

# JAMES GUTHRIE HARBORD

1866-1947

## *Register of His Personal Papers*



Compiled by  
Lieutenant Colonel Merrill L. Bartlett  
U.S. Marine Corps (Retired)

*Occasional Paper*

HISTORY AND MUSEUMS DIVISION  
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. MARINE CORPS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

1995

# JAMES GUTHRIE HARBORD

1866-1947

## *Register of His Personal Papers*



Compiled by  
Lieutenant Colonel Merrill L. Bartlett  
U.S. Marine Corps (Retired)

*Occasional Paper*

HISTORY AND MUSEUMS DIVISION  
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. MARINE CORPS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

1995

## Other Publications in the Occasional Papers Series

- Vietnam Histories Workshop. Plenary Session.* Jack Shulimson, editor 9 May 1983 31 pp
- Vietnam Revisited Conversation with William D. Broyles, Jr* Colonel John G. Miller, USMC, editor 11 December 1984 48 pp.
- Bibliography on Khe Sanh USMC Participation* Commander Ray W Strubbe, CHC, USNR (Ret), compiler April 1985 54 pp
- Alligators, Buffaloes, and Bushmasters. The History of the Development of the LVT Through World War II* Major Alfred Dunlop Bailey, USMC (Ret) 1986 272 pp
- Leadership Lessons and Remembrances from Vietnam* Lieutenant General Herman Nickerson, Jr, USMC (Ret) 1988. 93 pp.
- The Problems of U S Marine Corps Prisoners of War in Korea* James Angus MacDonald, Jr 1988 295 pp
- John Archer Lejeune, 1869-1942, Register of His Personal Papers* Lieutenant Colonel Merrill L Bartlett, USMC (Ret). 1988 123 pp
- To Wake Island and Beyond Reminiscences* Brigadier General Woodrow M Kessler, USMC (Ret) 1988. 145 pp
- Thomas Holcomb, 1879-1965, Register of His Personal Papers* Gibson B Smith 1988 229 pp
- Curriculum Evolution, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, 1920-1988* Lieutenant Colonel Donald F Bittner, USMCR 1988 112 pp
- Herringbone Cloak - GI Dagger, Marines of the OSS* Major Robert E Mattingly, USMC 1989 315 pp
- The Journals of Marine Second Lieutenant Henry Bulls Watson, 1845-1848* Charles R Smith, editor 1990 420 pp
- When the Russians Blinked The US Maritime Response to the Cuban Missile Crisis* Major John M Young, USMCR 1990 246 pp
- Marines in the Mexican War* Gabrielle M Neufeld Santelli Edited by Charles R Smith 1991 63 pp
- The Development of Amphibious Tactics in the US Navy* General Holland M Smith, USMC (Ret) 1992 89 pp

### *Occasional Papers*

*The History and Museums Division has undertaken the publication for limited distribution of various studies, theses, compilations, bibliographies, monographs, and memoirs, as well as proceedings at selected workshops, seminars, symposia, and similar colloquia, which it considers to be of significant value for audiences interested in Marine Corps history. These "Occasional Papers," which are chosen for their intrinsic worth, must reflect structured research, present a contribution to historical knowledge not readily available in published sources, and reflect original content on the part of the author, compiler, or editor. It is the intent of the division that these occasional papers be distributed to selected institutions, such as service schools, official Department of Defense historical agencies, and directly concerned Marine Corps organizations, so the information contained therein will be available for study and exploitation.*



*Brigadier General James G. Harbord, U.S. Army, commanded the 4th Brigade of Marines at Belleau Wood and other major battles, until he was given the nod by General Pershing and promoted to 2d Division commander in the American Expeditionary Force. He took the division into battle at Soissons.*

## Foreword

---

The James Guthrie Harbord papers, contained in the special collection described in this register, are limited to that correspondence relating to the Marine Corps. Major General Harbord, U. S. Army, commanded the Fourth Brigade (Marine), American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), from 6 May 1918 until July of that year. From 14 through 29 July, Harbord commanded the 2nd Division, AEF, of which the Marine Brigade was a part. For most of the remainder of the war in France, he led the Services-of-Supply (SOS), even then, Marine Corps officers commanded two of the depot or replacement divisions of the SOS. After his retirement from active service in 1922, General Harbord maintained old friendships among Leathernecks from the AEF and often helped comrades in a variety of professional and personal matters. In 1930, he chose to champion the cause of Major General Logan Feland in a failed bid to succeed to the commandancy following the death of Major General Wendell C. Neville. Much of the correspondence collected relates to the fractious competition for the Marine Corps' highest post in 1930 and General Harbord's attempt to aid a wartime companion.


Most of the correspondence copied and collected, and then described herein, came from the Harbord MSS in the Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress, or in the Harbord MSS, New York Historical Society. The compiler located additional materials in various record groups at

the National Archives, Federal Records Center, Suitland, President Herbert C Hoover Presidential Library, Ames, IO, Center for Military History, Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and in the personal papers of other figures of Major General Harbord's era This acquisition effort was supported by a grant from the Marine Corps Historical Foundation

Interested researchers wishing to use the Center's collection, which is described in this register, are welcome A letter specifying the interests of the researcher and the proposed date of the visit, addressed to the Marine Corps Historical Center, Building 58, Washington navy Yard, Washington, D.C 20374-0580, will be appreciated

Merrill L Bartlett, the compiler of this register, earned his undergraduate degree at Washington State University and his master of arts degree at San Diego State University, and completed studies at the doctoral level at the University of Maryland He taught history at the Naval Academy from 1977 to 1982, and now is retired from active service as a Marine officer. While serving in Annapolis, Lieutenant Colonel Bartlett won the prestigious William D. Clements Award as the outstanding military educator at the Naval Academy for 1980 He is the editor of Assault from the Sea Essays on the History of Amphibious Warfare (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1983), author of Lejeune A Marine's Life, 1869-1942 (Columbia University of South Carolina Press, 1992), and coauthor (with Colonel Joseph H Alexander) of Sea Soldiers in the Cold War Amphibious Warfare in the Age of the Superpowers, 1945-1991 (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, November 1994, forthcoming) His book reviews and essays have appeared in Leatherneck, Marine Corps Gazette, U S Naval Institute Proceedings, Journal of Military History, Naval History, and American Neptune Two of these essays, both from the Proceedings, won the 1981 and 1987 Colonel Robert D Heinl, Jr Awards "Ouster of a Commandant," in

November 1980, and "Old Gimlet Eye," in November 1986. The award is presented annually by the Marine Corps Historical Foundation for what that body adjudges to be the previous year's best published article pertinent to Marine Corps history. Lieutenant Colonel Bartlett is currently collaborating with Professor Dirk Ballendorf in a biography of Earl H. "Pete" Ellis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "E. H. Simmons". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and "S".

Edwin H. Simmons

Brigadier General, U. S. Marine Corps (Retired)

Director of Marine Corps History and Museums

## Table of Contents

---

Foreword . . . . .	iv
Table of Contents . . . . .	vii
Biographical Sketch . . . . .	viii

### CORRESPONDENCE

Container One . . . . .	1
Folders 1-30	
Container Two . . . . .	18
Folders 31-40	



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### JAMES GUTHRIE HARBORD, 1866-1947

---

The message from Headquarters, American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), to Headquarters Marine Corps in the late spring of 1918 sent shock waves through Washington naval circles. General John J. Pershing, Commander-in-Chief (CinC), AEF, notified Major General Commandant (MGC) George Barnett of a change in command of the Marines in France. Pershing's special medical examination team, tasked to determine the fitness of senior officers to serve in the AEF, had concluded that Brigadier General Charles A. Doyen--a Naval Academy classmate of the MGC--was physically unfit for further service in the AEF. Doyen had deployed overseas at the outset of America's entry into the war, first as the commanding officer of the 5th Marines and then in command of the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF after the arrival of the 6th Marines and the 5th Machinegun Battalion. Even more disconcerting than the news of Doyen's relief was Pershing's decision to assign an Army officer to command the brigade.

