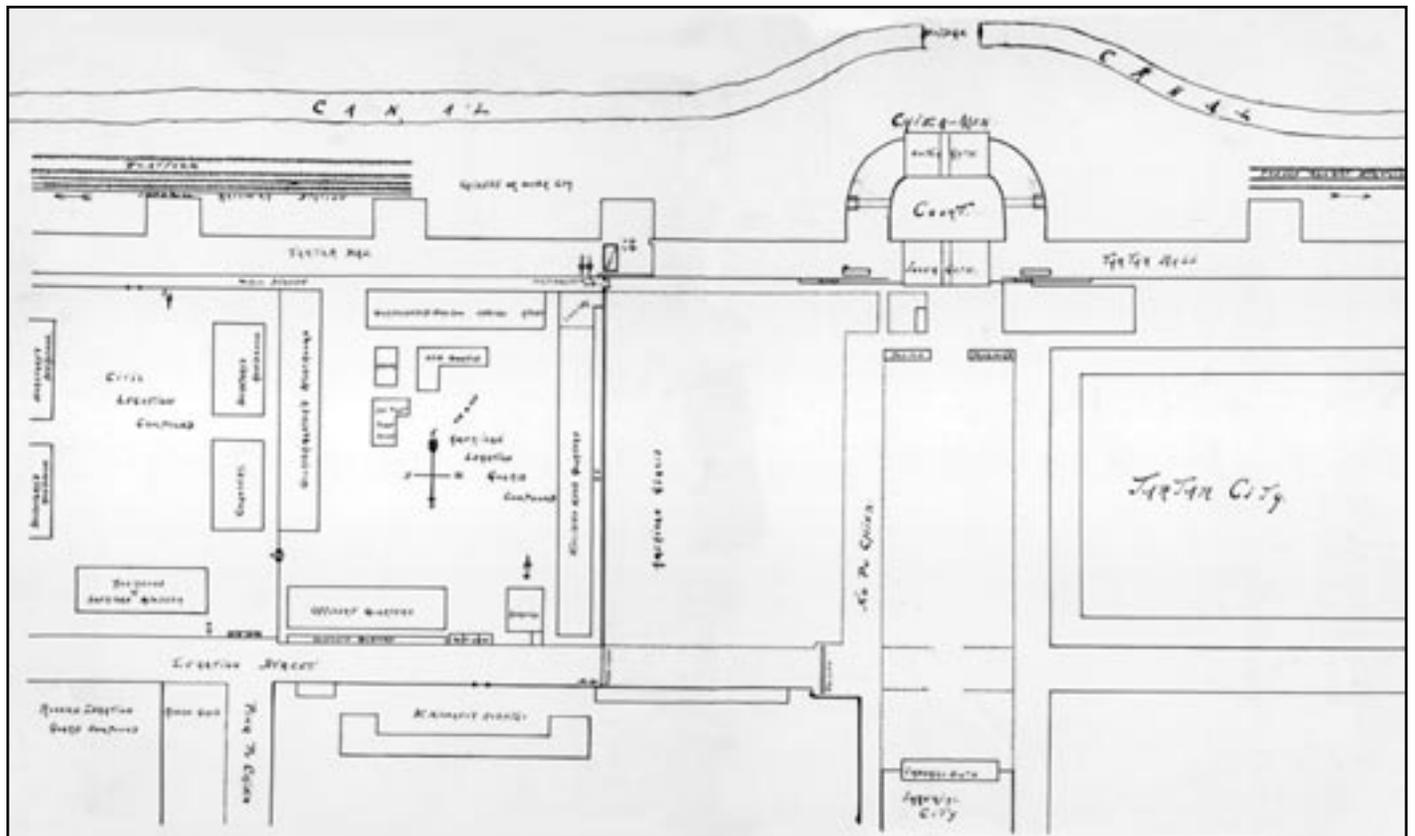
His map shows clearly such landmarks as the American Legation Guard compound as well as the Chien Men gate and Tartar Wall, both of which figured large in the defense of the Quarter by Capts John Twiggs "Handsome Jack" Myers and Newt H. Hall and their Marines in 1900.

The Vogel family, which has preserved the use of the name "Barney," is descended from Commo Joshua Barney of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 fame. At the battle for Bladensburg on 24 August 1814, Commo Barney commanded the naval brigade which included some 500 hundred seamen, five guns, and 103 Marines under Capt Samuel Miller from Marine Barracks, Washington.

