

FORTITUDINE

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VOLUME VI

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FORTITUDINE

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

Volume VI

WINTER 1976-77

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THE COVER

"Bravo Company Wounded—DMZ." This is the original sketch for a painting by the division's artist-in-residence Maj Charles E. Waterhouse, USMCR. The painting is displayed in the U. S. Navy and Marine Corps Combat Art Center in the Washington Navy Yard. The sketch is reproduced from the book Vietnam War Sketches. Additional sketches and an article on Vietnam by Maj Waterhouse are on pages 10-13.

Director's Page



BGen Simmons

This past fall the Commandant returned from a trip to the West Coast with the observation that the beret seemed to be much in the favor of younger Marines, officer and enlisted, as a headgear to be worn with both the service and utility uniforms. General Wilson suggested that a test of the beret be incorporated into the search that is being made for a suitable cover to go with the camouflage uniform and to replace the present utility cap which began its service life early in World War II as a mechanic's cap.

As has been reported in earlier issues of the Director's Page, the writer is double-hatted (sic!) as Director of Marine Corps History and Museums and President, Permanent Marine Corps Uniform Board. Arrangements were made for the Assistant Commandant, who was on his way to Europe to observe the 4th Marine Amphibious Brigade in this year's exercises on NATO's northern flank, to pick up a number of berets while in Britain from the Royal Marines. General Jaskilka also picked up a like number of heavy-ribbed "woolly-pully" sweaters with the cloth elbow and shoulder patches that the British forces wear.

The berets and sweaters were back in time to be shown to the Commanders' Conference which was then in session and ere long a goodly number of aides to commanding generals had been forced an issue of berets and sweaters and an impromptu acceptability test was in progress.

We also ordered a larger number of U. S. Army green berets for more deliberate testing in the field. This test is scheduled to start 1 February in both the 1st and 2d Marine Divisions in company with three different caps made out of camouflage material.

Laid side by side it is interesting to see the differences between the British and U. S. Army berets. The Royal Marine beret is a bright Kelly

green and the U.S. Army beret, which is made in Canada and seems to be a heavier wool, is a darker rifle green. Without prejudging the results of the test and pre-guessing the Commandant's ultimate decision, it is probably fair and safe to say that the reaction to the berets to date has been emphatic.

This is not the first time that berets have been given serious consideration by the Marine Corps.

Twenty-five years ago, on 23 November 1951, Lieutenant General Franklin A. Hart forwarded the results of an informal test of the beret to Brigadier General James C. McQueen, then President of the Uniform Board. General Hart was then Commanding General, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico. As he reported to General McQueen, he had received two berets from Royal Marine officers and then had asked Brigadier General Leonard E. Rea, at that time Depot Quartermaster in Philadelphia, to make up a number of berets in different types of material.

General Rea on 17 September 1951 sent back several berets, made up in both green and blue wool, along with a number of photographs of Marines at the Philadelphia Depot wearing the berets with various uniforms. In his covering letter, General Rea wrote, "Personally, I rather like them but General Hill [Major General William P. T. Hill, then Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps] just walked in the office and saw not only the berets but the pictures and said he would not be found dead in one of them! That also seems to be the reaction of several other officers that have come in during the last couple of hours. Here they [the berets] are and if you want to sponsor a move toward having such a hat adopted I will give you my blessing....By the way, when I was in Pearl Harbor a few weeks ago, without any comment by me, our friend, Lem Shepherd, told me he had something he



The beret was first tested as an item of uniform issue in 1951. These Marines of the Philadelphia Depot pose with berets made of various types of material. The sample berets were made in blue and green.

wanted me to look at. He came out wearing a beret which he had attained from one of the Royal Marines. He is also for the idea."

General Hart gave the sample beret to Schools Troops, MCS, Quantico, for testing and on 22 October 1951 received a report from Lieutenant Colonel Joseph C. Missar, Commanding Officer, Schools Troops, listing the perceived advantages and disadvantages of the beret.

In his letter of 23 November to General McQueen, General Hart noted that Marines were divided about 50-50 as to whether the beret should be adopted but were three to one in favor of some kind of replacement for the garrison cap.

The Uniform Board met, deliberated, and in due course their recommendations went forward to the Commandant, who now was General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. On 12 May 1952 he signed an official letter to the Commandant, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, giving the

Uniform Board's reasons for recommending against the adoption of the beret:

"a. The proposed beret, while a distinctive item of headgear, is foreign to Americans.

"b. In the United States, the beret is considered principally a feminine item of headwear. Its adoption by the Marine Corps for wear by male personnel would cause many adverse comments, particularly from other branches of the armed forces; it is believed its wear on liberty would result in numerous arguments, and this adverse effect on morale would far outweigh any advantages in comfort, durability and economy it might possess.

"c. Because of the design of the beret, it would be extremely difficult to prescribe its wear in order to guarantee uniformity of appearance."

And, for twenty-five years at least, that letter closed the door on the beret as a uniform item in the U. S. Marine Corps.

PFT In The Old Corps

50 Miles In 3 Days For Company Officers

GENERAL ORDER

No.5.

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. MARINE CORPS

WASHINGTON. *December 21, 1908*

The following Executive Order is hereby promulgated for the information of officers of the U. S. Marine Corps.

"1. Officers of the United States Marine Corps, of whatever rank, will be examined physically and undergo the tests herein prescribed at least once in every two years: the time of such examinations to be designated by the Commandant of the Corps so as to interfere as little as possible with their regular duties, and the tests to be carried out in the United States between May first and July first, as the Commandant of the Corps may direct, and on foreign stations between December first and February first.

"2. All field officers will be required to take a riding test of ninety miles, this distance to be covered in three days. Physical examinations before and after riding, and the riding tests, to be the same as those prescribed for the United States Army by General Orders, No. 79 (paragraph 3). War Department. May 14, 1908.

"3. Line officers of the Marine Corps in the grade of captain or lieutenant will be required to walk fifty miles, this distance to be divided into three days, actual marching time, including rests, twenty hours. In battle, time is essential and ground may have to be covered on the run: if these officers are not equal to the average physical strength of their companies the men will be held back, resulting in unnecessary loss of life and probably defeat: Company officers will, therefore, be required, during one of the marching periods, to double-time two hundred yards, with a half minute's rest; then three hundred yards, with one minute's rest; and then complete the test in a two hundred yard dash, making in all seven hundred yards on the double-time, with one and one-half minutes' rest. The physical examinations before and after the tests to be the same as provided for in paragraph 2 of this order.

"4. The Commandant of the Marine Corps will be required to make such of the above tests as the Secretary of the Navy shall direct.