The CinC informed HQMC rather tersely that no replacement for Doyen was necessary, in fact, if another Marine Corps general officer arrived in France he would be assigned duties on the staff and not in command of troops. As the Department of the Navy pondered General Pershing's dictum, the CinC made good on his promise to rotate talented officers from the staff into positions of command. For the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF, he chose his chief of staff and longtime confidant, Brigadier General James Guthrie Harbord.<sup>1</sup>

Born in Bloomington, Illinois on 21 March 1866, Harbord grew up first there, then in

Missouri, and finally in Kansas as his father sought a vocation as a small-time farmer. After his graduation from Kansas State Agricultural College in 1886, Harbord attempted to obtain an appointment to the U. S. Military Academy but failed. For the next two years, he taught school in Kansas but a yearning for the life of a soldier became too strong. On 10 January 1889, Harbord enlisted as a private soldier and served two and one-half years in the ranks, rising rapidly to the rank of quartermaster sergeant. Attaining the highest score on the competitive examination for commissioning from the ranks in 1891, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the 5th Cavalry on 31 July of that year.

Following graduation from the Infantry and Cavalry School at Fort Leavenworth, he served with his regiment until the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. During that conflict, Harbord rose to the rank of major in the 2d U. S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment but the unit failed to deploy overseas during the war. Reverting to the rank of first lieutenant in the National Army upon the cessation of hostilities, he joined the 10th Cavalry Regiment where he began a lifelong association with John G. Pershing. Promoted to captain in the 11th Cavalry on 2 February 1901, Harbord was posted to the Philippines. Two years later, he became chief of the Philippine Constabulary with the rank equivalent to that of colonel. Harbord served in this assignment with the insular government for more than ten years. Upon his return to CONUS, he received promotion to major on 10 December 1914. When America entered World War I, Harbord was a student at the Army War College where he continued to perform above his peers and garner a reputation as a superlative officer.

At the onset of the U. S. declaration of war, Theodore Roosevelt offered to form a three-brigade division of volunteers for duty in France. As one of his brigade commanders, the former

President chose Harbord. But then Secretary of War Newton D Baker and President Woodrow Wilson selected Pershing to command the AEF. Subsequently, the CinC picked Harbord as his chief of staff. He sailed to France as a lieutenant colonel with the embryonic staff of the AEF in May 1917. On 5 August of that year, Harbord was promoted to brigadier general. For the next year, he contributed his considerable talents in support of the staff responsible for America's largest military venture since the Civil War. During that time, the strength of the AEF grew from less than a hundred officers and men on the staff to more than half a million troops.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Holcomb, then commanding a battalion in the 6th Marines, remembered Harbord's wry remarks to the officers in the 2nd Battalion's mess. Supposedly General Pershing had bid Harbord adieu to the front with the rejoinder: "Young man, I'm giving you the best brigade in France--if anything goes wrong, I'll know whom to blame." But perhaps this was just Harbord's style of leadership as he sought to gain the allegiance of the Marine officers. His diary notes simply that "[Pershing] said he could give me no better command in France than to let me succeed General Doyen with the Marines and I agreed with him." Harbord must have had misgivings and feelings of inadequacy. Albertus W. Catlin and Wendell C. Neville commanded his infantry regiments; each were graduates of the Naval Academy and both officers had won the Medal of Honor at Vera Cruz.<sup>3</sup>

However the senior Leathernecks felt at the time, they managed to put the best face on the situation. Neville assured Harbord that he could depend on them. Catlin gave Harbord a pair of Marine Corps collar emblems and suggested that he wear them. At home, General Barnett retreated from his earlier refusal to release his talented assistant Commandant, Brigadier General John A. Lejeune, for assignment to the AEF. Perhaps fearful that plans for an expansion of the

Marine Brigade into an entire division of Leathernecks might end with the assignment of an Army officer to command the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF, Barnett transferred Lejeune to Quantico in preparation for orders to France<sup>4</sup> .

Just as Harbord joined the brigade on 7 May 1918, it entrained from an area south of Verdun where it had been for almost two months. From there, planners sought suitable billets in a training area to further hone unit skills for combat. As early as May 1918, General Pershing was loathe to feed American units into the front. Despite pressure from senior French and British commanders, the C-in-C waited instead for sufficient, trained troops to form an American Army before entering the lines. Although appearing unreasonably obdurate to senior French and British commanders, Pershing's dictum was buttressed with the support of both Secretary Baker and President Wilson. But the fighting on the Western Front intensified just as Harbord took the reins of the brigade.

When the German Army failed to destroy the British forces in its offensive of early 1918, the Imperial High Command ordered a strike against the Aisne Heights. Quickly, the Germans captured Soissons and advanced toward the Marne, Paris appeared threatened, and the French Government began preparations to evacuate the capital to Bordeaux. Given the gravity of the situation, Pershing released three American divisions to the French: the 1st Division took up positions at Cantigny, north of Paris, and the 2nd and 3rd Divisions deployed to Château Thierry. By 2 June, the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF had dug in along the highway connecting Metz with Paris, just south of Belleau Wood. The French ordered Major General Omar Bundy, commanding the 2nd Division, AEF to hold at all costs. A day later, the field-gray columns approached the trenches of Harbord's brigade. The disciplined Marines allowed the Germans to come within 100

meters of their positions before cutting down the advancing infantry with volleys of well-aimed rifle fire. For two days, the assault raged but the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF refused to give ground.

For the next two weeks, Marine blood spilled more freely than any time in its history. On the afternoon of 6 June, Harbord received orders to eject the Germans from Belleau Wood. A short, savage artillery barrage preceded the brigade's attack, as waves of Marines fixed bayonets and crossed wheat fields dotted with bright red poppies. Withering German fire tore through the advancing lines, but failed to deter the advance. During that first day, Harbord's brigade suffered 1,097 casualties--more losses than the Marine Corps had suffered during any single engagement in its history.<sup>5</sup>

By nightfall 12 June, all the wood except a small fringe on its northern edge was in U.S. hands. A German counterattack next morning failed and Harbord was able to march his brigade out of the hellish terrain on the 15th. But the Army brigade that relieved the Marines failed to blunt a German counterattack and the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF reentered Belleau Wood on the 23rd to eject the Germans once and for all. A euphoric battalion commander trumpeted "woods now U.S. Marine Corps entirely" in a message to brigade headquarters. Harbord reported an alarming total of 4,677 casualties or a rate of almost 50 per cent. A grateful France announced that from now on Belleau Wood would be named Bois de la Brigade de Marine. In a senseless and petulant gesture, however, AEF headquarters altered the name to Bois de la Brigade des Americains, just as forthrightly, the French changed it back! When a beaming President Clemenceau visited the lines of the 2nd Division, AEF to congratulate the Americans on stemming the threat to the French capital, neither Harbord nor any of his senior officers

received an invitation to attend the ceremony

The entire affair left the bitter aftertaste of interservice bile in the mouths of many Army officers. At home, General Barnett and his coterie exacerbated the brouhaha with constant reference to Marine prowess and élan, and trumpeted Leatherneck preparedness as compared to the poorly-trained conscript Army. By then, HQMC was advertising "Join now, don't wait to be drafted," which meant, obviously, "Join now, don't wait to be drafted into the Army." Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels was so moved by the epic encounter at Belleau Wood that he wrote an additional stanza to the "Marine Corps Hymn":

As we raised our flag at Tripoli,  
and again in Mexico,  
So we took Chateau Thierry and  
the forest of Belleau.  
When we hurled the Hun back from the Marne,  
He said we fought like fiends,  
And the French rechristened Belleau Wood  
for United States Marines

Closer to the raw nerves in France, Doughboys responded quickly to Leatherneck swagger with a doggerel sung to the tune of "Mademoiselle from Armentières

The Marines have won the Croix de Guerre,  
parlez-vous?  
The Marines have won the Croix de Guerre,  
parlez-vous?  
The Marines have won the Croix de Guerre,  
But the sons-of-bitches were never there  
Hinky dinky parlez-vous?<sup>6</sup>

The situation appeared fraught with irony. In its first major encounter against the Germans, a brigade of Marines--the only Leathernecks included in the three divisions of Americans deployed--had performed gallantly and earned the lion's share of the praise, worse, the Marines had been identified as the assault troops of the AEF--despite General Pershing's order

that journalists were not to identify specific units in news reports. Hagiographic accounts of the Leathernecks at Belleau Wood appeared in newspapers at home. And the brigade had been led not by a fellow Marine but by an Army officer who was one of General Pershing's closest friends. The C-in-C must have recalled somewhat ruefully that he had cabled the Department of the Army in vain the year before to prevent the deployment of Marines to France.

