



FORTITUDINE

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FORTITUDINE

was the motto of the U. S. Marine Corps in the 1812 era.

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Cover

Mr. John T. Dyer, Jr. is the Head of the Museums Branch Marine Corps Art Unit and is a former Marine Combat Artist. The cover illustration is his interpretation of a Marine Phantom at Nam Phong, Thailand done while Mr. Dyer, a major in the Marine Corps Reserve, was on his annual tour of active duty during the summer of 1973.

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Director's Page

In the Summer issue I detailed at great length the organizational evolution of the Historical Division. It is now time to log one more change: As of 15 October 1973 the Historical Division became the History and Museums Division. Nothing else about the Division was changed on that day which saw the reorganization of Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps, from an essentially General Staff/Special Staff to a Deputy Chief of Staff/Directorate structure.



Gone from Headquarters are the G-1,G-2,G-3, Director of Personnel, and Quartermaster General, and others, and in their place you will find, roughly speaking, Deputy Chiefs of Staff for Manpower, Installations and Logistics, Requirements and Programs, and so on, as well as Directors of Telecommunication, Intelligence, and Headquarters Support to name a few of the new titles.

In this issue, Ralph Donnelly continues his series on Historians of the Corps with a profile of LtCol Edwin N. McClellan to whom we all owe a great debt. Also there is an article by John Dyer on his trip to Nam Phong. About the same time Maj Dyer was out at Nam Phong, Col Peter M. Gish, USMCR, was at 29 Palms covering the big desert exercise Alkali Canyon and Capt Leonard H. Dermott,USMCR, was in the Mediterranean for Exercise Deep Furrow. Products of these tours will be reported in future *Fortitudes*.

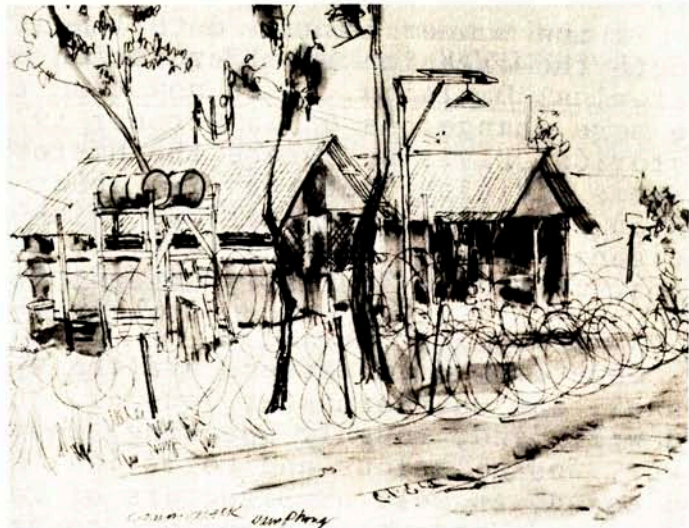
Two books, one old and one new, of particular interest have been recently published commercially. The first is a new edition of Robert Sherrod's *Tarawa: The Story of a Battle* brought out by the Admiral Nimitz Foundation of Fredericksburg, Texas. The new edition has a preface by Bob Sherrod putting the book into perspective after 30 years and amending some slight errors in the original edition. There is also an epilogue reflecting Sherrod's thoughts on visiting Tarawa in 1968 on the 25th anniversary of the battle. But perhaps the most striking addition of all is on the inside front cover where there is a letter from Sir John Field, KBE, CMG, present governor of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, and glued to it is a pinkish-white patch of Tarawa sand.

The second book is *Creating a Legend*, a very complete and well annotated bibliography of all kinds of writing -- fact, fiction, poetry, songs, even plays and movies -- about the U. S. Marines. It has been lovingly and skillfully put together by Capt John B. Moran,USMCR(Ret.)who is now in the advertising business in Chicago.

Both books are available from the *Marine Corps Gazette* bookshop. The author's royalties from *Tarawa* go to the 2d Marine Division Association Scholarship fund.

Impressions of a "Rose Garden"

To record the last Marines to fight in Southeast Asia, the Head of the Museums Branch Art and Exhibits Unit, Mr. Jack Dyer put on his hat as a Marine major USMCR and visited Nam Phong, Thailand last July. Accompanying his personal account are some preliminary sketches done on the scene. Such sketches, his many photographs, plus vivid memories will result in a dozen or more finished watercolors documenting the final Marine action of a long war.



Communications Shack, Nam Phong

As the last combat artist to cover the Marines in the Southeast Asian war, I arrived at the Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nam Phong, better known to Marines as the "Rose Garden," on an air Force C-141, 19 hours after leaving Iwakuni, Japan. There I joined Task Force Delta and its major element MAG-15. There were annoying but necessary inspections of all passengers for drugs, weapons, and other contraband at every stop enroute. The high altitude chilled us and many drew blankets to battle it as they snoozed or read pocket novels and the latest issue of Playboy.

The heat of Nam Phong seemed almost welcome as we taxied along the Rose Garden's apron after landing. The aircraft's doors opened and we started to realize why the Marines called it the Rose Garden. We were met with a wave of stifling hot, humid air and immediately perspiration soaked our starched, green, utility uniforms.

One more baggage inspection at the tin-roofed customs shack and the unity formed by the flight's shared experiences disintegrated as Marines went in all directions to their various units.

Task Force Delta Headquarters was a larger building but constructed in the same manner as any other living or working area aboard the base: wooden frames, plywood sides, screen doors, and very hot corrugated metal roofs.

