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FOR TITUDINE

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

Volume IX

Summer 1979

No. 1

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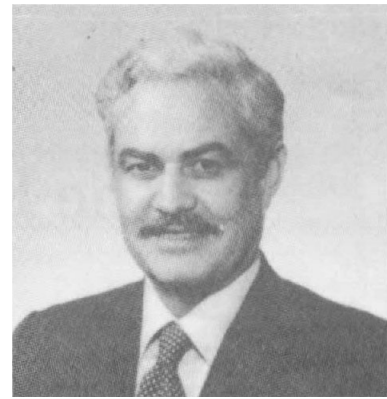
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The cover is the work of the Center's Artist-in-Residence, Maj Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR and is one of the preliminary sketches for his Marines in the Conquest of California series (See page 14). It shows the meeting at Mission Las Flores of Marine 1stLt Archibald Gillespie, USMC (mounted), President James K. Polk's confidential courier to California, and 1stLt Jacob Zeilin, CO of the frigate USS Congress' Marine Detachment, Adjutant of the Naval Battalion, and future 7th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

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Director's Page



BGen Simmons

Col Bob Heinl and his wife Nancy were on a windjammer cruise in the schooner *Polynesia* and that morning, Saturday, 5 May 1979, they had come to St. Barthelemy in the French West Indies. About noon they went for a swim on an empty beach and Bob died in the surf of a heart attack. It was probably the kind of death that he would have chosen for himself—nearly instantaneous, hopefully painless, and at the water's edge of a foreign shore. But it came much too soon.

Thinking back over the life of Robert Debs Heinl, Jr., I am struck by how closely it fits the advice his friend Samuel Eliot Morison gave young writers:

*Dream your dreams
Aye, and write them,
But live them first.*

Bob was born on 12 August 1916, not in Washington, D.C., as he was prone to let people think, but in New York City. His mother had gone there for specialized medical attention and he would be an only child. After birth he was brought back to the District of Columbia. His father had come to Washington in 1907, was a White House correspondent, and in 1924 would pioneer a radio news service. Bob's father built the Heinl home, a handsome Georgian-styled house in the embassy section of Northwest Washington, in 1919 and it would know five generations of the family.

The "Debs" in his name was for his father's uncle Eugene Debs, the long-enduring Socialist presidential aspirant. Bob remembered vividly his great-uncle's staying with them after his release by President Harding on Christmas Day, 1921, from Atlanta penitentiary where he had been sent for pacifist activities in World War I. Bob's father, far from being a pacifist, had been chief of the publications section of the U. S. Emergency Fleet Corporation—the government agency pushing the building of ships—and in the process had become a friend of bandmaster John Philip Sousa.

Another of Bob's early, vivid memories was of be-

ing perched on his nurse Delia's shoulder to see Gen Pershing on a handsome horse leading the victory parade down Pennsylvania Avenue. This would have been in 1919 and Bob would have been barely 3 years old, but from any age his memories were always vivid, always sharply detailed, and always brightly colored.

Inevitably an Episcopalian, he was baptized and confirmed in the Bethlehem Chapel of the National Cathedral and sang in the boy's choir. He went to St. Albans School on the cathedral grounds, finishing in 1933 and, after a year at George Washington, went on to Yale. Here he majored in English and enrolled in one of the few Naval Reserve Officers Training Courses then in being. He also belonged to a Naval Reserve battalion that met in the Washington Navy Yard. A summer cruise in 1936 in the old *Idaho* qualified him evermore as a "battleship sailor." He graduated cum laude in 1937, received his commission, and went to The Basic School, then in the Philadelphia Navy Yard, Class of 1938. One of his instructors—and an officer for whom he would have a life-long admiration—was Capt Lewis B. Puller, already wearing two Navy Crosses from Nicaragua.

In May 1938, on graduation from TBS, he was assigned to the Marine detachment in the 8-inch gun cruiser USS *Tuscaloosa*. The detachment commander was Capt Donald M. Weller, destined to become the Corps' recognized expert in naval gunfire support and now a retired major general and President of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation. The new lieutenant, with his round face, pink cheeks, and bright blue eyes, looked all of 16 years old. As he saluted the quarterdeck, resplendent, he thought, with his boat cloak and sword, he heard one old barnacle-encrusted bosun's mate say to another, "I saw him first." Or at least that's how Bob would tell it in later years. To age himself a bit he grew a guardsman's mustache; it would be a lifetime fixture. While serving in the *Tuscaloosa* Bob would qualify to stand officer-of-the-

deck watch underway, distinguish himself with his 5-inch battery in local control battle practice, and have his first piece published in the *Marine Corps Gazette*, "Naval Africa Expedition, 1915" (June 1938), followed by "The Naval R.O.T.C.: A Vein Unworked" (September 1938).

He came off the *Tuscaloosa* in May 1939, a firm believer in naval gunfire and with the conviction that all young Marine officers should go to sea. He was detailed to the 5th Marines, then at Quantico, and served as a company officer until November when he was transferred to the 4th Defense Battalion then forming at Parris Island. While a senior at Yale he had met Nancy Gordon Wright, originally of London, at a Washington cocktail party. In September 1939 they were married in the Bethlehem Chapel of the National Cathedral. Don Weller was the best man. There were more articles for the *Gazette*: "Cameroons Coast Campaign" (September 1939), "Hilton Head Marines" (March 1940), and "The Big Wind at Parris Island" (September 1940).

In February 1941, the 4th Defense Battalion went to Guantanamo, Bob's first Caribbean duty station. Nancy went with him and they lived in a tent. Daughter Pamela was born 10 August 1941 in the Guantanamo dispensary and Nancy nearly died of childbed fever. There were more *Gazette* articles: "Hilton Head and Port Royal, 1861" (March 1941), "Guns or Butter?" (September 1941), and "On the Mobility of Base Defense Artillery" (also September 1941). There were now articles for the *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*: "Damage Control School" (March 1941), "Training the Landing Force" (October 1941), and "The Slouch and the Spring: A Footnote on Discipline" (December 1941).

With war clouds gathering in the Pacific, the 4th Defense Battalion was sent to Pearl Harbor in November 1941. Bob, now a captain, commanded a battery in the defense against the 7 December Japanese attack and was in the aborted expedition that was sent to relieve Wake Island. In March the battalion went forward to Efate in the New Hebrides. There was still time for writing for the *Gazette*: "Fighting and Writing: The Two 'G's'" (March 1942) and "The Future of the Defense Battalion" (September 1942).

Back in the States in December 1942, he had a year of flight training at Dallas and Pensacola. There were problems of recurrent attacks of malaria contracted in the New Hebrides and a minor aircraft accident. He did not get his wings but he would always believe the

year not wasted; that it gave him special insights into Naval Aviation. From Pensacola he went to Camp Lejeune and the 13th AAA Battalion (the defense battalions, shorn of their beach defense capability, had become antiaircraft battalions).

In August 1944 it was time for him to go overseas again. He was destined for another base defense assignment, now very much in the backwaters of the war. He was rescued from this by the recommendation of his former commanding officer, now naval gunfire officer for V Amphibious Corps, LtCol Weller, that he be assigned to the 3d Marine Division as naval gunfire officer. The two old shipmates worked together on the pre-D-Day naval gunfire bombardment plan for Iwo Jima. His expertness not only in planning but also in directing and coordinating naval gunfire brought him a Bronze Star.

After Iwo he succeeded Weller as V Corps naval gunfire officer at Maui and, with the end of the war, again followed in his mentor's footsteps, succeeding Weller as naval gunfire officer on the staff of FMFPac on Oahu. After a dry period in 1943-44, the *Gazette* was again studded with his articles: "Two Dark Horse" (August 1945), "Naval Gunfire Support in Landings" (September 1945), "First Cruise Training" (December 1945), "Our Future DIs" (March 1946), "'We're Headed for Wake'" (June 1946), and "Let's Use Our Dress Uniforms" (November 1946). For the *Proceedings* there was "A Field Decontamination Station" (May 1944) and "Naval Gunfire, Scourge of the Beaches" (November 1945).

All those articles made it almost inevitable that when he returned to Washington in November 1946 he would be named head of the Historical Section, then in the Division of Information. It was the fulminating period for World War II official histories and it was Bob, now a lieutenant colonel, who conceptualized (how he would have scorned the word; he would have struck it out and substituted "conceived") the monograph series geared to the island campaigns. As he wrote in a letter to a friend in England:

"We are just getting down to execution of a historical program which will eventually culminate in preparation of an official history of the Marine Corps in this war. As a preliminary measure, we are producing a series of detailed historical monographs, to be published separately, on each major operation in which the Corps participated, and these monographs will support corresponding chapters in the final history."

From his own typewriter came three monographs: *The Defense of Wake* (1947), *Marines at Midway* (1948), and, completed later by LtCol John A. Crown,

The Marshalls: Increasing the Tempo (1954). He also began his note-taking for a history of the Marine Corps.

I was managing editor of the *Gazette* in those days and it seemed that every mail brought us another article from LtCol Heintz, so many, in fact, that when the manuscript for "Thin Line of Tradition" (July 1947) arrived it was accompanied by the suggestion that the pseudonym "LtCol John Corbin" be used. "Corbin" went on to write "Thin Line of Tradition, II" (April 1948), but the real author appeared for "Thin Line of Tradition, III" (July 1949). Other *Gazette* articles during this prolific period were: "Minority Report on (J)ASCO" (July 1947), "Combat Historians?" (September 1947), "Rising Tide of Administration" (January 1948), "Naval Gunfire Training in the Pacific" (June 1948), "Exhume the Gunnery Sergeant" (June 1949), "How Would You Do It?" (November 1949), and "Marine Corps History—Report to the Stockholders" (March 1950).

