

FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

VOLUME XII

FALL 1982

NUMBER 2



Stream Crossing



FORTITUDINE

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

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Volume XII

Fall 1982

No. 2

This quarterly newsletter of the Marine Corps historical program is published for the Corps and for friends of Marine Corps history in accordance with Department of the Navy Publications and Printing Regulations NAVEXOS P-35. Individuals and institutions desiring *Fortitudine* on a complimentary regular basis are invited to apply to: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (Code HDS-1), Washington, D.C. 20380.

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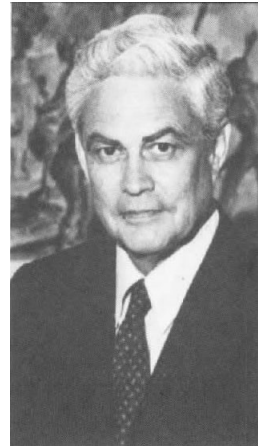
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THE COVER

This drawing, "Stream Crossing," by the late Col Donald L. Dickson, is one of a series he made while a captain on Guadalcanal in 1942. These jungle "rough terrain skills" are familiar to both the veterans of World War II and a later generation of Vietnam Marines.

Fortitudine is produced in the Publications Production Section of the History and Museums Division. The text for *Fortitudine* is set in 10 point and 8 point Garamond typeface. Headlines are in 18 point or 24 point Garamond. The newsletter is printed on 60-pound, matte-coated paper. Printing, by offset lithography, is by the Defense Printing Service.

Director's Page



BGen Simmons

Tercio Viejo: A Very Old Regiment of Marines

Leutze Park, in front of the Marine Corps Historical Center, is used by the Navy as a parade deck and is the scene of all manner of ceremonies, including the honoring of visiting foreign dignitaries. No ceremony, however, was more colorful or exotic than that which occurred on the afternoon of 15 October 1982.

We were visited by the Tercio Viejo de la Armada del Mar Oceano, which is to say, "the old regiment of the navy of the ocean sea" of Spain. A combined parade and review, brightened by a perfect autumn day, was held with the Marine Band and a platoon from Marine Barracks, Washington.

The review was taken by Senor Don Pascual Barberan, Gran Maestre-General de Orden del Mar Oceano. On less grand occasions, Sr. Barberan is a Madrid businessman with a deep dedication to the Spanish Navy and Marine Corps and their history and traditions.

The Orden del Mar Oceano is something like our Navy League and the Tercio Viejo is a good deal like the reconstructed regiments that figured so largely in our recent Bicentennial re-enactments.

The Tercio was completing a tour of scenes of former Spanish imperial glory in North America. The visit was an opening event of the on-going ten-year observance of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the New World by Columbus.

Columbus, you will recall, was given the title Admiral of the Ocean Sea by a grateful Ferdinand and Isabella. He may not have had Spanish Marines (*Infanteria de Marina*) as such with him on his voyages of exploration, but he did have gentlemen-at-arms performing that function. The birthdate of the present-day Spanish Marine Corps was only a few decades later.

The date of 27 February 1537 has been set by royal decree of King Juan Carlos as the birthdate of the Spanish Marines, making them much older than

those other two contenders, the British Royal Marines (28 October 1664) and the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps (10 December 1665), to say nothing of our own mere 207 years.

The Spanish Marines fought in hundreds of engagements around the world and as much as any Spanish fighting formation contributed to the truth of the saying, "*No hay lugar en el mundo sin una tumba espanola.*" ("There is no place on earth without a Spanish tomb.")

One of the early Spanish Marines was Miguel de Cervantes, author of the immortal *Don Quixote de la Mancha*. (There are those who say that Marines have been tilting at windmills ever since.)

Cervantes fought in the Battle of Lepanto, was wounded, and lost the use of his left hand. Lepanto, fought on 7 October 1571 by the allied Christian fleet (mostly Venetians and Spaniards) against the Turks, bears the same relationship to Spanish history as Trafalgar does to the British.



The organization of the present-day order is based on the structure of the old Spanish tercios of the 16th Century. The late Lynn Montross, senior historian for the Marine Corps, 1950-60, in his classic *War Through the Ages*, says:

The tercio, or Spanish tactical unit of about 3,000 foot, set many . . . traditions for the modern regiment. Composed of twelve companies of some 250 men each, the fighting strength in the year 1534 was divided equally between pikemen and arquebusiers. Company officers consisted of a captain and ensign, and a sergeant and ten corporals filled the non-commissioned ranks.