The first person I reported to was former Administrative Officer of the Historical Division, then Administrative Officer of Task Force Delta, CWO Dennis Egan, USMC. "How are things here,

Dennis?" I asked. He gave me a "You'll find out" grin, shrugged his shoulders and said "Not bad." When I remarked at the 110° and higher temperatures and saturating humidity, a Marine told me I should have been there during the hot season. We were lucky, I guess, for an almost daily 10-to 15-minute downpour would cool us off momentarily especially if we showered in it.

Task Force Delta was the headquarters unit that I was attached to and Marine Air Group-15 was the unit I did most of my work with. Daily, all Marine Squadrons (VMFA-115, VMFA-232, VMA(AW)-533) flew missions: the A-6 all weather "Intruders" and F-4 Phantoms flying both day and night. KC-130s loaded with fuel, doubled the air time of these combat pilots and navigators with their air-to-air refuelings. The helicopters flew two daily runs to Udorn Air Base, about 20 minutes north of Nam Phong, and performed search and rescue missions.

I carry two 35mm cameras, one loaded with color transparency film and the other with black and white, to get action that is too fast to put down in a sketchbook or complicated gear that would take too long to draw accurately in the time available. The photos are later used as reference in the studio, to recall details and colors.

To keep people happy when they are obviously expecting a sketcher rather than a photographer, I draw as often as I can on the spot and have learned to live with and enjoy the over the shoulder viewers. There are not many people who can resist looking over an artist's shoulder to see what he's doing with his "Magic Pen."

The humidity and heat can raise havoc with an on-the-spot sketch as the artist's perspiration drips into his work. I learned to wrap paper toweling around my wrists in Vietnam to help prevent this. Humidity has a lot to do with the time it takes for a watercolor to dry. I do most of my finished work and many of my sketches in this medium. In a climate like Nam Phong's, because of the high humidity, it takes a discouragingly long time to dry, encouraging impatient exercise of technique. At 29 Palms in the Mojave Desert, on the other hand, the paper dries too fast. Snow, rain, and temperature also have their effect on that poor piece of wet watercolor paper as I discovered when covering Exercise Strong Express in North Norway last fall. (Have you ever seen a painting crystalize and frost as you were doing it and later in a warmer atmosphere melt and run?)

So much for artistic technique. By now any reader knows it was on the warm side at the Rose Garden. The Marines' name for their austere expeditionary base was a steal from the current Marine Corps Recruiting theme, "We don't promise you a Rose Garden."

There were many experiences shared with the Marines at Nam Phong during my tour. A kaleidoscope of impressions follows:

A trip to the ammunition disposal area with the EOD team where outdated or for some other reason unsuitable ammunition was destroyed by setting charges atop the stacked piles of it and igniting it from the protection of a bunker. Water buffalos trampling into the area and Marine cowboys who herd them away from danger.

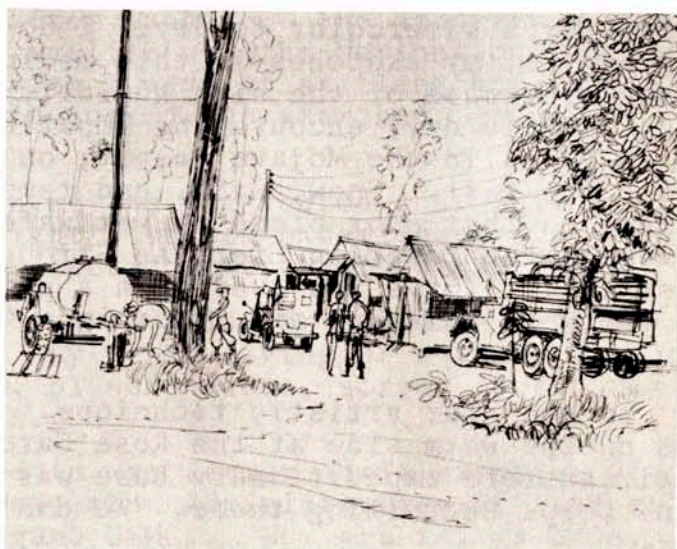
In Udorn, a city about 43 miles north of Nam Phong and closest liberty port for Marines, there is an Indian tailor who specializes in making party suits. They are similar to flight suits but more colorful and adorned with embroidered insignia of rank, name tag, and, usually according to the whim of the wearer, an American flag on one shoulder and a Thai flag on the other, and various squadron and unit patches. The suits were tailored in unit colors and the squadron hootches were painted with the same colors. In one case a number of gallons of Air Force blue paint was arranged for to make the hootches of one squadron more uniform. The Red Devil Phantom Squadron (VMFA-232), of course, used brilliant Marine Corps scarlet.

When the Navy SeaBee's finished the rough, primitive work on the base, the Marines who immediately moved in were under the impression they would be there at most for 60 days. I saw a data processing "readout" sheet programmed to show a Marine Corps emblem and send roughly the following message: To Marines at MAG-15. Congratulations on the end of the first 12 months of your 60 days deployment and good luck during the next 12 months.

By now, most Marines have left Thailand and the Rose Garden experience will soon be history, remembered most vividly by those who were there. With the passage of time the unpleasant heat, dust, mud, long hours of hard work, nightmarish combat flights, tepid showers when available, four-holders and Montezuma's revenge will slowly fade from memory; until the next time. "The Marines don't promise you a Rose Garden," just "one good deal after another."

Maj John Dyer, USMCR

MAG-15 Headquarters, Nam Phong



Band Observes 175th Anniversary

Wednesday evening, 11 July 1973, at the Concert Hall of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the United States Marine Band commemorated its 175th anniversary with a gala concert. It was on this date in 1798 that President John Adams signed a bill which brought Marine musicians on the establishment.