The 5th Marines, a fine infantry regiment, arrived in June complete. The division supply machines, trains, etc., are based on four regiments and the fifth regiment is an inconvenient addition. Its infantry, certain features of supply, inability to meet hospital expenses, and this odd replacement organization do not assimilate into Army organization. If the Marines can be spared from the customary duties for which maintained, it is believed these surpluses should become part of the Army and otherwise no more Marines be sent to France.<sup>7</sup>

As Chief of Staff, Harbord certainly must have known of the message and most likely drafted it for Pershing.

On 26 June 1918, Harbord received a promotion to major general and the C-in-C took the opportunity to remove Omar Bundy from command of the 2nd Division. For some time, Pershing had grown wary of Bundy's lack of aggressive leadership. In a scathing diary entry, he noted that "General Bundy disappoints me. I shall relieve him at the earliest opportunity." Pershing shunted Bundy off to command a corps not likely to play a significant role in any future offensive, and then gave the 2nd Division to Harbord. Neville took over the 4th Brigade (Marine), AEF.

Through 15-26 July, Harbord commanded the division throughout its participation in the Soissons Offensive. Military historians, however, have suggested that Harbord appeared less than the superlative division commander expected and proved an embarrassing dilemma to his old friend. No less a luminary than General Robert E. Lee Bullard argued years after the war that the chief of staff, Colonel Preston Brown, deserved credit for the unsurpassed record of the 2nd

Division: "Through three changes of commanders [Bundy, Harbord, Lejeune] and three battles [Belleau Wood, Soissons, St Mihiel], Brown had continually stood forth as the striking, dominant personality of the division."<sup>8</sup>

Events near the end of July presented General Pershing with two predicaments, one although minor involving Harbord, and a major brouhaha in the making over the muddled Services of Supply (SOS). After barely more than a year in France, the SOS simply appeared to be failing in its mission to support the AEF adequately. In Washington, the Chief of Staff of the Army and Secretary of War considered dividing General Pershing's command. In their collective view, Pershing should be left only to command the American army; his remaining duties, directing the SOS through a subordinate and conducting diplomacy and military liaison with the Government of France, should be assigned to others. Ominously, General Peyton C March and Secretary Newton D Baker proposed sending the legendary builder of the Panama Canal, Colonel George W Goethels, to France to command the SOS separately from Pershing and the AEF.

Pershing bridled at the suggestion, and took steps to thwart the division of his command. Trusting Harbord's proven ability as a staff officer, he asked his old friend to relinquish command of the 2nd Division, AEF and take over the muddled Services of Supply. It was a bittersweet moment for Harbord, who dreamed of eventually commanding a corps with promotion to lieutenant general. The 2nd Division, AEF passed to John A Lejeune, the senior brigadier general in the division until Pershing named a successor. Perhaps not coincidentally, Barnett had already submitted Lejeune's name to the Secretary of the Navy for promotion to major general. When the authorization for Lejeune's second star arrived a week later, General Pershing found it prudent to keep him in command.



Harbord assumed his new duties immediately, and led the SOS until the spring of 1919. He received promotion to brigadier general in the Regular Army on 30 November 1918, and returned to his old duties as Chief of Staff, AEF, on 25 May 1919. That fall, he earned his permanent promotion to major general in the Regular Army and took command of the 2nd Division at Camp Travis, Texas. In 1921, General Pershing became Chief of Staff of the Army and he again drew on Harbord's proven talents by naming him his assistant. After almost thirty-four years of service, General Harbord retired on 29 December 1922. The following January, Harbord moved to Rye, New York, and he commuted daily to his new position as chairman of the board of the Radio Corporation of America (RCA). He held this appointment from 1923 until 1930, and then served as honorary chairman until shortly before his death on 20 August 1947.

In his retirement years, General Harbord maintained close contacts with his Marine comrades from the AEF. Although General Lejeune remained the titular commander among the 2nd Division's three commanding generals, Harbord retained a special affection from the Marines because of his leadership of the brigade during one of its most heroic encounters. At the inaugural meeting of the Marine Corps League in 1923, the association voted him its first honorary member. In warm responses to the tribute, General Harbord told the group of distinguished veterans of the AEF that if he had to do it over, he would be a Marine. He quoted from a message from Marshall Foch: "France can never forget the Marines. Their deeds have formed one of the most illustrative pages in our history."<sup>9</sup>

In 1931, Harbord served as president of the National Republican Club, a year later, he was one of several nominees for Vice President at the Republican National Convention. Important connections with the Republicans holding national office throughout the 1920s and into the early

1930s caused Harbord to occasionally become involved in intraservice politics with regard to Marine Corps officers with whom he had served during the war.

His strong friendship with General Lejeune limited any significant involvement in Marine Corps affairs. But when Lejeune elected to relinquish the commandancy in 1929, Harbord found himself a party to the intensely-competitive quest for succession to the Corps' highest post. His prominent military record and active participation in Republican politics drew him into the fiercely-contested competition for the commandancy, first in 1929 and then again in 1930.

Frustration resulting from the failure of Congress to approve legislation affecting the Corps's antiquated system of officer promotion influenced Lejeune's decision to step down in 1929. Fears of the retrenchment promised by the President-elect, Herbert Hoover, exacerbated the concerns of the Commandant. But ultimately, General Lejeune opted to relinquish his post because of his strong friendship with Wendell C. Neville. Wanting desperately to have his old comrade succeed him, and appreciating his own vulnerability as a Democrat in the hands of a new Republican administration, caused Lejeune to resign before reaching mandatory retirement age to ensure Neville's accession. Few knew of the real reason for resigning, but Lejeune took Harbord into his confidence. Also, Lejeune obtained the assurances of Smedley D. Butler that the mercurial Marine would not challenge Neville's nomination.<sup>10</sup>

The career aspirations and powerful political connections of Brigadier General Logan Feland troubled Lejeune. The two officers had not developed warm rapport, especially during Feland's tenure as assistant to the Commandant. Just as Lejeune anticipated, Feland made a feeble attempt to derail Neville's nomination. Although the veteran campaigner called in his favors from Republican associates, he did not seek Harbord's assistance. A year later, however, Neville's death

while in office resulted in another spate of acrimonious infighting for the commandancy. At first, the competition to succeed Neville appeared as a race between Butler and John H. Russell. This time, Harbord entered the internecine drama to support Feland--especially when it became obvious that senior officials in the Hoover Administration and within the Department of the Navy voiced reluctance for Butler to lead the Marine Corps. Russell's long period of detached service as the High Commissioner in Haiti seemed to disqualify him as well.

When Feland concluded, incorrectly as it turned out, that the competition rested between himself and Butler, he asked General Harbord to support his quest. General Harbord corresponded with President Hoover and otherwise counseled Feland in his pursuit of the commandancy. Harbord corresponded with Lejeune, asking him to support Feland. Instead, however, the circumspect former Commandant demurred and offered only tepid support for Butler. Ultimately, however, President Hoover and Secretary of the Navy Charles Francis Adams selected Ben H. Fuller, the overriding factor appeared to be Fuller's diploma from the Naval Academy, whereas Feland had received his commission directly from civil life. General Harbord apparently did not involve himself in the subsequent controversy involving the succession of General Russell to the commandancy following General Fuller's retirement in 1934.<sup>11</sup>

On 21 January 1899, Harbord married Emma Yeatman Ovenshine. After the death of his first wife, General Harbord married Ann Lee Brown in 1937. He sired no children from either of his marriages. General Harbord was promoted to lieutenant general on the retired list on 9 July 1942. Until his death, he remained a close friend, advisor, and confidant of General Pershing. Contemporaries remembered Harbord as a heavily-built, impressive-looking bald man. He led by stern visage and earned a reputation as a demanding taskmaster. A generation of Marines,

especially veterans of Belleau Wood, thought General Harbord miscast as a Doughboy and considered him one of their own cut in forest green. Even Harbord's good friend, General Pershing, could not refrain from joshing him with regard to his unabashed pride in the 4th Brigade Marine, AEF. In a sarcastic diary entry, Pershing noted taking lunch with Harbord "[Harbord] told of a Marine who had captured seventy-five German prisoners singlehanded, at which I remarked that if he told such stories as that it was little wonder that he was popular with the Marines."<sup>12</sup>

## NOTES

1 Cf H W Edwards, "Harbord and Lejeune A Command precedent," Marine Corps Gazette 37 (July 1953). 12-15 with John J Pershing to his chief of staff, 9 July 1918, Commander-in-Chief file, entry 6, Records of the American Expeditionary Forces, Record Group (hereafter RG) 120, National Archives and Records Administration (hereafter NARA); see also, Donald F Smythe, Pershing: General of the Armies (Bloomington University of Indiana Press, 1986), p 120, and Robert E Lee Bullard, Personalities and Reminiscences of the War (New York Doubleday, 1925), pp 315-16.

