

FORTITUDINE

BULLETIN OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

HISTORICAL BULLETIN VOLUME XXIX, NUMBER 1

2001



HERITAGE CENTER ARCHITECT. . . DIVERSITY EFFORTS DOCUMENTED. . . COMBAT ART IN KOREA. . . 1999 CHRONOLOGY. . . "HOWTAR" RESTORED. . . BOXER REBELLION MEDAL HISTORY 101. . . REVIEW OF "MARINE TANK BATTLES". . . QUOTES FROM KOREAN WAR

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

PCN 10401220100

PASS THIS ISSUE ON
TO ANOTHER MARINE



HISTORY AND MUSEUMS DIVISION

Marine Corps Historical Center
Building 58, Washington Navy Yard
1254 Charles Morris Street, Southeast
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5040
Telephone (202) 433-3534

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret)

DIRECTOR

Col John W. Ripley, USMC (Ret)

Secretary to the Director:

Ms. Kristen M. Reed

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR

HISTORICAL BRANCH

Branch Head/Chief Historian: Mr. Charles D. Melson.
History Writing Unit: Mr. Charles R. Smith; Maj Raymond J. Vanden Berghe, USMC; Dr. David B. Crist; Mrs. Wanda F. Renfrow. *Oral History Unit:* Mr. Fred H. Allison. *Reference Section:* Mr. Danny J. Crawford; Mr. Robert V. Aquilina; Miss Lena M. Kaljot; Mrs. Shelia Gramblin. *Archives Section:* Mr. Frederick J. Graboske; Miss Christine T. Laba.

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. *Material History:* Mr. Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas. *Ordnance:* Mr. Dieter Stenger. *Aeronautics:* Mr. Michael E. Starn. *Uniforms:* Mr. Neil Abelsma. *Restoration:* Mr. Mitch Garringer; Sgt Vibol Svy, USMC; Sgt Cedric D. Wheeler, USMC; Cpl Adrian Garcia, USMC. *Exhibits:* Mr. James A. Fairfax; Mr. Gordon Heim, Mr. Ronnie D. Alexander. *Registrar:* Mrs. Jennifer L. Castro. *Marine Corps Art Collection:* Mr. John T. Dyer, Jr. *Programs Assistant:* Mrs. Kathryn R. Trout. *Operations/Security:* Capt Jimmy Scott, USMC; Sgt E. R. Brown, USMC; Sgt J. H. Cheek USMC; Sgt Yaron T. Reed, USMC; Sgt B. L. Stroman, USMC; Cpl Fidel C. Nunez, USMC; Cpl Patrick D. Symecko, USMC; Cpl J. H. Vantroostenberghe, USMC; LCpl Anthony W. Knode, USMC.

SUPPORT BRANCH

Branch Head/Division Executive Officer: LtCol Leon Craig, Jr., USMC. *Editing and Design Section:* Vacant; Mr. William S. Hill; Mrs. Catherine A. Kerns. *Library:* Miss Evelyn A. Englander. *Administration:* 1stLt Katrina D. Patillo, USMC; Sgt Gordan N. Gipson, USMC; Sgt Joslyn V. Benjamin, USMC; Sgt Cassius B. Cardio, USMC; Cpl Timothy B. Hasselbring, USMC; Cpl Adrian J. Baldwin, USMC; LCpl Lukiya K. Walker, USMC, LCpl Joanbel M. Echeniquegomez, USMC. *Security Chief:* GySgt Michael D. Cousins, USMC.

Editor-in-Chief

LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR

FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Vol. XXIX, No.1

2001

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

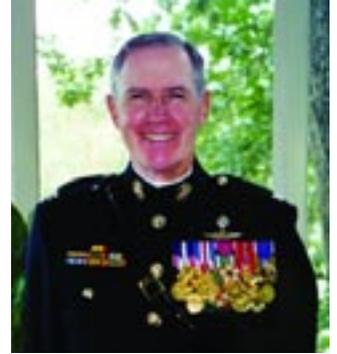
Memorandum from the Director: Fortitudine Gets New Uniform <i>Col John W. Ripley, USMC (Ret)</i>	3
Heritage Center: Heritage Center Searches for Architects <i>LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR</i>	4
History Writing: Marine Efforts Enhanced Diversity in the Officer Corps <i>Charles R. Smith</i>	5
Combat Art: Combat Artists in the Korean War <i>John T. Dyer, Jr.</i>	6
Oral History: The Korean War Oral History Collection <i>Fred H. Allison</i>	8
Exhibits: Excellence in Exhibit Design <i>James A. Fairfax</i>	9
Archives: Declassification at HD <i>Frederick J. Graboske</i>	10
Ordnance Collection: Vietnam Era "Howtar" Restored <i>Dieter Stenger</i>	11
History 101: A Tour of the Historical Branch <i>Charles D. Melson</i>	12
Marine Corps Chronology: 1999 Annual Chronology (Part 1) <i>Ann F. Ferrante</i>	14
Aviation Collection: Early Aviation Flight Equipment <i>Michael E. Starn</i>	16
Field History: Marine Reserve Historians and How They Grew <i>BGen Edwin H. Simmonds, USMC (Ret)</i>	17
In Memoriam: Major General Platt, a Veteran of Three Wars <i>Robert V. Aquilina</i>	18
Historical Quiz: Quotes from the Korean War <i>Lena M. Kaljot</i>	19
Uniform and Heraldry Collection: Boxer Rebellion Medal of Honor Donated to Museum <i>Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas</i>	20
Books in Review: Marine Tank Battles in the Pacific <i>LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR</i>	21
Book Notes: Books, CDs, and Videos about the Korean War <i>Evelyn A. Englander</i>	22
Answers to the Historical Quiz: Quotes from the Korean War <i>Lena M. Kaljot</i>	23

ABOUT THE COVER

During the Korean War, then-2dLt H. Avery Chenoweth served as a platoon commander in the 1st Marine Division. In that capacity, he participated in some of the first combat operations involving helicopters. Soon after, the former Yale and Princeton art student sketched his experiences. More than a quarter century later, in 1978, now-Col Chenoweth produced a series of paintings based upon those initial drawings. "That Way!" depicts Marines debarking from HRS-1 helicopters in the landing zone and heading out to their assigned positions. Other paintings from Col Chenoweth's Korean service are featured in the Combat Art section in this issue.

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

Fortitudine Gets New Uniform



Col John W. Ripley, USMC (Ret)

Regular readers will notice a significant change in this issue which had been desired for some time—color. Actually the last issue of *Fortitudine* had a less noticeable change as well, a new format that permits more articles covering a wider range of topics, for which we have already received compliments. We continue to provide you with material that we hope is enjoyable, but also much more. If it is helpful and informative, and permits you to better understand your Historical Division and Center, then this is the real prize.

Of the many things happening here, emerging as the most important, time consuming, and certainly exciting is the rapid march of the development of the Heritage Center. Whereas the opening date is still some four and a half years away, we must focus on the here and now in order to meet that rapidly approaching deadline. To this end we must add to the Division staff more historians, museum personnel, curators, restoration and exhibition specialists, and the long list of support personnel that simply never get noticed, but without which none of this would work. The quality and valued service of our employees is enviable, but not altogether a happy situation in some cases, as when they are attracted away to serve in other agencies. We are naturally happy for them, but must begin the hiring process with the hope that the new person will learn quickly and eventually be the match of the person they are replacing.

A perfect example is Mrs. Ann Ferrante, who has worked in our Reference Section for almost two decades. Since joining us nearly 20 years ago, Ann has performed outstanding service to the Division and to

the Marine Corps. She has assisted many active-duty Marines, Marine veterans and their families, as well as countless others who have sought to learn more about our Marine Corps history. During this time she has provided exemplary support to hundreds of Marine units around the globe and skillfully coordinated the Marine Corps' Lineage and Honors program. Ann is moving on this summer to another position with the federal government. Her passion, professionalism, and complete dedication to her job have been a great example to us all and she will be sorely missed.

Marines care about their history. . . . More than any other service the Marine Corps fully integrates its history, and not just battle history, into every curriculum at every school, formal or informal.

Many other special positions critical to our success—such as fiscal, budget, legal, logistics, and so forth—reside outside the History and Museums Division in other sections of Headquarters Marine Corps. Often such specialists heretofore have had little to do with Marine Corps history, but must now help us in a very big way. And they are helping mightily. Central to everything — and incredibly fortuitous — is the direct and obvious support of the Commandant and Assistant Commandant. It is beyond lip service. It is the high-octane fuel that keeps the propellers moving and the morale high. Room here does not

permit examples of the type of help our two top leaders have given us, but their efforts have had a powerful impact and will do much in making us ready for the preparations—formidable indeed—to get us to opening day.

This leads me to an inescapable but not often heard conclusion; one that I realized in the past as a serving Marine, although I did not then appreciate the depth and scope of it. Simply put, Marines care about their history. They are adamant that it be recorded properly, and when it is retold, or displayed in a museum, it had better be right. More than any other service the Marine Corps fully integrates its history, and not just battle history, into every curriculum at every school, formal or informal. Our NCOs and junior Marines can accurately refer to Corps history in ways that would somewhat amaze the more seasoned staff NCO's and officers. Ask them sometime and see for yourself.

All of this adds greater emphasis and excitement to the prospect of a world-class Heritage Center—a museum and related facilities where Marines young and old can display their history, as well as the part they played in it, to all Americans.