The date, incidentally, is really the anniversary of the United States Marine Corps (not Continental Marines) which was constituted to guard ships and yards of the new U. S. Navy and which has had unbroken service to this day. The act establishing the Marine Corps mentioned "musicians" as part of the 33 officers and 848 Marines authorized.

The concert was noteworthy for two other landmarks. It marked the first concert in which the band included its first woman musician, Ruth Johnson. Marine Bandsman Johnson, who plays the French horn, received her Bachelor of Music degree last May from the University of Michigan where she was a member of the Symphony Band and the Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras. She also played with the Flint Michigan Symphony Orchestra for four years. She joined the Marine Band on 16 May.

The other landmark was the return of retired director Col William Santelmann to the podium to conduct the band in Sousa's spirited "El Capitan." Twenty-five years before Santelmann conducted the band on its 150th anniversary observance.

In addition to the Honorable and Mrs. John W. Warner, Secretary of the Navy, and the Honorable James E. Johnson, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (M&RA), both former Marines, the Commandant and Mrs. Robert E. Cushman, and Assistant Commandant and Mrs. Earl E. Anderson, the concert was attended by 15 congressmen and their ladies, and over 50 regular, reserve, and retired general officers and their ladies.

Conducted by LtCol Dale Harpham, the Band's program included another Sousa march, "Hail to the Spirit of Liberty," "Festive Overture," Op. 96 by Dmitri Shostakovich, "Symphony No. 3 for Band" by Vittorio Giannini, a Stephen Foster medley arranged by Marine Bandsman Samuel Nestico, and a group of old American songs by Aaron Copland and sung by Marine Bandsman Michael Ryan. Also featured as soloists were Bandsmen brothers James and Fredric Erdman. James played Concerto for Trombone and Military Band by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Fredric, Cornet Solo, "Pasticcio Italien" by Marine Bandsman Thomas Knox. F.B.N.

All A Soldier Needs Is.... A Long Lost Thomason Is Found

Col John W. Thomason is known to all Marines as a writer and artist who captured the spirit of the fighting Marine. He himself embodied the essential characteristics of that breed -- toughness and courage -- as he amply demonstrated in France in 1918. He had something more too, which doesn't always show through his better known works. That was his lusty sense of humor. This not only shows, it is central to the sketch reproduced opposite.

I first heard about this sketch, or one like it, some 30 years ago from a retired Army friend who described it as the reader sees it here. He said Thomason had given it to him at the Army War College in the 1930s but some Marine had recognized it for what it was and had midnight requisitioned it from his wall during a party.

Recently, at a gathering of military historians I was discussing Thomason with Col Henry S. Parker, MC USA (Ret.). He described the same sketch which, he said, Thomason had given his father when they were classmates at the Army War College. Anxious to see it after many years of picturing it in my mind's eye, I asked Col Parker if he would lend it to the museum long enough for a copy to be made. He graciously donated it to the museum collection and we are pleased to publish it here for the first time anywhere.

Actually the sketch is not an original but appears to be a copy done by offset lithography. A good guess is that Thomason did the sketch during a War College discussion on the essential equipment for field service and it was so well received that his classmates wanted one. Quantity reproduction followed. The "print" is signed, however: "Major John Thomason, USMC, Army War College 1937," in pencil.

At any rate the museum is fortunate to have added yet another example of Thomason art to its small but growing collection.

F. B. N.

(from discussion. Cont. #1)

FOR FIELD SERVICE,

ALL A SOLDIER NEEDS IS :

SOMETHING TO
FIGHT WITH →

SOMETHING TO →
EAT WITH →

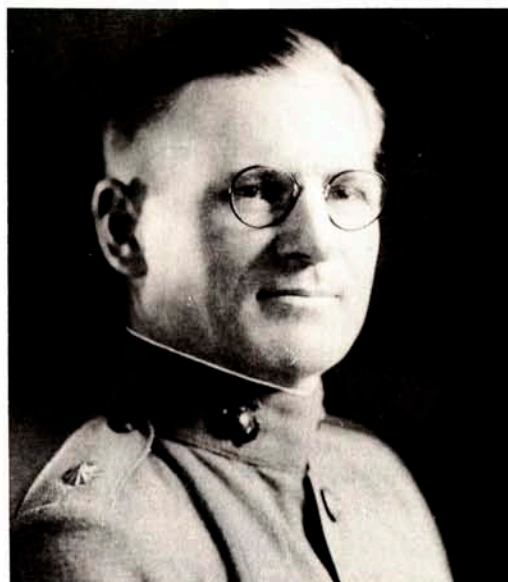
← SOMETHING TO
SLEEP WITH



Historians of the Corps

Edwin North McClellan was commissioned 18 June 1907 as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps and assigned to the School of Application at Annapolis, Md. Although his training was interrupted by illness, he completed his indoctrination in time to join the USS *Wisconsin* as part of the Great White Fleet world cruise of 1908-09.

On Christmas Day 1909 he was assigned to duty at Marine Barracks Norfolk. After his promotion to first lieutenant on 25 May 1910, he joined the Marines enroute to the Philippines. McClellan arrived at Manila on 2 December 1910 and served there until assigned to Peking, China, where he arrived on 1 August 1912. While in China he served as an early commanding officer of the famous Mounted Detachment at Peking from 18 December 1912 to 9 July 1913.



McClellan returned stateside to Mare Island and within a few weeks was ordered to Washington where he was assigned to the Navy's Judge Advocate General's office, reporting on 14 November 1913. He remained on this duty until sea duty took him to the USS *Arizona* on 9 February 1917.