2 Charles R Shrader, "James Guthrie Harbord," in Roger J. Spiller, Joseph G Dawson, and T Harry Williams, ed, Dictionary of American Military Biography, 3 vol. (Westport, Ct. and London: Greenwood, 1982), 2: 437-441.

3. Thomas Holcomb is quoted in Robert D. Heinl, Jr, Soldiers of the Sea: The United States Marine Corps, 1775-1962 (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1962, reprint ed, Baltimore Nautical and Aviation Publishing, 1991), p. 191. Cf James G Harbord, Leaves from a War Diary (New York Dodd, Mead, 1925), p 278 with John J. Pershing, My Experiences in the World War, 2 vol. (New York: Stokes, 1931), 2 38, 48, and 52.

4. John A Lejeune, Reminiscences of a Marine (Philadelphia Dorrance, 1930), pp 240-242.

5 Second Division. Summary of Operations in the World War (Washington: GPO, 1944), p. 23;  
see also, Robert B Asprey, Belleau Wood (New York. Putnam's Sons, 1965), passim

6 André Brewster, Inspector-General, AEF, to Pershing, 12 July 1918, file 712-1, Entry 588,  
General Correspondence, RG 120, NARA, Robert E Lee Bullard, Personalities and  
Reminiscences of the War, pp 208-9, and Joseph T. Dickman, The Great Crusade. A Narrative  
of the World War (New York. Appleton, 1927), pp 52-3. See also, Merrill L Bartlett,  
"Leathernecks, Doughboys, and the Press," Naval History 7 (September/October 1993) 46-53.

7 Cf John J Pershing to the Adjutant General, Department of War, 31 August 1917, cable  
133s, Entry 6, Correspondence of the Commander-in-Chief, RG 120, NARA with Pershing to  
Major General George Barnett, 10 November 1917, Barnett MSS, MCHC

8 Robert E. Bullard, Fighting Generals. Illustrated Biographical Sketches of Seven Major Generals in World War I (Ann Arbor, MI J.W. Edwards, 1944) p 190 See also, Pershing's diary, 4 & 9 June, 27 July 1918, John J. Pershing MSS, MD-LC, and Edward M Coffman, "American Command and Commanders in World War I," in Russell F Wiegley, ed, New Dimensions in Military History (San Rafael, CA Presideo, 1975)

9. "Organization of MC League," New York Times, 15 May 1923, p 1 See also, news items on 7 June 1923, p. 40; and 9 June 1923, p. 10

10. James G Harbord to John A Lejeune, 18 December 1928, Lejeune to Harbord, 22 and 23 March 1929, correspondence file "L," Harbord MSS, New York Historical Foundation, and Smedley D Butler to Lejeune, 18 December 1928, Butler MSS, Marine Corps Historical Center.

11. Candidates for Commandant file, 1929, and Candidates for Commandant file, 1930, Container 36, Herbert Hoover MSS, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, Ames, Iowa, and Correspondence files, James G Harbord MSS, New York Historical Society

12 Diary entry, 12 July 1918, Pershing MSS, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.

**CORRESPONDENCE**CONTAINER ONE

- FOLDER 1
- [6 Jun 1918] frag' order to brigade, assault Belleau Wood at 1700
- 6 Jun 1918 Harbord to Feland Request for a second barrage cannot be honored because brigade does not know exact location of 5th Marines
- [6 Jun 1918] handwritten sitrep from Holcomb, 6th Marines, prepared at 1900
- 6 Jun 1919 commemoration of the first assault on Belleau Wood, prepared by brigade headquarters
- FOLDER 2
- 7 Jun 1918 handwritten sitrep prepared by Holcomb at 0130
- 7 Jun 1918 handwritten sitrep prepared by Holcomb at 0345
- 7 Jun 1918 handwritten list of casualties from [?] to Holcomb prepared at 0505
- 7 Jun 1918 handwritten sitrep from Lee at 0620
- 7 Jun 1918 sitrep from 4th Brigade at 0830
- 7 Jun 1918 Harbord to CG, 167th French Division 1045. Requests that he take small wood one km south of Bussiaries
- 7 Jun 1918 Harbord to Neville 1230 Don't send 3/5 to the wood between Marichy and the brigade CP, instead, direct it to Mon Bianche, SW of Lucy and 1 km NE of La Ferme Paris. Easier for resupply from there
- 7 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brigade to CG, 2nd Div sitrep [1800]
- 7 Jun 1918 Harbord to Co, 5th Marines 2040 directs reposition of troops.
- 7 Jun 1918 record of telecon with Maj Sibley heavy casualties enemy too strong "as soon as we take one machinegun nest, we find another." all of the officers in the 82nd Co.



are wounded or missing.

FOLDER 3

8 Jun 1918 field message. 1020. officer casualties in 3/6.

8 Jun 1918 field message 1230. Harbord to Sibley move to gully south edge of wood and rest "I will have artillery play on the wood."

8 Jun 1918 field message. 1230 Harbord to Lee direct message to Sibley by runner, not by field phone.

8 Jun 1918 field message. 1255 CO, 6th Mar., to Maj Lay, adj , brigade. logistical information.

8 Jun 1918 field message. CO, 6th Mar , to CG, 4th Brig. 1300 POW stated that the German troops have orders to hold the line of "R R north of Bouresches at all costs "

8 Jun 1918 field message Sibley to CG, 4th Brig. 1355 will move troops under cover to await artillery prep.' Troops too exhausted for further attack or strong resistance until several hours rest "enemy shelling our position now."

8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div. 1500 passes on POW report of 1300 from 6th Marines

8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CO, 6th Mar. 1530 French intercept indicates Germans to direct heavy artillery and machinegun fire into the roads around Bouresches May attempt to isolate American positions.

8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 1/6 1820. released from corps reserve. Relieve 3/6 SE of Lucy.

8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CO, 6th Mar. 1821. info of 1820 message.

8 Jun 1918 Adj , 4th Brig to CO, 2nd Eng 2010 move companies in reserve to OpCon, 2nd Eng vice 4th Brig

8 Jun 1918 Harbord to Holcomb 2130 unable to relieve him can't risk losing town "the holding of that town is too important for me to risk a change at this time."

- 8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 1/6. Reconnoiter wood directly SE of Lucy, occupy it for the night
- 8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CO, 6th Mar. change in plans 2145. Withdraw Sibley's battalion. Artillery prep' tomorrow morning "expected to obliterate any enemy organizations in that wood."
- 8 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 5th Mar move 2/5 to the west of Lucy-Toroy Road Clear area for artillery prep' of entire wood
- 8 Jun 1918 Harbord to Shearer. 2152 visit Holcomb for orientation. Anticipate your battalion relieving his tomorrow night.
- 8 Jun 1918 Brig to subordinate units summary of lessons learned and suggestions after a week's fighting

## FOLDER 4

- 9 Jun 1918 6th Mar. to Brig. special sitrep
- 9 Jun 1918 Field Message 6th Mar to Brig 1110 repeat information on location of Hughes's battalion.
- 9 Jun 1918 Field Message 6th Mar to Brig 1215 Hughes's battalion located in the woods just west of point 2.05 on north side of Road LaVoie au Châtel
- 9 Jun 1918 Field Message Harbord to CO, 1/6 1440 prepare to move after dark into position for attack Field order to follow.
- 9 Jun 1918 Field Message Harbord to CO, 3/5. send one company as regimental reserve to support 6th Mar.
- 9 Jun 1918 Field Message. Harbord to CO, 2/6 when relieved by 3/5, move to the east edge of the wood SW of Lucy, south of the stream Gobert
- 9 Jun 1918 Harbord to battalion commanders. 1600 mark lines with panels or white handkerchiefs for aircraft
- 9 Jun 1918 Brig Field Order no. 3 1830 brig to attack southern end of the wood on 10 June

- 9 Jun 1918 CO, 6th Mar to CMC lauds professionalism of replacements fed into battle directly upon reporting in
- 9 Jun 1918 Pershing , CinC, AEF to Bundy, CG, 2nd Div  
 Congratulations to Harbord and brigade Does not say "Belleau Wood," but instead "north of Chateau Thierry."
- 9 Jun 1918 Endorsement by Bundy of above.
- 9 Jun 1918 CO, 23rd Inf to CO, 6th Mar Congratulations "for work of last night."