His by-line also continued to appear in the *Proceedings*: "The Most Shot-at Island in the Pacific" (April 1947), "The U.S. Marine Corps: Author of Modern Amphibious War" (November 1947), "What Happened to the Royal Marines" (February 1949), and "Marine Corps: Here to Stay" (October 1950).

In these years he was very much mixed up in the "unification" fight that was taking place incident to the passage of the National Security Act of 1947. Growing up in Washington and tagging along in his father's footsteps had given him many bridges to the news media. As he wrote to a Pittsburgh newspaperman in February 1947:

"Functionally speaking, I think some degree of unification on a fair basis is desirable. I think that almost everyone with good sense wants to see coordinated procurement, non-competitive budgeting, unified intelligence operations and unified operational commands for respective theaters. These are the major stated aims of present merger legislation. . . . To me, the most objectionable aspect of the plans now bruited is that, ostensibly to facilitate achievement of several laudable ambitions, it sets up cabinet and administrative machinery which can without reference to Congress, public wishes, or even the President, make, in our military structure, vital changes which are not necessarily stated or projected on the face of the plan. . . . One of the major points at issue, which threads through the whole controversy is whether or not our national defense structure should be absolutely pyramidal, with a chain of command running down from an all-powerful secretary and military chief of staff at the top, or whether, at the very top, there should not be some latitude for the interplay of naturally differing viewpoints between the interested parties, namely, ground, sea, and air."

A second most objectionable feature of the merger plan, in his opinion, was the creation of a separate Air Force, which, while stated as being part of "unification," he found in fact divisive. In the 32 years that followed, he would never waver from these judgments.

In June 1949 he left HQMC. His next duty station would be Quantico, but before reporting in, there would be a trip with Nancy to Europe, made possible by a small inheritance from an aunt. It was his first visit to Europe; he particularly wanted to see London and all its history. He also "fell madly in love" with Paris.

At Quantico he again relieved his old friend, Col Weller, this time as Chief of the Naval Gunfire Section, Marine Corps Schools. These were the days when the Navy's ships were still plentiful in number, amply armed with guns, and there was a nice symmetry to naval gunfire support: battalions had 5-inch destroyers in direct support, regiments had 6- and 8-inch cruisers, divisions had 14- and 16-inch battleships. The years at Quantico saw the writing for the *Gazette* of "Small Wars—Vanishing Art?" (April 1950), "And Now the ANGLICO" (January 1951), "The Old Slouch Hat" (June 1952), and "Marine Corps Glossary" (November 1952). The Heintzs kept their apartment in Washington rather than taking quarters in Quantico. Son Michael was born in Washington Hospital on 3 February 1950.

Bob's turn for Korea came in October 1952. The front had settled down to a war of position. Bob was made Commanding Officer, East Coast Islands Defense Element, Wonsan. He gloried in the assignment. He was virtually an autonomous island commander and he waged almost a private artillery and naval gunfire war against the mainland North Koreans. After six months of this he had a stint as Executive Officer, 11th Marines, and for his service in Korea he received a Legion of Merit with Combat "V."

Detached from the 1st Marine Division in July 1953, he was sent to England to serve as Marine Corps Representative, Amphibious Warfare Center, Fremington. The parade of articles for the *Gazette* continued: "FSCC: Two Schools of Thought" (January 1953), "NCOs—A Challenge from Within" (November 1954), "The Case Against the Cloth Belt" (June 1955), and "Sensible Summer Uniform" (September 1955).

England was a very special tour for both Bob and Nancy. He came home in August 1955, as someone put it, "The only *Royal* United States Marine," and

looking more British than American with swagger stick, mustache, gloves, and non-regulation Sam Browne. He was assigned to Plans Branch, G-3 Division at Headquarters, Marine Corps, and proceeded to scandalize HQMC by having beer with his noontime sandwiches at his desk. (I was his opposite number in Plans Branch, G-4, and in a position to observe). He continued to wear high-top "fair leather" shoes of a type that had long before gone off the uniform list and a barracks cap whose individuality attracted the personal attention of the Commandant, Gen Pate. He wrote the script for the expanded pageant at the Birthday Ball. Most of the words have stuck and are still heard each 10th of November. He was one of the champions of the newly-discovered tradition of Mess Night. (See *Fortitudine*, Winter, 1978-79.)

In June 1954 the *Proceedings* had printed "The Cat with Nine Lives," the story of the Corps' unending struggle for survival, and in May 1956 it published Bob's best-known magazine piece "Special Trust and Confidence," a bitter commentary on the erosion of the status of the uniformed officer. He was promoted to colonel in September 1956. In November the *Gazette* reprinted "Special Trust and Confidence."

It was in 1956 that the U. S. Naval Institute brought out the first edition of *The Marine Corps Officer's Guide*, jointly written with Gen Gerald C. Thomas and RAdm Arthur A. Ageton. A perennial best-seller, particularly at The Basic School, the *Guide* has gone through second (1964), third (1967), and

fourth (1977) revised editions.

In spring 1957 he took "an Eighth and Eye drill platoon, the Parris Island Band, and a chunk of the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps" to the Bermuda International Tattoo. In late summer the following year he repeated the performance with a similar detachment that went first to the Edinburgh Tattoo and then to the Brussels Worlds Fair in "the first appearance of Marine ceremonial troops in Europe since the Paris Exposition of 1889."

Next came Haiti: Bob went there in January 1959 to establish a naval mission and on 1 March was officially designated Chief of the U.S. Naval Mission (mostly Marines) and the Military Assistance Advisory Group. Characteristically, Bob and Nancy, both fluent in French, plunged themselves into a study of Haitian culture and history. Bob also found time to finish his history of the Marine Corps.

"The Right to Fight," a spin-off article from the projected book, was sent by the *Proceedings* in September 1961 to the Pentagon for clearance. Clearance was refused because the piece was sharply critical of Presidents Truman and Eisenhower, Gen Omar Bradley, Adm Forrest Sherman, and former Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson, all of whom were presented as being anti-Marine and dedicated to downgrading or abolishing the Corps. Gen Shoup, then Commandant, concurred that the article should not be published.

The matter might have ended there except that about this time the Senate Armed Services Committee

Twenty-two years after its publication, Guantanamo Marines remembered "Special Trust and Confidence" when Col Mark P. Fennessy and his officers, in January 1978, turned out to honor Col Heintz.



was investigating charges that the Pentagon was muzzling expression of opinion by military officers and, as a case in point, suppression of the Heint article attracted national attention. Bob was summoned back from Haiti to meet with Arthur Sylvester, then the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. On 30 March 1962 the Pentagon reversed itself and released the article. "The Right to Fight" appeared in the September 1962 *Proceedings* and publication of the entire book, *Soldiers of the Sea*, followed, appropriately, on 10 November.

The dust had scarcely settled on this controversy before Bob was once again in the national news. Despite strenuous efforts as mission chief, he had been unable either to turn the clock back in Haiti or to turn around the increasingly oppressive government of Francois ("Papa Doc") Duvalier. *Life* magazine asked him to do an article on the Haitian situation. Bob wrote a 2,000 word piece. Again there were problems getting Pentagon clearance. Meanwhile he had worn out his welcome with the Haitian government and in late February 1963 was asked to leave. He ignored the suggestion until 1 March when he was declared officially *persona non grata* and given 12 hours to get out of the country.

Days later the 8 March issue of *Life* appeared with an article "It's Hell to Live in Haiti . . . with Papa Doc." Bob, on leave in Bogota, Columbia, was called to Washington and stood before an Article 15 investigation headed by BGen Bruno A. Hochmuth. The hearing convened at 1000, 24 April at HQMC. He was asked to sign a statement indicating his willingness to accept non-judicial punishment. He refused, stating that if the findings of the investigation were adverse he would demand a general court martial.

Assistant Secretary Sylvester testified that he had killed the article personally on the recommendation of the State Department. Witnesses from *Life* said that none of the Heint material had been used in the *Life* article which had been written by two *Life* correspondents. Bob was the final witness. Testifying on 1 May, his defense was that there had been no offense; he had insisted that his article not be published until clearance had been obtained.

The Hochmuth investigation found that Bob had "failed to comply with regulations by agreeing to provide and providing a manuscript" to *Life* "without prior approval of proper authority." It was a weak charge. As Commandant, Gen Shoup ruled "that Col Heint's failure to comply with regulations was not an intentional action effected to accrue benefits to



Port-au-Prince provides the backdrop for Col Heint who carries a traditional Haitian cocomacaque.

himself." Shoup gave Bob a private "chewing out" and the case was closed.

Bob then proceeded to Norfolk where he was assigned as G-2, FMFLant. The promotion boards met that summer and he was passed over for brigadier general. A physical examination revealed a hitherto unsuspected heart condition. Bob submitted his letter requesting retirement, effective 1 January, at which time he would have completed 26 years and 6 months of active service. He was retired on that date with 40 percent medical disability.