The *maestro de campo* (colonel) commanded the tercio, assisted by a *serjeanto mayor* (major), a *furriel mayor* (adjutant) and several lesser staff officers. Music was supplied by 24 drummers and fifers under a drum-major, while eight halberdiers served the colonel as a bodyguard. Spanish solicitude for the warrior's soul is shown by the fact that 13 chaplains were attached to each tercio, though the medical staff was limited to a surgeon, physician and apothecary.

Today the membership of the Tercio Viejo is limited to 100, but amongst those hundred will be found the halberdiers, pikemen, arquebusiers, and others. Headquarters ashore is in the fabled Alcazar of Segovia. Twice a year the Order meets there. Afloat, the flagship of the Tercio is the sailing ship *Juan Sebastian Elcano*, training ship of the Spanish Naval Academy and familiar to Americans from the visits of the "Tall Ships."

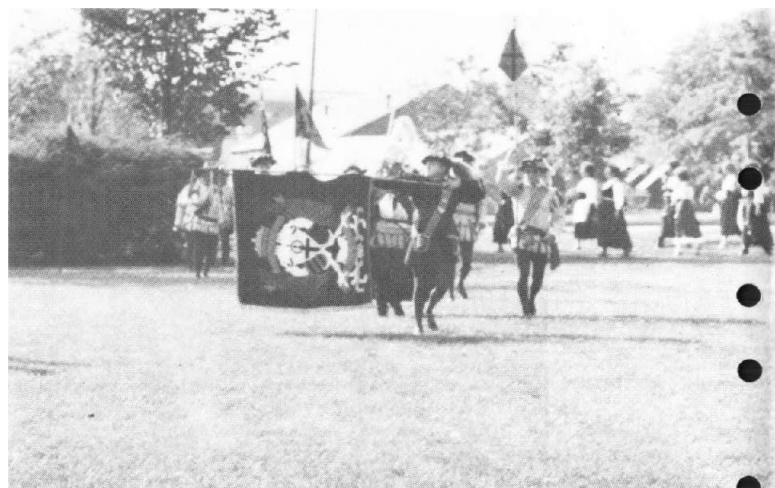
The *cantineras* (*vivandieres*) or ladies of the order are, as they were in the 16th Century, the wives, sweethearts, or daughters of the members. Dressed in 16th Century costume, they accompany their male counterparts on all campaigns.

Provision is made for "garrisons," not to exceed 25 members, in several overseas countries that once felt the tread of the Spanish *conquistadores*. These garrisons are subject to the orders of an appointed *bailio* (knight commander).

The modern Spanish Marine Corps perpetuates the name and spirit of the Tercio Viejo in its present-day regiments: the Tercio de Armada at San Fernando, Tercio del Norte at Ferrol del Caudillo, and Tercio de Levante at Cartagena. The Tercio Viejo frequently participates in ceremonies with today's tercios.



The Tercio Viejo de la Armada del Mar Oceano joined U.S. Marine Corps units on parade at Leutze Park, Washington Navy Yard, the afternoon of 15 October 1982. Leutze Park, a handsome quadrangle, is bounded by the Latrobe Gate; Tingey House, CNO's residence; and the Marine Corps and Navy historical centers.



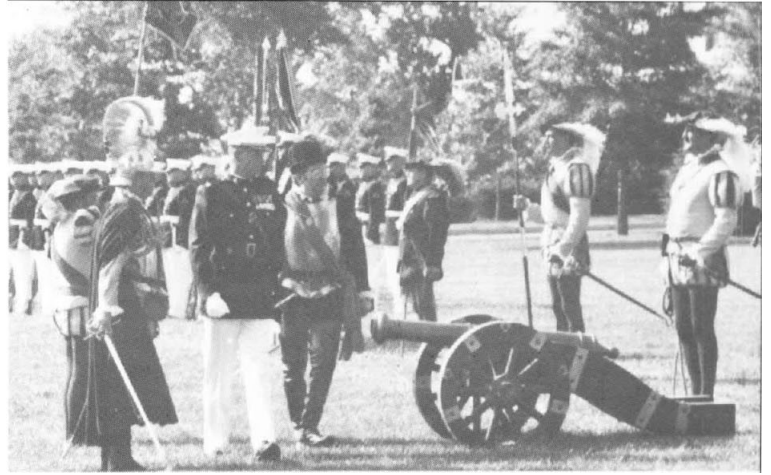
With a swirl of banners, the Tercio Viejo passes in review, an effect heightened by perfect weather and a brilliant October sun. Uniforms and banners were in red and yellow, the traditional Spanish colors, which go back to Castile and Aragon, the kingdoms united by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella.