## FOLDER 5

- 10 Jun 1918 Adj , 4th Brig to CO, 6th Mar 0927 recommends addition of two Stokes mortars in defense of Bouresche.
- 10 Jun 1918 Harbord to Major Hughes 1002 Wants information on enemy strength to the north of his battalion, how much artillery prep' necessary.
- 10 Jun 1918 Harbord to Chief of Staff, 2nd Div. 1005 Does not want French artillery withdrawn, anticipates attacking north end of wood today, tonight, or early tomorrow morning.
- 10 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 6th Mar 1030 French interpreter guilty of sending classified traffic over the field phone. "He lacks the necessary intelligence."
- 10 Jun 1918 Brig Field Order no 4. 1745 Brigade to attack north end of the wood on 11 June beginning at 0430
- 10 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 6th Mar 1820. orders 20th CO to replace 2/5 in the line.

## FOLDER 6

- 11 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 0800. Sitrep brigade exhausted and too long in continual combat Requests relief French units do not remain in combat nearly as long
- 11 Jun 1918 Sitrep from CO, 49th Co. to CO, 1/6. "full of confidence "
- 11 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 0925 another sitrep emphasizes complete exhaustion of the brigade

- 11 Jun 1918 CG, 2nd Div to CO, 2nd Eng. 1040. Send two companies of engineers to 4th Brig
- 11 Jun 1918 CO, 2nd Eng to CO, 2nd Bn., 2nd Eng. 1105 Orders two companies to 4th Brig
- 11 Jun 1918 CO, 2nd Bn., 2nd Eng to CO, 2nd Eng 1110. Complying
- 11 Jun 1918 Harbord to Wise via CO, 5th Mar 1145 Division command congratulates Wise's battalion.
- 11 Jun 1918 Harbord to Wise 1400 artillery on your left Prisoners taken largest number to date in AEF. Expect 1,000 replacements for brigade today
- 11 Jun 1918 Harbord to Hughes. 1405 questions Expect 1,000 replacements for brigade today
- 11 Jun 1918 CO, 6th Mar. to CG, 4th Brig. 1410 Germany artillery shelling town from direction of Bussiares
- 11 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 2/6. 1800 Designated corps reserve.
- 11 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 3/6. 1809. Relieved as corps reserve and is now brigade reserve.
- 11 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div. 2000 Sitrep. 400 prisoners taken, 30 machineguns captured.
- FOLDER 7
- 12 Jun 1918 CO, 23rd Inf to CG, 4th Brig 1415 Congratulations on victory.
- 12 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 1800 Sitrep Corner of wood still held by Germans Enemy artillery still firing, aerial observation
- 12 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. 3/6 in brigade reserve will be replaced by 1/5 at dusk 3/6 chops to 5th Mar
- FOLDER 8
- 13 Jun 1918 Harry Lee, CO, 6th Mar to Harbord, CG, 4th Brig. 1015. Enemy artillery and machinegun fire on Bouresche

"terrific " Enemy driven back in disorder "The conduct of our troops was excellent "

13 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div. 2000 Sitrep Enemy assault into Boursches repulsed using both corps and brigade reserve battalions "Morale excellent but 'body about all-in."

## FOLDER 9

14 Jun 1918 Harbord to Holcomb. 1410. Regrets putting his battalion back into action with so little rest

14 Jun 1918 Adjutant, 6th Mar to Adjutant, 4th Brig 1550 List of officer casualties by battalion

14 Jun 1918 Adjutant, 6th Mar to Adjutant, 4th Brig 1605 C), 96th Co gassed and evacuated along with 150 troops

14 Jun 1918 CO, 6th Mar to CG, 4th Brig. 1737. Gas shells being dropped in the vicinity of Hughes's CP, Hughes showing the effects.

14 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 5th Mar 1700 Orders area gassed evacuated until clear Doesn't expect enemy to enter gassed area

14 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 2000 Sitrep Bouresches passed to 23rd Infantry Brigade physically exhausted but esprit remains unshaken

## FOLDER 10

15 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 3rd Brig 0812 Southern half of wood saturated with mustard gas, so withdrawing battalion from there to the west Wants support of 3rd Brig machinegun fires if enemy attempts to enter front of brigade

15 Jun 1918 CG, 3rd Brig to CG, 4th Brig 0947 Instructions will be given as requested

15 Jun 1918 6th Mar. to 4th Brig 0910. Location of CP

15 Jun 1918 6th Mar to 4th Brig 0946. Gas bombs in eastern end of wood, but wind blowing it away

- 15 Jun 1918 6th Mar. to 4th Brig 1350. Location of 1/6 CP. Strength of battalion is 15 officers, 633 men.
- 15 Jun 1918 CO, 6th Mar..to CG, 4th Brig 1255 Has not been relieved of responsibility for his sector by 167th French Division, which only relieved 3/6. First Bn., 7th Inf. relieved 2/5
- FOLDER 11
- 16 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CO, 6th Mar. 1440 No responsibility for former sector whatsoever Concentrate on refurbishing battalions for "eventualities."
- 16 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. 1630 1st Bn , 7th Inf. will relieve 1/6 in the south half of Bois de Belleau
- 16 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 5th Mar 1940. Evacuate all captured machineguns and Minenwerfers
- 16 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 2000 Sitrep. 1st Bn., 7th Inf relieved 2/5 and 2/6 as ordered 3/6 relieved by 167th D I. Enemy aviation active, allied planes seldom seen.
- 16 Jun 1918 CG, 21st Corps General Operation Order 2030 Establishes boundary between 2nd Division, AEF and 167th French Division.
- FOLDER 12
- 17 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CO, 1st Bn, 7th Inf 1830. Engineers enroute to assist in wiring Expedite wiring
- 17 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 2nd Bn, 7th Inf 1830. Engineers enroute to assist in wiring. Expedite wiring
- 17 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CO, 3/5. 1830. Engineers enroute to assist in wiring Expedite wiring
- 17 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar 1600 Relieve 1/5 with 3rd Bn., 7th Inf Move 1/5 to Moutreuil to board trucks for movement to Mery and the station vacated by the Army battalion.
- 17 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 2000. Sitrep. Relief by Army units completed Enemy artillery increasing

- FOLDER 13
- 18 Jun 1918 CO, 2nd Bn., 2nd Engineers to CG, 4th Brig 1035  
Wants transportation
  - 18 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 1st Bn , 7th Inf 1440 Rebukes  
Army commander for failing to follow instructions with  
regard to supporting engineer unit and for not sending in  
a sitrep
  - 18 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 2nd Bn , 7th Inf Support engineers  
in wiring up position.
  - 18 Jun 1918 Copy of 3rd Bn , 7th Inf. field order no 3, 1900.
  - 18 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div 1800: Sitrep 3rd Bn, 7th  
Infantry relieved 1/5. CG, 21st Corps visited brigade HQ.
  - 18 Jun 1918 CO, 3/6 to CG, 4th Brig 2205. Enemy dropping gas  
shells.
- FOLDER 14
- 19 Jun 1918 6th Machinegun Bn. order.
  - 19 Jun 1918 CO, 2/6 to CG, 4th Brig 0255. Enemy shelling stopped  
Bathing party departing 0330 for St Aulds, return by  
2200.
  - 19 Jun 1918 Chief of Staff, 2nd Div , to CG, 4th Brig Relief by 7th  
Inf to begin tomorrow night, but no trucks available  
(two copies)
  - 19 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 1800 Sitrep The battalion  
from the 7th Infantry failed to capture any prisoners.
- FOLDER 15
- 20 Jun 1918 167th Div order Capture and occupation of the Bois en  
Croissant
  - 20 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. Informs him of the planned  
assault by the 167th Fr. Div. , 73rd Div supporting.
  - 20 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 3rd Bn., 7th Inf 2150 Congratulations  
on good work in occupying ravine to the crossroads, but