"5. Field officers of the permanent staff of the Marine Corps who have arrived at an age and rank which renders it highly improbable that they will ever be assigned to any duty requiring participation in active military operations *in the field*, may, upon their own application, be excused from the physical test, but not from the physical examination, prescribed above. Such a request, however, if granted, will be regarded by the executive authority as conclusive reason for not selecting the applicant for any future promotion in volunteer rank, or for assignment, selection or promotion to a position involving participation in operations of the line of the Marine Corps, or in competition with officers of the line of the Marine Corps for any position.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

"THE WHITE HOUSE,

"December 9, 1908,

"[989]"

G. F. ELLIOTT,

Major-General, Commandant.

2d Airdrome Battalion: The Only Unit Of Its Kind

During World War II a number of experimental units were organized to enhance the combat capabilities of the Marine Corps. These included raiders, parachutists, glider forces, barrage balloon squadrons, and base defense battalions, all of which were covered in the History and Museums Division monograph *Special Marine Corps Units of World War II*. One unit not mentioned in the monograph was the 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion. This oversight was brought to the division's attention by SSgt John H. Bowser, Jr., who provided this information on the 2d Airdrome Battalion and the photographs.

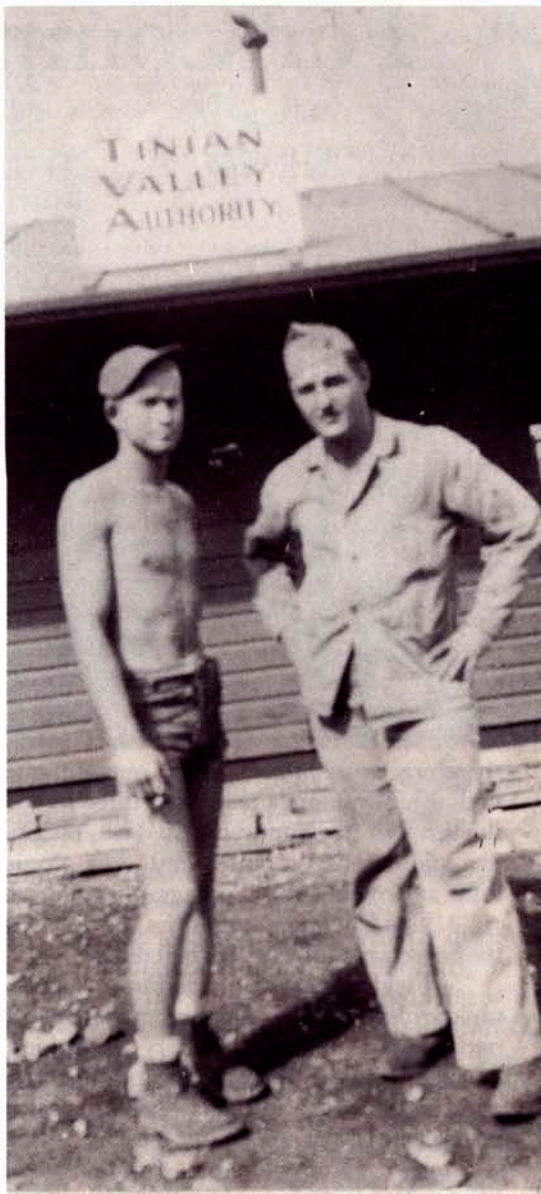
The 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion was formed in 1942 at Camp Linda Vista, Calif., with the original goal to make it operational in the China-Burma Theater. With the loss of airfields in that area, its usage was changed to fit the lines of the defense battalion concept.

The original unit consisted of 90mm and 40mm antiaircraft guns, .50 caliber and .30 caliber machine guns, a light tank unit, and search and fire control radar. A large motor transport contingent was attached to the unit, as was a complete medical facility and an MP company.

The unit remained at Camp Linda Vista gathering equipment and personnel until approximately 1,200 troops were on board, then moved to Camp Dunlap, Calif., for training and gunnery practice. The battalion left Camp Dunlap in the spring of 1943 and shipped out of San Diego on board the USS *Henderson*, arriving at Oahu, T.H. After training at Camp Catlin, the unit departed for Funafuti, Ellice Islands.

At Funafuti the 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion transferred to LSTs and proceeded to Nukufetau Atoll. The unit landed with a detachment of Seabees on 25 August 1943 and provided base defense while Seabees started work on an airstrip.

VMF-111 landed on the fighter strip on 20 October 1943. VMF-111 was followed by VB-108 on 7 November 1943 and VMSB-331 on 15 November 1943. After completing the fighter strip, the Seabees started on a heavy bomber runway and after about 50,000 palm trees were removed, the first B-24s of the 98th AAF Heavy



SSgt John H. Bowser Jr. [right] and Seaman C. B. Thomas on Tinian in 1944. SSgt Bowser provided the photographs and information used on to write this brief recap of the 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion. The Tinian Valley Authority sign reflects the fact that most of the members of the unit were from the South.

Bomber Squadron touched down in late November. The B-24s were used to attack targets in the Marshall and Gilbert Islands.

The 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion remained on Nukufetau Atoll until the end of the Battle for Tarawa, when it returned to Kauai, T.H., for retraining and re-formation. While at Kauai, the unit was redesignated as the 17th Defense Battalion and then re-redesignated as the 17th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion.

From Kauai, the unit was assigned to the V Amphibious Corps and shipped out with the 2d and 4th Divisions for the invasion of Saipan and Tinian. The 17th AAA remained on board ship during the invasion of Saipan but followed the 2d Division into Tinian as reserve troops.

During August 1944 the unit established a perimeter defense for air strips being constructed on the north end of Tinian and it remained on the island until the end of the war, defending the air strips as part of Island Command.

Colonel Thomas G. McFarland was the original commanding officer of the 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion and remained in command until he was relieved by LtCol William S. McCormack in 1945.



The water distillation crew of Battery B, 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion on Tinian.



A 90mm gun crew, Battery B, 2d Marine Airdrome Battalion. By the time the unit arrived on Tinian, it had been redesignated as the 17th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion

Historical Center Is



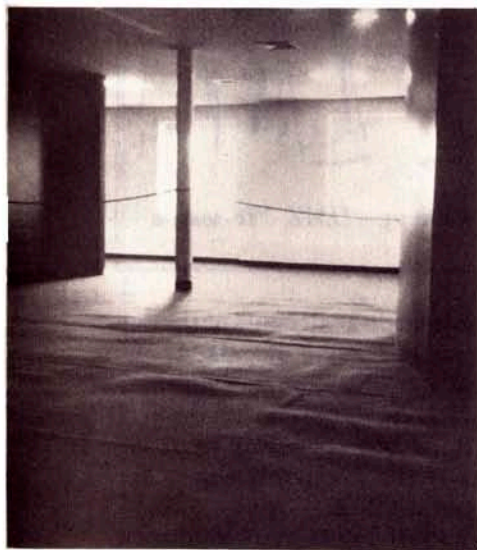
The library area on the third floor of the new Marine Corps Historical Center.