The Americans, largely militia, lost the battle to the British, but Barney's seamen and Miller's Marines were the last to leave the field.

Gen Vogel, who would become known throughout the Corps for his conviviality, left Peking as a first lieutenant in 1909. Subsequently he would serve in "floating battalions" in such transports as the USS *Prairie* and *Dixie* and ashore in the Canal Zone and Cuba. He served two tours with the Garde d'Haiti and was its commandant in 1933-34. In February 1941 he became the first commanding general of the newly activated 2d Marine Division. During World War II, he commanded the 1st Marine Amphibious Corps headquartered in Noumea, New Caledonia, 1942-43. His final assignment was as commanding general at Parris Island from where he retired in January 1946. He died in 1964.

*The map drawn by MajGen Vogel as a young lieutenant was given to the Marine Corps Museum by his daughter.*



Mrs. Merrick, who is the youngest of Gen Vogel's three daughters, all of whom married Marine officers, was the wife of the late Col Harry D. Wortman, who as a lieutenant was her

father's aide at Parris Island. She is now married to Capt John L. Merrick, USN (Ret), who himself was an enlisted Marine before being commissioned in the Navy. Mrs. Merrick's gift to the

Center, in addition to the map, includes a number of significant photographs and a collection of military books from Col Wortman's library. □1775□

## Marines Ship Out Again on the Venerable *Constitution*

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas  
Curator of Material History

When the USS *Constitution* proudly sailed under her own power on the rolling Atlantic Ocean this past July, the U.S. Marine Corps was represented by a platoon of Marine Reservists from the Boston area in dress blue uniforms and 20 members of the "1797 Marine Detachment," a group of living-history enthusiasts clad in the uniform which was worn by Marines when the frigate was launched in 1797.

The staff of the Marine Corps Museum played an initial role in coordinating the activities of these units with the Commandant's Special Projects Directorate, a role that the museum staff has undertaken for the past 35 years.

In June, the museum staff at Quantico received a series of messages from Headquarters, Marine Corps, concerning the availability of "1812" historical pageant uniforms and muskets. While the staff was responding to Headquarters, a telephone call came in from J. Craig Nannos, a well-known historical consultant to the film industry and manufacturer of historical uniforms in Philadelphia, requesting patterns and information on "1812" Marine Corps uniforms so he could respond to the Special Projects Directorate. Contact was made with the project officer in the Commandant's office, and a meeting was quickly set up.

When this officer and an associate arrived at the Museums Branch offices in Quantico, they outlined the requirements for Marine Corps representation on board the *Constitution*. The staff immediately suggested that they establish a liaison with the famous 1797 Detachment and not try to hurriedly purchase reproduction uniforms and arms to outfit modern



Photo courtesy of the USS *Constitution* Museum  
*Museums Branch played its traditional liaison role between Headquarters Marine Corps and historical groups eager to have Marine participation in their activities. The USS Constitution, of course, needed no introduction to Marine leaders.*

Marines. Knowing that efforts required to properly outfit and train newcomers to the field of living history are not inconsequential, the decision was made to welcome the enthusiastic efforts of the 1797 Detachment. There was no reservation on the part of the museum staff, since they had helped the Detachment conduct research when it was founded in the mid-1980s, and had responded to inquiries from the unit over the intervening years. At the suggestion of the staff, the group had entered the competition for, and were awarded the Col John H. Magruder Award for excellence in museum presentations. At the same time, the Headquarters of the 25th Marines was suggested as a source for the current "1997" Marines, as they were in close proximity and had some permanent staff with prior experience in living-history programs.

By all accounts, the sailing event went well, and the Marine Corps was

well represented by both groups. A cordial understanding and division of duties was set up, with both units complementing the other in the tasks necessary to make the event the success that it was.

This success was not the first time that the staff of the Marine Corps Museum had become directly involved in living-history programs. In fact, the museum has been active in this area since the very inception of the concept of living-history programs, some 35 years ago.