be on the lookout for a counterattack

- 20 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 7th Inf 1035 Scathing response to complaint about spoiled food
- 20 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 1st Bn , 7th Inf 1200 Only one more chance to redeem itself in combat.
- 20 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 1st Bn , 7th Inf 1800 Attack order.
- 20 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 1800 Sitrep 3rd Bn , 7th Infantry succeeded, 1st Bn , 7th Infantry did not
- FOLDER 16 21 Jun 1918 Copy of 6th Machinegun Battalion operations order
- 21 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 1300. Sitrep. Co, 1st Bn , 7th Inf doesn't think he can succeed, Harbord continues to press him 7th Inf considered unreliable, needs a strong commanding officer
- 21 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 3/5 1435 Encourages employment of sharpshooters.
- 21 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 3/5, 2nd & 3rd Bn , 7th Inf 1445. Patrol in front of lines, search enemy dead for unit identification
- 21 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div. 1520 Sitrep CO, 7th Inf claims that Germans in American uniforms have infiltrated his positions.
- 21 Jun 1918 HQ, Gasten [3rd Bn , 7th Inf.] to CO, 5th Mar 1955. Coordinating patrol route with artillery fires.
- 21 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 2000 Sitrep Supply problems, 1700 pairs of shoes needed for 6th Marines
- 21 Jun 1918 Sibley to Harbord 1100. In position NW of Lucy in brigade reserve
- FOLDER 17 22 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 1/5, CO, 3/6, CO, 3rd Bn 7th Inf Anticipate many deserters from among Alsatians, Poles, and other malcontents.



- 22 Jun 1918 Sibley to Harbord 0700 Germans shelled wood all night
- 22 Jun 1918 CO, 4th Machinegun Bn , to CG, 4th Brig 1200. One of his companies relieved one from another battalion
- 22 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CO, 3rd Bn. 7th Inf. 1445. Straighten out your line!
- 22 Jun 1918 CO, 3rd Bn. 7th Inf. to CG, 4th Brig 1510 Not using German ordnance against the enemy.
- 22 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div 2000. Sitrep 7th Inf battalions apparently not reporting location accurately, part of wood still held by enemy. 3/5 will clean it out by 1000 23 Jun.
- 22 Jun 1918 CO, 3rd Bn, 7th Inf. to CG, 4th Brig. 2010. Sending patrols out at night as far as Torcy
- 22 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 3/5 1835. Make plans to clean out north end of wood before 2200 tomorrow

## FOLDER 18

- 23 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar 1125 Notes poor teamwork "Put some 'pep' into Shearer, Keyser, and Sibley for tonight and get some patrols out "
- [23 Jun] Letter from CO, Co. M, 7th Inf to CO, 7th Inf. attempting to explain failure.
- 23 Jun 1918 Harbord to C/S, 2nd Div. 1445. Accompanies Shearer's plan for attack (plan not included)
- 23 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div 1530. Reports one building at Ferme Paris contains dynamite.
- 23 Jun 1918 Harbord to Neville. 1800. Engineers wiring up positions for 3/6 exhausted and need help.
- 23 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 2/5. 1805. Furnish men to assist engineers

- 23 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div. 1800. Sitrep. 3/5 assaulting north tip of wood, making progress. Much enemy ordnance to be removed from wood, especially abandoned machineguns.
- 23 Jun 1918 2nd Bn , 2nd Engineers to CG, 4th Brig 2200 and 2215. Bn Cmdr. missing.
- FOLDER 19
- 24 Jun 1918 Memorandum from Harbord Frag order to clear north edge of wood of Germans.
- 24 Jun 1918 Casualties in 3/5.
- 24 Jun 1918 Sibley to Harbord Field Messages indicating intentions.
- 24 Jun 1918 Waller to Brig HQ. Using captured machineguns.
- 24 Jun 1918 Report of attack by 3/5. 1100.
- 24 Jun 1918 Harbord to Co's, 5th & 6th Mar 1810 Exchange P C s tomorrow morning
- 24 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div. 0800 Sitrep. Attack on machinegun nests in north end of wood failed. Conference of commanders included Maj Gen Bundy, 2/5 has relieved 3rd Bn , 7th Inf
- FOLDER 20
- 25 Jun 1918 CO, 6th Mar. to CG, 4th Brig number of German machineguns in use.
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 2/5. 0145. Mild rebuke of Keyser, get patrols out.
- 25 Jun 1918 Keyser to Harbord 0530. Not in touch with Shearer or anyone on left
- 25 Jun 1918 Keyser to CO, 6th Mar 0535 Patrol reduced no results
- 25 Jun 1918 Sibley to CO, 5th Mar 0700 Patrol reports
- 25 Jun 1918 Lee (CO, 6th Mar ) to CG, 4th Brig 0900 Misleading reports from wood.

- 25 Jun 1918 Lee to Harbord, 0900 Messages from Keyser enclosed
- 25 Jun 1918 Lee to Harbord, 1445 Enclosed messages from A-1. Messages not attached
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 2/5 1545. Provides guidance in clearing out German resistance
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to 3/6. 1918 Coordinating artillery with patrols Wants dead Germans searched
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 23rd Inf. 1740 Advises him of 3/6's patrols.
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 12th Artillery No fires in area of patrols
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar 1755. Fire danger, unexploded grenades littering ground
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar 2110 Coordinate Keyser's movement with Shearer's advance
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 2/5. 2310 Instructions
- 25 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar 2320 Shearer did great work! No fear of a German counterattack
- 25 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div 1150 Sitrep Heavy casualties in Shearer's battalion, numerous German prisoners
- FOLDER 21 26 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar and CO, 6th Mar 0815 2/6 to relieve 3/5 tonight
- 26 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar and CO, 6th Mar 0830 1/6 becomes brigade reserve.
- 26 Jun 1918 Harbord to brigade. 0845 All recommendations for awards due by noon, 28 June
- 26 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 0950 Sitrep Shearer reports "Woods now U. S Marine Corps entirely." 2/5 holds sector west of wood "My company gave an

excellent account of themselves yesterday afternoon wading into the Boche like a bunch of wild cats "

- 26 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Artillery Brigade 1020. Lauds artillery support provided.
- 26 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig. to CG, 2nd Div. 1030. POWs captured with bandages manufactured in Japan
- 26 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 2/5. Directions for straightening out line.
- 26 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. and CO, 6th Mar. 1455. Reduce number of men in the line, consistent with security
- 26 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div. 2055 Sitrep. No contacts. Flow of POWs continues.
- FOLDER 22** 27 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. 1600. Directs reconnaissance.
- 27 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 6th Mar. 1605. Directs reconnaissance.
- 27 Jun 1918 CO, 2/5 (Keyser) to CO, 6th Mar. 1630. Sitrep.
- 27 Jun 1918 CO, 4th Machinegun Bn to CG, 4th Brig 1700. Brigade neglected to mention Co. B in credit for successful night attack 25-26 June
- 27 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 2/6. 1900. Relieve the two platoons of the 51st company and direct them to rejoin their battalion.
- 27 Jun 1918 Harbord to 2/5 and 6th Mar 1905. 51st Co. to return to its battalion.
- 27 Jun 1918 CO, 4th Machinegun Bn. to Waller 1930. Wants Co. B credited for part in assault
- 27 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div. 2115. Sitrep. 2/6 relieved 3/5 for rest in the rear. Minor German firing of gas shells.
- 27 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. 2135. Salvage of wood to recover military gear from both sides

FOLDER 23

28 Jun 1918 CO Co B's list of recommended awards to CO, 4th Machinegun Bn

28 Jun 1918 4th Machinegun Bn's recommended awards

28 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 2025 Sitrep. Enemy artillery shelling declining in area, but increasing on Metz-Paris road

28 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar and CO, 6th Mar 2200 1/6 to relieve 3/6 in the wood

FOLDER 24

29 Jun 1918 CO, 6th Mar. to CG, 2nd Div. report of one WIA

29 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 6th Mar 2115 Bearss will call for detail of .20 men for a patrol tonight