His writing career seems to have begun on this JAG assignment as he prepared the Index-Digest of Court-Martial Orders for the years 1914, 1915, and 1916, as well as the "Naval Digest, 1916." His office work was combined with study at the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D. C. which led to a law degree in 1916.

McClellan was promoted to major (temporary) while still on the *Arizona*. The same month he was promoted to Force Marine Officer, Battleship Force No. 1, Atlantic Fleet and transferred to the USS *Minnesota* where he remained until almost the close of the war, being detached to Marine Barracks, Quantico on 14 October 1918.

With the close of the war in Europe, McClellan was ordered to France on 28 February 1919 for duty with the Historical Section of the AEF. He was specifically charged with "collecting historical data regarding activities of Marines during operations

in Europe. Parenthetically, the Historical Branch, War Plans Division, General Staff, U.S. Army, had been organized in Washington, D.C., in February 1918. Shortly thereafter, Professor Robert Matteson Johnston, the eminent American military historian from Harvard, was commissioned with the rank of major and sent to France with a small party of associates and reported to General Headquarters of the A.E.F.

McClellan returned to the U. S. from his tour with the Army Historical Branch on 17 August 1919 and joined HQMC three days later.

It is presumed his experience with Dr. Johnston was fruitful for on 8 September 1919 the Historical Section, Adjutant and Inspectors Department, Headquarters, USMC, was established by authority of Marine Corps Order No. 53. On the same day, McClellan was ordered in charge, serving until 31 May 1925. He returned for a second tour of duty, from 20 June 1930 to 2 March 1933. The section consisted of one commissioned officer assisted by an average of three privates acting as clerks.

MCO No. 53, the original charter for the Marine Corps Historical Division, established the Historical Archives for all material of an historical nature, which was defined as material from which administrative value had disappeared. This reflected Johnston's work in France where one of his first tasks had been to organize "a system of archives where daily reports were tabulated so that there might be a basis for the projected history of the war...." The section was specifically instructed to prepare a history of the Marine Corps in World War I, and to bring up to date the history of the Corps.

The order to prepare a history of the Corps in World War I led to the submission of a "concise history" on 26 November 1919 which was approved and published in 1920. A first edition of 50,000 copies was soon exhausted, and a second edition of 100,000 was authorized. A continuing need for the publication and its acknowledged value led to a facsimile reprint edition of 14,000 copies in 1968, just 50 years after Belleau Wood.

McClellan had now embarked upon an unparalleled career of writing on the history of the Marine Corps which led to more than 100 published articles, some being short "vignettes" while others were long detailed studies.

In addition to his work in the Historical Section, he served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Marine Corps Association from 1 July 1921 to 1 October 1922, and edited five issues of the Marine Corps Gazette.

On 21 October 1921, McClellan suggested to MajGenCmdt John A. Lejeune that 10 November, the birthday of the Corps, be de-

clared a Marine Corps holiday and celebrated throughout the Corps, that a birthday dinner be held in Washington, and that a General Order be issued on this subject. As a direct result of McClellan's suggestion, Marine Corps Order No. 47 (Series 1921) of 1 November 1921 was issued and later incorporated in the Marine Corps Manual.

After completing his first tour of duty with the Historical Section, McClellan was detached on 1 June 1925 for duty at the Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor, T.H. He was in Hawaii until 15 November 1927 when he returned to the Pacific coast. After a brief tour in the Western Recruiting Area, he was sent to join the 5th Regiment, 2d Brigade, Nicaragua, reporting 19 October 1928 as the official photographer.

Returning from Nicaragua on 24 July 1929, he had a brief tour at Quantico and shortly afterwards the Navy Register carried the new notation, "Graduate Marine Corps Schools, Field Officer's Course."

McClellan returned to Headquarters on 20 June 1930 to enter upon his second tour in charge of the Historical Section. On this assignment, he endeavored to meet the requirement of Order No. 53 of 8 September 1919 to revise and bring up to date the history of the Corps.

Concentrated labor on his part resulted in the production of chapter after chapter toward a complete history of the Corps. Approximately 22 chapters were completed during his first tour of duty in the 20s while nine chapters are credited to his second tour of duty in the 30s.

On 6 September 1932, an outline of a seven-volume history of the Corps was drafted, designed to carry through 1933.

The McClellan history ultimately developed into 31 chapters consisting of 1063 pages of text, 836 pages of notes, and 303 pages of index. All of the 26 chapters for Volume I (through the War of 1812) were published as were the early chapters of Volume II. One isolated chapter, that dealing with the Marine Corps and Japan, 1846-1860, was also completed. His early monograph on the Marine Corps in World War I was undoubtedly the nucleus for the projected Volume VI, "The World War."

To say these chapters were "published" is a misuse of the term. His second tour of duty was during the Great Depression and at that time formal publication was not economically feasible. He resorted to the mimeograph machine and 200 to 300 copies of each chapter were produced for judicious distribution. Some chapters were revised so that two versions exist. In 1954 the New York Public Library microfilmed the McClellan history, the closest to publication the work has achieved.

As corollary to his chronological and topical histories McClellan wrote a small book entitled, *Uniforms of the American Marines, 1775 to 1832, Including the Uniform of the Colonial American Marines, 1740-1742*, which was published in mimeographed form in 1932. More a series of notes than a continuous and cohesive exposition, it still remains the best done to date.

On 2 March 1933, McClellan was reassigned to writing a history of the Adjutant and Inspectors' Department. This assignment was interspersed with trips to Philadelphia for historical research. File memos show that in 1934 he assisted the Office of Naval Records and Library, then under the late Commo Dudley W. Knox, in searching for documents for the Navy series on the Quasi War with France.