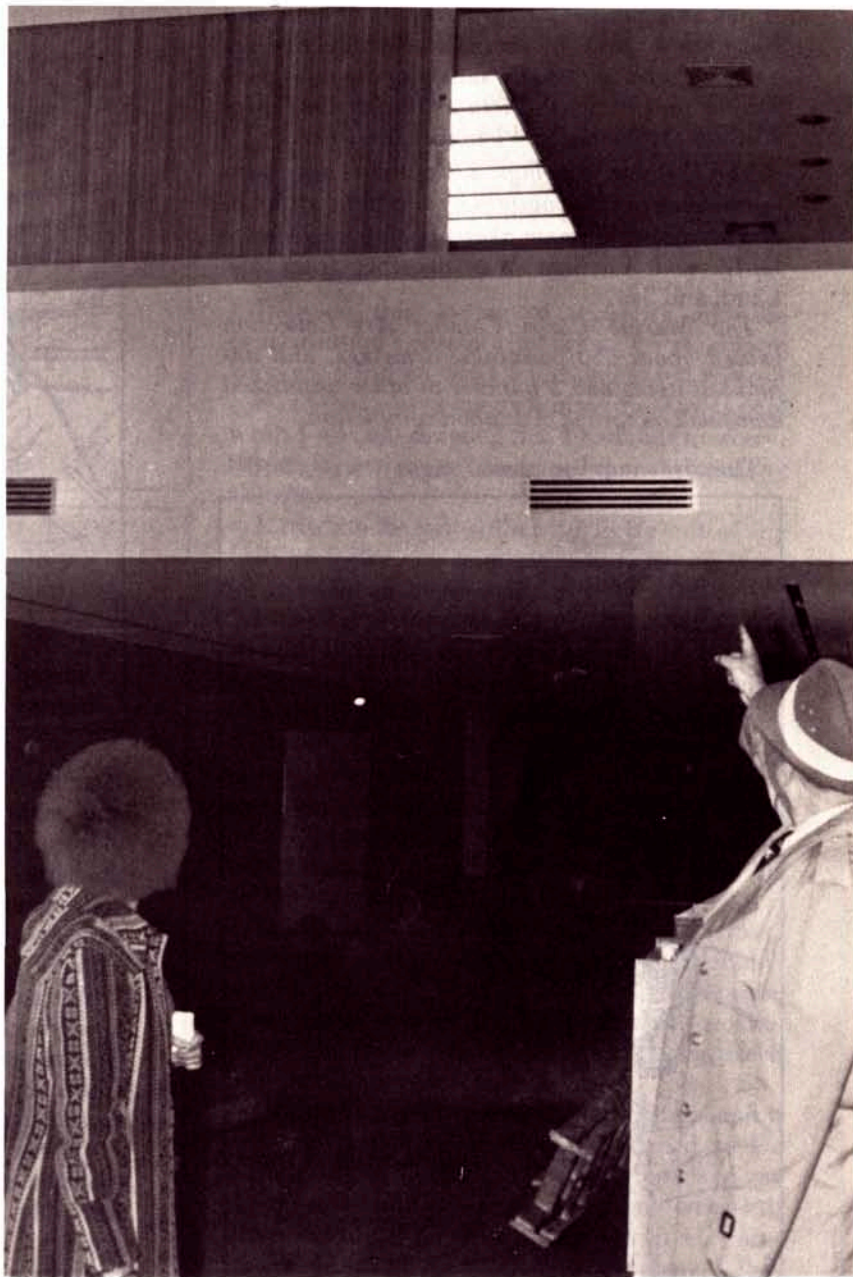
Tim Wood, History and Museums Division personal papers curator, travels down the time tunnel on the first floor of the Historical Center. The time tunnel will house exhibits covering the history of the Corps and is the main feature of the museums aspect of the Center.

Nearing Completion

Time is drawing close for the establishment of the Marine Corps Historical Center in Building 58, Washington Navy Yard. Although originally scheduled for August 1976 completion, the building rehabilitation work had slipped about six months. These are views of the interior of the new center during construction inspections in December 1976 and January 1977. Hopes for the Division to start moving into the center in early February were dashed when a frozen pipe burst on 29 January, flooding portions of all four floors. The estimated occupancy date is now sometime in the spring.



Buckled carpeting in the reception area on the second floor was part of damage suffered when pipe burst on 29 January.



Col Brooke Nihart, Deputy Director for Museums, points out the conference room to Mrs. Joyce Bonnett, head of the division's archives section. They are standing in the art gallery on the first floor, where the second floor conference room, partially covered by a sliding panel, overlooks the end portion of the gallery.

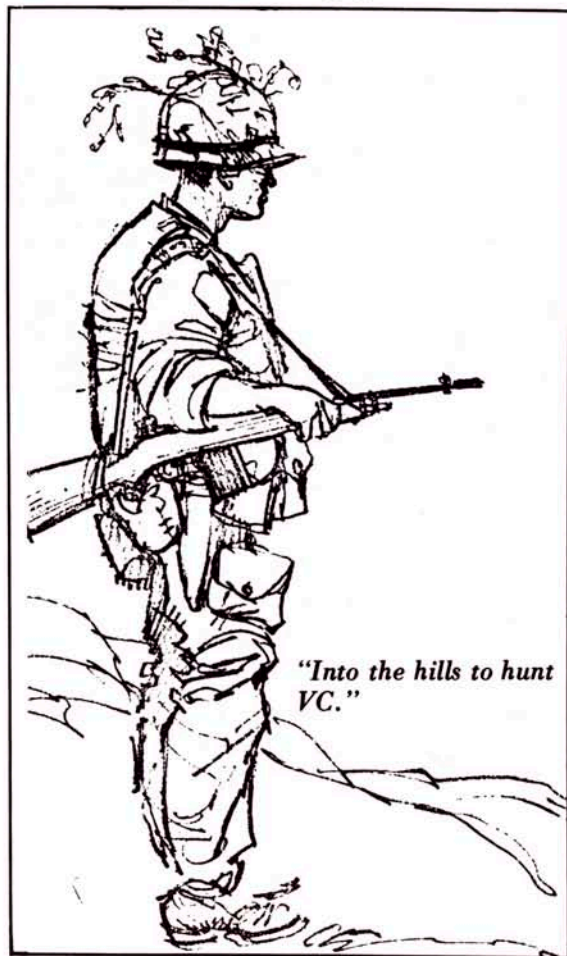
From The Delta To The DMZ

The division's artist-in-residence Maj Charles H. Waterhouse has been drawing for a living most of his life, with the exception of fighting with the Marine Corps during WW II. He has drawn and painted for the Army, Air Force, and Navy but he says "by far the most productive, interesting, and personally satisfying" tour of duty was his tour in South Vietnam during 1967. Maj Waterhouse relates his Vietnam experience.