29 Jun 1918 Smith to Sibley, 1120. Report of a straggler

29 Jun 1918 Holcomb to CO, 5th Mar. 1315 Patrol plan.

29 Jun 1918 Lee to CO, 4th Brig 1650 Patrol plan

29 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 1918 Sitrep Visited wood today. "No one who has not visited that wood can comprehend the heroism of the troops which finally cleared them of Germans "

FOLDER 25

30 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar and CO, 6th Mar 1100 1/5 relieves 2/5 tonight 2/5 moves to woods northwest of Lucy

30 Jun 1918 CG, 2nd Div. to CG, 4th Brig 1200. 3/5 and 3/6 chop to division control

30 Jun 1918 Harbord to CO, 5th Mar. and CO, 6th Mar 1915. When 2/6 is withdrawn from wood, it will not be replaced 1/6 to defend entire wood now

30 Jun 1918 CG, 4th Brig to CG, 2nd Div 2000. Sitrep. Nothing unusual to report

## FOLDER 26

- 31 Aug 1917 Pershing to the Adjutant General, Dept of War. Secret. 5th Mar have arrived in France, but wants no more Marines.
- 16 Sep 1917 Adjutant General, Dept of War to Pershing Additional Marine Regt to be sent 5th and 6th Mar to be part of 4th Brig, 2nd Div., AEF President has so directed
- 18 Jun 1918 Pershing to the Chief of Staff, Army and Secretary of War Confidential. Lejeune broaches subject of a Marine division in the AEF Pershing advises against it, stresses commonality
- 19 Jun 1918 Peyton March agrees with Pershing no Marine division! Any troops sent to Italy or anywhere else will be Army, not Marines.
- 13 Jun 1919 Paul B. Malone to Harbord. Refers to Marines as "bunch of adventurers, illiterates, and drunkards "

## FOLDER 27

- 31 Mar 1918 Harbord to Pershing Wants command Requests 1st Brig or 51st Brig
- 29 Apr 1918 Harbord to Pershing Recommendations for command assignments Recommends John L Hines to replace Doyen with 4th Brig.
- 30 Apr 1918 Pershing to Adjutant General, Dept of the Army Doyen physically incapacitated for further service in France Harbord to command 4th Brig If another Marine Corps brigadier general is sent to France, he will not be assigned to a unit in the line.
- 5 May 1918 GHQ, AEF order no. 69 Harbord relieved as chief of staff by James W McAndrew

## FOLDER 28

- 19 Mar 1919 Logan Feland to Harbord Thanks him for telegram of congratulations Appreciates assistance in obtaining promotion

- 3 Jun 1919 Neville to Harbord Appreciates message commemorating Belleau Wood
- 26 Jul 1919 Smedley D Butler to Harbord 5th Brig departs for CONUS on 30 Jul Stresses interservice cooperation Appreciates support
- 26 Jul 1919 Neville to Harbord Good bye and best wishes from the 4th Brig Semper Fidelis

## FOLDER 29

- 4 Dec 1919 Edwin N McClellan "A Brief History of the Fourth Brigade of Marines " Marine Corps Gazette 4 (December 1919) 342-368.
- Nov 1928 John W Thomason, Jr "The Marine Brigade " U S Naval Institute Proceedings, November 1928
- Nov 1928 Ernst Otto, "The Battles for the Possession of Belleau Woods, June, 1918," U S Naval Institute Proceedings, November 1928 940-962 Otto commanded a German infantry battalion there
- Spring 1978 Jack Shulimson, "First to Fight Marine Corps Expansion, 1914-18," Prologue 8 (Spring 1978) 5-116
- Oct 1993 Merrill L Bartlett, "Leathernecks, Doughboys, and the Press," Naval History 7 (September/October 1993). 46-53

## FOLDER 30

- 22 Feb 1923 Harbord, "A Month in Belleau Wood in 1918," an address before the Detroit Bond Club, 22 February 1923 Army War College archives.
- 15 Oct 1920 CMC to SecNav. Lauds performance of Frederick M. Wise. Includes copy of message of 11 Jun 1918 from Harbord to Wise congratulating he and his command Entry 62 (Records of Marine Corps boards of examination), Record Group 125 (Records of the Naval Judge Advocate General), Federal Records Center, Suitland
- 10 Jun 1918 Harbord to Pershing. Recommends promotion to brigadier

general for Neville and Catlin, to colonel for Feland  
Entry 62, RG 125, FRC, Sutland

- 20 Jun 1918 Capt Tribot Laspiere, French liaison officer to the 6th Marines to Doyen. Lauds Catlin Claims that when Catlin wounded, he exclaimed "am I wounded in front or back?"  
Entry 62, RG 125, FRC, Sutland
- 21 Jun 1918 Omar Bundy to Pershing. Recommends Catlin for promotion to brigadier general.
- 25 Jul 1918 Harbord to Barnett Lauds Marines Recommends promotion to brigadier general for Neville, Catlin, and Feland (even though Feland is a lieutenant colonel). Entry 62, RG 125, FRC, Sutland.
- ? Aug 1918 Harbord to Franklin D Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Lauds Hiram I Bearss. Praises performance With reference to the brigade "[citations] You will not be able to read them without tears coming to your eyes in your pride in the gallantry of your countrymen " Entry 62, RG 125, FRC, Sutland
- 15 May 1918 Harbord to Pershing Recommends that officers from the 4th Brigade be considered for commissions in the National Army, better qualified than many already there  
Entry 62, RG 125, FRC, Sutland.
- 14 May 1919 Franklin D. Roosevelt, Acting SecNav to CMC Has completed investigation of Hiram I Bearss and does not believe a court-martial warranted Entry 62, RG 125, FRC, Sutland



CONTAINER TWO

- FOLDER 31
- Sept 1926 Harbord, "The Greatest Fighting Machine " Infantry Journal, September 1926, pp 242-244 Lauds the infantryman. No mention of Marines'
- 7 Apr 1930 Harbord, "The Services of Supply from July, 1918 to May, 1919 " A lecture at the Army War College
- 30 July 1932 Christian Gauss, "The Education of General Harbord," Saturday Evening Post, 30 July 1932, pp 28-29, 62063
- May-Jun 1936 C. L Hall, "Harbord on the World War " The Military Engineer 28 (May-June 1936) 175-176 Review of An American Army in France Brief mention of Marine Corps-Army rivalry.
- 5 Jul 1938 Harbord to Francis G Bonham, 5 July 1938 Army War College archives Relates how he became Chief of Staff, AEF.
- FOLDER 32
- 29 Apr 1933 Harbord, "Personalities and Personal Relationships in the American Expeditionary Forces," a lecture at the Army War College, 29 April 1933.
- 6 Apr 1939 Harbord, "A Chief of Staff in the Theater of Operations," a lecture at the Army War College, 6 Apr 1939
- Jan 1942 Harbord, "High Commanders of the A E F " Recruiting News , January 1942, pp 2-3, 18
- 26 May 1944 Harbord, "Serving with Pershing " A-lecture at the University Club of Port Chester, Port Chester, NY, 26 May 1944
- FOLDER 33
5. Nov 1924 Lejeune to Harbord Invites him to attend the first annual convention of the Marine Corps League. Harbord regrets on 7 November.

- 7 Dec 1927 Harbord to Lejeune Hopes to see him in New York. Wants to introduce him to "a friend or two of mine with whom it might, some time, be to your advantage to be acquainted." Appears to be an attempt to secure employment for Lejeune in retirement
- 24 Dec 1924 Harbord to Lejeune. Telegram wishing all Marines a merry Christmas
- 26 Dec 1924 Lejeune to Harbord Acknowledges telegram Distressed over personnel cuts.
- 24 May 1927 Lejeune to Harbord Invitation to stay at Eighth and Eye during reunion of Second Division, AEF, 26 May, regrets, Mrs. Harbord has made other arrangements.
- 17 Mar 1928 Lejeune to Harbord Unable to visit New York as planned. Refers to Nicaragua.
- 20 Mar 1928 Harbord to Lejeune. Attempt at another schedule Refers to "affairs in Nicaragua "
- 21 Mar 1928 Lejeune to Harbord Will be in Manhattan on 4 April. Concern for Neville's health
- 23 Mar 1928 Harbord to Lejeune Has arranged lunch with two members of the board, Bankers Trust
- 11 Apr 1928 Thank you for luncheon and contacts.
- 22 Aug 1928 Harbord to Wendell C Neville. Desires to discuss, in person, contents of letter from Feland plus other matters
- 24 Aug 1928 Neville to Harbord Cannot make it to New York soon. "I can pretty nearly guess what the letter from Feland was about "
- 31 Dec 1928 Lejeune to Harbord Acknowledges Christmas telegram
- CONTAINER 34 13 Jan 1929 L J Straight to Herbert C Hoover A Chief Pay Clerk of the Marine Corps recommends Brig Gen George Richards to succeed Lejeune as CMC