If one excepts MajGen Smedley D. Butler's Civil War "re-enactments" at the Wilderness and Gettysburg in the early 1920s, the Marine Corps' first real support of living-history programs came with the role played by the museum's founder, Col John H. Magruder, in the 1959 re-enactment of John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Not only did the museum assist in the historical details, but



Photo courtesy of *Leatherneck Magazine*  
*A member of the 1797 Detachment shares an opinion on working a line with Cpl Scott Emery, one of the Reserve members of "MarDet USS Constitution." Living-history programs are a longtime interest of the branch.*

the Assistant Director of the museum, then-Maj David Schwulst, also played the part of Lt Israel Greene. It was during this time that Col Magruder was developing the very successful "Historical Period Uniform" program of reproduction uniforms which have been worn by active duty Marines in pageants and ceremonies. At that time, the reproduction uniforms were highly regarded by enthusiasts for their accuracy. During the Civil War Centennial, the museum staff assisted both Union and Confederate Marine Corps groups: Forney's Battalion (USMC) and the CSS Virginia Landing Party (CSMC), both of which had been formed some years before as competitive marksmanship teams in the North-South Skirmish Association.

The 1970s saw an increasing tempo of interest in the American Revolution, since the Bicentennial of the conflict took place between 1975 and 1983. In anticipation of the many requests for information, the then-director of the History and Museums Division, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, assigned the former Chief Curator of the Museum, Jack B. Hilliard, and the former Museum Registrar, Ms. Doris

Davis, to produce a "how-to" booklet on reproducing a complete Continental Marine Uniform. This publication, now out of print but eagerly sought after, drew on art work from the famed military artist, Mr. H. Charles McBarron, and research from Smithsonian staff member, Mr. Robert L. Klinger, a recognized authority in the field. A number of small "Continental Marine" detachments were further assisted by those staff members with special expertise in that era.

During this same time, the museum staff was also contacted at least monthly by individuals who were researching uniform details on mostly Civil War Marine uniforms, as a new hobby of "living history" had sprung up from the positive aspects of the Civil War Centennial re-enactments of the previous decade.

By the 1980s, the staff could count on several members who had taken part in living-history programs or were still active in the hobby. Former Registrar John H. McGarry was producing a program entitled "The History of the American Soldier" (with the author, also a former "re-enactor,"

as his stage manager) at National Park Service sites and for municipal celebrations. This program included about 30 participants, each uniformed at his own expense, representing the American fighting man from Jamestown to the present. It was also at this time that assistance was given to the Marine detachments of the *Constitution* and the *USS Constellation*, and several smaller groups representing Marines from the War of 1812 to World War I. At Quantico, John Griffiths joined the museums branch staff as the ordnance specialist and brought 30 years of experience in a very wide range of living-history programs with him to the job. At the same time, then-Cpl Francis H. Storer reported on board as a museum guard, bringing with him a wealth of expertise from his years of assuming the weekend identity of a Union soldier or a German soldier from World War I.

In this decade, the staff has given assistance to groups representing Marines from all periods, to include World War II. Most noteworthy are several Confederate Marine detachments, although calls and letters come in weekly for advice and help on a wide range of details on uniforms which span the centuries. □1775□

*Gen Richard I. Neal, the Marine Assistant Commandant, took a turn at the helm of the Constitution under full sail*

Photo courtesy of *Leatherneck Magazine*



# Blacksheep Flight Jacket Is in 'Ace' Condition

by Sgt Dieter Stenger  
Material History Section

The Marine Corps Museum's aviation collection includes individually rare and extraordinary pieces that are associated with many of the Corps' distinguished aviators and historically important events. One such fabled figure is Marine Maj Gregory "Pappy" Boyington, who may have been the highest scoring Marine ace of WWII, and Marine Corps history. After service with the famous Flying Tigers in China before war broke out in 1941, Boyington commanded the perhaps even more famous Marine Fighter Squadron VMF-214, the Blacksheep. The famed Blacksheep of VMF-214 were welded into a fearsome fighting unit through the leadership of the old man, "Pappy" himself, and use of their new aircraft, the F4U Corsair.

Newly accessioned into the Marine Corps aviation collection is a pristine and rare example of a Blacksheep flight jacket, donated on 26 August by Mrs. Marian Harrington, the widow of the late Maj James Clair Harrington, USMC (Ret). Received at the Marine Corps Historical Center at the Navy Yard, the sum of artifacts donated include a khaki summer flying jacket, a white silk aviator's scarf with the VMF-214 logo, and a sun or bush hat

*The Blacksheep flight jacket was worn by Maj James C. Harrington, USMC, who had the Distinguished Flying Cross and nine awards of the Air Medal, but flew only briefly with VMF-214 in 1952.*



made of camouflaged material that sports a gold embroidered USMC logo on a red background. The brown leather flight jacket, accented by a dark brown fleece collar, displays a variety of patches from the units that Maj Harrington belonged to; these include VMF-214, VMF-314, Task Force 79 FMF 7th Fleet, the Bombing Banshees, 1st MarDiv, and the 1st MAW. Although the jacket shows general light wear throughout, it is rare not only for artifacts to surface in such good condition, but also to be equipped with such highly desirable insignia. To fully complement the donation, and also to establish grounds for the artifact's importance to the collection, are four flight log books from World War II, Korea, and the Vietnam War.