The Vietnam drawings, 270 of them, have been reproduced in two volumes by Charles Tuttle Co. and are titled *Vietnam Sketchbook from Delta to DMZ* and *Vietnam War Sketches from Air, Land, and Sea*.

The Marine Corps Combat Art Collection gained about 250 paintings, drawings, and unfinished items and a number of other unfinished items will be turned over upon completion.

The drawings on these pages were selected



from the 473 sketches made at all hours of the day and night, sunshine and rain, moonlight, the glare of flares, and even the flashes of machine gun fire. They were produced in 32 days of concentrated effort, in places ranging from the paddies and rivers of the Mekong Delta to the hills and foxholes on the DMZ.

When first approached by the Marines about a possible trip to document the activities of the Marines and the Navy for their Combat Art Collection, I was a little reluctant to commit myself. However, two things made up my mind:

- First, I had been asked to join a small select group of artists who had covered military actions from the Civil War up through the Korean conflict with names like Winslow Homer, Frederic Remington, Harvey Dunn, W. J. Aylward, Howard Brodie, and Steven R. Kidd.

- Second was much more important. It was a chance to repay, in some measure, a debt to the U.S. Marines and to show my support for all our men in Vietnam. I could not carry a rifle for

"I hope that truck keeps back there 'cause it's loaded with ammo!"

them, but if drawings could help, I was their man.

But first I had to convince myself that I was only a spectator, which in a way was helped by the fact that I left home in a raging snow storm, boarded a jet, and after a matter of hours arrived in a never-never land where the temperature was in the high 90s and everyone ran around with all sorts of weapons.

Between this feeling of unreality and the concentration necessary to draw, I was able to keep my mind on what I was doing, not where I was or what was going on around me. It was only when I was not drawing that I had time to worry. Which is one reason I managed to make so many sketches.

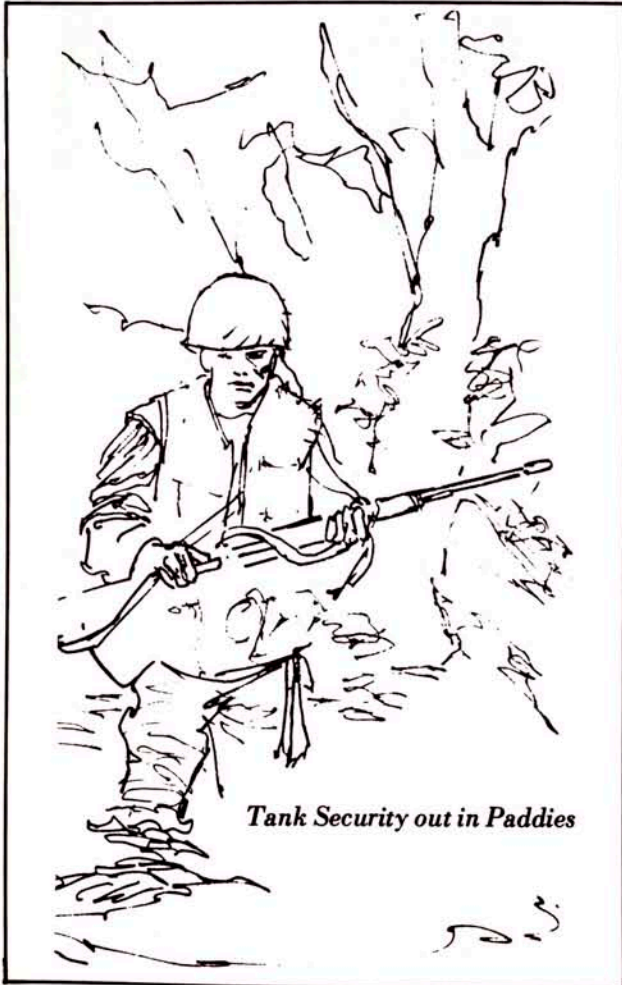
I tried to be self-sufficient, living out of my field pack like any combat Marine. I wore green fatigues, jungle boots, and a Marine cover.

I carried a map case for a sketch kit with several sketchbooks, pens, paint and brushes with extra materials, some socks and skivvies, plus shaving gear. In addition to a pistol belt with a Marine knife, first aid kit, and two very important canteens, I carried an Instamatic camera, pockets full of film, funny money (MPC), passport, ID cards and shot records, plus enough plastic bags to keep all my sketchbooks dry in case I fell down in a paddy.

In this fashion I hitchhiked all over Vietnam on anything that would take me—helicopters, planes, patrol boats, mine sweepers, swift boats, Coast Guard cutters, jeeps, and trucks. I went to places like Dong Ha, Phu Bai, Vinh Long, Rach Gia, Soc Trang, and others.

I counted my days like all short-timers and it was with much relief when I returned to Da Nang, turned in my funny money, packed my sketchbooks and sea bag, put on my wrinkled, dirty, but civilian clothes, and got in an Air Force jet for Okinawa and Japan from where I flew home with a load of wounded, drawing all the way.

When I touched down at McGuire AFB, I was tanned and happy, 22 pounds lighter, and had several hundred drawings, 30 rolls of flim, and thousands of sights, sounds, and smells locked in my mind of a place and people I will never forget.



Tank Security out in Paddies

Marine Corps Museum Closes After 16 Years

After 16 years of serving the public, the Marine Corps Museum at Quantico has closed. The facility was shut down in August 1976 to begin the transfer of exhibits to the new Marine Corps Museum at the Washington Navy Yards.

During its 16 years at Quantico, the Museum grew from its original home in the old base headquarters building to include an ordnance and technology storage facility located in the former base brig, and a number of aircraft hangars at Brown Field which contain the aviation collection and which will soon open to the public as the Marine Corps Aviation Museum.

When the Marine Corps Museum opened in 1960, it marked the first time that an organized program of exhibits depicting the Marine Corps throughout its history was housed in one location.