The cantineras of the tercio are, like their 16th Century forebears, the wives, daughters, and sweethearts (novias) of the members. The priest with his anachronistic sunglasses left the Americans uncertain as to whether he was an ordained member of the Church or merely playing the role.





The Marine Band awaits word to "Sound Off." In addition to both national anthems, the band played "The Marines' Hymn" and "March of the Old Spanish Marine Corps." The latter has its origins in the Middle Ages; in modern version it is still used by today's Spanish Marine Corps.



Sr. D. Pascual Barberan, Gran Maestre-General de Tercio Viejo, troops the line escorted by Col Orlo K. Steele, CO, MB, Washington. Both Marines and spectators were impressed by the fidelity and elegance of the tercio's reproductions of 16th Century armor, weapons, costume, and accoutrements.



The priest and ladies follow behind the gentlemen-at-arms. Earlier in its tour the tercio had visited Santa Elena, the recently found site of Spain's northernmost settlement, coincidentally located within the borders of Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina.



The coat rack at the Marine Corps Historical Center, where a reception followed the review, was ablaze with the arms and accoutrements of the tercio. Caps of present-day U.S. Marine Corps and Spanish Navy officers add a more prosaic note. Each member of the tercio must outfit himself at his own expense.

The visitors brought many gifts. Here Sr. Barberan, acting for Commandante General Jesus Ma. Costa, presents the official plaque of today's Spanish Marine Corps. Gen Costa also sent uniforms and other items for a forthcoming exhibit at the Marine Corps Museum on the Spanish Marines, past and present.

MajGen Donald M. Weller, USMC (Ret), Chairman and President of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, presents a framed serigraph of the Santa Maria, Columbus' flagship, to Sr. Barberan. The Foundation hosted the reception held in the Marine Corps Museum's Special Exhibits Gallery.



Readers Always Write

COL WILLIAM M. GILLIAM

. . . I do not know how you choose the Marines you remember in *Fortitudine's* "In Memoriam," but you sure scored a 5V with Bill Gilliam in the last issue. He was never widely known, famous, or a general as one might expect, just one of the best Marine officers I ever knew or worked with.

Gilly was a professional in the best sense of the word, absolutely tops as a cannoneer and a NGF officer and in all the other attributes of a good Marine officer. He brought all those traditional traits of a Midwestern farmer of his time to the Corps; honest and truthful, dependable and hardworking, and a sturdy independence of character. His slow-spoken, easygoing manner made his a pleasure to work with or to be with socially.

Without plenty of men, officer and enlisted, like him the Corps would never have achieved its elite reputation. I hope it will continue to attract and nurture them, even though fame and high rank are rarely their lot. I felt that your recognition of Gilly included all the men like him who will never make "In Memoriam"

Frederick P. Henderson
BGen, USMC (Ret)
Moorestown, New Jersey

GUADALCANAL MAPS

. . . An accurate history of the Guadalcanal campaign should reflect that the Division maps were inadvertently left in a warehouse when we departed from there in July 1942. As a result, it became necessary for an Australian to produce the colorful

pencil map from memory. Copies were distributed to the Division.

As a sergeant, forward observer, in the 81mm Mortar Platoon of "D" Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, I received a copy of the "Colored Pencil Map" just prior to landing on Guadalcanal on August 7, 1942. At the time of the landing we did not have any other map or aerial photo.

I kept the maps (two others had been sequentially issued) in my possession during the Guadalcanal campaign and then, as a platoon sergeant, stored them in my seabag at Camp Balcomb in Australia. When we departed for the Cape Gloucester campaign, my seabag and I became separated, to be reunited at Quantico, Virginia, some years later.