On 2 July 1943, James Clair Harrington received his wings and a commission to second lieutenant at Pensacola, Florida. By February 1944, as the V Amphibious Corps under MajGen Holland M. Smith was securing such Japanese held island as Roi-Namur, Kwajalein, and Eniwetok in the Marshalls Islands, 2dLt Harrington arrived in the midst of the war in the Pacific and eased into training at Efate, New Hebrides. From there he was assigned to his first combat squadron, the Marine Scout-Bomber Squadron, (VMSB) 244, the Bombing Banshees. VMSB-244 was one of ten squadrons that made up MAG-24, which helped attack and beat off Japanese ground forces around the Bougainville Perimeter. 2dLt Harrington's first mission was flown on 17 May 1944, in an SBD-5, for a strike against the Japanese Vunakanau airfield at Rabaul. Approximately one year later, 1stLt Harrington had completed his combat duty and returned to the U.S. to undergo training as a flight instructor, ending the war with 47 strike missions

of 54 total missions flown, while sustaining half a dozen enemy hits to his aircraft and losing one co-pilot (wounded) to enemy antiaircraft fire.

After suffering a serious spinal injury that grounded him in 1948 for almost one year, Lt Harrington requested, and was granted in August 1949, assignment to VMF-312, the Checkerboards. On 25 June 1950, the North Korean People's Army invaded South Korea, thus beginning the war in Korea for Americans. From April until October 1951, Capt Harrington flew for VMF-312 in the F4U-4B "Corsair" for 66 combat missions that involved providing ground troops close air support, cutting railroad lines, and bombing and strafing military targets throughout the Korean peninsula.

After Capt Harrington's successful tour in Korea, he returned to the U.S. in January 1952 for assignment to the Blacksheep VMF-214 Squadron. After his brief attachment to VMF-214, he then proceeded to the MAMS-31, 3d MAG, 3d MAW, in Miami, Florida, where he underwent training until June 1953, when he reported to Atsugi, Japan. Based on the flight logs that are somewhat sketchy, it is presumed that he was assigned to VMF-314, the Bob's Cats. On the mainland, Harrington learned to fly the F9F-4 Panther (the first to fly a Marine mission over Korea is on display at the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico). After approximately one year of overseas duty with VMF-314, Capt Harrington returned to Miami, Florida. Based on the records, throughout the war in Vietnam, Maj Harrington did not deploy for combat duty. His career as a pilot is noteworthy for its range of experience. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with eight gold stars. □1775□

# On a 'Trunk Trek' with a Museums Branch Mission Team

by 1stLt Darren S. Boyd, USMC

Operations/Security Officer, Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum, Quantico

The Museums Branch acquired an artifact of historical importance to the Marine Corps this summer: a late 1700s or early 1800s sea chest said to have been the property of the Fifth Commandant of the Marine Corps, BGen Archibald Henderson. Following is the story of the trip by Museum representatives to West Virginia to pick up the chest and the interesting things that happened along the way.

The Marine Corps Museum originally was to take possession of this chest in 1972. Descendants of Gen Henderson, who live along the Ohio River in Williamstown, West Virginia, contacted us then and offered to donate the chest to the Marine Corps collection. Special Projects Curator Richard A. Long made the over-mountain journey from Quantico to accept the donation and was stymied when he arrived and found that the potential donors had had a change of heart and no longer wanted to part with this significant piece of their family history. Long returned to Quantico empty-handed.

Fast-forwarding 25 years to the present, the Museum was once again contacted by the family, who again expressed the desire to donate the chest to the collection. Despite some mild apprehension over whether the family's decision was now a firm one, Material History Curator Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas decided to make the trip to Williamstown and asked me to come along. However, it was Mrs. Jennifer Castro, the Museum registrar, who explained to me exactly where we would be going and what we would be doing. I studied to be a historian myself, so that when she did this, all I could say was, "Cool!"