The Museum was the creation of Col John H. Magruder, USMCR, who was recalled to active duty by the Commandant, Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., to establish first a Marine Corps exhibit for the Smithsonian Institution and then a Marine Corps museum. Until this time the material history of the Corps was little more than scattered trophy collections.

Col Magruder designed the exhibits to give visitors a chronological tour through the history of the Corps while at the same time showing the evolution in weapons, equipment, and uniforms which occurred concurrently.

The building which housed the Museum, Building 1019, was originally constructed in 1920 to house the post headquarters and subsequently served as the post fiscal officer before being turned over to the museum. It has been listed in the National Register of Historic Sites and has recently been occupied by the staff of the Marine Corps Association which now combines *The*



Marine Corps Gazette and Leatherneck Magazine.

Remaining at Quantico is the Museum Storage Facility in building 2014, which holds and administers the Museum Branch Ordnance, Flag, Uniform, Medal, and Miscellaneous Collections. It also includes several exhibits on the development of infantry weapons which are not generally available for public viewing but are limited to pre-arranged tours.

The Marine Corps Aviation Museum will exhibit a representative collection of Marine aircraft dating from as early as 1912, and includes supporting displays of propulsion systems, support equipment, and ordnance.

In its new quarters at the Washington Navy Yard, the Marine Corps Museum will be able to attract a greater portion of the public which visits the nation's capital every year, while at the same time continuing to serve the members of the Marine Corps through its accessibility to the substantial number of Marines and their families who transit the Washington area.



Building 1019 at Quantico, for 16-years it housed the Marine Corps Museum. It was closed in August 1976 to allow exhibits to be removed in preparation for the move to the new Marine Corps Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yards.



Part of the ordnance collection which was displayed at the Marine Corps Museum at Quantico. Although the Museum has been closed, museum activities have not left Quantico as the Aviation Museum is scheduled to open later this year.

Marine Navajo Code Talkers

The most recently accessioned oral history interviews to be put into the Marine Corps Oral History collection are those with former members of the Marine Corps Navajo Code Talker Program. The program was established in September 1942 as the result of a recommendation made the previous February by Mr. Philip Johnston to MajGen Clayton B. Vogel, USMC, Commanding General, Amphibious Corps, Pacific Fleet, whose headquarters was at Camp Elliott, Calif. Mr. Johnston, the son of a missionary to the Navajo tribe, was fluent in the language, having lived among the Navajos for 24 years. He believed that the use by the Marine Corps of Navajo as a code language in voice transmission could guarantee communications security.

Mr. Johnston's rationale for this belief was that Navajo is an unwritten language and completely unintelligible to anyone except another Navajo and that is is a rich, fluent language for which code words, in Navajo, could be devised for specialized military terms, such as the Navajo word for "turtle" to represent a tank.

With the cooperation of four Navajos residing in the Los Angeles area, and another who was already on active naval service in San Diego, Mr. Johnston presented a demonstration of his theory to General Vogel and his staff at Camp Elliott on 28 February 1942. Marine staff officers composed simulated field combat messages which were handed to a Navajo who then translated it into tribal dialect and transmitted it to another Navajo on the other end of the line. The second Indian then translated it back into perfect English and in the same form which had been provided originally.

The demonstration proved entirely successful and as a result, General Vogel recommended the recruitment into the Marine Corps of at least 200 Navajos for the code talkers' program. As a footnote, tests in the Pacific under combat conditions proved that classified messages could be translated into Navajo, transmitted, received, and translated back into English quicker than messages which were encoded, transmitted, and decoded employing conventional cryptographic facilities and techniques.

With the Commandant's approval, recruit-



Operating a portable radio near the front lines on Bougainville are Navajo Cpl Henry Bake, Jr. [left] and PFC George H. Kirk. PFC Kirk is armed with a Model 55 Reising sub-machine gun.

ment began in May 1942. Each Navajo recruit underwent basic boot camp training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, before assignment to the Field Signal Battalion, Training Center, Camp Pendleton. It should be noted that, at the outset, the entire Navajo code talker project was highly classified and there is no indication that any message traffic in the Navajo language—while undoubtedly intercepted—was ever deciphered.

Initially, the course at Camp Pendleton consisted of training in basic communications procedures and equipment. At the same time, the 29 Navajos comprising the first group recruited devised Navajo words for military terms which were not part of their language. Alternate terms were provided in the code for letters frequently



Part of the signal unit on Bougainville included these Navajo code talkers [front, from left] Pvt Earl Johnny, Pvt Kee Etsicitty, Pvt John V. Goodluck, and PFC David Jordon; [rear, from left] Pvt Jack C. Morgan, Pvt George H. Kirk, Pvt Tom H. Jones, and Cpl Henry Bake, Jr.

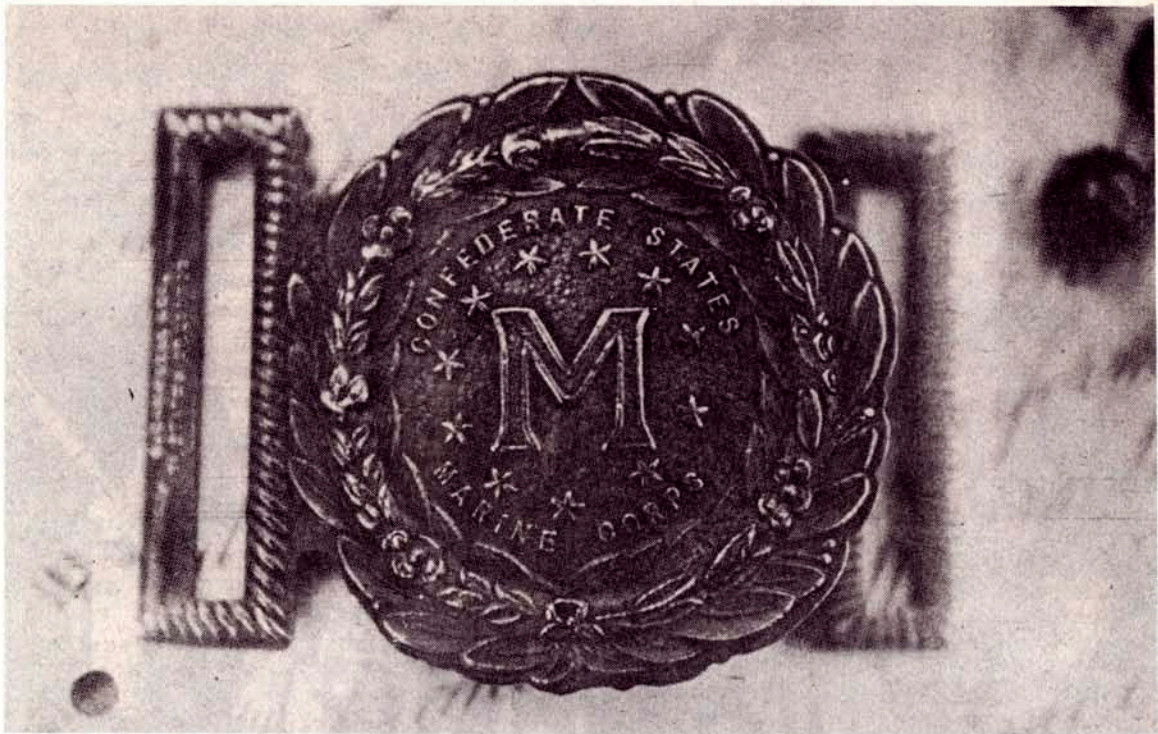
repeated in the English language. To compound the difficulty of the program, all code talkers had to memorize both the primary and alternate code terms, for while much of the basic material was printed for use in training, the utmost observance of security precautions curtailed the use of the printed material in a combat situation.