Bob started off the New Year and retired life with a series of press conferences in which he suggested that the Air Force be abolished, because the "military usefulness of manned aircraft is waning," and the defense establishment be returned to two departments, Army and Navy, eliminating "the requirement for today's enormous coordinating bureaucracy" headed by "iron-handed" Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

Free to write and talk "without supervision" he embarked on a six-month campaign leveled against the regime in Haiti, as, for example, in an article for the 16 May 1964 *New Republic* in which he described Duvalier as "cruel, devious, xenophobic, hypersuspicious, today a virtual recluse, utterly ruthless and self-consecrated to power."

There was also more time for books. His *Dictionary of Military and Naval Quotations* was published in 1966, followed in 1968 by *Victory at High Tide*, his brilliant operational history of the Inchon landing and re-capture of Seoul.

Articles in the *Gazette* were now less frequent, but there had been "So Acquainted with Maritime Affairs" (November 1957), "Fitness Reporting—Some Adverse Remarks" (April 1959), "Hell in China" (November 1959), "An Association Was Formed"

(April 1963), "Marines and Their Traditions" (November 1964), "Inchon" (September and October 1967), and "Safari to Scotland" (November 1968). For the *Proceedings* there was "Target: Iwo" (July 1963), "The Gun Gap and How to Close It" (September 1965), and "Hong Kong: Communism and Colonialism in Collision" (December 1966).

During 1967 and 1968 he acted as a consultant on long-range gun systems for the Navy Department, working on the improved 8-inch round and the lightweight 8-inch gun and being as much or more responsible than any other single individual for getting the 16-inch battleship, USS *New Jersey*, out of mothballs and onto the gun line off Vietnam.

In mid-1968 Bob went to work for the *Detroit News* as military correspondent, succeeding the esteemed BGen S.L.A. Marshall. He also began a syndicated military column, distributed by the North American News Alliance and appearing in some 60 newspapers. In September 1968 he went out to the Far East to see the Vietnam war for himself. He had been out there once before in 1965 and would go again in 1969 and 1971.

In 1970 his *Handbook for Marine NCOs* was published. His columns, usually pungent, were being widely read. There was a series in November 1972 charging that the "permissive" policies of Adm Elmo Zumwalt had resulted in more "mutinies" than the entire previous history of the Navy. The series angered VAdm Stansfield Turner, then the president of the Naval War College. Turner called in his senior Marine and told him that he didn't want Heinl invited back as a lecturer. Bob chose to regard the ban as an "interdict" comparable to his expulsion from Haiti. Eventually, though, he "negotiated" a *modus vivendi* with Turner.

A year before this I had become the Director of Marine Corps History and Museums, a newly-created billet. One of my chief advisors on what needed to be done was Bob Heinl. I was searching for a site where the diverse and scattered activities of the new division could be consolidated. It was Bob who suggested that I look at the Guard Company Barracks in the Washington Navy Yard. That was in December 1971. Three years passed before the Guard Company moved into its new barracks and the conversion of the old building into the Marine Corps Historical Center could begin.

After the Center was opened on 12 May 1977, Bob became a regular and frequent visitor. He was also a regular reader and frequent critic of *Fortitudine*, using

the transparent *nom de plume* of "Careful Reader." In July 1978 he retired from the *Detroit News* but continued to write his column for NANA. He and Nancy had collaborated on a history of Haiti, *Written in Blood*. More definitive than anything else written on Haiti, either in English or French, it was published in the fall of 1978.

Bob's last appearance in the *Gazette* was a three-part series, "The American Occupation of Haiti" (November, December 1978; January 1979) drawn from the new book. By that time Bob, Nancy, and son Michael (who is fluent in Mandarin) were off on a memorable trip to Red China.

His last full-fledged article for the *Proceedings* was "Welcome to the War" (March 1969), a joyful report on the *New Jersey's* opening salvos off Vietnam. It was followed by a shorter piece, "Instant Sea Control Ships" (September 1972), in which he recommended the conversion of the four *Iowa* class battleships into a combination heavy naval gunfire ship, assault transport, and V/STOL aircraft and helicopter carrier.

Other magazines that used his work through the years included *American Heritage*, *American Rifleman*, *Armed Forces Journal*, *Combat Forces Journal*, *Military Affairs*, *Military Review*, *NATO's 15 Nations*, and *Sea Power*. He was particularly proud of his contributions to *Brassey's Annual*, *Dictionary of American Biography*, *Dictionary of American History*, and *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. He lectured widely, at such places as the Marine Corps schools, most of the war colleges, the Foreign Service Institute, and Yale and Brown Universities. He was also a correspondent for *Fire Engineering*, a fireman's magazine, and a short wave radio in his study and office was usually tuned-in to fire calls.

Town clubs and professional societies were very much part of his life style. In Washington he was a member and staunch supporter of the Army-Navy Club and the National Press Club; in New York, the Yale Club and the New York Yacht Club (he and Nancy kept a 27-foot Tartan sloop at Port Annapolis Marina); and in London, the American Club. He was a Fellow of Yale's Pierson College, a founder of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, and a member of the Institute of Strategic Studies, the American Military Institute, the White House Correspondents Association, and the Military Order of the Carabao.

That last Caribbean vacation was actually a footnote to a journalistic foray into Nicaragua which was then entering the final stage of its recent revolution. Bob

and Nancy had spent 10 days there as guests of then-President Anastasio Somoza and toured much of the country in a presidential helicopter. (Somoza told them that he was perfectly willing to step down if and when proper elections could be held. A Sandinista vic-

tory seemed inevitable to Bob.)

Four days after Bob's death, a memorial service filled the Bethlehem Chapel in the National Cathedral. It was done with high Episcopalian style and outside the cathedral the scarlet-coated Marine Band played.

The Marine Soldier

"The Marine Soldier" was discovered in the Museum's extensive file of early American newspapers. It appeared in the 19 March 1808 edition of Mr. B. Russell's Boston, Massachusetts Columbian Centinel (price four dollars per annum—two dollars in advance). Any similarity of sentiments between it and those expressed in Tommy must be explained by Mr. Kipling. The anonymous Marine could have been stationed at the Marine Barracks or on board one of the various ships home ported or fitting out at the Charlestown Navy Yard.

The Fount.

Mr. RUSSELL, is requested to insert the following:—

THE MARINE SOLDIER.

DESPISE not the Soldier; tho' rugged his fare,
He asks not your pity, but friendship to share;
Too proud for to beg, he with pleasure foregoes
The gainties of life, till he pays what he owes.

And can his profession demean the proud solt,
Whose actions a sense of his duty controls?

Oh no! the aspersion is surely unkind—

A Soldier can feel, and was born with a mind.

Then sip on your pleasures whom fortune supplies,
I envy no man of the sweets he enjoys;
But do not insult him, because he fares hard,
Who, as your protector, should share your regard.

Should War, and its ills, be the scourge of our land,
Perhaps you may welcome him yet by the hand,
And own what his valour may force you to tell,
A Soldier is useful, if he but do well.

Charlestown, Jan. 10.

A MARINE.

The Readers Always Write

YOUNGEST MARINE

Dear *Fortitudine*:

I wish to add my own tale on "The Youngest Marine." In the spring of 1942 I joined the First Division as the senior of a large group of officers from the Basic School, then at Philadelphia Navy Yard, becoming the Executive Officer of the First MP Co.

With our group was the late Col Charles Barrett, Jr. (son of the famed WW II general) who received a platoon in the 1st Regiment. At that time Camp Lejeune was known as "New River."

It must have been 3 or 4 weeks later, just before the 1st Regiment was due to load for New Zealand at Norfolk, that I met Charlie at a hut which served as the officers' club of the 1st.

He was not his usual very cheerful self, and I inquired as to the problem. "I just lost my best man."

"What happened?"

"They discharged him."

"What did he do?"

"He was under age, and somehow they found out."

My rejoinder—"Isn't that foolish, why don't they just hold him, perhaps leave him here, till he's old enough."

Charlie's reply—"You think the war will last that long."

"Charlie, how old is this boy?"

Answer "12 years old."

After I recovered I secured a few details. Apparently the boy came from Kentucky or Tennessee and was enlisted down there. If I recall correctly, he was six feet or close to that, and had done some hunting or had some experience with firearms at home.

At any rate, he had gone through boot training, joined an infantry platoon, trained with them and established himself as the "best." The training included an amphibious operation with loading and unloading over cargo nets and his loss was a matter of sadness.

Since Charlie's platoon later did well at Guadalcanal and he received a battlefield promotion from second lieutenant to captain, and had been a Marine's son all his life; his opinion is worthy of credence. Unfortunately I don't recall his company or battalion, but I

am sure if you check the muster rolls or payrolls of April or May, 1942 it will lead you to the man.

Lest you disbelieve the height story, please be informed that at age twelve at school I measured a shade short of 6 feet myself, and finished growing at age thirteen at my full height which officially is 6 feet 3½ inches. In 1934 when I joined, 6 feet 4 inches was the maximum permitted.

Sincerely,
Arnold S. Dane
BGen, USMCR (Ret)

A search of the 1st Marines muster rolls shows that Col Barrett served at New River as a platoon commander in Company I from April to July 1942. Due to the brevity of individual entries, however, we were unable to determine the identity of the 12-year-old Marine in question.