McClellan was promoted to lieutenant colonel on 1 March 1934 and was detached from his historical and writing duties on 15 June 1934 for a brief assignment in Haiti, returning to the Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, on 15 August 1934.

Within a few months he was off to the Orient, being assigned to duty with the 4th Marines in Shanghai. But this assignment was of short duration as he was sent to Cavite, Philippine Islands, where he commanded the Marine Barracks at the Navy Yard. His active duty career came to a conclusion at Cavite with his retirement on 30 June 1936.

He returned briefly to Pennsylvania, making his home at Bryn Mawr and then moved to Honolulu until 1941 when he returned to Philadelphia.

When *The United States Marine Corps in the World War* was reprinted in 1968, Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Leonard F. Chapman traveled to Philadelphia to present an autographed copy to McClellan. McClellan, 87 years old, was honored at a ceremony held 10 December 1968 at the Philadelphia Naval Base. The Commandant, in speaking of McClellan's history, said it "is still the essential starting point for any meaningful research into our past."

McClellan lived several more years, dying at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital on 25 July 1971. He was survived by his divorced wife, two sons, and a daughter.

Historians today owe a debt to McClellan for the tremendous amount of historical work he produced. His monumental history, although never finished, constituted an extraordinary achievement alone. The back-up of more than 100 articles reflect a picture of an intense individual who must have driven himself hard to produce the amount he did. All Marine historians since owe him a debt of gratitude.

Ralph W. Donnelly

New Corps Research Resource

West Coast researchers soon will have a place to go for Marine Corps history sources, according to plans of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

Recently the Historical Division was contacted by the museum's senior curator for military and political history, Donald Chaput, with a request for back copies of the *Leatherneck* and *Marine Corps Gazette*. He said that the plan was to assemble a collection that could be consulted by the many California researchers who are interested in the Marine Corps.

The division had just completed a combined microfilming and housekeeping project that produced almost 400 back copies of *Leatherneck*. These represented more than 30 years of publication, and were extra third or fourth copies. A similar project now is underway for the *Gazette* issues held by the division.

The *Leatherneck* collection was shipped to the West Coast where LtCol William C. Britt, Marine Corps Public Affairs Officer in Los Angeles, presented them to Chaput. The photograph below shows the presentation on September 10.

"The magazines are great," commented Chaput, "dozens of issues are from the 1940s with excellent contemporary accounts of action in the Pacific. For now, we will not bind the magazines; instead, we will try to fill in a few of the missing issues. We will temporarily put them in boxes, which will cut down on deterioration until binding is done."

The division will forward the extra *Gazettes* when they become available. Meanwhile, the L.A. Museum has purchased the microfilms of all *Gazettes* and started subscriptions to both magazines. It is also searching for other material, especially background historical data on the military posts, forts, stations, and airfields of past and present California, and will include Marine Corps bases and air stations in this separate collection.

The material will be made available to researchers at the museum in Exposition Park, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles.



Instant History: 155mm Howitzer

Initiative and a sense of the significant are two important attributes of the successful military leader. They are important to the historian as well, particularly when he collects current history.

Maj Anthony D. Nastri, S-4 of 4th Battalion, 11th Marines stationed at MCB, Twentynine Palms, California, exhibited these attributes when he dialed the Marine Corps Museum on autovon last winter. He asked if the Museum was interested in a historical report on the modification of 4th Battalion, 11th Marine's M109 self-propelled 155mm howitzers to the M109A1 longer barreled, farther shooting version and what guidance could he have. Guidance was provided by letter and Maj Nastri moved out on his "instant history" adventure.

Seven months later, a package titled "Pictorial/Narrative Record of the Long Tube Modification to the Self-Propelled 155mm Howitzer M109" arrived at the Museum. The report consists of a three-ring binder containing information on the organizations and principal individuals involved, a chronology of significant events, a narrative description of the modification operations, 19 photographs and five color slides showing various stages of the modification and the test firing that followed, and finally, encased in clear plastic, the primer of the first test round fired.

The only item needed to make the package complete is a list of references having to do with the modification project -- correspondence (with copies of the more important letters), ordnance technical orders and manuals on both M109 and M109A1, official reports on work completed, and reports of test firing. The Museum is endeavoring to obtain these items or a listing.