Once the code talkers completed training in the States, they were sent to the Pacific for assignment to the Marine combat divisions. In May 1943, in response to a request for a report on the subject, the various division commanders reported to the Commandant that excellent results had been achieved to date in the employment of Navajo code talkers in training and combat situations, and that they had performed in a highly commendable fashion. This high degree of praise concerning the Navajo's performances prevailed throughout the war and came from commanders at all levels.

Although recruitment of the Navajos was comparatively slow at the time the program was

first established, Marine recruiting teams were sent to the Navajo territory and a central recruitment office was set up at Fort Wingate, and by August 1943 a total of 191 Navajos had joined the Marine Corps for this specific program. Estimates have placed the total number of Navajos in the code talkers program variously between 375 and 420 individuals. It is known that many more Navajos volunteered to become code talkers than could be accepted; however, an undetermined number of other Navajos served as Marines in the war, but not as code talkers.

The present Tribal Chairman, Peter McDonald, enlisted as a code talker in 1944 at the age of 15, and participated in the Guam campaign and later in the occupation of North China with the 6th Marine Division. Tribal Vice Chairman Wilson Skeets similarly enlisted in 1944 and participated in the Iwo Jima operation and the later occupation of Japan with the 5th Marine Division.



A Confederate Marine belt buckle? Most likely not, but there is some evidence to support the hope that it is real.

Confederate Marine Buckles, Are They Real Or Fake?

Collectors of Marine Corps memorabilia have no more immunity than anyone else in today's boom in "genuine, authentic reproductions" which are difficult to distinguish from originals. Even such little-known organizations as the Confederate States Marine Corps have become the subjects of possible fakes masquerading as legitimate artifacts. When this happens, the History and Museums Division often is asked for advice.

The division's first involvement was in 1974 when it was asked to certify the legitimacy of a blank Confederate States Marine Corps commission. Not only was the division able to agree that the commission probably was an original, but permission was obtained to make facsimile copies for distribution to the friends of the historical program. To insure that no one could artificially age the reproductions and pawn them off as originals, a single-paragraph history of the commission was printed on the reverse. Com-

plimentary copies of this reproduction still are available to anyone requesting them from the division.

The latest test of the division's expertise on the CSMC has come with the appearance of Confederate Marine belt buckles on the collector circuit. Since the division's CSMC authority, Ralph Donnelly, had retired, the questions had to be sent to his Washington, N.C., home. Here the former assistant head of the Reference Section and author of two books on Confederate Marines, expressed his doubts about their legitimacy.

The question of authenticity was raised when Maj Duan K. Sinclair, Jr. of the Marine Corps Service Support Schools at Camp Lejeune, purchased a box containing 125 alleged Confederate belt buckles at a London, England, flea market. Alleged authentic belt buckles have been selling for as much as \$150 each.

Donnelly described the supposed authentic belt

buckles as a "circular belt plate with a single belt attachment with a hook soldered on the back for the second belt attachment. Punched on the back of the plate have been names of various companies all located in the Southern United States. In addition, the belt attachment, separate from the belt plate itself, carried in raised lettering, S. Campbell & Co. 71 Jeremy St., London."

The buckles purchased by Maj Sinclair resemble the one described by Donnelly but the belt loops are different and they are stamped from brass, not forged. The inscription on the back says "Manufactured by J. Purdy Oxford St., London, W. England." But that doesn't disqualify the buckles as authentic ones because the Purdy Company did manufacture military equipment during the Civil War and sold its goods to both sides.

Donnelly said that it is possible that the Marine design is authentic and even that the buckles were cast in England for shipment to the United States. "However, since no proven authentic CSMC belt buckles have been located

so far and the war has been over for more than a century and since no photographs have been located that picture individuals wearing them, it must be concluded that those currently in circulation are fakes," he said.

There is support, however, for the theory that Confederate Marine buckles are authentic, based on the history of S. Campbell and Co.

S. Campbell and Co., a small military outfitting firm in England, was purchased by two American war profiteers, Saul Isaac and Benjamin Hart, in 1861. Their only contracts were with the Confederate states and when the war ended, the firm quickly went out of business.

Some feel that because of this short span of operations, those belt buckles marked "S. Campbell & Co. 71 Jeremy St., London" might be authentic.

Another thought is that the alleged Confederate Marine belt buckles are simply replicas forged after the war for distribution to veterans' groups. Most Southern states continued this practice of distributing mementos until the 1930s.

Needed: A Place To Spit

This series of memos was uncovered by the division's Reference Section. The memos have been forwarded to the Installations and Logistics Section for a status report.

ABC-7-jcj

March 8, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

It is requested that one cuspidor be supplied for use in the Historical Section.

H. A. ELLSWORTH
Captain, U. S. Marine Corps
Assistant-in-Charge, Historical Section

ABC-7-jcj

October 21, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

It is respectfully requested that the Historical Section be supplied with one cuspidor, to take the place of one that leaks.

H. A. ELLSWORTH
Captain, U. S. Marine Corps
In Charge, Historical Section

ABC-200-vbv

November 21, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

It is requested that one cuspidor be supplied for use in the Historical Section.