We have recently lost the services of another longtime employee, Mr. Robert Struder, our editor and head of the Editing and Design section. He played a prominent role in giving birth to a long line of Division historical publications and numerous issues of *Fortitudine*. His eye for detail and his keen grasp of the English language ensured that every piece went to press only after a thorough scrub. He retired from the government in June, having served at the History and Museums Division for 22 years. □1775□

Heritage Center Searches for Architects

by LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR
Deputy Director

Progress toward realization of the Heritage Center remains on a steady path. The architectural design phase passed an important milestone in March when the Marine Corps announced the four finalists in the competition. The chosen firms all bring significant museum design experience to the task. Fentress Bradburn Architects hails from Denver, Colorado. Its resume includes the National Museum of Wildlife Art and the Buffalo Bill Historical Center addition, both in Wyoming; the National Cowboy Hall of Fame expansion in Oklahoma; the Air Zoo Museum in Michigan; and the Museum of Western Art and the Black American West Museum, both in Colorado. Hellmuth, Obata & Kassebaum of Washington, DC, has been responsible for several historical projects. They include the College

Park Aviation Museum in Maryland, the forthcoming Udvar-Hazy Center of the National Air & Space Museum in Virginia, the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, and the expansion of the Missouri Historical Society Museum in St. Louis. Leo Daly, a national firm with offices in Washington, DC, designed the Strategic Air Command Museum in Nebraska; the USS *Forrestal* Sea, Air, Space Museum in Florida; the USS *New Jersey* Museum and Memorial in New Jersey; the Museum of Archeology in Mexico; and the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, DC. Tuck Hinton Architects, a Tennessee firm, designed the Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum, the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, and the Tennessee World War II memorial, all in Nashville; as well as the Wings of Liberty Museum

at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

The Heritage Center Project Office will host a session in Quantico before the summer for all finalists. The architectural firms will receive details on Marine Corps requirements for the building and the site, and will have the opportunity to walk the actual ground. They are scheduled to respond with their visionary proposals for the Heritage Center later in the summer.

A companion process to select an exhibit design firm is also underway. The two winners will work closely with the History and Museums Division and other interested parties to ensure that the resulting Heritage Center is a world-class facility that captures the essence of the Marine Corps' contributions to the history of our Nation. □1775□

This drawing depicts one of the early concepts for the Heritage Center. By the end of 2001 an architectural firm will be under contract to develop a final design for Phase I of the future home of the History and Museums Division.



Marine Efforts Enhanced Diversity in the Officer Corps

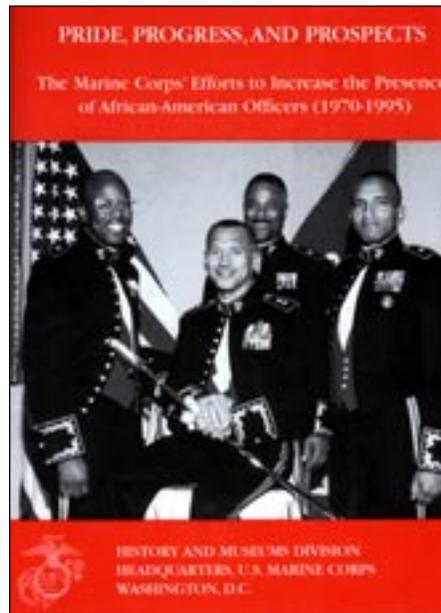
by Charles R. Smith
Head, History Writing Unit

Prior to President Harry S. Truman's 1948 executive order to integrate all the military services, African-Americans had served primarily in segregated units in the Marine Corps. The Corps entered the Korean War as an integrated force and African-Americans served in most combat and support units and saw action in all major combat operations during that conflict.

In June 1950, more than 1,500 African-American Marines were on active duty, equaling about two percent of the strength of the Marine Corps. Three years later, as the war drew to a close, there were 14,700 African-American Marines, representing about six percent of the Marine Corps' total strength. The growth in the number of African-American Marines not only reflected the manpower demands of the war, but also the combat performance of African-American Marines in integrated units.

While there were thousands of African-American enlisted men who served in Korea, there were only a few officers. 1stLt William K. Jenkins, the first African-American officer to lead Marines in combat, served as platoon leader with Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines. Only one pilot, 2dLt Frank E. Peterson, Jr., reached Korea during the fighting. (He would go on to command a squadron, group, brigade, wing, and the Marine Corps Combat Development Command. At the time of his retirement in 1988, he was a lieutenant general and the longest-serving naval aviator on active duty.) Most African-American Marine officers commissioned during the war were reserves who were released to inactive duty following a normal tour; few stayed on to become regulars.

The Marine Corps in the decade of the 1960s and the Vietnam War years was deeply troubled by racial inequities. Where law had abolished



segregation in the Armed Forces, many questioned the intent and will of the military to eliminate covert discrimination, especially in officer recruitment, assignment, and promotion. The Marine Corps' efforts to remedy this situation during the last three decades is the subject of the recent History and Museums Division publication, *Pride, Progress, and Prospects: The Marine Corps' Efforts to Increase the Presence of African-American Officers (1970-1995)*, by Col Alphonse G. Davis, USMC (Ret), a veteran of this struggle.

Originally presented as an executive research project at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University, the monograph presents a straightforward and personalized account of the Marine Corps' efforts to change the racial composition of its officer corps. In the 1970s, as Col Davis notes, the Corps began to reap modest benefits from the various initiatives to enhance racial understanding and race relations, and improve the racial diversity of the officer corps. African-American officers were now being assigned to billets previously held only by white officers,

such as officer selection officers in predominantly white populated areas, naval test pilot, and command at the battalion and squadron levels.

While the Marine Corps continued to actively encourage African-American officer accessions during the 1980s, it also expanded its focus on career development and progression. Areas such as military occupational field selection, Basic School performance, assignments, promotions, and performance evaluations were added to the many issues requiring examination, ensuring African-American officers, and other under-represented groups, received the same opportunities for advancement.

Despite the ongoing debates in the civilian arena regarding equal opportunity, affirmative action, and racial diversity that spilled over into the military area, the 1990s produced a number of significant achievements in addressing the issues of institutional bias and discrimination that had the potential of dividing the Marine Corps along racial lines. As a result, the Corps revamped and tailored its recruiting strategy, targeting several specific racial and ethnic groups instead of the single collective "minority" category. In addition, recommendations to increase occupational field diversity and promote minority officer retention and command assignments were implemented. "The leadership of the Marine Corps at various levels, comprised of officers of all races," Davis said, "banded together to confront [these] problems."

Col Davis concludes his examination with a hopeful, but cautious note: "Today's Marine Corps can step forward and boast a myriad of achievements in its efforts to increase the presence of African-American officers. There is still work to be done."

□1775□

Combat Artists in the Korean War

by John T. Dyer, Jr.
Curator of Art



(Top Left)

"Landing Zone," by Col H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR. Before receiving his commission as a second lieutenant on 1 June 1950, he studied at Yale School of Art then transferred to Princeton where he graduated with a degree in Art and Architecture. He went on to serve as an infantry platoon leader in Korea.

(Bottom Left)

"Marines debark from HRS-1 helicopter". While in Korea, Chenoweth engaged in "Ripper," "Killer," and other operations, leading, at different times, two rifle platoons and a 75mm Recoilless Rifle platoon. He was assigned duty as officer-in-charge, the first Marine Corps Combat Art Team when he and it returned to the states. The team painted from their experience in Korea in an Arlington, Virginia, studio. 1stLt Chenoweth and MCGySgt John DeGrasse later were ordered to cover atomic bomb tests at Desert Rock, Nevada, in the spring of 1952.



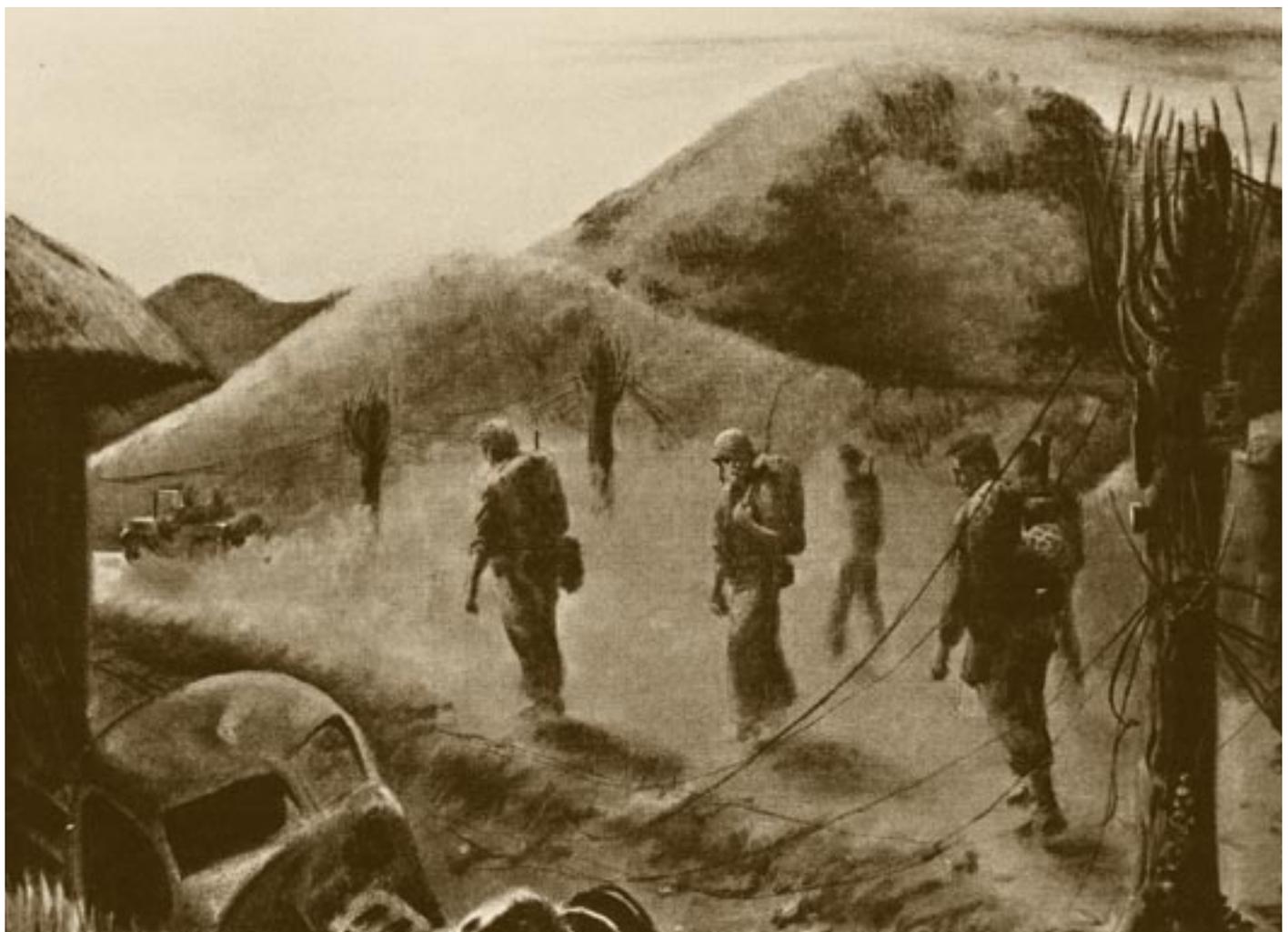
(Top Right)

"The Road Back" This reconstruction shows 1st Division Marines marching to Hungnam from the Chosin Reservoir.