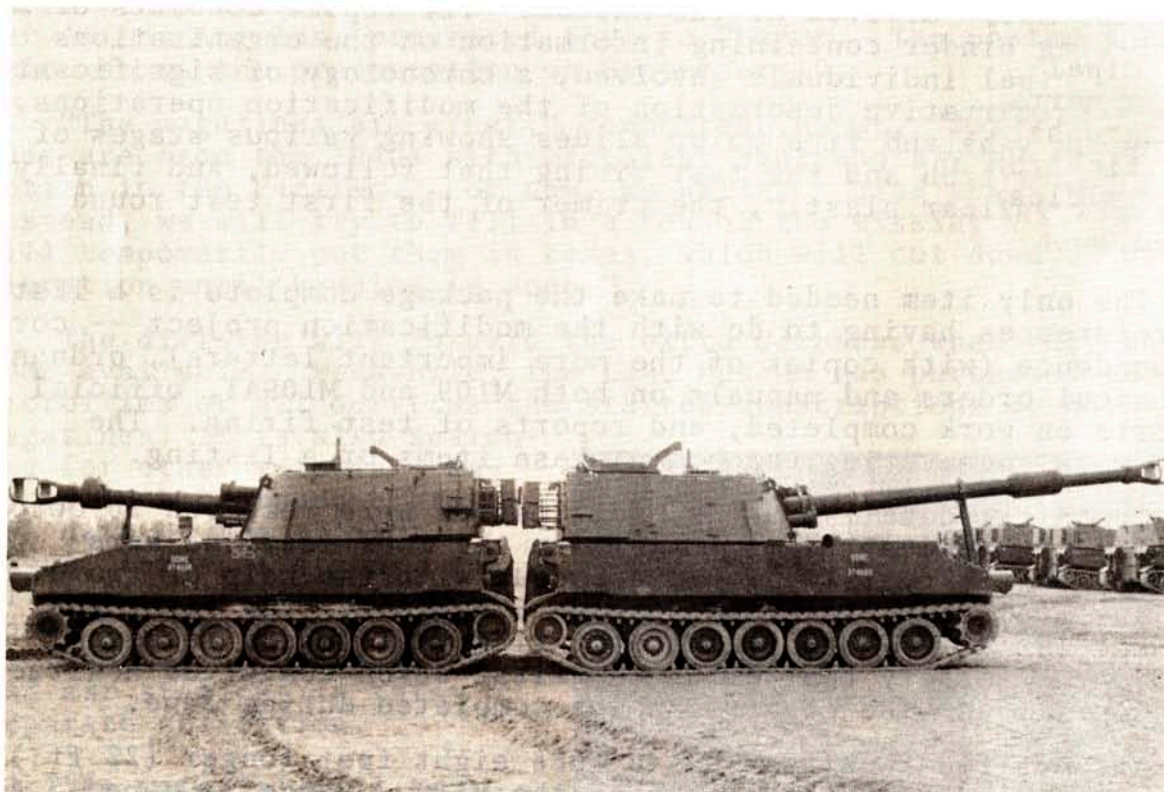
Technical details of the modification were received 10 October 1972, technical teams to perform the modifications were formed 25 January 1973, work was begun with the help of two civilians from Rock Island Arsenal on 5 February, the first gun was completed 13 February, first firing tables were received 6 March, K Battery test-fired the first seven converted howitzers on 4 April, and the conversion was completed during June.

The modified howitzer has a tube eight feet longer (22 ft.) and weighs 1,080 pounds more than the M109. Range is upped 3,400 meters to 18,000. A much greater range will be possible with the XM549 RAP (rocket assisted projectile) round under development.

The M109A1 will also be able to fire the laser-guided "Can-

non Launched Guided Projectile" when it is fully developed. In addition to the longer tube, modification included changes to the traversing mechanism, a larger equilibrator, new travel lock, and heavier torsion bars in the track suspension, all to compensate for the greater tube weight. The new M119C sight replaced the old direct fire telescope, as well.

Maj Nastri's interesting and historically valuable report will be filed in the Marine Corps' historical archives where it will serve to document a significant improvement to one of the Corps' major weapons systems. One can only wish for similar readymade documentation of introduction of other important systems -- the M1903 and M1 rifles, the 75mm pack howitzer, the LVT, for examples. The Marine Corps Museum will welcome a similar effort by anyone wishing to document the story of the introduction of the M60 tank, the LVTP-7, Harrier, Dragon, TOW, or other new weapons into a using unit. Instant historians may write to the Museums Branch, History and Museums Division, HQMC (Code HDM), Washington, D. C. 20380 for guidance and suggestions.



MCAA Reunion

At the second national reunion of the Marine Corps Aviation Association held 28-29 September at New Orleans, particular excellence in flight was recognized at the awards banquet. Recipients were:

Award and Recipient	Donor
Naval Aviator of the Year (Cunningham Trophy) Major Howard L. Decastro, VMFA-531	FMAFVA
Naval Flight Officer of the Year (Robinson Trophy) CWO-3 John C. Bardon, VMFA-531	Grumman Aerospace Corp.
Aviation Ground Officer of the Year Capt Lewis E. Sergeant, VMFA-531	Bell Helicopter Co.
Air Controller of the Year CWO Robert D. Favreau, Marine Air Control Squadron 6	Litton Industries
Aircrewman of the Year (Fixed Wing) GySgt Edward C. Rinehart, VMGR-152	Lockheed Aircraft Corp.
Helicopter Aircrewman of the Year SSgt James T. Connacher, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362	Boeing, Vertol Division
Plane Captain of the Year Sgt Ronald L. Harvin, VMFA-531	McDonald Douglas Aerospace
Helicopter Squadron of the Year Marine Attack Helicopter Squadron 369	Sikorsky, Division of U.A.
Fighter Squadron of the Year (Hanson Award) VMFA-333	LTV Aerospace Corp.
Commandant's Aviation Efficiency Award Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463	CMC

Between annual meetings, these awards are cared for and displayed by the Marine Corps Museum.

Representing the Historical Division at the convention were Mr. C. W. Gillespie from the Aviation Unit, Museums Branch and LtCol W. R. Fails from the Historical Branch. Col Fails spoke to the membership on various alternatives for developing an aviation museum, the new program for producing squadron histories in cooperation with the squadrons, and the Historical Division Research Grant Fund.

Information on the MCAA may be obtained by writing to: Marine Corps Aviation Association, P.O. Box 1912, NAS, Glenview, Illinois 60026.

People and Places

On 6 and 7 October, BGen Edwin H. Simmons attended a seminar in Maritime and Regional Studies at the University of Maine, Orono, Maine. He also attended an Air Force Historical Conference at Offutt AFB on 10 October.

Five members of the Historical Division, BGen Simmons, Col Nihart, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Frank, and Mr. Long, attended the annual meeting of the Fellows of the Company of Military Historians held at Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia on 12-13 October.

BGen Simmons and Col Nihart toured nine museums in the Hampton Roads area on 20, 21, and 22 September and consulted with their directors or curators. They also visited the Maritime Museum, Cruiser *Olympia*, and Marine Corps Memorial Museum, New Hall in Philadelphia on 25 and 26 October.