FORDNEY

Dear Gen Simmons,

Received my winter 1978-79 issue of *Fortitudine* today . . . On page 12 and 13, the caricature of Col Fordney appears to face opposite directions. Wondering why? Excellent article on BGen Forney also.

Sincerely,
Harry R. Horsman
GySgt, USMC (Ret)

GySgt Horsman's sharp eye is the only one that seems to have caught the fact that the caricatures of Col Fordney are of the port and starboard variety. The one on page 13 is correct; the clue is the corner of his ribbons which correctly shows as being on his left breast. The photo on page 12 has been reversed, something that happens in the printing business if one is not careful. If the photo was not so fuzzy, the details on the men's jackets (buttons, breast pockets, the miniature ribbon in VAdm Settle's lapel) would reveal that is a left-handed photo.



FLOYD

Dear Gen. Simmons,

I receive *Fortitudine* and I must admit that as a former Marine and also one very interested in American history, I enjoy it immensely.

Although I don't wish to appear as a pedantic so and so, I must call to your attention something I perceive as inexcusable error in the Spring edition of this year's *Fortitudine*, page 12-14, concerning the article devoted to Charles Rinaldo Floyd.

The second paragraph of the article states that Floyd was born 14 October 1797. The last sentence maintains that Floyd died in March of 1845, at the age of 44. "New math" or not, this just doesn't jive, to use some distasteful vernacular.

Overall, then General, I would rate the Spring 1979 edition of *Fortitudine* as outstanding with minor discrepancies.

Semper Fidelis,
Thomas M. Marsilio



KHE SANH QUOTE

The following letters were prompted by the Khe Sanh article in the spring 1979 Fortitudine. As our readers will remember, there was some speculation as to the origin and correct wording of "Life has a special flavor to those who fight for it that the sheltered never know."

Dear Gen Simmons,

This letter is in response to your call for "Help" in the Spring 1979 *Fortitudine*—regarding the Khe Sanh C-ration box quote. My first exposure to this remarkable though occurred in August 1969 when I commenced my tour as Secretary to the General Staff, III MAF. There was a brass plaque in LtGen Nickerson's outer office containing the following quote—attributed to an unknown Marine at Khe Sanh. As recorded in my field notebook, it read: "For those who fight for it, life has a special flavor the protected never know." Apparently considerable effort had been expended to both locate the author and/or determine whether it was original or from some source. As you know, the search was unsuccessful.

Subsequently, while CO of Marine Barracks,

Washington in 1974, I had MCI artists prepare a poster with a Khe Sanh scene as background—containing the above quote. To my best recollection we printed some 100 copies for local distribution—one of which I have retained.

Regardless of which version is correct, the thought is indeed pure and most meaningful to those of us who have received our fair share of enemy fire. Please continue the dialogue. Maybe this unknown Marine author has survived and can be located someday.

C.G. Cooper
MajGen, USMC



A phone call from Chaplain Ray Stubbe, himself a veteran of the Khe Sanh action, put us in touch with retired Maj Phillip F. Reynolds who was able to shed some light on the subject.

Dear *Fortitudine*:

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in placing my name on the mailing list for *Fortitudine* and look forward to receiving future issues.

I was the Commanding Officer of Bravo Company, 3rd Recon Bn. at Khe Sanh and one of my PFC's, whose name I cannot recall, was the author of the quote, of which I have seen so many variations. The quote became the motto of our company during those days at Khe Sanh and was written on a company sign, which was blown away along with everything else. I do not have a picture of that sign; however, David Duncan, the combat photographer, might have as he did a story on our unit at Khe Sanh and took many pictures, one of which may have been the sign.

The quote as originally written was "For those who fight for it, life had a flavor the protected never knew" and was written as a statement against the protest back home. It became an inspiration to the men at a time when it appeared that many of our fellow countrymen had lost sight of the meaning and privilege of being an American. The motto also served to reassure the men that their efforts and sacrifice were not in vain and if anyone really understood the meaning of "freedom," it was those who were fighting for it. The young Marine who wrote the statement had a profound and basic understanding of why we were in Vietnam and what love of country and patriotism were all about.

I am sorry I cannot be of more help at this time but feel free to write if I can provide you with any further information.

Semper Fi,
P.F. Reynolds
Maj, USMC (Ret)



Dear Mr. Shaw:

Yesterday I interviewed a young man who was at Khe Sanh in May 1967. A fascinating young man, this fellow claims to be the author of the mystery aphorism found at Khe Sanh (For those who fight . . . never know"). In the spirit of your newsletter, I hereby submit his personal data. He can date the event, produce a letter with the correct wording, etc.

Sincerely,
Peter C. Rollins
Oklahoma State University

A phone call to Dr. Rollins' interviewee, Mr. Robert J. Maras, revealed the following. Then-PFC Maras was a machinegunner in Weapons Platoon, Company G, BLT 2/3 during the "hill fights" at Khe Sanh in April-May 1967. He says that during this period he coined, refined, and lettered on a variety of objects, several sayings, including the one in question. His wording was "For those who fight for life, life has a special flavor the protected shall never know." BLT 2/3's command chronology reveals that 3d Platoon, Company B, 3d Reconnaissance Battalion was attached at this time.



Gen Simmons:

In reference to the Spring 79 issue of *Fortitudine* and the story on page 9, Pentagon's Khe Sanh display, the following might help in your quest:

The quote (original) read "For those who fight for it, life has a flavor the protected will never know."

During July or August of 1967, Major Bill Floyd (LtCol Ret) encouraged the platoons of 3rd Force Reconnaissance Company at Dong Ha to come with logos or slogans for their platoons. The quote in question was thus derived. I don't know the name of the Marine who composed it, although Col Floyd might.

A short time thereafter, Phil Reynolds, a fellow platoon commander, assumed command of "B" Company, 3rd Recon Bn and I became skipper of "D" Company. Phil went to Khe Sanh and I to Phu Bai/Quang Tri. Phil had the quote on his desk in a bunker at Khe Sanh and it was noticed and soon thereafter printed by the AP wire service.

I feel that Col Floyd might be able to help identify the unknown Marine who should be credited with the quote.

Semper Fi
J.F.H. Rhodes
Capt, Infantry

A phone call to LtCol William C. Floyd, presently the Senior Marine Instructor, Marine Corps Junior ROTC, Palm Bay High School, Melbourne, Florida, provided the following information. In early July 1967, then-Capt Floyd encouraged his platoons of 3d Force Reconnaissance Company to devise unit designs and mottos, mainly to help keep their minds off the constant NVA shelling of the Dong Ha Combat Base.

One team, call sign Great Divide 2, headed by Sgt Nicholas L. Natzke, came up with the quote in question. Sgt Natzke, one of the original members of 3d Force Reconnaissance Company when it formed at Camp Lejeune in 1966, was wounded in the Ba Long Valley in February 1967 and killed in action on Nui Ho Khe between Cam Lo and Con Thien on 22 September 1967.



While there obviously are conflicting details in the various accounts presented here, several aspects seem constant. We may never be able to arrive at the definitive, corroborated answer, but we are sure, given the interest in the matter to date, that there will be more grist for the mill to come.

Buffalo Shows Marine Recruiting Posters

The new Buffalo Naval and Servicemen's Park opened 1 July and by mid-August had received 50,000 visitors. Helping draw in the crowds was an exhibition of 29 Marine Corps recruiting posters from the early 1900s through the Korean War on loan from the Marine Corps Museum in Washington. The temporary show, which will be open until 15 October, includes exhibits from the other services as well.

Reference Section—Answers on File

Gabrielle M. Santelli

When the Marine Corps Historical Center receives requests for information on Marine Corps history, most require a certain amount of research and are sent to the Reference Section for response. Normally three historians and a clerk-typist handle the numerous requests that arrive. Last year, for example, this involved over 1,000 written requests, 3,000 telephone inquiries, and a large number of researchers who came to do their own work. Queries range from simple requests for information on the Marine Corps to detailed papers for the Commandant or a member of Congress.

Because of the variety of their work, reference historians quickly become generalists in the field of Marine Corps history. Most questions are answered from the resources available in the Center. Reference Section holds a vast collection of files on all Marine Corps topics. Over the years, personnel in the Reference Section have clipped articles, gathered reports and documents, and have saved such information that could be helpful in conducting future research. Biographical files are maintained on many famous or illustrious Marines, Medal of Honor recipients, and other individuals who were associated with the Corps in some way. The geographical files contain a mass of information on geographical areas where Marines have landed or were stationed. Detailed descriptions and histories of Marine Corps bases and barracks are also found here. The subject file contains topics which cover the entire span of Marine Corps history. Reference Section also maintains working files on all units, both active and deactivated, in the Marine Corps. Microfilm copies of unit diaries and muster rolls are housed in this office. The files in this section are open to all researchers.

Questions asked of Reference Section historians vary greatly, but certain subjects reoccur frequently. Three favorite topics constantly reappear; these are: the story of LtCol Earl H. "Pete" Ellis who formulated Op Plan 712 and later died under mysterious circumstances in the Pacific in 1923; Amelia Earhart who was supposedly spying on the Japanese when her plane disappeared in the Pacific; and finally, the whereabouts of the bones of Peking Man which were lost following the Japanese capture of the legation

Marines in China. Each of these stories fascinates many researchers, but to date no complete answers to these mysteries have been found.