In the following days we notified the Public Affairs Division of HQMC of our planned trip and were pleased to have a Marine writer from the Washington, D.C. Barracks at 8th and I Streets, S.E., assigned to make the trip with us. On the appointed day, Mr. Smith-Christmas and I, with motel



*The sea chest, at front on the porch at 'Henderson Hall,' is discussed by Henderson descendant Michael Rolston, left, Lt Boyd, and Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas.*

reservations, government van, and government gas credit card, paused at the main gate of the Barracks to be joined by Cpl Jerry Pierce before heading for the open road and the countryside beyond.

We had accrued a secondary mission in addition to our visit to the Henderson descendants: we first were to drop off a box of reproduction uniforms in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Mr. Smith-Christmas had business to conduct in that regard with the National Park Service unit there, so he suggested that Cpl Pierce and I roam around the historic town for an hour or so. He dropped us off right at the spot where John Brown and fellow abolitionists had holed up and had to be ousted by Marines. From here we walked over the railway bridge to the other side of the river where we studied the remains of the old canal and lock system. We crossed back over the river and climbed up the steep hill to the Catholic church which overlooks the town and then continued on up past the remains of the Episcopal church which was used as a hospital

during the Civil War. Further still was Jefferson's Rock, which afforded us a spectacular view of the valleys and the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers. President Jefferson said he would have come from Europe just to see it!

As prearranged, Cpl Pierce and I met Mr. Smith-Christmas at the Hilltop House restaurant where we ate a great lunch with *another* spectacular view of the valley and the Shenandoah River. Within 20 minutes of leaving Harpers Ferry we turned onto a road that reminded me of a roller coaster. Up and down and around curves, going cross-country to meet the highway which eventually would take us to Williamstown.

Williamstown, when we got there, appeared to be in the "middle of nowhere." However, as the receptionist at the Days Inn told us, there were many places to visit "just down the road." One such, a Lonestar Steakhouse, was the dinner choice of Cpl Pierce and myself, and Mr. Smith-Christmas companionably joined us. A special event of the evening was a line formed surrounding the seating area by every waitress in the establishment. Country music was turned up and they all began to line dance, a happy conclusion to a pleasant evening.

Finishing up, we paid our bill, gathered in the van for the return to our motel, and decided to stop for gas for the government vehicle. I pumped and Mr. Smith-Christmas went to pay with the government credit card, a useless item since he had been given the wrong PIN—personal identification—number, which caused him to have to pay out-of-pocket.

We retreated to our rooms for sleep before the next day's early start (me in dress blues) on the road to the "other" Henderson Hall, the Henderson family's historic home, where we had an appointment with Mr. Michael Rolston, great-great-great grandnephew of BGen Archibald Henderson and the

current proprietor of the estate.

Mr. Rolston met us on the front porch of the beautiful, white-framed house, the sea chest squarely at his feet. With him was a reporter for a local newspaper. We were elated to see this welcome, since it seemed to indicate that this time the Museum would be getting the chest. We talked for a few minutes about the general history of the chest and how long it had been in the family, before officially taking possession of it in the name of the Corps. We posed for the requisite newspaper pictures, shook hands, and signed all the necessary papers, then carefully loaded the heavy artifact into the van.

Mr. Rolston invited us on a tour of the old house, where he is a full-time resident. It is in amazingly good condition and it was obvious that a lot of care has gone into it ever since it was built. We toured all three floors and also visited the attic overlook. By now a second reporter had arrived and we promised to pull the chest back out for a second round of photos. Dark clouds were rolling in and lightning was crackling on the other side of the Ohio, but we backed the van up to the side porch, muscled the chest out, were photographed, and

reloaded the cargo. After that we said our thank-yous, and goodbyes, and headed out into the squall.

After three hours of driving slowly up and down hill, we still had not escaped the storm, nor the necessity to dodge debris blown into the road by high winds. We pulled off in the downpour for a quick lunch and found the weather clearing nicely as we emerged.

After depositing Cpl Pierce at his location, it was smooth sailing into Quantico. We had wanted to exhibit our prize to everyone at the Museum,

but by now it was after seven o'clock in the evening, so Mr. Smith-Christmas and I unloaded the sea chest and placed it in the middle of the facility's Conference Room table.