A. DECARRE
Lieut. Col. U. S. Marine Corps,
In Charge, Historical Section



Staff officers of Basic Course 1936-1937 bore names that would become Marine Corps traditions in later years. The officers in the front row, left to right, were Capt Orr, Maj Shively, Maj Liversedge, LtCol Turnage, Maj Sims, Capt Kenyon, and Capt Puller. Rear Row, they were Capt Claude, Capt Leonard B. Cresswell, Capt Purple, Capt Graham, 1stLt Luther, 1stLt Battell, Capt Jordahl, Capt Harris, and Capt Charles C. Cresswell. This photograph shows how little the Marine blue uniform has changed in 40 years; only the elimination of the blue cap cover is a significant difference. Today's ribbons are smaller and the Marine emblem is fouled [the collar emblems in this photograph are plain]. The "Sam Browne belt" is of different design but still is worn by the staff at TBS.

Basic School At Philadelphia; Contrast With Quantico

Memories of Basic School at Philadelphia, 1936-1937, were reawakened in January when Col Roger Willock, USMCR (Ret), donated a set of photographs of his class. The similarities to the present-day Basic School (TBS) at Quantico were exceeded by a number of differences obvious in the photographs. That the photographs were professionally made for recruiting purposes probably increased the apparent contrasts.

The Basic School started at Philadelphia in 1924, occupying buildings 100 and 101, both dating from 1901. The course was transferred to Quantico in 1942. Building 100 now houses the Marine Barracks, Philadelphia and was entered

on the National Register of Historic Places last year. Building 101 apparently will have a less notable fate: its quarters, mess hall, club, and other functions have been removed from it and it is now boarded up, awaiting a Navy plan to demolish it.

Both buildings had been serving Basic Courses for a dozen years when the class of '37 reported in July 1936.

"It was composed of some 96 second lieutenants, all of whom were honor graduates from the Army and Naval ROTC units at their respective universities," Col Willock wrote. "At least 40 of the 48 states were represented. More



Desks shown in this photograph could have been moved to Quantico when the Basic Course shifted. These are similar to those in use at TBS today—and some students probably will swear that they are exactly the same. This was a class in a TBS standby: map-reading.

than 50 percent of the students had served as Cadet lieutenant colonel's (Cadet Commanding Officer's) at their respective ROTC Units. At least two dozen were varsity football players, and the majority held their letter in some major sport. Even the Ivy League Colleges were represented (1 each from Harvard, Yale, and Princeton) not to mention the University of Maryland, Virginia, and Georgia Tech. Naturally, all of the "Big Ten" were represented and there was a large contingent from Texas universities.

"The class was dominated by the presence of Captain Lewis B. Puller, Officer in Charge of Drill and Command, Formations, Ceremonies, etc., also the 'Disciplinary Officer.' Standards were extremely strict. Every student in that class became not only an 'expert' on company, platoon, and squad drill, but also on small arms, firing practice, and weapons qualification, in addition to naval ordnance and gunnery. The courses in Small Wars were outstanding; likewise, instruction in Naval Law and Communications.

"It was a closely-knit, carefully selected group who seemed to work well with one another, commanded and instructed by an outstanding staff who knew their job and wasted no time carrying out their mission. But we were all thankful when the grind was over and we were posted to our first duty stations afloat and ashore."

Despite the impression given by these photographs, Col Willock reports that the

uniform of the day usually was winter or summer service rather than blues. One contrast to today's TBS was that the uniform was worn more frequently with breeches and puttees than regular trousers—although TBS now spends more time in utilities than the garrison uniform.

"At least twice a month the uniform of the day was service, blue, undress, for all formations and classes," said Col Willock. "This was to ensure proper fit and manner of wearing. All gilt was 'cut' from buttons and sword scabbards and hardware was kept 'bright' as was customary at Sea School and in ship's detachments."

Basic School, Philadelphia, had two-man rooms similar to TBS. Although one of these photographs suggests the presence of stewards, Col Willock denies this. "The 'room boy' appeared five minutes before the photo was taken and disappeared immediately afterward," he writes. "Presumably he was 'borrowed' for the occasion from the Navy Yard Commissioned Officers' Mess."

Not all of Basic School, Philadelphia, was at the Navy Yard. Col Willock said that field training took place at a camp set up each summer at Sea Girt, New Jersey, and firing practice took place at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. Here all administrative, maintenance, and other support details were handled by a small enlisted staff of 1 first sergeant, 1 platoon sergeant, 2 corporals, and 10 privates or privates first class. "They attended to everything but mess details and



Philadelphia's winter weather dictated overcoats although a warmer fall day is hinted by the fact that six windows are open in this photograph. Company commander "for the day" of this formation was 2dLt Robert Johnson with 2dLts Funk, Barrows, and Fontana commanding the first, second, and third platoons respectively.

cooks, provided by the Barracks Detachment at the Navy Yard," Col Willock said.

The class of '37 was a distinguished one, Col Willock remembers. It had one future Medal of Honor winner, John Lucian Smith, who earned the award as a major commanding Marine Fighting Squadron 223 in 1942. Five graduates rose to general officer rank: Major Generals George Bowman, Paul Fontana, Joseph Butcher, and Carl Youngdale and General Lewis W. Walt, destined to become Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps.

There is another major difference between the Marines and surroundings pictured here and today. As of 1973 the basic training of all women lieutenants has taken place in TBS at Camp Barrett, Quantico, where they have been sharing classes and instruction with the men. Shortly, the integration will be complete with the trial assignment of a 20-woman platoon to Basic Course 3-77 and the standardization of TBS to a 21-week course—a far cry from the nine-month, all-male, Philadelphia-based school of 40 years ago.



Bayonet training in 1936 used a different rifle and a longer bayonet than in 1977, but the principles were the same. Capt Leonard B. Cresswell was the instructor and the campaign hat the prescribed headgear in 1936; today such training would require helmets and sheathed bayonets at a minimum.



"Typical" room of a Philadelphia Basic Course officer might have looked like this, although the recruiting service photographer embellished it with a borrowed steward, as noted in the story. 2dLts Roger Willock, center, and James G. Bishop, right, shared this room. "Note the books were stacked according to height and bunks made by the students strictly according to regulations," Col Willock commented. "Not shown are mosquito bars and nets used of necessity throughout the summer months, thanks to Philadelphia's mosquitos."



Recruiting was in mind when the students were detailed to wear blues for this Small Wars class. Just as today's TBS uses historical examples to teach tactics, the training aids suggest that this class was discussing relatively recent Marine operations in Haiti.

People And Places

Departures from the division this winter included Mr. Rowland P. Gill, retiring on 29 January from government service and his duties as custodian of historical photographs, and Sgt Alverse Stringfield, transferred on 7 January from the Museums Branch Exhibits Section to Marine Barracks, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

There were several new arrivals this winter.

Mr. William P. Stevenson arrived on 10 January to be an aircraft mechanic in Museum Branch Activities, Quantico. Formerly he was the Chief Inspector for the Helicopter and Airplane Repair Service at the Montgomery County Air Park, Maryland.