(Bottom Right)

"Dusty March" The artist cites this unfortunately missing painting as a favorite of his Korean War art. Sepia toned, it evoked the hot, dusty, humid Korean summer climate. Col Chenoweth later covered Marines in combat in South Vietnam during 1967, was officer-in-charge of the Marine Corps Art Team during Operation Desert Storm, and twice won the Col John W. Thomason, USMC, Heritage Foundation Award for Art.

His soon to be published book *Art of War, Eyewitness U.S. Combat Art from the Revolution Through the 20th Century* covers all service art programs. □1775□



The Korean War Oral History Collection

by *Fred H. Allison*
Oral Historian

The Korean War is often called “The Forgotten War.” When it comes to the Marine Corps’ Oral History collection, however, the first “hot war” of the Cold War era is not forgotten. The collection includes more than 200 Korean War interviews.

The Korean War oral history material is well balanced and encompasses the experiences of Marines from a multitude of ranks and duties. This is especially true of the interviews done in 1950 and 1951 by the 1st Provisional Historical Platoon which chronicled the war in part through the eyes of Marines in combat and in non-combat units. This gives the collection a richness not common to all subjects of research.

By focusing on one aspect of the Korean War, for instance the Chosin Reservoir campaign, the multi-faceted character of this collection is revealed. Combat is described in interviews like that of Cpl Donald R. Thornton, Company F, 7th Marines: “I had the 0300-0400 watch. The Chinks came walking up the road in small groups; they wore white clothes with fur caps...they seemed unprepared to find Marines there. They came in and hit the CP—they came in at first from over the hill. In 20 minutes they attacked in full force.” Capt Benjamin S. Read, commanding officer of Battery H, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, gives an artilleryman’s view of combat: “In one instance, the No. 6 gun section on How Battery actually fired under a railroad culvert at a machine gun at a range of 70 yards with HE and completely blew the machine gun and its crew all to hell.”

Fundamental to success on the battlefield are communications and supply units. Marines who handled these functions at Chosin were also interviewed. Maj Kenneth B. Boyd, Communications Officer, 5th Marines: “Our situation was fast moving. Colonel [Raymond L.] Murray tried to

hold up every afternoon at 1600 so we could establish a CP. I would assign a man with a RL31 and Weasel to each battalion in order to keep up our communications.” An unidentified supplyman in the 1st Marines: “If you got one [60 mm mortar illumination round] out of eight [to work] you were lucky. There was not much to begin with, and most of it didn’t work. The contraction of the tube has nothing to do with it. It is my opinion that the long storage caused this.” Maj Harold Wallace, Logistics Officer, 5th Marines: “The equipment carried by the 5th Marines was 100 per cent mobile, that is, it was loaded in vehicles. Therefore, when we got our personnel and our vehicles off of the ships, we were ready to fight.”

Even specialties less directly connected to combat were interviewed. For instance, the civil affairs unit, responsible for maintaining positive relations with civilians, continued at their duties. 1stLt Oliver E. Dial, the division’s civil affairs officer, described his efforts: “Through the winter at Hagaru-Hamhung-Hungnam we were confronted with the shortage of food, clothing and shelter. We did make surveys for relief requirements. Some relief supplies had been distributed before we left there.” Maj Carl E. Stahley, public information officer, 1st Marine Division: “The combat correspondents continued the withdrawal with their units and upon arrival at Hungnam were evacuated by ship. While aboard ship, each correspondent was ordered to write a complete narrative and feature story on all the action which had taken place during that entire campaign.” Some Marines dealt first hand with the results of the heavy fighting: SSgt Robert B. Gault, Graves Registration, 7th Marines: “We put up I don’t know how many tents. We had so many men wounded and dead and killed that we didn’t have a place to put them. Everybody was shot up and lay-

ing around and there was nothing you could do but stay there and just fight and try to help out.”

Close air support played an important role in the successful withdrawal of forces from the Chosin Reservoir. Marine pilots who flew support missions provided their perspectives in interviews. Capt Don M. Hinshaw, pilot, Marine Fighter Squadron 214 (VMF-214): “The forward air controller requested that we drop the first bombs on the high ground at the west end where the first bunker was located. Both of us made direct hits with our bombs on this run. The bunker was neutralized.” 1stLt Charles H. Burgans Jr., pilot, Marine Night Fighter Squadron 513 (VMF[N]-513): “I got a direct hit on the first truck as it was turning to go up the road. After the initial burst of napalm, I could see troops running in all directions. Their clothes were on fire, and they fell some ten to twenty feet from the trucks.” Forward air controllers, the link between ground and air, were also interviewed: Capt Dan C. Holland: “I had four Corsairs from VMF-323 circling about two miles north for a surprise attack following up the artillery. They were advised that white phosphorous would also be used to mark the target. This coordinated artillery was accurate, and the Corsairs caught the enemy running down the opposite side of the hill. Within an hour Dog Co had seized its objective.”

The interviews that document the Korean War give a thorough coverage of Marine Corps activities during this important conflict. These oral histories have of late seen considerable use due to the interest stimulated by the Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemorative activities. With continued interest in the Marine Corps’ collection of oral history interviews that speak to the Korean War, perhaps it will no longer be known as “The Forgotten War.” □1775□

Excellence in Exhibit Design

by James A. Fairfax
Head, Exhibits Section

As a longtime member of the Marine Corps History and Museums Division, and as a Marine, it has been my observation over the past 30 years that our museum exhibits must reflect a scale of presentation consistent with the passion that we, as Marines, hold for our historical identity.

To my mind, every exhibit project begins as a blank canvas. Effective exhibit designers are those best able to find an imaginative approach to fill this empty canvas. Their creative work begins with the subject matter chosen by the historians. Within that parameter, the designer might be inspired by a single artifact or image, by a combination of the two, or even through an unexpected chain reaction sparked by a photograph, painting, or

Exhibits Specialist James A. Fairfax



Ship's sponsor Mrs. Linda Mundy, her husband, (former Commandant of the Marine Corps General Carl E. Mundy, Jr.) and Mr. James A. Fairfax view the gift which Fairfax designed. The gift was presented to the Bataan (LHD 5) by Mrs. Mundy.



snippet of text. The designer's ideas, as captured in the final exhibit, should feature visual and conceptual suggestions intended to spark the visitor's appreciation for the rich history of the United States Marine Corps.

The exhibit designer is expected to search deeply inward for solutions that will teach and inspire the visitor, historians, and other designers. Despite limited funds, the History and Museums Division has made it an objective to set a high standard in the field of exhibit design, hands-on fabrication, teaching, and exhibit management. To date, our milestones have been the 50th anniversary of World War II exhibits at the Marine Corps Museum, the Marine Corps Air Ground Museum, and the Pentagon; the "Time Tunnel" and its ongoing

renovation, in the Marine Corps Museum; the 50th anniversary of the Korean War displays at the Marine Corps Museum, the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum, the Pentagon, and the Reserve Officers Association Headquarters; two special exhibits and gifts to the USS *Bataan* and the USS *Iwo Jima*; and a permanent exhibit (still being enhanced and expanded) of the Iwo Jima flags at the Marine Corps Museum.

The value of these completed or nearly completed exhibits is the standard they achieve and the bar they set to inspire future attempts to do even better. Exhibit design can be extraordinarily pleasing and meaningful—to the designers, fabricators, and ultimate viewers—when it is accomplished with excellence. □1775□

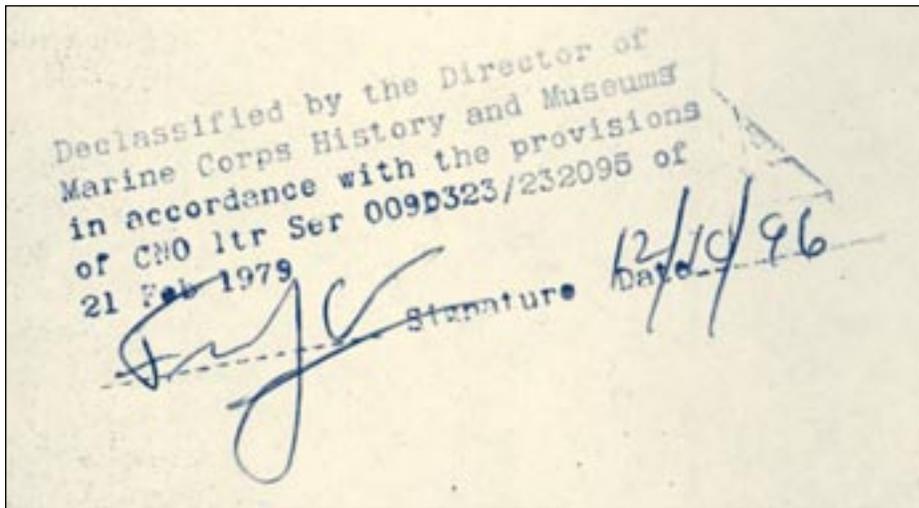
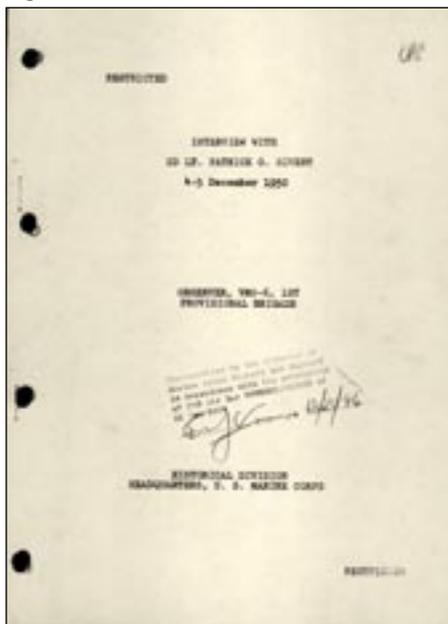
Declassification at HD

by Frederick J. Graboske
Head, Archives Section

The History and Museums Division has concluded a 15-month contracted declassification effort. We undertook this project as a collateral part of a Department of Navy (DON) contract with Kajax Engineering, Inc. We specifically funded the review of documents in the Marine Corps Historical Center, which were not covered by the contract. The work involved a full declassification and Privacy Act review of all materials in our vault, excluding the Gulf War.