- 11 Feb 1929 Harbord to Lejeune Acknowledges "chivalrous consideration" which caused him to relinquish the commandancy in favor of Neville Mentions contacts in banking business for him in Manhattan
- 23 Feb 1929 Lejeune to Harbord "Will be ready during the next twenty-two months to apply for retirement when the right job comes along "
- 22 Mar 1929 Harbord to Lejeune. Congratulations on acceptance of Superintendency of the Virginia Military Institute
- 2 Apr 1929 Lejeune to Harbord Acknowledges telegram of congratulations Considers appointment at VMI as an "opportunity to continue in the service "
- 13 Apr 1929 unsigned and unaddressed memo [Mark L. Requa to Herbert Hoover]. Thinks that Feland should be promoted to major general ahead of Butler.
- 23 Apr 1929 Mark L. Requa to Lawrence Richey (Secretary to the President). Encloses a clipping from the New York Times, 21 April 1929, which mentions Feland's role in Nicaragua.
- 27 May 1929 Mark L. Requa to Lawrence Richey Continues to promote the case of Feland for promotion to major general.
- 4 Sep 1929 Charles F. Adams to Herbert C Hoover The Secretary of the Navy endorses Neville's recommendations for promotions: Smedley D Butler to permanent major general, Logan Feland to temporary major general, and Robert H Dunlap to brigadier general.
- 21 Sep 1929 Senator Duncan M Fletcher and Senator Smith W Brookhart to President Hoover Recommend Colonel William C Harlee to succeed Lejeune as CMC Secretary Adam's memorandum to Hoover on the subject refers to Harlee as "a somewhat unusual, if not to say erratic individual."

- FOLDER 35
- 31 Mar 1930 Harbord to Neville Telegram Sorry to learn of illness.
  - 1 Apr 1930 Neville to Harbord. Telegram "Condition satisfactory Anticipate speedy recovery "
  - 27 Jun 1930 Feland to Mark L Requa Maneuvering for commandancy. Dismisses Fuller's claim for the post
  - 28 Jun 1930 Mark L Requa to Lawrence Richey. Promotes Feland to succeed to the commandancy Encloses letter from Feland to Requa
- FOLDER 36
- 9 Jul 1930 Mark L. Requa to Lawrence Richey Now that Neville has died, look into Feland's qualifications for the commandancy.
  - 9 Jul 1930 Congressman J W Fordney to President Hoover Urges appointment of Ben H. Fuller as CMC.
  - 9 Jul 1930 Mark L Requa to Lawrence Richey Telegram Urges nomination of Feland to CMC. Notes that Butler has a long time remaining, but Feland close to retirement age.
  - 10 Jul 1930 [?] to the Secretary of the Navy. Urges appointment of Russell
  - 15 Jul 1930 Lawrence Richey to President Hoover Memorandum of telephone conversation Senator Watson urges appointment of Butler.
  - 18 Jul 1930 Harold Knutson to Walter P Newton. Denigrates Russell's bid for CMC, would "place premium upon mediocrity and incompetency."
  - 18 Jul 1930 [Harbord] to Lejeune Depressed because of Neville's death. Acknowledges Butler's "outstanding claims" for the commandancy, but recommends Feland instead "He was the man that we sent into Belleau Wood to solve every

difficult situation that came up where the local commander in the Wood happened to need counsel or encouragement "

- 10 Jul 1930 [?] to the Secretary of the Navy Urges appointment of Russell.
- 21 Jul 1930 Commander Charles R Train, Naval Aide to the President, to President Hoover Argues that both the Navy and Marine Corps favor Fuller for the commandancy No backing for Butler Feland is second choice because he is not a graduate of the Naval Academy Russell's appointment not warranted because of lengthy period of detached service
- 28 Jul 1930 Harbord to George Akerson. Requests that no decision be made with regard to a successor to Neville until his letter arrives.
- 28 Jul 1930 Harbord to President Hoover Urges appointment of Feland to the commandancy
- 28 Jul 1930 Harbord to General Frank McCoy Asks for assistance for Feland
- 28 Jul 1930 Feland to Harbord Telegram "I have proofs Butler said he must rid Corps of all Second Division men."
- 28 Jul 1930 Feland to Harbord Denigrates Fuller. "He has no record to stand on "
- 28 Jul 1930 Harbord to Feland Has sent telegram and letter to President Hoover "I am sorry that you did not ask me immediately after General Neville's death."
- 28 Jul 1930 Harbord to President Hoover Urges appointment of Feland "There is no officer today in the Marine Corps who has had the experience in high command in war as it was waged on the Western Front."

- 29 Jul 1930 Lejeune to Walter H. Newton. Offers remarkably tepid support for Butler.
- 29 Jul 1930 Harbord to J. C. O'Laughlin Asks for support for Feland.
- FOLDER 37
- 1 Aug 1930 Gen Frank R McCoy to Harbord. Telegram. Supports Feland based on association in Nicaragua.
- 4 Aug 1930 Feland to Harbord Rumors that McCoy unfriendly to him untrue Obtain support.
- 4 Aug 1930 Harbord to Feland. Support from McCoy obtained
- 6 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey. Alleges Butler removed from board without cause Suggests official bias against Butler's candidacy. Several attached pieces of correspondence, including Secretary Adam's denial.
- 13 Aug 1930 [J E Bacon] to Lawrence Richey More correspondence alleging that Butler was removed from a board without cause
- 16 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey Continues to complain about Butler's treatment at the hands of Secretary Adams.
- 4 Aug 1930 Congressman Harold Knutson to Walter H Newton Opposes State Department desire to Russell to succeed Neville, supports Butler for Commandancy and Fuller for the vacant major generalcy.
- 6 Aug 1930 "Butler Failed to Get Post as Marine Czar," Philadelphia Daily News, 6 August 1930, p 1
- 6 Aug 1930 Lejeune to Harbord Learned of Fuller's appointment Refers to him as a "lively fellow " Hopes Fuller can stand up against the pressures of the other services, Congress, and the Administration
- 6 Aug 1930 Lawrence Richey to J E Bacon "The question of Commandant of the Marine Corps was a matter for

primary determination by the Navy Department "

- 9 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey Complains because of Butler's slight Claims Butler not appointed to a board because of objection by the White House.
- 11 Aug 1930 Charles F Adams to President Hoover. Denies denigrating Butler.
- 13 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey Brings up again subject of Butler's alleged relief from a board
- 16 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey A friend has provided proof that Butler was removed from a board
- 18 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey Encloses clipping from the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin announcing protest by the American Legion over Butler's slight.
- 20 Aug 1930 J E Bacon to Lawrence Richey Butler has nothing whatsoever to do with agitation among members of the American Legion.
- 22 Aug 1930 Feland to Harbord Denigrates Fuller, complains because Lejeune apparently did not support either he or Butler
- 25 Aug 1930 Harbord to Lejeune "One rule for selecting a Chief of Staff applied in the Army and another rule applied in the Navy for selecting a Major General Commandant "  
Remainder is 2nd Division, AEF Association affairs
- 19 Sep 1930 Feland to Harbord Still angry Continues to blame Lejeune
- FOLDER 39
- 5 Jun 1931 Harbord to Feland Luncheon date set
- 12 Jun 1930 Feland to Harbord. Regrets Harbord cannot attend Dunlap's funeral Exchange of telegrams
- 16 Oct 1931 Harbord to Lejeune Refers to letter to the editor, Commercial and Financial Chronicle, in which Lejeune

took the editor to task for taking Harbord's comments out of context

- 18 Mar 1937 Lejeune to Harbord Eugenia and friends will be in New York City and want to watch a broadcast at Radio City.
- 22 Mar 1937 Harbord to Lejeune. Will assist Eugenia and friends Shocked to learn of Lejeune's decision to leave VMI
- 25 Mar 1937 Lejeune to Harbord Made the decision to leave VMI a year ago.

FOLDERS 40-59

empty