PFC William L. Wallace joined as an archives technician in January. A native of Norfolk, Virginia, he recently completed recruit training.

SSgt Jerry L. Jakes has returned to the division as an illustrator in the Museums Branch. He was with the division previously, 1970-1973, and returned after a tour at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base with the bicentennial vans.



Division influence will be strong when the Council on Abandoned Military Posts holds its 11th Annual Military History Conference, 27-30 April 1977, in the Tidewater Virginia area. BGen Simmons is scheduled to be on a panel regarding historical programs with the directors of history of the three other services. Walter Lord, frequent researcher in the division files and author of the forthcoming *The Coastwatchers*, will be the banquet speaker regarding World War II Pacific battlefields today. Col Hart, Deputy Director for Marine Corps History, will be chairman of the conference. Sessions will be held at Fts. Monroe, Eustis, Story, Norfolk, and Wool; Langley Air Force Base; the Yorktown Battlefield Colonial Park; and the MacArthur and Newport News War Memorial Museums. Attendance at the three-day program is not limited to members of CAMP; information on registration can be



A return visitor to the division arrived with the start of the new year: LCdr [Chaplain] Ray Stubbe, USN, who returned for 10 days in January to continue his research on reconnaissance units. His first manuscript draft has been completed and submitted to possible publishers. Here Chaplain Stubbe holds a copy of the manuscript, all 4 pounds of it.

obtained from Col Hart by writing P. O. Box 171, Arlington, Virginia 22210. Attendance is expected to be about 250.



A paper, "Profiling States for Foreign Policy Analysis: Some Preliminary Findings," recently presented at the 1976 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Chicago, Illinois, represented the preliminary results of research undertaken by Mr. Danny J. Crawford, Reference Section historian, while he was with the Interstate Behavior Analysis Project at the University of Maryland before joining the division in April 1976.



Temporary augmentation of the Historial Branch's Reference Section has taken place with the six-week assignment on 10 January of Mr. Peter Maassen, a senior at Hope College, Holland, Michigan. A political science major,

Mr. Maassen is in Washington as part of Hope College's one-semester "internship in Washington" program. After six weeks of helping respond to Marine Corps reference queries, Mr. Maassen will be reassigned to another Washington agency. As a possible law school student in the fall, he is hoping to be detailed to a legal agency in Washington.



Mrs. Joyce Bonnett, Archives Section, and Mr. Danny J. Crawford, Reference Section, attended the State Department seminar on "Clio's Handmaiden: The Freedom of Information Act and State Department Materials" on 28 December. The seminar coincided with the meeting of the American Historical Association in Washington, D.C.



The division was well represented at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Washington on 28-30 December 1976. Dr. Graham Cosmas described the Vietnam writing program on a symposium panel entitled "Official History and the Vietnam Conflict." The panel also included former division member Mr. Bernard Nalty from the Office of Air Force History, and ex-Marine Dr. Ronald Spector from the Army Center of Military History.

Following the joint session on "Non-Americans in the American Revolution" sponsored by the American Military Institute, the U.S. Commission on Military History, and the Eisenhower Institute of the Smithsonian Institution, General Simmons (a trustee) and Drs. Gordon and Parkinson attended the annual meeting of the U.S. Commission. Dr. Parkinson was elected a

"The last issue of *Fortitudine*, meaty as ever, nonetheless appreciably short-changed the old 2.36-inch bazooka (p. 12), kissing it off with the statement that the Army 'found (it) was almost worthless.'

"What you omit was that the shaky soldiers of early Korean days fired at ranges far beyond those required for a kill. The 1st Marine Division (which had both 2.36-inch and new 3.5-inch bazookas), as you will well remember, scored numerous kills with the old model against T-34s. See *Victory at High Tide*."

CAREFUL READER



Her two years of work in translating Les Marines, scenes de la vie et des combats du Corps du Marines des Etas-Unis (The Marines: Scenes from the life and combat of the U.S. Marines Corps) from French into English were recognized in Paris on 14 December 1976, when a History and Museums Division Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Miss Georgette Bensoussan by American Ambassador Kenneth Rush. Miss Bensoussan is a receptionist at the embassy; she voluntarily translated the book as a labor of love. The embassy Marine detachment showed their admiration by turning out in formation for the ceremony under the command of MSgt Thomas C. Steadham, NCOIC, Paris Security Guard Detachment, right.

member of the nominating committee.

Mr. Shaw was called upon to speak from the floor during the session on "Employment Opportunities for Historians in the United States Government." Other division members attending the meeting included Mr. Shulimson and Mr. Frank.



Articles by three members of the History and Museums Division have appeared in recent publications.

BGen Simmons tells the story of the fabled 1901 Samar Expedition in "Stand, Gentlemen, He Served on Samar" in the November 1976 issue of *Shipmate*, the alumni magazine of the Naval Academy.

Mr. Jack Shulimson, Histories Section historian, is the author of "Maurice Evans, Shakespeare, and the U. S. Army" as the lead

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article in the fall 1976 issue of the *Journal of Popular Culture*. The article is an expanded version of a paper he delivered to the annual meeting of the Popular Culture Association in Chicago last spring.

Dr. Martin K. Gordon, Reference Section historian, is the author of "American Military Studies," a bibliographic study of recent trends in writings about the American military, which appeared in *American Studies International*, Autumn 1976. He also is introducing a course in the American Studies Program at The George Washington University next summer titled, "The Military in American Civilization" to be offered for both graduate and undergraduate credit.



Women Marines, active and retired, have been interviewed by LtCol Mary Vertalino Stremlov for the forthcoming *History of the Women*

Marines 1946-1976. So far they have included Col Julia E. Hamblet, USMC (Ret), Director of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve September 1946-November 1948 and Director of Women Marines May 1953-March 1959; Col Margaret M. Henderson, USMC (Ret), Director of Women Marines March 1959-January 1964; Col Margaret A. Brewer, the current Director; Col Mary E. Bane; LtCol Mary Janice Hale, USMC (Ret), the only woman officer to serve on continuous active duty from WWII until retirement; LtCol Ruth F. Reinholtz; LtCol Gail M. Reals; Maj Joan M. Collins; Maj Lynne Mertes; Maj Ruth D. Woidyla; CWO3 Eileen R. Scanlon; CWO2 Francine Van Curen, USMC (Ret); MSgt Bridget V. Connolly; and 1stSgt Esther D. Wacławski, USMC (Ret). LtCol Stremlov is continuing her research and would appreciate any help received on the 1946-1976 era of women Marines.