In those 15 months the contractors reviewed 446,215 pages. Of these 77.8 percent were declassified in full and 18.4 percent referred to other agencies for their review (because they contained information relevant to those agencies). 2.8 percent were excluded from the process, because they contain information on nuclear weapons. Only 1 percent of the department's information could not be declassified. The effect of this program will be to enable us to digitize and disseminate records of conflicts and humanitarian opera-

The first page of each declassified document is stamped with the authority for the action; the declassifier must sign and date it.



Declassification is a delegated authority. In HD only the Director (or anyone he designates) has it.

tions from World War II through Somalia. We also can remove the documents from secure storage, with resulting cost savings, and use them for our forthcoming published histories.

Marine Corps records at other locations are covered by the general Department of the Navy contract with Kajax. This contract is for declassification review only, and it is the DON's response to Executive Order 12958, which requires the review of all classified records more than 25 years old as of the deadline, which currently is October 2003. The task is huge. To date Kajax has reviewed 101 million pages of Navy and Marine Corps records, of which two thirds have been declassified. An additional 80 million pages remain, almost all of which are Navy. The contractor has completed the review of 7,203,733 pages of Marine Corps records at these sites (the National Archives and the Washington National Records Center). 3,772,628 have been declassified in full and 1,895,269 referred to other agencies for action. 556,008 pages were exempt from declassification and 979,828 were excluded.

The Department of the Navy plans to continue review at the current pace

until the work is complete. We expect that the contractor will be able to finish all Marine Corps and other naval records within the time constraint of the deadline, but only if the Secretary of the Navy maintains the necessary level of funding. Complicating the process is the necessity to review the millions of pages that will be referred to the Navy by other agencies. Referral notifications will be sent only after the review of an agency's holdings, so most referrals probably will occur in 2003. Documents subject to the Executive Order which are not reviewed by October 2003 will be declassified automatically.

HD is preparing to enter into a new collateral contract with Kajax for the review of small selected portions of the Gulf War records. Those records were digitized several years ago, and the new review will be done on a computer. We are taking this action to learn the process of electronic review, with the released documents being copied to CD-ROM. This project will enable the History and Museums Division to develop an accurate estimate of the cost to review the entire body of Gulf War records for public release. □1775□

Vietnam Era “Howtar” Restored

*by Dieter Stenger
Curator of Ordnance*

Volunteer success stories are most often the culmination of extensive research, creative funding, and the commitment of long hours of hard work. One such story involved the restoration of a 107mm Model 98 “howtar” mortar, recently completed by the Inspector & Instructor (I&I) Staff of H Battery, 3d Battalion, 14th Marines, a Marine Corps Reserve unit based in Richmond, Virginia.

In August 2000, Captain Scott E. Mead, USMC, and now retired GySgt Anthony P. Banks, USMC, came to the Museums Branch at Quantico, Virginia, expressing an interest in restoring an artillery piece for eventual display at their reserve center.

Having decided on the howtar from a selection of ordnance artifacts in storage, the Richmond Marines refurbished the howitzer-converted mortar in less than four months time. The speedy restoration of the howtar, within the museum’s guidelines, can be credited to the steadfast leadership of GySgt Banks and sweat of the I&I Staff.

This particular piece of ordnance has a unique background and considerable Marine Corps provenance. Historically, the amalgamation of the howitzer and mortar was spurred in the early 1960s by the necessity for improved close-support

artillery. The Marine Corps looked favorably on the concept, which combined the most desirable characteristics of the beloved yet obsolete 75mm pack howitzer and the 4.2-inch M30 rifled mortar. A key consideration that fit well within the Marine Corps’ tactical requirements of the time was its adaptability for vertical assaults. For the previously baseplate-mounted mortar, the wheeled carriage promised greater mobility, improved stability, rapid emplacement and laying, shorter minimum range, and greater accuracy at long ranges. Rivaling the 105mm howitzer in capability, the howtar had only one-fifth the weight but was capable of firing a 107mm round. The advantages of the intrinsic lightweight carriage made the howtar easily transportable by helicopter, yet allowed for its quick disassembly for manpack transportation. Its only shortcoming was range, but that was superfluous for a close-support artillery weapon, and it would prove effective within the confines of jungle warfare in Vietnam. In May 1962, the Marine Corps officially adopted the howtar as a standard weapon. A battery of six guns was incorporated into each direct support artillery battalion in exchange for the “four-deuce” mortars.

The successful restoration of the M98 mortar by GySgt Banks and the I&I Staff, H/3/14 is a perfect example of what can be accomplished with a basic interest and doggedness. The life span of an artifact, whether on display or in storage, is often dependent on its state of preservation. The efforts of the Richmond Marines will ensure that the howtar will remain intact as a physical manifestation of the heritage of the Corps for generations to come. Individuals or groups that are interested in volunteering to assist in the preservation of Marine Corps material history should contact the Museums Branch at 703-784-2607. □ 1775□

*The 107mm M98 “howtar” mortar at the H/3/14 reserve center in Richmond, VA.
Photo by GySgt Banks, USMC*

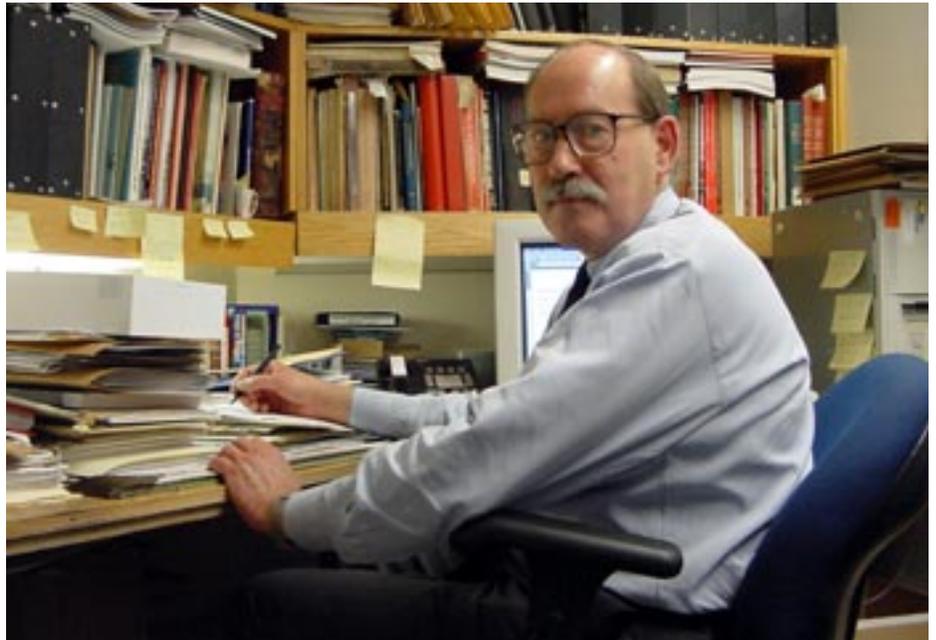


History 101: A Tour of the Historical Branch

by Charles D. Melson
Chief Historian

The Korean War commemoration is a use of historical events for public affairs purposes; it also focuses attention on the History and Museums Division and what it does for the Marine Corps. During the commemorative period a number of our publications and exhibits feature both the well-known and not-so-newsworthy aspects of the war, to recognize the Marine veterans and their families and to remind the current generation of Marines of the deeds of their predecessors. This is in addition to a number of other mandated division duties, particularly for the Historical Branch. Since 1919, some form of historical support has been available at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. The nature of this support and how it is provided has varied. An overview of what and who the current Historical Branch consists of at present is the subject of this article. The Historical Branch is one of four subordinates to the Director, Marine Corps History and Museums. Other branches are Museums, Support, and Field Operations. The Historical Branch is

Archives section head, Frederick J. Graboske, oversees the collection and storage of unit command chronologies documenting the current activities of Marines. This includes declassification and digitization efforts to make this primary source material available to those needing first-hand records.



Historical section head Charles R. Smith, supervises the efforts of a staff of four producing publications and oral histories on a variety of topics ranging from the Marines in the Korea War to more recent Somalia and Liberia operations. These historians are available in their respective fields to assist serious researchers.

located at the Washington Navy Yard at the Marine Corps Historical Center, Building 58. The branch itself consists of three functional sections, Historical, Reference, and Archives.

At present, there are some 13 civilian and military historians and archivists carrying out the different tasks assigned by the *MANUAL FOR THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM* (MCO P5750.1G). An idea of the volume of help provided is reflected in the statistics of 15,477 responses answered and some 1,859 researchers assisted during the year 2000. Who this effort goes to is reflected in the official priorities of work: requests from the Congress, Headquarters Marine Corps, Marine Corps commands, and other government agencies are met first, followed by assistance to active duty Marines, outside researchers, retired and former Marines, and general information requests. As can be expected, there are economies of scale with any request for help. In addition the

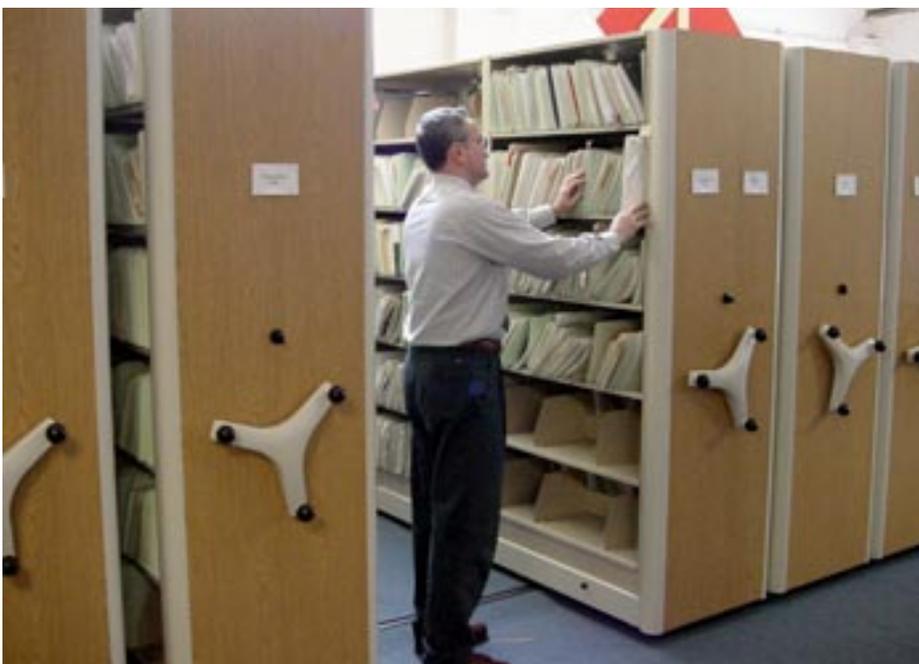
Branch publishes official histories and provides support to Museums Branch exhibits.