LtCol Thomas M. D'Andrea, USMCR assumed duties as Assistant Deputy Director/OIC, Marine Corps Museum on 29 October 1973. He reported in from Iwakuni where he was CO of Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1, 1st MAW.

Maj Curtis Gene Arnold, reporting in from duty with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing at Iwakuni, has replaced Maj Charles M. Johnson as a Vietnam writer in the Histories Section.

Miss Gabrielle M. Neufeld, the Division's expert on lineage and honors, was recently promoted to head the Unit History Unit of the Reference Section, Historical Branch. Mr. James S. Santelli, who had headed this unit, has joined the General History Unit of the Histories Section.

Mr. Martin K. Gordon, who is the compiler of three of our manuscript registers, has joined the Division as a reference historian. Mr. Gordon, a doctoral candidate at The George Washington University, hopes to receive his Ph.D. in June 1975.

Mrs. Evelyn F. Jadot, who has been the Division librarian since 27 October 1969, resigned from government service on 3 December 1973.

Mrs. Laurene Clarendon joined the staff of the Museums Branch at the Washington Navy Yard on 3 October as secretary to the Deputy Director for Marine Corps Museums.

Miss Linda L. Milliner, a blind former student at Howard University, has joined the Oral History Unit as a typist-transcriber.

Oral History: Columbia and USMC

Over 3,000 man-years of experience spanning from World War I through the Korean War is contained in the oral history interview tapes and transcripts listed in the new oral history collection catalog issued by Columbia University. Impressive as these figures may seem they represent only three percent of the persons listed and the over 16,000 pages of Marine transcript only four percent of the total held at Columbia.

The recently published *The Oral History Collection of Columbia University*, Elizabeth B. Mason and Louis M. Starr, eds. (N.Y.: Oral History Research Office, Columbia University, 1973), is a veritable treasure map to guide researchers to the gold mine of recorded memoirs held by Columbia University. The 2,697 persons listed in this catalog have produced 364,650 pages of interview transcript, in turn representing an infinite number of interview hours on tape. In this catalog are listed not only the individual and special projects interviews conducted by Columbia, but also those interviews conducted by other programs -- such as the Marine Corps' -- whose tapes the Oral History Research Office has transcribed.

Listed in the catalog are 88 Marines interviewed by the Marine Corps Oral History Unit. Actually the figures above are not up-to-date, since following publication of the catalog, a number of other Marine interviews were transcribed and accessioned. For the most part, the interviews listed in the Columbia catalog actually represent World Wars I and II and Korean-vintage Marines, whose careers in depth were recorded in full on tape. These interviews represent the collective experiences and lessons learned on all levels of staff and command in both peace and war.

The acknowledged pioneer of all oral history programs in which the tape recorder is the primary instrument employed for recording the interview is the one begun in 1948 at Columbia University by the late, eminent American historian Dr. Allan Nevins. His rationale for establishing such a program was quite simple -- he intuitively sensed that the age of the letter writer, the diarist, and the memoirist had fast been overtaken by the age of the telephone and other rapid forms of communication. As a result, letters, diaries, memoirs, and other forms of personal memorabilia in documents were rapidly becoming non-existent. Abetted by the advent of technological advances in recording, Dr. Nevins devised the concept of oral history, which is nothing more nor less than living, spoken history captured for all time on tape in the words and voices of those who have themselves made history or been witness to events of historic import.

In 1965, the Marine Corps Oral History Program -- initially

modestly titled "Historical Interview Program for Vietnam Returnees," -- began and was limited at first to interviewing only individual Marines to acquire on tape their experiences and lessons learned during their tours in Vietnam. The following year, the program was given its new name and a new charter which included not only interviewing individual Marines at newly organized major interview centers, but also interviews conducted by deployed Fleet Marine Force units on the scene. In addition, interviews were to be conducted in depth with retired distinguished Marines concerning their careers from their earliest days of active service. At this time, when the scope of the program changed, in order to learn as much as possible about the oral history process as a guide in improving the Marine Corps program, a representative of the Historical Division was sent to the Oral History Research Office of Columbia University to consult and establish liaison with Dr. Louis M. Starr, director of OHRO, and Mrs. Elizabeth Mason, the assistant director.

Because the Marine Corps program had no real transcribing capability, Dr. Starr's office agreed to transcribe our interviews with retired Marines for a fee. As part of the agreement, a copy of each transcript would be, and in fact is, deposited in the Oral History Collection of Columbia University's Manuscript Collection at Butler Library under exactly the same restrictions placed on its use by the interviewee as in our collection.

At present, the Oral History Unit, as well as historians working on Vietnam-related projects, are interviewing both serving and retired senior Marine commanders about specific matters relating to their assignments in Vietnam. These interviews are being conducted to support the writing of the Vietnam monograph series and eventually a case-bound six-volume Vietnam operational history.

Prior to the Spring issue of *Fortitudine*, LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr., was interviewed for this purpose, and since that issue, the following officers have been interviewed: LtGens William K. Jones, Donn J. Robertson, Ormond R. Simpson, and Richard G. Weede; MajGens Robert H. Barrow, Marion E. Carl, Oscar F. Peatross, and Rathvon McC. Tompkins; Col Dean C. Macho, and LtCol Marcus J. Gravel. Still others are scheduled for future interviewing, and the insight they provide, together with primary documentary resources, will serve to make the Marine Corps historical account of its service in Vietnam a valuable institutional memory of experiences and lessons learned to be used by generations of Marines to come. Someone once said that "Every generation of Marines leaves a heritage to the next." Perhaps this is the true measure of oral history and the uses to which it is put.