Although many requests are fairly routine, a few do lead to research in some very interesting topics. Four such areas our historians have worked on in the past few months are:

Operations X-Ray — a WW II experiment which would have used bats to set fire to the highly flammable cities of Japan. Incendiary bombs were to be strapped to bats and both dropped from planes. When the bats came to roost in buildings the bombs were to explode and set the structures on fire. The Army abandoned the project after the bats set fire to a general's car. The Marines cancelled their experiments after some of the female bats became pregnant and the males refused to eat.

Atomic Test Participants — From 1948 to 1962, approximately 15,000 Marines participated in atomic test exercises in the Pacific or in Nevada. Under a Congressional directive, Reference Section began the arduous task of identifying these Marines by name so that they could be notified of possible radiation damage.

The Bermuda Triangle — Reference has done some investigating on Flight 19, a navigational training flight conducted by the Navy, that was lost off the coast of Florida in December 1945. Five TBM Avengers disappeared with 8 Marines on board. A Mariner flying boat took off to locate the missing flight, but it too was never heard from again. The USS *Cyclops*, a 19,000 ton collier sailing from Brazil to Norfolk, Virginia carrying a load of manganese ore disappeared in March 1918 with Marines on board.

Lee Harvey Oswald — Several serious researchers and the House Subcommittee on Assassinations have received answers through the Reference Section on various aspects of Oswald's career in the Marine Corps.

In addition to answering questions such as these, Reference is also tasked with the lineage and honors program and with providing Marine Corps units with brief histories and commanding officers' lists.

Marines in the Conquest of California

Art Exhibit Opened

Henry I. Shaw, Jr.

On 10 June 1979, the Marine Corps Historical Foundation hosted a reception that formally opened the exhibit of Maj Charles Waterhouse's paintings, "Marines in the Conquest of California." The exhibit, hung in the Special Exhibit Gallery, will remain open to the public until the end of the year.

Each of the 12 acrylic paintings, all 4 feet by 5 feet, depicts some incident in which the Marines of the United States Pacific Squadron took part. These include the Battles of San Pasqual, Mule Hill, Santa Clara, San Gabriel, and La Mesa. Like all Waterhouse paintings they are vividly full of action and people. Other subjects include the meeting of Marine Lt Archibald Gillespie with Army Capt John C. Fremont at Klamath Lake on 9 May 1846, where Gillespie delivered a message from President Polk. The landing at Monterey on 7 July and the flag raising at Yerba Buena (San Francisco) 2 days later are also depicted. Several of the pictures include "Horse Marines," including one of a fiasco at San Diego where shipboard Marines unsuccessfully tried to mount wild and unruly California horses.



The accuracy of the paintings is painstaking. Maj Waterhouse researched each picture in depth, assisted by historians at the Center, particularly Mrs. Gabrielle (Gay) M. Santelli and Mr. Richard A. Long. Many of the incidents shown were described in contemporary accounts. The artist visited the scene of a number of the actions and sketched and photographed the scenery and terrain. Marine Corps Museum collections and other repositories were consulted for authentic uniforms, equipment, and weapons of American forces. The garments of the Mexican (Californian) lancers and their weapons, horse furniture, and equipment were equally well researched.

A feature of the Waterhouse exhibit is several panels and show cases which display some of the hundreds of sketches, workup studies, and comprehensive designs that the artist creates before finalizing a painting. There are books of drawings of horses alone in every conceivable position; there are other books that are filled with figures, children, dogs, birds, Marines, sailors, soldiers, lancers, and Indians. The workups and comprehensive studies are particularly interesting

when viewed together with the sketches of individuals which became part of a final painting.

Each large painting is accompanied by a stylized map taken from contemporary maps which shows the site of the incident and a explanatory caption which describes the action. There are, in addition, several smaller paintings, including color studies, that further enhance the exhibit. On the Museum's quarterdeck near a sign announcing the show, there is a fascinating panel which shows the steps the artist takes in developing a painting, first a thumbnail comprehensive (the glimmer of an idea), then a refined comprehensive (the fully developed idea), then a color sketch (an overlay to develop the color scheme), and finally the painting itself, "Mexican Lancer, circa 1846."

The theme painting of the show, a humorous picture of a Marine riding a flower-bedecked donkey, appears in several places, both in black and white and in the full color version. It was used, in color, as the cover of *Leatherneck* magazine's June issue. Typically there is a dog scampering along in the background; Maj Waterhouse nearly always manages to get animals and children in his pictures where appropriate.

The artist, a reserve officer on active duty, has a long history of involvement in the illustrative arts. A World War II Marine who was wounded on Iwo Jima, Maj Waterhouse attended the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Art after the war and then became a versatile illustrator who worked in a wide range of media, techniques, and subjects, particularly for national magazines. He was a lecturer-instructor in illustration of the Newark School for 17 years. During



LT. OF MARINE

the Vietnam era he did on-the-scene military art under the auspices of the Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Army. One result of this voluntary effort is two books he published of his work, *Vietnam Sketchbook: Drawings from Delta To DMZ* (Tuttle, 1968) and *Vietnam War Sketches From the Air, Land, and Sea* (Tuttle, 1970). For the Marine Corps, since returning to active duty in 1973, he had done a series of paintings on Marines in the Revolution comparable to those of the current exhibition, and another series of posters for the Corps' 200th anniversary, as well as a group of paintings showing the arrival and processing of Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton in 1975. All of these major works have been on exhibit throughout the country.

Maj Waterhouse and his family were the guests of honor at the opening reception. More than a hundred invited guests, members and potential members of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, persons from the local art community, and museum shop volunteers and senior members of the Division, were treated to wine and served fine refreshments while viewing the exhibition. This was the first event for which Foundation funds had been used in support of the historical program, and the effort was well received. Fortunately, the Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors, Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr., and his wife were able to attend as well as then-LtGen Kenneth McLennan, now Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps and Chief of Staff with four stars. Information regarding the organization of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation was included in the last issue of *Fortitudine* (Spring 1979, p. 22).

John Wayne

The Marine Who Never Was

Lawrence H. Suid

The epitaph could well have read: "Marion Morrison: Graduate of Annapolis, 1929; Hero of Tarawa; Commandant of the Marine Corps."

His oldest son, Michael, once observed: "I think he would have been a success at anything he did. He would have been an outstanding lawyer if he had been a lawyer. He would have been an outstanding politician if he had chosen to have been. He would have been an outstanding anything because he has that drive. He has a particular personality. He has charisma. It is just something you can't put your finger on. It is something that differentiates people. He has it."

Instead of going to Annapolis, as he briefly considered doing, Marion Morrison went to the University of Southern California on a football scholarship. And instead of becoming a Marine hero in World War II he became John Wayne, a hero for all Americans.

While the Duke rose to stardom as the quintessential cowboy hero, his military roles probably have had

a more significant impact on several generations of American males. Wayne, of course, performed his heroics in movies rather than on fields of combat. Nevertheless, for much of today's populace, the illusion of the visual media tightly intertwines with the reality of life. The Alamo and the Old West no longer remain to be fought over, but young men can still join the Marines.

When filming "The Outsider," the story of Ira Hayes, at Camp Pendleton, the director asked a group of 10 young Marines why they had enlisted. Five said because of watching John Wayne in his war movies. On an "Owen Marshall" television episode, a Vietnam deserter explained why he thought war had been right before he joined the military: "I was eighteen and war was something John Wayne fought or we watched on our new color TV."

Perhaps the best description of Wayne's influence through his military roles comes from two Vietnam veterans. Ron Kovic, in *I was Born on the Fourth of July*, recalled watching "Sands of Iwo Jima." "The Marine Corps hymn was playing in the background as we sat glued to our seats, humming the hymn together and watching Sergeant Stryker, played by John Wayne, charge up the hill and get killed just before he reached the top. And then they showed the men raising the flag on Iwo Jima with the Marines' hymn still playing. . . . I loved the song so much, and every time I heard it I would think of John Wayne and the brave men who raised the flag on Iwo Jima that day. I would think of them and cry. Like Mickey Mantle and the fabulous New York Yankees, John Wayne in 'Sands of Iwo Jima' became one of my heroes."

Later, Kovic couldn't wait to run down and meet the Marine recruiters at his high school assembly: "And as I shook their hands and stared up into their eyes, I couldn't help but feel I was shaking hands with John Wayne and Audie Murphy." Likewise, Philip Caputo, in his *Rumor of War*, remembered that even before he talked to the Marine recruiters, "I saw myself charging up some distant beachhead, like John Wayne in 'Sands of Iwo Jima,' and then coming home a suntanned warrior with medals on my chest. The

During the filming of Sands of Iwo Jima at Camp Pendleton in July 1949, John Wayne instructs the then-three living members of the actual flag raising. (Left to right) Ira Hayes, John Bradley, and Rene Gagnon.



recruiters started giving me the usual sales pitch, but I hardly needed to be persuaded.”

Ironically, of all the war movies in which the Duke represented the American fighting man, he portrayed a Marine only in “Sands of Iwo Jima” and “Flying Leathernecks.” Moreover, Marines themselves seem divided in their loyalties between “Sands of Iwo Jima” and the film version of Leon Uris’s classic Marine novel, *Battle Cry*. Many consider the latter movie to better portray their actual wartime experiences in the Corps from boot camp through combat.