Most responses from the Historical Branch are general rather than specific, using the medium of published histories and monographs, *FORTITUDINE*, and established programs (lineage and honors, the flag manual, commemorative naming, oral history, and the ever-popular command chronologies). This gets historical information into the hands of those in the operational forces who need it to accomplish their mission. Aid to retired and former Marines is often met by provision of copies of command chronologies or with reference services. While the focus of the Historical Branch is operational or unit history, veteran's claims also are assisted by referencing appropriate sources at the Manpower Division (the records service section and military awards branch) and the National Personnel Records Center (for service record books and health records).

Assistance to qualified individuals, whether military or civilian, is more along the lines of sharing resources. This follows the same procedures that branch staff members follow in their historical problem solving. It can be collegial and subject to the twists and turns of records management and memory. This has to fit in with assigned tasks that take up day to day routine. For the History Section, Mr. Rich Smith is coordinating and editing the Korean War commemorative series, Maj John Vanden Berghe is completing a Liberia monograph, Dr. Dave Crist is completing his interviews with Gen Charles Krulak and working on a Somalia monograph, and Mr. Fred Allison is reinstating the oral history program after several years of inactivity.

The Reference Section of Mr. Dan Crawford handles most routine requests (routine in terms of frequency rather than ease) received and processed by Ms. Shelia Gramblin. Mr. Bob Aquilina deals with commemorative naming and events, Mrs. Ann Ferrante compiled the chronology and lineage and honors; while Ms. Lena Kaljot oversees the photographic col-

Reference assistant section head Robert V. Aquilina answers a wide range of official and unofficial queries about Marine Corps history, including biographic, unit lineage, and geographic topics. This is helped by knowledge of previous requests and answers.



lection. The section has to maintain extensive biographic, unit, and geographical files to deal with inquiries. They also research and write the reference pamphlets about the divisions and their regiments.

The Archives Section under Mr. Fred Graboske is continually engaged in the collection and processing of command chronologies, the primary source of unit history since 1965. By way of quantity alone, this involves interacting with 400 or more Marine Corps units down to the battalion and squadron level. This does not even address the question of the quality of submission, which might have to remain until these records are needed at a later date. Ms. Christine Laba, an archival specialist, assists him in this. Archives is also involved in the more arcane aspects of declassification of records and in the effort to digitize holdings to an electronic format suitable for use with CD-ROMs to preserve information contained in deteriorating paper records and to preserve the records themselves by removing them from everyday use. This allows for easier reproduction and distribution. Over time, permanently valuable



Librarian Evelyn A. Englander provides support with publications and periodicals for division projects and others. This collection traces its origins to the efforts of Commandant Colonel Archibald Henderson to maintain professional books at headquarters.

Marine Corps operational records migrate to the National Archives and Records Agency.

So far, you can see why the branch is run on a tight rein and why support has a greater effect by being general. Even so, we pride ourselves on an ability to work with outside researchers in a variety of areas. Again, our approach is similar to how we do our own work. The first step involves an examination of what the researcher wants and where this information should be. From this, you would go to the section that comes closest to your needs. Despite this, additional work is required in each of the other sections, and possibly the library or the museums branch. Once resources within the Division are exhausted, then other outside institutions are called into play: Library of Congress, National Archives, National Personnel Records Center, and so on. Even in the age of the Internet, research is not quick or easy if the question being asked is worth answering. Like intelligence gathering, history is focused on the question and not a preconceived answer; even a negative finding tells you something. The Marine Corps' past provides a rich harvest for those leading the pack today.

□1775□

1999 Annual Chronology (Part 1)

by Ann F. Ferrante
Reference Section

The "Current Chronology of the Marine Corps" highlights significant events and dates in Marine Corps history. Since 1982, the Reference Section has compiled the yearly chronology by researching numerous primary and secondary sources each week. It is a valuable resource of information for researchers and staff alike. Selected entries from the 1999 Chronology are below:

14 Jan- The MV-22 Osprey began a series of sea trials on board the USS *Saipan* as part of its operational flight test program. The two primary objectives of this phase were to validate the general launch and recovery envelope of the aircraft and determine aircraft/shipboard compatibility. The sea trials concluded in mid-February.

28 Jan- The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Charles C. Krulak, published an article detailing the threat of Anthrax and the importance of being immunized against its use as a biological weapon. He said that the Anthrax vaccine represents our best defense against an invisible killer, and that our potential enemies are very much aware that we have blunted one of the most lethal weapons in their arsenal.

9 Feb- The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Charles C. Krulak, and Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, gathered with the Marines of the Marine Security Guard Battalion in Washington, D.C. to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Marine Security Guard Program. Although the program had been in place since December 1948, the 50th anniversary commemorated the graduation of the first formal class of Marines assigned to duty in early 1949.

12 Feb- 4 Mar- More than 5,000 Marines and sailors from II and III

MEFs participated in Exercise Battle Griffin 99, a triennial NATO field training exercise in Norway. The exercise tested the Air-Landed Marine Air Ground Task Force concepts of the U.S. and Norway. It also met the requirement for realistic training to fully prepare forces for Allied/Joint operations in an arctic environment.

27 Feb- A joint task force was sent to Kenya to support ongoing relief operations in Operation Nobel Response. Flooding, resulting from unseasonable rainfall, prevented relief supplies from reaching their destination. Marines provided air support to airdrop food supplies. The task force was commanded by Marine BGen William A. Whitlow.

1 Mar- Marines from 2d Force Service Support Group began redeployment to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, from Honduras where they had been since last November. Marines were deployed there for disaster relief operations in Honduras in the wake of Hurricane Mitch. While in Honduras, Marines built bridges, delivered relief supplies, and repaired roadways.

4 Mar- A military jury acquitted Capt Richard J. Ashby of all charges brought against him for piloting his Marine EA-6 Prowler jet through cables holding a ski gondola last year in an accident that killed 20 people in the Italian Alps. Capt Ashby had faced involuntary manslaughter and numerous lesser charges as a result of the accident.

4 Mar- The 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) landed in Kuwait to begin more than 25 days of combined arms training in Exercise Eager Mace 99-1. The focus of the exercise was to improve bilateral interoperability between Kuwait and U.S. forces and to refine comple-

mentary warfighting capabilities for coalition warfare.

13 Mar- The Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory began to conduct its second of five Advanced Warfighting Experiments in the Urban Warrior series. This experiment was held in Northern California and was designed to test the Marines' ability to deal with terrorist threats, provide disaster assistance, and simulate civil-military relations in an international setting.

24 Mar- NATO began an extensive air war against the Serb-led Yugoslav Government as a result of its refusal to accept a U.S. drafted peace settlement for Kosovo a province of Serbia, Yugoslavia's dominant republic. Operation Allied Force involved the daily use of cruise missiles, bombers, and attack aircraft on Serbian targets to include its military, police, and command and control apparatus in order to rid Kosovo of Yugoslav Government forces.

5 Apr- Marines and sailors of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) landed by helicopter in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The 24th MEU(SOC) conducted humanitarian assistance support operations as part of the NATO force already there. This insertion culminated a lengthy involvement by the 24th MEU(SOC) in Balkan operations since January when the unit arrived in the central Mediterranean.

13 Apr- The arrival of KC-130 Hercules aircraft from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 352 completed the final migration of 3d Marine Aircraft Wing units to Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, California. The arrival of VMGR-352 ended the unit's 50-year era of service aboard Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California.



Sergeant Major Alford L. McMichael became the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps on 28 June 1999 at Marine Barracks Washington.

15 Apr- Marine AV-8B Harrier jets conducted air strikes against Yugoslavia as part of NATO's Operation Allied Force. The mission was conducted by four AV-8Bs attached to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 266 of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit on board the USS *Nassau*. It was the first time Marine Harriers participated in combat operations since Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

19 Apr- A Marine F/A-18 Hornet dropped its ordnance more than a mile off target on the outlying Puerto Rican island of Vieques, accidentally killing a local civilian security guard. Demonstrations followed, along with a demand from the Puerto Rican Governor for the U.S. Navy to abandon its live-fire range on Vieques used for close air support, artillery, and naval gunfire. In response to the Puerto Rican outcry, President Clinton temporarily halted live-fire training and ordered the Department of Defense to form a panel to review the Vieques situation.

24 Apr- The Navy's newest guided missile destroyer, USS *Higgins* (DDG 76), joined the U.S. Pacific Fleet during a commissioning ceremony in Port Everglades, Florida. The ship would honor Marine Col William Richard Higgins who was kidnapped by terrorists in February 1988. He was

declared dead in July 1990. The ship's sponsor was retired Marine LtCol Robin L. Higgins, widow of the ship's namesake.

30 Apr- Elements from the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) went ashore in Albania to provide security for a 20,000-person refugee camp for displaced Kosovar Albanians. The 26th MEU(SOC) also assisted in delivering food to thousands of displaced refugees as well as supporting the Operation Allied Force bombing campaign. The 26th MEU (SOC) replaced the 24th MEU(SOC) on 28 April, ending the latter unit's six-month deployment to the Mediterranean.