We had an inspired moment: The chest has a lock and key and we decided to hide the key in my office. We wondered how many of the Museum's curatorial staff would test the lock secretly and think we had failed to bring the key back with us. Turned out, nearly all of them! □1775□

*The first Henderson Hall, begun in 1836, is a county landmark in Williamstown, West Virginia.*



## Answers to the Historical Quiz

### Marines in World War I

*(Questions on Page 15)*

1. 2dLt Ralph Talbot and GySgt Robert G. Robinson were both awarded Medals of Honor for actions on the European front during World War I.
2. He is reported to have said, "Come on you sons of bitches! Do you want to live forever?"
3. The Twelfth Commandant of the Marine Corps, MajGen George Barnett, served in that position from 25 February 1914 to 30 June 1920.
4. Then-Maj Alfred A. Cunningham also received the Navy Cross for his services with the Northern Bombing Group.
5. LtCol Earl H. Ellis prepared the plan for the assault on Blanc Mont, and earned four decorations, which included the French Croix de Guerre and the Navy Cross, for his outstanding staff duties.
6. Eight Medal of Honor recipients, with five of the eight receiving both Army and Navy Medals of Honor.
7. The 5th and 6th Marines were awarded the Fourragere by the French Ministry of War. Those units cited two or more times in the French Orders of the Army were authorized to wear the Fourragere while serving in that unit only.
8. Five Commandants saw action in Europe: Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Gen Clifton B. Cates, Gen Thomas Holcomb, MajGen Wendell C. Neville, and LtGen John A. Lejeune.
9. Then-BGen Smedley D. Butler served in France until August 1919 without seeing combat duty, assuming command of Camp Pontanezan, Brest, France.
10. MajGen John A. Lejeune commanded the 2d Division from July 1918 to August 1919.

## January - October 1898

by Robert V. Aquilina  
Assistant Head, Reference Section

A number of significant historical anniversaries will be commemorated throughout the Marine Corps during 1998, including the 30th anniversary of the Tet Offensive (1968) in Vietnam; the 80th anniversary of the Battle for Belleau Wood; and the 100th anniversary of the Spanish-American War (1898). To help our readers to better understand the events of these years, *Fortitudine's* Chronology will report upon the more significant events of those memorable years of Marine Corps history. Our first installment will travel back to 1898, as worsening relations between the United States and Spain threaten to erupt into open hostilities.

**1 Jan** - U.S. Marines were serving on board the various ships of the North Atlantic squadron which assembled 1-12 January off Dry Tortugas, Gulf of Mexico, because of political disturbances in Cuba.

**7 Feb** - Marines and seamen from the USS *Alert* landed at San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, to protect American lives and property during a period of political unrest.

**15 Feb** - Twenty-eight Marines lost their lives when the battleship USS *Maine* mysteriously exploded and sank in the harbor of Havana, Cuba.

**21 Apr** - The United States declared war on Spain.

**22 Apr** - The 1st Marine Expeditionary Battalion of 24 officers and 623 enlisted Marines, commanded by LtCol Robert W. Huntington, sailed from New York on board the USS

*Capt Francis W. Dickens, left, and Lt Austin R. Davis, here on the deck of the USS Oregon, on 7 June led 40 of the ship's Marine detachment ashore at Guantanamo to search for a suitable landing area for the 1st Marine Battalion.*



*Panther* via Key West, Florida, for Cuba.

**1 May** - During the Battle of Manila Bay, Marines manned the secondary batteries on board ships of Commodore George Dewey's squadron.

**3 May** - Marines from the USS *Baltimore*, commanded by 1stLt Dion Williams, landed at Manila, Philippine Islands, and raised the American flag.

**4 May** - A Naval Appropriation Act provided for the additional enlistment of 473 men for permanent service to bring the Marine Corps up to its authorized strength of 3,063 men, and also provided for the rank of the Commandant of the Marine Corps to be raised to brigadier general.

**11 May** - Marines and seamen from the USS *Marblehead* cut the transoceanic cable off Cienfuegos, Cuba.

**12 May** - Marines manned the secondary batteries on board ships of the North Atlantic squadron during the bombardment of San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**31 May** - Marines serving with Adm William P. Sampson's fleet assisted in the bombardment of the Spanish fortress at Morro Castle, Santiago, Cuba.

**7 Jun** - The 1st Marine Battalion embarked on the USS *Panther* for Cuba from its temporary camp at Key West, Florida.

**7 Jun** - Marines from ships of Adm William P. Sampson's fleet landed at Playa del Este, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and destroyed a cable station.

**10 Jun** - The 1st Marine Battalion landed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, together with the Marine guard of the USS *Oregon*.