Nevertheless, Wayne’s Sergeant Stryker—not any of the stars of “Battle Cry,” James Whitmore, Tab Hunter, or Aldo Ray—remains for most Americans the symbolic Marine, “the rugged top sergeant who bullies and beats his men into a fighting unit.” (*Newsweek*). According to another reviewer Wayne was “especially honest and convincing for he manages to dominate a screen play which is crowded with exciting, sweeping battle scenes.” (*New York Times*). Wayne himself felt his Academy Award nomination for his performance was “worthy of the honor. I know the Marines and all the American Armed Forces were quite proud of my portrayal of Stryker.”

John Wayne always remained acutely aware of his image as a military man and its use to young men as a role model. He refused the offer to portray Patton on the screen because he did not want to be seen slapping an American soldier. Instead, he said he tried “to portray an officer . . . or a non-commissioned officer or a man in the service, in a manner that benefits the service and also gives a proper break for the man to react in a human manner.”

The results of Wayne’s portrayals did not always help those who sought to imitate his actions. One exasperated old sergeant was once reported to have told some careless troops: “There are two ways to do anything—the right way and the John Wayne way.” And, his influence was not limited to impressionistic young recruits. Based on his military experiences in Vietnam, Josiah Bunting, author of the Vietnam novel *The Lionheads*, observed: “There is no question that the officers in Vietnam, combat infantry officers, especially in the grade of lieutenant colonel, which was the rank in Vietnam [were influenced by] this whole aura of machismo. . . . The influence of John Wayneism, if you want to call it that, on these people was terribly profound.”

What did John Wayne possess which created this “profound” influence? The Duke himself thought it



John Wayne, intrepid Corsair pilot, in RKO “Flying Leathernecks.”

had its basis in his characterizations which always appealed to the same emotions: “You can call it primitive instinct or you can call it folklore. It has no nuance. It’s straight emotions, basic emotions. They laugh hardy and hate lustily. There is a similarity in that. I wouldn’t call it primitive as much as I would call it man’s basic fight for survival.” In response to critics who suggest that these portrayals primarily appeal to adolescents, Wayne answered that he hoped his attraction is “to the more carefree times in a person’s life rather than to his reasoning adulthood. I’d just like to be an image that reminds someone of joy rather than the problems of the world.”

Even when his political views brought down criticism in the late 1960s, his popularity and influence continued and even grew until he had become a living legend. His bouts with cancer demonstrated that the Duke’s courage and strength did not exist only in the illusionary world of the motion picture screen. In the end, however, Wayne probably insured his place in American culture and society because he came to personify patriotism and love for one’s country. In “The Alamo,” he sermonized: “Republic! I like the sound of the word. It means people can live free, talk free. . . . Republic is one of those words which make me tight in the throat.” To him, and to millions his image influenced, Republic was a word which makes a heart feel warm, something worth fighting for, dying for. In the end, Wayne’s courage during his final illness did show how much his movie-made heroism had become one with his own character and suggested that he might well have become a Marine hero in life instead of in fiction.

In Memoriam



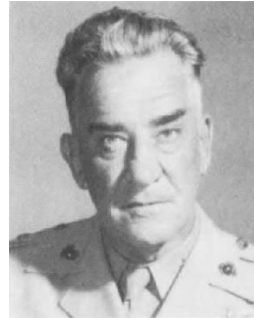
LtGen Reginald H. "Bo" Ridgely, USMC (Ret) died on 28 June in Kilmarnock, Va., after a long illness and was buried with full military honors in Arlington Cemetery on 3 July.

Born in Lexington, Va. in 1902, Gen Ridgely was raised in Annapolis, Md., where his father was a professor at St. John's College, the school from which Gen Ridgely graduated in 1923. He was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant in July of that same year. During his career, Gen Ridgely was stationed at all major Marine Corps posts in addition to serving in Haiti, Nicaragua, China, and the Philippines. A motor transport officer in his early career, he also served in other billets normally assigned junior and field grade officers.

In June 1941, he sailed for Shanghai to join the 4th Marines as regimental quartermaster. The regiment was ordered to the Philippines in November, and Ridgely fought on Bataan and Corregidor with the 4th until he became a prisoner of war on 6 May 1942 when Corregidor fell. He remained a prisoner in the Philippines until December 1944 when, together with 1,600 other POWs, he was loaded on board the infamous *Oryoku Maru* bound for Korea. Eight U.S. air attacks hit Manila harbor at which time the Japanese ship was sunk with many American casualties amongst the prisoners. He finally arrived in Japan in February 1945 and was immediately sent to Korea, where he remained until his release and return to the States in September.

Following the war he attended the Staff and Command Course at Quantico. Among his postwar commands were the 8th Marines and the Naval Disciplinary Barracks in Portsmouth, N.H. Promoted to brigadier general in September 1951, he commanded the Recruit Depot in San Diego before assignment to Headquarters Marine Corps as Assistant Director and then Director of Personnel. In July 1955, Gen Ridgely assumed command of the 2d Marine Division at Camp Lejeune and two years later was transferred and assigned command of Camp Pendleton, where he served until retirement in 1959

after 36 years of active service. Gen Ridgely's decorations included the Bronze Star Medal with Gold Star and the Purple Heart Medal.



MajGen Lawson H.M. Sanderson, USMC (Ret), veteran Marine aviator, died 11 June 1979 in National City, California. Gen Sanderson achieved prominence in the 1920s and 1930s as one of the Corps' most active participants in the various air races then

so popular. He represented the Marine Corps in the International Air Races in St. Louis, winning the Pulitzer Trophy (1923), the National Air Races in Philadelphia and the Schneider Cup Races in Hampton Roads, Virginia (1926), the National Air Races in Spokane, Washington (1927), the Cleveland Air Races (1931 and 1932), the Miami Air Races (1933), and the National Air Races in Los Angeles (1936).

Commissioned in 1919, he trained at the old Marine Flying Field at Miami before being transferred to Squadron E, 1st Provisional Brigade, Marines, in Haiti. A 2-year tour at Quantico was followed by a second Haitian tour, this time for 3 years. Sanderson subsequently served in several squadrons, mainly at Quantico, before reporting to Nicaragua as CO, VO-7M. While in Nicaragua he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for flying replacement wings for a crashed OC-1 aircraft from Managua to Jinotega. The 75-mile flight was accomplished with the spare wings strapped to the fuselage of his own aircraft.

During the 1930s he commanded several Marine aircraft squadrons, attended various professional schools, served as CO, Aircraft Squadrons, East Coast Expeditionary Force, and was serving as operations officer of the 1st MAF at the outbreak of WW II. In this capacity he sailed for Guadalcanal, serving as operations officer of the Cactus Air Force.

In March 1943, then-Col Sanderson was detached to the United States where he commanded Marine Base Defense Aircraft Group 42 and then Marine Fleet Air, West Coast. Promoted to brigadier general in 1945, he assumed command of the 4th MAW and the additional duty of Commander, Shore Based Air Forces, Marshalls-Gilberts Area. In this latter capacity he accepted the surrender of the Japanese garrison on Wake Island in September 1945. In January 1946 he assumed command of the 1st MAW in Tientsin, China. He returned to the United States in July 1947, serving successively as assistant wing commander of the 1st and 2d MAWs before retiring in 1949.



BGen Robert L. "Togo" Denig, Sr., USMC (Ret), father of the Marine Corps combat correspondents' program in World War II, died at the age of 94 on 25 July at Los Altos, California.

Born in 1884 in Clinton, N.Y., the son of a naval officer, and a descendent of Robert Livingston of New York, signer of the Declaration of Independence, Gen Denig received his early education in Japan where his father was stationed.

In 1905, he was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant by President Roosevelt. Because of his years of residence in Japan, his ability to speak Japanese, and the fact that in 1905 the name of Admiral Togo, hero of the Russo-Japanese War, was on everyone's lips, he picked up the nickname "Togo." After basic training at the School of Application in Annapolis, Lt Denig was assigned to expeditionary duty with the 1st Provisional Brigade in Cuba. Following this assignment, he sailed around the world as a member of the Marine Detachment, USS *Missouri*, one of the ships of the Great White Fleet. Other usual tours at posts and stations at home and abroad followed until the outbreak of WW I, when he was sent to France in command of the 17th Company, 5th Regiment. Shortly after his arrival, he began a tour at the Army schools at Gondrecourt

and Langres as both student and instructor. He commanded battalions in both the 2d and 3d Infantry Divisions while participating in the offensives at Aisne-Marne, Soissons, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne. It was at St. Mihiel that Maj Denig, although wounded, refused to be evacuated and continued to lead his men in battle. For his heroism in combat, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, the French Croix de Guerre, and made a member of the French Legion of Honor.

After the war, he served at various barracks in the United States, was quartermaster of the 2d Brigade in Santo Domingo, and served with the Guardia Nacional de Nicaragua, earning that country's Presidential Medal of Merit. Col Denig was both student and instructor at the Field Officers' School at Quantico, G-2 of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Force, and chief of staff of the new Fleet Marine Force. After further duty at Quantico and Pearl Harbor, and while commanding the barracks at Bremer-ton, Washington, on 30 June 1941 he was placed on the retired list in the rank of brigadier general following 36 years of active service.