14 May- The Marine Corps took delivery of its first MV-22 Osprey aircraft at the Bell Helicopter Textron Flight Research Center in Arlington, Texas. Gen Terrance Dake, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, accepted the first of four low-rate initial-production aircraft to be delivered to the Marine Corps in 1999. From Arlington, Texas, the MV-22 completed a 1,200-mile ferry flight that included a historic refueling stop at Marine Corps Air Facility, Quantico, Virginia. The landing at Quantico marked the first time

an Osprey owned by the Corps landed on Marine Corps property.

20 May- Two squadrons from Marine Aircraft Group 31 that were deployed to Tazar, Hungary, began flying combat missions in support of Operation Allied Force, NATO's air war against the Serb-led Yugoslavian government. Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadrons VMFA (AW)-332 and -533 were home-based in Beaufort, South Carolina. In Hungary, VMFA(AW)-332 had two aircraft outfitted with the Advanced Tactical Airborne Reconnaissance System (ATARS) which was capable of providing digitally formatted day/night, all-weather reconnaissance data via mission tapes that were downloaded upon landing for processing and dissemination.

4 Jun- SgtMaj Alford L. McMichael was selected as the 14th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. A post and relief ceremony with retiring Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Lewis G. Lee would take place on 28 June at Marine Barracks Washington. McMichael would become the first African-American to hold the post since it was established in 1957.

(Part II will appear in the next issue)

A mechanized patrol of Battalion Landing Team 3/8, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) stops to interact with children in Gnjilane, Kosovo, in June 1999



Early Aviation Flight Equipment

by Michael E. Starn
Curator of Aeronautics

When the Wright brothers first took to the skies at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on 17 December 1903, they did so clad in a tweed suit, tweed driving cap, and a pair of motorcar goggles. As aircraft flew faster, and higher, aviators tried many different types of clothing to protect themselves from the cutting slipstream. Aviators experimented with different materials, as well as different styles, until they found a mixture that protected them from the conditions in which they would be flying, and suited their personal tastes.

The first known aviators sent aloft by man were a duck, a chicken, and a sheep. They were sent into flight in the Montgolfière hot-air balloon in August 1783 and were very appropriately dressed. Of the three, the sheep was covered in a material that would continue keeping pilots, and crewmembers, warm to this day; wool. One of the first manned flights gave early aviation its first lesson in warm dress for winter flights when, in December 1783, Professor Charles of the Académie Française flew a hot-air balloon from the Tuileries in Paris. Professor Charles ascended from spring-like temperatures to winter temperatures in a matter of ten minutes. What Professor Charles did not know at that time was that temperature falls approximately 28° C for every 1,000 feet of elevation.

As time went on, balloon aviators learned the value of warm clothing when ascending to higher altitudes. With the advent of the motorcar, motorcycle, and finally, powered aircraft, man was faced with a new factor to consider; wind-chill. Prior to powered flight, man for the most part had been floating along with the winds aloft. Only an occasional breeze was felt when changing altitudes, or entering winds moving in a different direction. The forward motion of the aircraft now created a flow of air felt by the



L-R Back Row: the G-1 flight jacket, which replaced the A-2 of WW II and a leather Aircraft transport coat. Middle Row: A pair of A-6 rubber and leather fleece lined flight boots and a B-5 flight helmet. Front Row: A pair of wool knitted gloves, a pair of A-9A leather three fingered mittens, and a pair of early leather gauntlets.

pilots and this became known as slipstream. The propeller of the tractor aircraft later increased the slipstream's intensity from that first encountered with the pusher-type aircraft. Slipstream produced by pusher aircraft rushed by the pilot at the speed of flight. At a speed of 60 mph, with the propeller of the tractor aircraft now in front of the pilot, the slipstream could have increased as much as 30 mph or more.

With the advent of the Marine Corps entering the field of aviation in 1912, and the United States entry into World War I in 1917, the demand for good quality protective flight equipment rose sharply. With this high demand for flight equipment, the Marine Corps was forced, at first along with other branches of military,

to turn to the United States' allies and off-the-shelf civilian clothing. In September 1917, the Army established an aviation clothing board that was responsible for ordering and issuing flight clothing for the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe, of which the Marines were part. This was the first clothing board organized to deal with problems of specifying and procuring flight equipment for the American military aviator. Because the clothing board was created at the same time the United States entered World War I, it played a game of catch-up that would last several years. The problems facing the board were many, and included, but were not limited to, types of materials available, designs that gave both warmth and ease of movement, as well as a general consensus of the pilots as to what did and did not work.

This problem of ill-designed clothing followed Marine aviators into the Great War, and was handled the same way that Marines do today; they would trade for or privately purchase the clothing that they felt would keep them warm and not hinder their mission. This then accounts for photos of seemingly endless different uniform combinations during World War I. As the word was passed through the ranks of the Marine aviation community about clothing that worked, similarities in uniforms would appear, but would still not be exactly the same. One of the few items that Marines did not trade, or sell, was their leather coat. The coats of World War I, worn by pilots and crew, were fur lined with fleece collars and resembled those worn by motorcar operators. Today's leather flight jacket is a waistcoat, lined with polyester, and has an imitation fur collar. Although these coats have changed in style over time, they still are a pilot's most prized possession today. □1775□

Marine Reserve Historians and How They Grew

by BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret)
Director Emeritus, History and Museums Division

This article is adapted from a speech that BGen Simmons recently gave to members of the Field History Branch.

One of the items on my list when I became Director in December, 1971 was the creation of a Marine Corps Reserve historical unit. Reserves had, of course, already been widely used in various historical and combat art efforts, but participation had always been on an individual basis. As I saw it, each member of our Reserve unit would have a mobilization assignment to a specific Fleet Marine Force organization. This seemed to be a logical objective to me, but it was not easy to attain. It was difficult to convince some—I might say most—brigade or division commanders, or their chiefs of staff, that it was a good thing to take along a Reserve historian on an exercise or deployment.

One of our first successes was sending Col Peter “Mike” Gish, USMCR, off to Twentynine Palms in 1973 for the desert exercise Alkali Canyon. Mike served during World War II and the Korean War as a pilot of both fighters and helicopters. A graduate of Dartmouth, he had studied art at Yale and then abroad in Europe, and become a world-class water-colorist. He would deploy for us many times again.

The bicentennial was very good for the historical program. Charles Waterhouse, a World War II enlisted Marine, became a major and came on active duty as our artist-in-residence. Almost simultaneously Donna J. Neary was commissioned as a captain of Reserves. The contributions of both to the Marine Corps art program have been enormous.

By the mid-1980s, Col Allan R. Millett, USMCR, a distinguished member of the faculty at Ohio State University, was the officer-in-charge

of the Center’s unit, by now known as Mobilization Training Unit DC-7 (MTU DC-7). Col Charles J. Quilter, Jr., who had flown 252 combat missions in Vietnam, joined the MTU in 1986. By 1990, in time for Desert Shield, he was in charge of the unit.

I must tell you that I consider Desert Shield and Desert Storm to be the golden age of the MTU. Everything we had planned for seemed to come together beautifully and our Reserve historians marched off to war. Col Quilter went with the I Marine Expeditionary Force, LtCol Charles Cureton deployed with the 1st Marine Division, LtCol Dennis Mroczkowski joined with the 2d Marine Division, Lt Col Frank Sturgeon served with the 1st Force Serve Command, and LtCol Ron Brown covered forces afloat. Col Avery Chenoweth, a combat artist long associated with the program, did not wait for orders to begin his coverage of deployments from Camp Lejeune to the Gulf. He was later joined overseas by fellow artists LtCol Neary and Col Gish.

Our deployed historians not only facilitated historical record keeping, they also gathered material for specific monographs. These would take the form of a series, “U.S. Marines in the Persian Gulf, 1990-1993.” The Gulf War historians also did something that had never been done before. They worked actively with intelligence types to identify captured enemy materiel of historical value. Eventually enough materiel to equip an Iraqi division was returned to Quantico.

There was a postscript to Desert Storm—Operation Provide Comfort, the humanitarian relief of Kurdish refugees in Northern Iraq. This operation was covered brilliantly in words by LtCol Brown and in pictures by Col Gish.

When the Somalia intervention came along in 1992, the deployment of the Marine Expeditionary Force followed the pattern set by Desert Shield and so did our concomitant deployment of Reserve historians and artists. But something new had been added. We were now supplying personnel to be joint historians as well as Marine Corps historians. Lieutenant Colonels Cureton and Mroczkowski deployed as joint task force historians. Col Gish and LtCol Neary also went to Somalia and did their usual splendid artwork.

Since Somalia our deployments have not been larger than a MEU and our Reserve historians have gone out chiefly on an individual basis or as joint historians. LtCol Nicholas Reynolds was assigned to a joint history team and sent briefly to Yugoslavia during the Bosnia crisis. When the intervention in Haiti came along in 1994, Col Mroczkowski deployed once again, and other members of the unit followed suit, spending their two weeks of active duty at US/UN headquarters in Port-au-Prince.

In 1994 the Reserve historical unit added a new part, the Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) detachment. The IMA was to consist of individuals with specific mobilization assignments who could attend regular drills like an SMCR unit. Another very good thing that happened organizationally was the creation of the Field Operations Branch. This made our reservists a full-fledged branch of the History and Museums Division. I consider this very important and I urge you to guard the status that this organization gives the Reserves most carefully. It is fully in accord with the Total Force concept and reflects our Reserves’ contribution to the mission of the History and Museums Division.

□1775□

Major General Platt, a Veteran of Three Wars

by Robert V. Aquilina
Assistant Head, Reference Section

MajGen Jonas M. Platt

MajGen Jonas M. Platt, USMC (Ret), a highly decorated veteran of three wars, died 28 July 2000 in Sterling, Virginia, at the age of 80. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Platt was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant in June 1940 upon graduation from Norwich University in Vermont. During World War II, he rose to the rank of major, and participated in numerous combat operations in the Pacific, earning the Navy Commendation and Bronze Star Medals, both with Combat "V," and the Purple Heart. In 1946 he worked with the small group of Marines (sometimes known as the "Chowder Society") who fought to protect the future of the Marine Corps during the movement to unify the military services. He was a battalion commander during the Korean War, where he earned the Legion of Merit with Combat "V." During the Vietnam War, Gen Platt was Assistant Division Commander, 3d Marine Division, and later became Chief of Staff to LtGen Lewis W. Walt, the commander of all Marine forces in Vietnam. Gen Platt received a Silver

MajGen Jonas M. Platt



Then LtCol Verle E. Ludwig

Star for heroism in Vietnam. Upon his return to the United States in late 1966, Gen Platt served at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, and was promoted in 1968 to major general. He retired in 1970 as Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel.