**12 Jun** - The Marine guard of the USS *Texas* reinforced Marines ashore at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and assisted in the defense of Camp McCalla.

**14 Jun** - Two companies of Marines, commanded by Capt George F. Ellicott, along with 50 Cubans, defeated a Spanish force at Cuzco, near Guantanamo, and destroyed the only Spanish water source near Guantanamo Bay.

**16 Jun** - Marines manned the secondary batteries of ships of the North Atlantic Squadron during the bombardment of Santiago, Cuba.



*The Marine Guard at the Portsmouth Naval Prison in August of 1898, guarded Spanish prisoners of war. The officer in dress jacket at right is believed to be Lt Smedley D.*

*Butler, recently returned from Cuba with Huntington's Battalion.*

**22 Jun** - A detachment of Marines and seamen from the USS *Charleston* landed at San Luis de Apra, Guam, to take possession of the island for the United States.

**30 Jun** - The active duty strength of the Marine Corps was 3,579, including 98 officers and 3,481 enlisted men.

**3 Jul** - Marines manned the secondary guns on board ships of the Atlantic fleet when the Spanish fleet was sunk off Santiago, Cuba.

**7 Jul** - Four officers and 114 enlisted Marines, commanded by Col James Forney, comprised the Marine guard at Camp Long, Seavey's Island, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, which was established to detain Spanish prisoners.

**11 Jul** - The centenary of the Marine Corps, which marked the Act of Congress establishing the Marine Corps as a permanent branch of the national service, was appropriately noted by the Secretary of the Navy.

**27 Jul** - Marines commanded by 1stLt H. C. Haines landed from the USS *Dixie* at Playa del Ponce, Puerto Rico, and raised the American flag for the first time over the island.

**9 Aug** - The 1st Marine Battalion sailed from Guantanamo. *The battleship USS Maine enters the harbor of Havana, Cuba. She mysteriously exploded and sank in the same har-*

Bay, Cuba on board the USS *Resolute* for Manzanillo, Cuba.

**10 Aug** - Thirty-seven Marines commanded by 1stLt John A. Lejeune landed from the USS *Cincinnati* at Cape San Juan, Puerto Rico, to protect a lighthouse previously seized by United States forces.

**12 Aug** - Marines from the USS *Mohican* and the USS *Philadelphia* participated in ceremonies at Honolulu, Hawaii, incident to the Hawaiian Islands becoming a territory under the jurisdiction of the United States.

**13 Aug** - The 1st Marine Battalion, on board the USS *Resolute*, was in the process of landing to seize the town of Manzanillo, Cuba, when word was received of the armistice ending the Spanish-American War.

**22 Aug** - Marines returning from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, marched to the White House to be reviewed by President William F. McKinley.

**26 Oct** - A Marine Barracks was established at the Naval Station, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**27 Oct** - The Marine Band and two battalions of Marines from east coast barracks and ships' detachments took part in the Peace Jubilee in Philadelphia. □1775□

*bor on 15 February 1898, giving rise to sharp public outcry in the United States.*



## Photo Album Donation Evokes a Marine Era

by Frederick J. Graboske  
Head, Archives Section

One of the most recent donations to the Personal Papers Unit came from John B. Offley of Williamsburg, Virginia. The item donated is a photograph album of Mary Cleland Nelson Offley documenting her 1925 visit to her aunt and uncle in Haiti. Katharine Heaton Offley Fuller and BGen Ben Hebard Fuller. Gen Fuller then commanded the First Brigade, United States Marines, at Port-au-Prince. He later served as Commandant from 1930 to 1934.

Gen Krulak, in his letter accepting the album on behalf of the Marine Corps, commented that the album "is a real treasure". There are photos of BGen Fuller and "some terrific photos of the Marine Barracks and points of interest on Haiti."

One of the most interesting photos is one of then-Maj H. M. Smith in a playful moment. He is wearing a cafton and lifting a young woman

identified as "Babe" Stewart. Gen Smith is the current Commandant's godfather. In addition to these items of interest to USMC history there are plenty of photos of Ms. Offley's social

activities on the island. She was 20 years old at the time of her visit and, as the commanding general's niece, must have received quite a bit of attention. □1775□

*BGen Ben H. Fuller, third from left, was both uncle and host to Mary Offley during her 1925 visit to his post in Haiti. Fuller went on to become Commandant of the Marine Corps, 1930-1934.*