The next day, when the Division of Public Relations was activated at Headquarters Marine Corps, Gen Denig was recalled to active duty to head the new agency. Upon reporting to the Commandant, MajGen Holcomb, with whom he had served in France in WW I, he was asked, "Well, Denig, what do you know about public relations?" "I don't know anything about it, never heard of it," answered the general and in turn asked, "What is it?" Holcomb replied, "You better learn about it, because that's what you're going to be!" Under Gen Denig's direction, professional journalists, photographers, radio men, and later artists, were recruited, and upon completion of boot camp, were given sergeant's warrants and sent to units in the field to report their activities both in training and in combat. Almost immediately the program was a success, with all Marine Corps activities and operations, both at home and overseas fully covered. From the very first, the relationship between Gen Denig and his "CCs" was both unique and very close. It was a relationship that endured until he died. Gen Denig retired for a second time on 1 December 1945 and was awarded the Legion of Merit for his work as Director of Public Relations. He was buried next to his wife in Arlington Cemetery on 3 August with full military honors.

BGen Lewis B. Rock, USMCR (Ret) died 16 May 1979 in Homestead, Florida. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1917 and served in France as CO of Company B, 61st Infantry, winning a Silver Star Medal and the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. After the war he remained on active duty until 1927 when he resigned to go into the newspaper business. He retained his Army Reserve commission until 1938.

In August 1942 he was commissioned a major in the Marine Corps Reserve and, after service as XO of the Training Center at Quantico, attended both the Battalion Commander and Staff Officers Class at Fort Benning, Georgia and the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In June 1943 he was assigned as the operations officer of the 23d Marines at Camp Lejeune and, later, Camp Pendleton. In November of that year he became assistant operations officer of the 4th MarDiv, holding that billet through the invasion of Roi-Namur. Later, he served as the division's infantry operations officer during the Saipan and Tinian campaigns, earning a Bronze Star Medal. Gen Rock returned to the United States in September 1944 and

was assigned to inactive duty 2 months later. He retired 1 September 1955, and was advanced to brigadier general on the retired list.



Former Marine Sgt James E. Nicholson, Wing Administrative Chief of Maj Alfred A. Cunningham's WW I Day Wing of the Northern Bombing Group, died 12 August 1979 in Baltimore, Maryland. It



was Nicholson, along with Wing Camofleur, QMSgt John J. Englehardt, who designed the distinguishing device worn by the Marine DeHavilland DH-4s and DH-9As in France. The device later became the logo of the 1st Marine

Aviation Force Veterans Association, which he helped to found. The WW I association eventually merged with the present Marine Corps Aviation Association. His device also serves as the central feature of the Marine Corps Aviation Museum logo.

The Museum Shop

Shortly after the Marine Corps Historical Center opened in the spring of 1977, a Museum shop was organized and began operation with volunteers from among Marine wives and friends in the Washington area. Initially under the direction of Mrs. William Riley and Mrs. Robert "Shortie" Simmons, the volunteers now number up to 30, each having the shop duty about once a month. Volunteer buyers for the shop are Mrs. John Greenwood and Mrs. Simmons.

The group, working through the Marine Corps Association, initially stocked the shop with books, art prints, and other goods. An early guideline was to stock only high quality items related to the Corps. This policy has continued with the shop now offering such items as neckties emblazoned with the Iwo Jima flag raising, Italian cameos with the eagle, globe and anchor; and red blankets, stick pins, and linen cocktail

napkins with the same well-known symbol.

With the recent establishment of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, cognizance for the shop has been shifted from the Marine Corps Association to the new Foundation. The possibility of a branch at the Aviation Museum at Quantico is being explored.

The Museum shop has a two-fold purpose. First, it affords visitors, often former Marines with no access to post exchanges, an opportunity to acquire memorabilia and items relating to Marine Corps history. Second, profits go into the History and Museums Division's research grant fund which supports research in Marine Corps history.

Individuals desiring a copy of the shop's fall brochure may write to: The Museum Shop, Marine Corps Historical Foundation, Building 58, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20374.

Events at the Center

DEPARTURES, ARRIVALS, PROMOTION

Recently, a number of Division members have departed. Dr. Graham A. Cosmas, who edited the history of early aviation, co-authored the histories of Marines in Santo Domingo and Haiti (this last soon to be published), and substantially completed a history of Marines in Vietnam, 1970-71, accepted a position with the Medical History Branch of the Army's Center of Military History. Sgt Donald E. Taylor of the Administrative Section, who on his recent re-enlistment opted for retraining in the air delivery field, left for jump school at Ft. Benning and later schooling at Camp Lejeune.

At the end of June there was a farewell party for three other members, LtCol Lane Rogers, who revised and enlarged the 1967 Vietnam history, did extensive research work on the role of Marine advisors in Vietnam, and compiled a heavily documented history of the role of Marines in the Civil War during his 4 years with the Division, retired after more than 32 years service as an enlisted man, Annapolis midshipman (class of 1953), and officer. Mrs. Rita R. Skrobialowski, who was the secretary to the Deputies and Chief Historian, left to take a position at Camp Lejeune, where her husband, Maj Stan Skrobialowski, is being transferred. Cpl Pietro DelCostello, who was the mainstay of the Museums Branch's administrative efforts, completed his enlistment and has returned to his native Baltimore.

In August, LtCol Gary W. Parker, our aviation expert for the past 3 years, was detached for a new assignment with the 2d MAW at Cherry Point. During his tour with the Historical Branch, LtCol Parker worked in an editorial capacity on all five of the recently published squadron histories as well as writing the history of HMM-161, a squadron in which he served on two occasions. He also started and completed several chapters of the functional volume of Marine aviation employment in Vietnam.

Joining the center staff as a replacement for LtCol Rogers is LtCol Frank W. Martino, a communications officer, who just completed a tour on the III MAF staff on Okinawa. LtCol Martino holds degrees from Miami

University of Ohio and the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, California. Reporting as LtCol Parker's replacement is Maj James H. Lavelle, a helicopter pilot, who joins the Division after doing duty with MAG-36 on Okinawa. Maj Lavelle is a graduate of Mt. Saint Mary's College in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and received a MA in education from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles, California.

The illustrator in the Publication Production Section, Jerry L. Jakes, who has produced a number of *Fortitudine* covers, was recently promoted to gunnery sergeant.



AVIATION MUSEUM

Opening of the early aviation display at the Marine Corps Aviation Museum, originally scheduled for 1 May 1979, has been delayed.

While the aircraft, dioramas, engines, wall murals, and memorabilia exhibits are virtually complete, some unanticipated details remain to be accomplished by base maintenance and public works. These include completion of the hangar's electrical system using conduit vice armored cable and the installation of smoke detectors. Additionally, many captions remain to be produced. Loss of one Marine and one civilian employee, with no replacements in sight, has also slowed progress. Col Thomas M. D'Andrea, the Aviation Museum's director, still plans to open this year even "if it's only for a day or two before the Museum closes on 10 November."

One exhibit which will be added by the time the early aviation museum opens is a 9-cylinder, 4-stroke, air-cooled, radial Packard diesel engine on loan from the Smithsonian Institution. The engine, which develops 225 horsepower at 1,950 rpm, was introduced in 1928 and proved to be the first successful heavier-than-air diesel power plant. Between 25-28 May 1931, this particular engine set the world's record for sustained flight without refueling, a record that stands to this day.

Several new exhibits soon will be added to the already-open WW II display. One of these is a cut-away North American SNJ Texan trainer which will permit inspection of internal structural members, hydraulic and fuel lines, engine assembly, armament, and cockpit details. Produced by aviation curator Joseph E. Payton, the SNJ will be "flown" by a man-

nequin flight instructor and student. Visitors will be able to listen to a tape recording of typical instruction flight dialogue—with expletives deleted.

Another new exhibit will be a 3-bladed Goodyear FG1-A Corsair donated by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company. Fully operational, the inverted gull-winged fighter is due to be flight ferried to Quantico in September.



RESEARCH

Since the last issue of *Fortitudine*, 76 researchers have availed themselves of the Center's facilities. As usual, the purpose of their research varied widely and included personal, commercial, and governmental reasons.

Researchers have come from *Cross and Cockade* magazine, Time-Life Books, the 2d MarDiv, the Naval Investigative Service, the Smithsonian Institution, the Naval Academy, Japan Broadcasting Company, *Naval Aviation News*, the University of Maryland, the Onslow County (N.C.) Public Library, the National Air and Space Museum, the National Geographic Society, the University of Georgia, the Development Center, the Library of Congress, the University of Chicago, the Department of Defense, the Virginia State Library, the Government Accounting Office, Squadron/Signal Publications, the 1361st Audio Visual Squadron (USAF), the General Electric Company, the McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft Company, and the Rio Hondo Preparatory School.

Subjects researched covered a broad range and included former Commandants; WW I aviation; USMC operations in WW II; the Chance Vought Corsair; Vietnam POW/MIAs; the Chosin Reservoir operation; 3d Marines operations, 66-67; the 3d Battalion, 2d Marines in the Dominican Republic (1965); Marine Corps armored vehicles in WW II; the Reising submachinegun; the USMC Drum and Bugle Corps; MajGen George Barnett; night carrier warfare; John Philip Sousa; HMX-1; fighter operations in WW II; Camp Lejeune history; C-130 and C-9 aircraft; the Requa-Billinghurst battery gun; Marine Bronze Star Medal recipients in WW II; USMC shoulder patches; Marine Corps energy use; Tarawa; the 10th Marines; the USMC control of Tsingtao, China; command chronologies; color schemes of WW II Marine aircraft; Presley N. O'Bannon; Marines in the Banana Wars; the Iwo Jima memorial; Marine infantry battalion

communications; Marine uniforms; Marine aviation in Vietnam; USAAF aircraft on Guadalcanal and in the Solomons chain; the Boxer Rebellion; USMC troop locations in Vietnam, 1965-1970; the biographies of LtGen Lewis B. Puller and Gen Oliver P. Smith; and Agent Orange.