Col James E. Johnson

Col James E. Johnson, USMC (Ret) died 27 July 2000 in Honolulu, Hawaii, at the age of 81. A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Johnson entered the Marine Corps via the Navy's V-5 program at the University of Missouri in 1941. He served as a Marine aviator in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. At Guadalcanal during World War II, he was credited with four aerial victories while serving with VMF-112. An avid athlete, Colonel Johnson served both as a player and coach with the El Toro, California, Marine football teams of the late 1940s, and later coached the Quantico, Virginia, Marine track team in the early 1950s. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1967.

Col Verle E. Ludwig

Col Verle E. Ludwig, USMC (Ret) died 17 October 2000, in Twentynine

Palms, California, at the age of 78. A native of Indiana, and graduate of Indiana University, he entered the Marine Corps in 1942, and participated in the Russell Islands and Okinawa campaigns. During the Korean War, he served as Public Information Officer of the 1st Marine Division, and upon his return from Korea, joined the Historical Branch of Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. During the Vietnam War, he served as a battalion commander, and was awarded a Legion of Merit. A prolific writer, he co-authored the first volume of the official *History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in World War II*, and was author of the *U.S. Marines at Twentynine Palms, California*. In addition, he wrote numerous articles for *Marine Corps Gazette* and *Leatherneck*. Colonel Ludwig retired from the Marine Corps in 1975, and taught courses in writing at several local colleges in the Twentynine Palms area

Maj Douglas T. Jacobson

Maj Douglas T. Jacobson, USMC (Ret), died 20 August 2000 in Port Charlotte, Florida. He was 74. Born in Rochester, New York, Jacobson was

Then Cpl Douglas T. Jacobson



raised on Long Island, and left school at age 17 to enlist in the Marine Corps. He was veteran of the Tinian and Saipan campaigns, but achieved fame on 26 February 1945 at Iwo Jima. While serving with 3d Battalion, 23d Marines, 4th Marine Division, he was credited with destroying numerous enemy fortifications and blockhouses, which greatly assisted the progress of his Marine unit on the island. After the war, Jacobson left the Corps, but was recalled for the Korean War, and then made the Marine Corps his career. He later served in Vietnam before retiring in 1967. Major Jacobson joined President Clinton and other Marine Medal of Honor recipients in a 1995 ceremony at the Marine Corps Memorial which marked the 50th anniversary of the Iwo Jima campaign. Major Jacobson had moved to Florida in 1987, and is survived by his wife and three daughters.



SgtMaj Thomas J. McHugh

SgtMaj Thomas J. McHugh

SgtMaj Thomas J. McHugh, USMC

(Ret), died 21 February 2000 in Jacksonville, North Carolina, at the age of 80. A native of New York City, McHugh grew up in Philadelphia, and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1938. He participated in several World War II campaigns including Guadalcanal, New Britain, and Peleliu, where he was wounded and evacuated. During the Korean War, McHugh participated in operations at the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon, Seoul, and the Chosin Reservoir. Following his return in 1951 to the United States, McHugh rose rapidly through the non-commissioned officer ranks, and was selected in 1962 as the third Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. Following this tour of duty, SgtMaj McHugh went to Okinawa as Sergeant Major of Camp Smedley D. Butler, and later served in Vietnam as Sergeant Major of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1970. □1775□

Historical Quiz

Quotes from the Korean War

*by Lena M. Kaljot
Reference Historian*

Identify the individuals who uttered these words:

1. "Retreat hell! We're just attacking in another direction."
2. "I have just returned from visiting the Marines at the front and there is not a finer fighting organization in the world."
3. "We've been looking for the enemy for several days now. We've finally found them. We're surrounded. That simplifies our problem of getting to these people and killing them."
4. "The safest place in Korea was right behind a platoon of Marines. Lord, how they could fight. The Reds told us they were afraid to tangle with the Marines and avoided them when they could be located."
5. "The amphibious landing of U.S. Marines on September 1950 at Inchon, on the west coast of Korea, was one of the most audacious and spectacularly successful amphibious landings in all naval history."
6. "The Marine Corps is the Navy's police force and as

long as I am President that is what it will remain. They have a propaganda machine that is almost equal to Stalin's."

7. "There is no better group of fighting men anywhere in the world than the Marine Corps. If it is maintained at a proper size it will provide a force which will act as a deterrent to small aggressors and will contain major aggressions until our Army can organize for the major land effort which will be necessitated by large-scale aggression."

8. "I know that this operation will be sort of helter-skelter. But the 1st Marine Division is going to win the war by landing at Inchon."

9. "What the American people want to do is fight a war without getting hurt. You cannot do that any more than you can go into a barroom brawl without getting hurt."

10. "In the vast complex of the Department of Defense, the Marine Corps plays a lonely role."

(Answers on page 23)

Boxer Rebellion Medal of Honor Donated to Museum

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

On 22 February 2001, retired Maj Robert B. Throm of Charlestown, Pennsylvania, presented the Medal of Honor awarded to then-Pvt Thomas Wilbur Kates to the Marine Corps Museum in a brief ceremony at the Museums Branch Research Facility in Quantico. LtCol Robert J. Sullivan, USMC, Head, Museums Branch, accepted the gift for the History and Museums Division, and led the discussions with Maj Throm to establish the medal's history.

Thomas Wilbur Kates was born on 7 May 1865, in Shelby Center, New York, and at the age of 34, was living in Buffalo, New York, when he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in 1899, shortly after the end of the Spanish-American War. Then-Pvt Kates was assigned to the Philippines, and served with the Marine Brigade fighting the Filipino insurrectos.

When the Boxer Rebellion broke out in May 1900, Kates' company was mobilized as part of Col Littleton W. T. Waller's Marine Battalion and shipped north to China. Arriving at Taku on 19 June, the Marines joined a Russian infantry battalion and attacked a much larger force of Chinese Imperial troops and Boxers the next day. The international force was forced to disengage under an exceptionally fierce Chinese counterattack and, while covering the withdrawal, Kates joined a party of two officers (one of them the soon-to-be legendary Lt Smedley D. Butler) and three other enlisted Marines to rescue a wounded fellow Marine who had been inadvertently left behind. Although two of the Marines in the group were also wounded, the party successfully carried the wounded Marine for seven miles, without a stretcher. Kates was awarded his Medal of Honor by order of General Order 55, 19 July 1901, and his citation read, "In the presence of the enemy during the advance on Tientsin,



This close-up shows the reverse of Sgt Thomas W. Kates' Medal of Honor, awarded for his service during the Boxer Rebellion.

China, 21 June 1900, Kates distinguished himself by meritorious conduct." However, according to a short notation in his records, Sgt Thomas W. Kates deserted in 1903, and was not heard of again. No reasons are given for his desertion. It is hoped that future research will clear up the mystery of Kates' career and later life.

Maj Throm purchased the medal from a pawn shop in Northern Virginia in the 1960s, and later loaned it to the Freedom's Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. After having the medal back in his possession for a few years, he approached the Marine Corps Museum staff in October 2000, about the possibility of donating the medal. Fortuitously, the staff was

in the midst of enhancing and further expanding the comprehensive script for the planned exhibits in the Heritage Center, and needed a significant artifact for the Boxer Rebellion exhibit. Since the only other Boxer Rebellion Medal of Honor in the museum's collection (SgtMaj Dan Daly's) was already planned for exhibit in the "Icons of the Corps" section of the Heritage Center, this medal filled that gap. He offered the medal to the Museum, and in December he volunteered to deliver the medal to Quantico in person.

Presently, the museum plans to display the medal as one of the centerpiece in the Heritage Center's Boxer Rebellion exhibit. □1775□

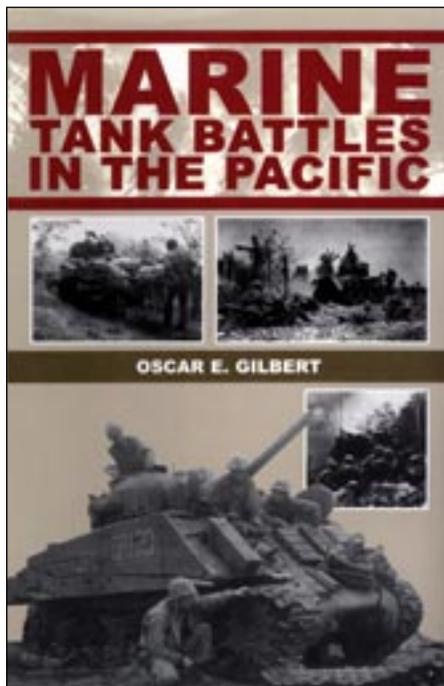
Marine Tank Battles in the Pacific

by LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR
Deputy Director

Oscar E. Gilbert, *Marine Tank Battles In The Pacific* (Conshohocken, PA: Combined Publishers, 2001).

Oscar E. Gilbert brings an eclectic background to his book about Marine tanks in World War II. The former artilleryman possesses a doctorate and works as a geoscientist. He also is a leading figure in the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society. Those attributes served him well in writing this volume. He understands the Marine Corps and its peculiar lingo, possesses the inquiring mind of an academic, and has the eye for detail of an avid modeler. Although he initially set out to create the definitive account of Marine armor in the Pacific campaign, he ultimately focused his attention on "the human experience of the men who fought in the tanks." The result is an excellent book that fully achieves that goal.

If the book has a weakness, it is its reliance on secondary works to provide the basis for the narrative thread of places and events. The source books Gilbert chose are generally solid works and the resulting story he pulled from them is accurate, but in foregoing original action reports, combat journals, personal diaries, and letters, he missed out on the contemporary words of the men themselves. The welcome exceptions are his use of writings published by participants during or shortly after the war. The author himself points out that some articles, such as Lieutenant Robert Blake's "Death on the Munda Trail," are "surprisingly modern in their graphic descriptions of the stress and savagery of close combat." (p.58) The publisher also did not do the author justice with the maps, which are rather poor, but those are a minor feature in a book which is not primarily about the operational details of battles. Photographs, on the other hand, are plentiful and well captioned.