Benis M. Frank

Distinguished Museum Visitors

Undersecretary of the Navy, J. William Middendorf, II, visited the Marine Corps Museum on 27 August. Secretary Middendorf, a direct descendant of Capt William Stone, owner and commander of the original *Hornet*, one of the ships of the first Continental fleet of 1776, was formerly U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands and served as a naval officer during the Second World War with amphibious forces. He has an abiding interest in history and culture -- he is founder of The Friends of the American Wing, Metropolitan Museum of Art -- is active in a number of historical societies and is author of various publications on American historical prints.



Secretary Middendorf, left, is welcomed by Col Nihart

Members of the Potomac and Maryland Arms Collectors toured the Museum on 15 September. The visitors were enthusiastic and well-informed on matters of military weaponry. They gave the Museum's arms exhibits a thorough going over for accuracy and pertinence, resulting in several helpful suggestions to further improve the exhibits.

Commandant General of the British Royal Marines, Sir Ian Gourlay, MC, KCB, visited the Museum on 13 September. LtGen Gourlay, a veteran of World War II and service against the terrorists in Cyprus, is deeply aware of the history of the Royal Marines and well acquainted with the record of the U.S. Marine Corps. In spite of the demands of a pressing schedule, the Commandant General, who was accompanied by LtGen Keller, CG, MCDEC, expressed a great interest in the Museum's exhibits. The following day, Lady Gourlay and Mrs. Keller also toured the Museum.

Left to right, BGen Simlik, Col Nihart, and Cmdt Gen Gourlay



Recent Donations

A photographic history of the Marine Corps Supply Activity, Philadelphia has been presented to the Historical Division by MajGen Robert R. Fairburn, former MCSA CG. The history is in two volumes containing 68 well-captioned photographs beginning with construction of the building at 1100 South Broad Street in 1905 and extending through three wars to 1957. Most of the photographs cover the early years from 1905 to 1921 with smaller groups depicting activities in 1941, 1943, 1944, and 1957. The two volumes will be kept intact in the Museum's photographic collection.

The Museum's collection has acquired three distinct personal recollections by two former Marines and a Navy chaplain which will enhance our growing holdings:

Accessioned to the collection is a 20-page personal reminiscence of a black Marine who served with the 52d Defense Battalion on Guam in World War II. Cpl John Ross Griffin's account of his induction during the Corps' buildup and his subsequent experiences until the termination of the war will be a welcomed addition to our small but hopefully growing black Marine historical collection.

Another entry in the personal collection of LtGen Victor H. Krulak, USMC (Ret.) has been accessioned. A short study entitled "Report on Japanese Assault Landing Operations, Shanghai Area 1937," written by then-1stLt Krulak, the report is a descriptive analysis of the Japanese amphibious assault doctrine and includes drawings of various Japanese landing craft.

By quantity alone, the following accession merits careful scrutiny by interested scholars of the Vietnam conflict. The collection is now enhanced by a meticulous 989-page personal account of Lt Ray W. Stubble, CHC, USNR. Entitled "Khe Sanh Chaplain: Historical summary of activities while assigned to 1/26, 3rd Reconnaissance and 3rd Shore Party Battalions; July 1967 through June 1968; includes Khe Sanh siege of 1968," the account records the day to day activity of a member of the III MAF privy to both enlisted and officer's viewpoints of the events in Vietnam during that crucial period.

Also accessioned during this period was the assemblage of various photographs and related materials from the estate of BGen Miles S. Newton, USMC, donated by his widow. A series of captioned scenes of the general's tour in Nicaragua is present, as well as a highly interesting segment dealing with the design and development of the Corps' antiaircraft detection system in the late 1930s.

A collection received in the immediate past and too late for comprehensive analysis at this printing, has been surveyed for its salient points. Through the beneficence of LtCol Russell Lloyd Jr., of the I&I staff at the Washington Navy Yard, personal papers and memorabilia of BGen Russell (Whitey) Lloyd have come into the Museum's possession. A substantial increment of the collection deals with personal letters written by the general while serving with the 1st Marine Brigade in Iceland and cursory examination reveals that similar letters dealing with the period of the actions in the Pacific during World War II are included.

LtCol Harry J. Belden, USAF (Ret.) recently donated a World War I Marinette uniform to the Marine Corps Museum. The donation was made in memory of his wife, the late Mrs. Kathryn Gill Belden, one of the "Reservists (Female)" who served in the Marine Corps during World War I. Parts of the uniform are on loan to the Navy Museum, Washington, D.C. and are currently on display in a Navy and Marine Corps in World War I exhibit.

The History and Museums Division recently acquired two maps engraved by the noted late 17th-early 18th Century mapmaker, Herman Moll. Done about 1720, one map shows the Carolinas while the other focuses on Port Royal Sound, the present site of MCRD, Parris Island. Herman Moll was a Hollander who came to England in the 1680s where he was a bookseller and an engraver of maps. He died in London in 1732. Reproductions of the two maps will be used in historical displays at the new MCRD, Parris Island Museum.

HOW TO OBTAIN MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS

The Historical Division prepares and publishes a variety of publications including operational histories, unit histories, chronologies, bibliographies, and reference pamphlets on a diversity of subjects relating to Marine Corps history. The Marine Corps Art Section also publishes a limited number of lithographs.

Case-bound books are generally printed in limited numbers by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 and are available for public sale as long as copies remain in stock. Most of the others can be obtained gratis from the Historical Division.

To obtain a list of available publications and instructions for ordering copies, address a request to the Director of Marine Corps History and Museums, Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps, Washington, D. C. 20380.

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