On a June visit to the United Kingdom, Charles R. Smith, History and Museums Division staff historian, researched British military and naval records in preparation for the forthcoming history of "Marines in the Frigate Navy, 1790-1819." Concentrating on the War of 1812, he examined Admiralty and War Office materials at the British Public Records Office in London and at Kew in Surrey. Information obtained there led him to Edinburgh, Scotland where he gained access to the family papers of VAdm Sir Alexander F. Cochrane, commander of the British expeditionary forces that captured and burned Washington. Among the other important papers examined were those relating to the capture in 1813 of the *Sir Andrew Hammond*, commanded by then-Lieutenant of Marines John Marshall Gamble. In addition, Mr. Smith had occasion to visit a number of historic sites and museums, including the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich.



ACQUISITIONS

Throughout the spring and summer of this year, the Marine Corps Museum received an unprecedented number of donations from a wide variety of sources. The lack of space in *Fortitudine* does not allow the recognition of all donors, nevertheless, their generosity is appreciated.

Mrs. Mary Lou Beach, of Suitland, Maryland, sent a collection of 18 photographs showing Quantico and Guam in the 1930s. BGen Robert L. Denig, Jr., USMC (Ret) donated some hard-to-find, mint condition, WW II-era "skivvies" (underwear) which are an important asset to our uniform collection. From Col Ralph M. Wismer, USMC (Ret) we received a collection of personal papers and photographs, and, most importantly, a "George" medal from the Guadalcanal campaign.

A very interesting collection of photographs and personal papers was received from retired MGSgt

Murray M. Pikelný relating to his service on Samoa during WW II. LtCol Sherwood F. Moran, USMC (Ret) donated two original WW II cartoons drawn by a former member of the Disney staff serving with the Marines. A large personal papers and photographic collection of Maj Thomas A. Emmons, USMCR, was donated by his widow, Mrs. Vesta S. Emmons of San Pedro, California. Among the papers is a moving account of Maj Emmons' visit to Hiroshima in the fall of 1945.

Mr. Edwin Bennett of Columbia, Maryland, a former Marine and military collector, gave a massive, brass, seabag lock from the 1930s to the Museum's research collection. On the same day retired SgtMaj Jack Kahler made a gift of his embroidered cloth VMF-212 insignia and scarf. An interesting group of WW I photographs was received from MSgt Frank B. Meizwa, USMC (Ret). In this group are several photographs of Marines still wearing U.S. Army khaki uniforms as late as May 1919 while on occupation duty in Germany. In addition, Mr. J.P. Brannen of Albuquerque, New Mexico, donated a copy of his father's WW I memoirs to our growing collection of research materials on this period.

Our personal papers collection was further enlarged by Mr. Theodore S. Orme of Silver Spring, Maryland, who donated a copy of his recollections of the Marine landing at Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic in 1916 and by retired BGen Joseph W. Earnshaw's donation of his personal papers. Mr. Orme's donation was arranged by former Division member, Dr. Graham A. Cosmas.

Several extremely rare Chinese "Boxer" uniforms and glass negatives of the Boxer Rebellion were given by Mrs. Alfred D. Kilmartin of Palo Alto, California, whose father, a missionary, had been in China at the time. Special thanks must be given to the then—Head, Curator Branch, Naval History Division, Capt James Smith, who had originally received them and had suggested that they be donated to the Marine Corps Museum. Mrs. Alice K. Larson, of Annandale, Virginia, donated a large photograph collection of her late father, Col Seldon B. Kennedy, USMC (Ret), which contains many noteworthy scenes of his service in Haiti.

Two stereoptican views were received this spring: one donated by Mrs. J.W. Varian of Lake Placid, New York, showing the Marine cemetery at Belleau Wood in 1918, and the other donated by the Council on Abandoned Military Posts showing Marines marching in Washington during Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 in-

auguration. Mrs. Varian's gift was prompted by two unidentified young Marines who came to her rescue when she had a flat tire near Quantico.

One of the most important collections received by the Museum this spring was the decorations and medals of early Marine aviator, Gen Roy S. Geiger, which was donated by his son, Col Roy S. Geiger, USA (Ret). This collection, which was delivered by Col Richard I. "Jack" Moss, USMC (Ret), will be displayed in the Marine Corps Aviation Museum at Quantico.

Cdr Michael McCarthy, MC, USN, donated the papers, photographs, and uniforms of his late friend, retired BGen Omar T. Pfeiffer. This large collection includes most of the general's medals and decorations. Mr. Ray J. McGuire, of Boston, Massachusetts, gave a collection of letters from a WW I Marine to the Museum along with a book of A.E.F. cartoons.

A 1919 edition of the "Headquarters Dippybox" was given by Mr. Larry J. Overman of Tullahoma, Tennessee. BGen Charles L. Cogswell, USMCR (Ret) gave a collection of combat photographs which were taken in WW II by U.S. Coast Guard photographers.

Retiring LtGen Lawrence F. Snowden donated several WW II uniforms and a collection of books and personal papers. BGen Donald Curtis, USMC (Ret) also sent a collection of books and personal papers to the Museum. At the same time these gifts were received, Col Victor J. Harwick, USMC (Ret) donated several photographic treatises on the development of the LVT.

Filling a large and noticeable gap in our uniform research collection, Mr. Dennis W. Delaney of Lindenhurst, New York, donated a Spanish-American War period blue wool fatigue shirt which, although it appears to be privately purchased and not an issued item, is one of the rarest uniform artifacts of this time frame.

A very close friend of the Marine Corps, Mr. Felix deWeldon of Washington, D.C., donated a plaster bust he executed of Col John H. Glenn, USMC (Ret) when the colonel was an astronaut in the NASA space program.

A panoramic photograph of the 13th Regiment commanded by then-Col Smedley D. Butler at Quantico in 1918 was donated by retired GySgt Bobby B. Hall. At the same time the Museum received philatelic materials from Mr. Thomas Hallden of Belvedere, Illinois, and Col Carl E. Schmidt, USMC (Ret). Another copy of the A.E.F. cartoon book mentioned earlier was donated by Dr. Daniel L. Foxman of



THIRD CLASS MAIL

Keego Harbor, Michigan, in early July. The Museum's WW I collection was further expanded when Mr. W.E. Dutcher of Appleton, Wisconsin, donated uniforms and medals belonging to his late uncle, 1stSgt Henry F. Conkey, USMC (Ret). The donation included an engraved 4-bar Good Conduct Medal covering the years 1904-1924. Mr. Dutcher has been sending this collection in increments as he locates the items throughout the family.

At present, several large donations are being cataloged and accessioned. LtCol William D. Bauer, USMC recently donated a collection of papers, photographs, and memorabilia belonging to his late father, Guadalcanal ace LtCol Harold W. Bauer. In this collection is LtCol Bauer's Medal of Honor and an unpublished manuscript by the popular author Max Brand on LtCol Bauer's squadron in the Cactus Air Force. In addition to this fine collection, the collections of Gens Leo D. Hermle, Oliver P. Smith, and Melvin L. Krulewitch are currently being cataloged.



MILLETT MANUSCRIPT

Dr. Allan R. Millett, Professor of Military History and Mershon Professor of National Security Studies at Ohio State University, has completed his history of the Marine Corps for the "Wars of the United States" series. Tentatively titled *Semper Fidelis: A History of the U.S. Marine Corps*, the book will be published by the Free Press, probably in 1981.

Based on 8 years of archival research, much of it at the Historical Center, Dr. Millett's covers the Corps' entire history and emphasizes political survival and institutional development and adaptation as well as administration, operations, and doctrine. The manuscript is now being reviewed at the author's and

publisher's request by the History and Museums Division staff.

In addition to his literary credentials, which include three books and numerous essays and articles, Professor Millett is a Marine Reserve lieutenant colonel and the commanding officer of MTU OH-4.



RECEPTIONS AND VISIT

Two large receptions were held on the museum floor of the Center this summer, both in conjunction with the Navy's summer ceremonial parades on Wednesday nights. On 25 July, the out-going Secretary of the Navy, Hon. W. Graham Claytor, had 400 guests at a party that went on an unexpected hour and a half when the ceremony was rained out. No one seemed to mind. On 22 August, the Commander of the Naval District of Washington, RAdm K. J. Bernstein, had better luck for his 150 guests, mostly members of the Navy League in the Washington area, who attended both the reception and the ceremony. Judging from comments in the visitors' logbook, the setting, the museum exhibits, in particular the Waterhouse paintings, were greatly appreciated.

Members of the one of the largest Marine veterans organizations, the 1st Marine Division Association, visited both the Marine Corps Aviation Museum and the Marine Corps Museum in early August during their annual east coast reunion. On Thursday, 2 August, over 400 persons went to Quantico and on Friday over 500 came to the Navy Yard in conjunction with a visit to the Marine Barracks to view the traditional parade. The Museums Branch prepared a special two-case exhibit of 1st Division memorabilia in honor of the visit which was very well received by the veterans and their families.