The heart of the book is in the personal stories mined from numerous interviews with surviving veterans of the Pacific war. Gilbert recognized the risk of relying heavily on old recollections and did his best to avoid the obvious pitfalls. He warns the reader up front about the inherent perils of Marine "sea stories," but rightly opines: "[T]he story of these men was worth telling. . . . the only foolproof way to avoid error is to do nothing, and that would be the greater error."

The result is a vivid, personal account of tank warfare in all Marine battles in the Pacific. On one level, the reader discovers details that almost always fall below the radar screen of more typical combat narratives. How a crewman relieves himself inside a cramped armored vehicle may seem mundane, but the lack of a provision for such necessary activity in early models affected the combat capability of the men stuck inside them for long periods.

But Gilbert's account covers higher level issues, as well. He discusses

training and doctrine and fully develops how those key ingredients of battlefield effectiveness evolved over the course of the war. In early operations, the author makes the case that Marine light tanks tended to operate independently and often ran into difficulties as a result. The greater armor and firepower of the medium Sherman tanks played a valuable role in the seizure of Tarawa Atoll, but they were committed piecemeal and therefore did not have as great an impact as they might have. Gilbert believes that the bloody battle on Betio Island at Tarawa spurred the 2d Marine Division to develop and hone the finest tank-infantry tactics of the Pacific campaign.

The author also describes the capabilities of the various models of tanks and how Marine crewmen made their own adaptations to enhance survivability and combat performance. In a fore-runner of the reactive armor placed on Marine tanks in the Gulf War, crewmen overlaid thick wooden planks on their Shermans in the Pacific to ward off the magnetic mines which Japanese soldiers tried to emplace by hand. Ingenuity at the front and among the rank and file seemed to be at least as great and as effective as that generated by development agencies back in the States.

In his coverage of combat operations, he uses the recollections of the participants to correct or expand upon earlier campaign accounts. Readers thus come away with a better understanding of the role that tanks played in a number of battles over the course of the war.

Gilbert has written a concise, readable, informative story. More important, in capturing the memories of these men, the author also has created a valuable primary source that will infuse many future secondary works.

□1775□

Books, CDs, and Videos about the Korean War

by Evelyn A. Englander
Historical Center Librarian

This is a representative selection of books, CDs, and videos about the Korean War. Most of them are available through local or online bookstores or through local libraries.

Reference books

Encyclopedia of the Korean War; a Political, Social, and Military History. Spencer C. Tucker, editor. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2000. 3 volumes. This is a comprehensive three-volume encyclopedia on the Korean War, arranged alphabetically by topic. Each individual entry includes a reference list for added reading. The appendices include the order of battle for the opposing forces, Medal of Honor recipients, a timeline, a glossary of terms, and a bibliography for further reading. The volumes also feature maps and photographs.

The Korean Conflict. Burton I. Kaufman. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1999. 193 pp. This is part of the "Guides to Historic Events of the Twentieth Century" and is a helpful one-volume reference on the Korean

War. It includes a bibliography, biographies, an historical overview, and selected primary documents as well as chapters on the Western Alliance and the conflict, the USSR, China, and the POW issue.

Histories

The Outpost War: U.S. Marines in Korea, 1952. Lee Ballenger. Washington, DC: Brassey's, 2000. 282 pp. The author served in tank and reconnaissance units during the Korean War. In preparing this work, he interviewed other veterans of the 1st Marine Division. In 1952, the U.N. forces shifted from maneuver tactics to tactics of holding on to territory gained, a type of warfare reminiscent of WWI trench warfare. Here the Marines fought the balance of the war against Chinese Communist forces with both sides fighting over the hills between their trench lines. Presently the author is working on the second volume of the Outpost War to cover the year 1953.

Triumph on 1240; the Story of Dog Company Seventh Marines in Korea. Colonel R.D. Humphreys, USMC, Retired. Chapel Hill, NC: Professional Press, 1998. 252 pp. This book is the history of the men of Dog Co., 2d Battalion, 7th Marines in the Korean War. The title comes from their fight on the night of 27 Nov 1950 when a company of Marines defended their hilltop against an onslaught of numerous Chinese Communist troops.

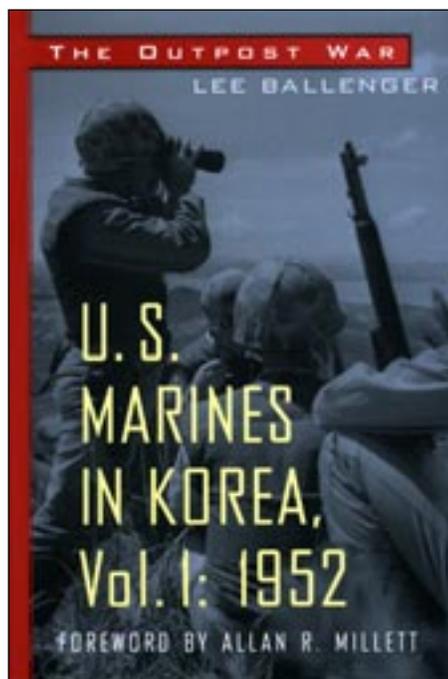
Memoirs and Personal Recollections

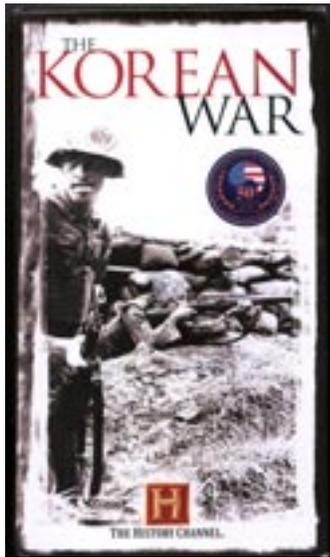
One Bugle, No Drums; The Marines at Chosin Reservoir. William B. Hopkins. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin Books, 1986. 274 pp. Captain Hopkins was commanding officer of H&S Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines at the Chosin Reservoir. This book describes the battle between the Marines and the Chinese Communists for Hill 1081,

a battle that has since become known as a classic in small unit military operations. Included in the book are two reports by S.L.A. Marshall on the battle.

Men in Low Cut Shoes. Morgan Brainard. Great Neck, NY: Todd & Honeywell, Inc., 1986. 173 pp. This is the story of a Marine Corps rifle company during the Korean War. The author wrote this book using his wartime journal. He covers his unit's training, their combat, and their many friendships. The campaigns he describes include the landing at Inchon, and the fighting at Seoul, Majon-Ni, and Hill 1081.

Korean Vignettes: Faces of War. Arthur W. Wilson, editor and Norman L. Strickbine, photographer. Portland, OR: Artwork Publications, 1996. 488 pages. These are the memories of 201 men who fought in the Korean War, their thoughts, their photographs, even their poetry. Includes 298 photographs. Both the editor and the photographer served in the war.





Videos

The Korean War (originally aired as *The Korean War: Fire and Ice*) New York, NY: The History Channel, 1999. A video history of the war in four parts

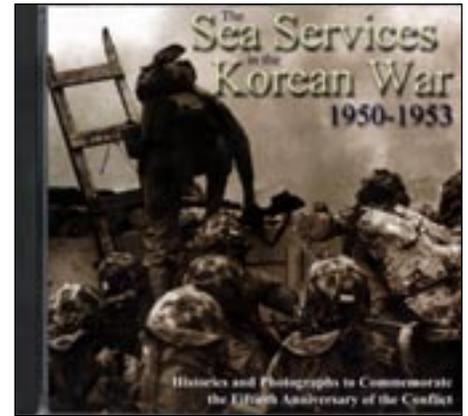
explores the origins, conduct of the war, and its political implications.

Korea: the Forgotten War. Easton, PA: Lou Reda Productions, 1987. Hosted by Robert Stack and using rare archival footage, this video traces the war from its outbreak through the final truce negotiations.

Forgotten Heroes: the U.S. Marine Corps in Korea. Boulder, CO: Dane Hansen Productions, 1994. This documentary features Korean War battles and also interviews with Marines who fought there. Those interviewed include: General Ray Murray, General Edwin Simmons, Colonel Carl Sitter, and Major Jack Buck. They bring the stories of Naktong Bulge, Fox Hill, and No Name Ridge to life.

CD

Sea Services in the Korean War.



Produced by U.S. Naval Institute and Sonalysts, Inc., working with the historical offices of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The CD contains the complete text of the official U.S. Navy and Marine Corps histories plus *The Sea War in Korea* by Malcolm W. Cagle and Frank A. Manson. Also included are 280 photos and 185 maps. □1775□

Answers to the Historical Quiz

Quotes from the Korean War

by Lena M. Kaljot,
Reference Historian

(Questions on page 19)

1. Attributed to MajGen Oliver P. Smith, Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division in Korea (1950), regarding his order for Marines to move southeast to the Hamhung area from the Hagaru perimeter.
2. Gen Douglas MacArthur, on the outskirts of Seoul, Korea, 21 September 1950.
3. Attributed to Col Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller during the Chosin Reservoir campaign in Korea, November 1950.
4. MajGen Frank E. Lowe, USA, President Truman's observer in Korea.
5. Bernard Brodie, *A Guide to Naval Strategy*, p. 238.
6. President Harry S. Truman, in a 29 August 1950 letter to Congressman Gordon L. McDonough replying to McDonough's 21 August 1950 suggestion that the Marine Corps be entitled to full recognition as a major branch of the Armed Forces.
7. Senator Irving M. Ives, New York, in a statement submitted to the Senate Sub-committee Hearings on 5.677, Committee on Armed Services, 82d Congress, 1st Session, April 13-21, 1951 ("A bill to fix the personnel strength of the United States Marine Corps, and to make the Commandant of the Marine Corps a permanent member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff").
8. Gen Douglas MacArthur, USA, in conversation with MajGen Oliver P. Smith, USMC, August 1950.
9. LtGen Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, 1951.
10. Honorable John Nicholas Brown: To the Senate Armed Forces Committee, 17 April 1951.