William R. Beck
1stLt, USMC (Ret)
Marion, South Carolina

Lt Beck wrote to Mr. George McGillivray providing historical background on three maps in the Museum's collection (Fortitudine, Spring-Summer 1982). — Editor

COL BERNARD L. SMITH— MARINE AVIATOR NO. 2, NAVAL AVIATOR NO. 6

I have read with interest the publication, "Marine Corps Aviation: The Early Days," which was sent to me. I was particularly interested in the story about one of the early birds, Bernard L. Smith, who was Naval Aviator number six and Marine Aviator number two (footnote, page 11).

In March of 1934, I was assigned to duty as Inspector-Instructor of the USMCR squadron at the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Opa Locka (Miami), Florida. I soon became acquainted with Bernard L. Smith, who we called "BL." He was a construction contractor in the Miami area and held a Navy Reserve lieutenant commander's commission. His was a non-tactical service with designation of lighter-than-air landing signal officer.

During 1934, the dirigible USS *Macon* operated out of Opa Locka during fleet maneuvers in the Caribbean. BL was in charge of the ground crew in securing the *Macon* to the Opa Locka mast.

BL must have been in his mid-40s, but looked much younger. He was a terrific physical specimen, full of bounce, sharp-eyed, and hardly a grey hair, with a beautiful set of white teeth. He told me that he and Cunningham flipped a coin to see who would be USMC aviator number one or two. (Cunningham won the toss.) This does not follow the narrative in the publication. Apparently, Cunningham was senior in rank and more active in the heavier-than-air development. However, Appendix B on page 89 shows Smith's date of designation to be over a year earlier than Cunningham.

Smith's story of the early days closely follows the publication except that his participation in lighter-than-air is not mentioned. He was assigned to blimps at either Buffalo or Akron. He flight-tested them and delivered them to the Navy.

When the NC flying boat program started, BL was assigned to it due to his knowledge of aircraft construction. He was active in designing and building those planes. Somebody in the Navy assured BL that he would be the pilot of the NC-4 on the forthcoming transatlantic flight. Incidentally, those boats were named the NC-1, NC-2, NC-3, and NC-4, NOT the NC-4 collectively. As you know, the NC-4 was the only one which completed the crossing.

On the night before take-off, the Navy told BL that he was "out." It seems that somebody looked up in Navy regulations that a Marine could not com-

mand a Navy ship. The uproar that followed must have been a good one, but the Navy prevailed. As a direct result, BL resigned his commission.

In 1937, shortly before I was transferred to the west coast, I got the idea that BL should be a Marine. He was enthusiastic about it and Aviation Headquarters (Rowell and Harold Major) agreed to get him an age waiver, so BL resigned his Navy Reserve commission and became a Marine Corps Reserve major. He passed the flight physical with no problem. I flight-checked him which was the first time he had been at the controls for 16 or 17 years. He could fly better than most younger pilots.

At this time, BL was building a tailless airplane of his own design. In the final stages, he was at the controls during a high-speed taxi test. Something went wrong. The plane porpoised about 75 feet and crashed. They pulled BL out of the wreck with just about everything broken except his spirit. He was taken off flight status but retained his Reserve commission.

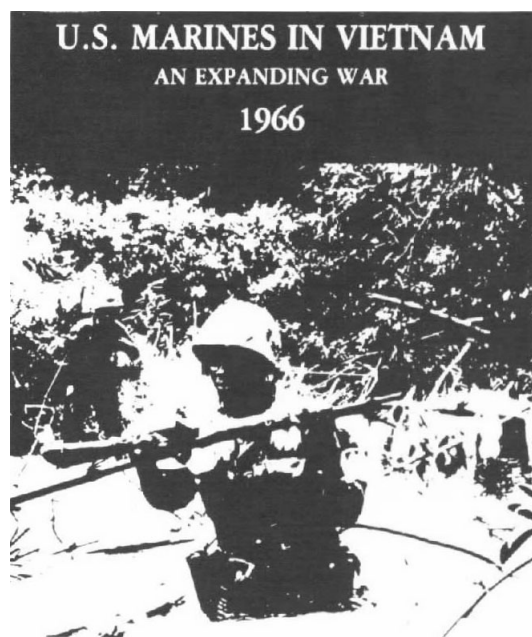
I ran into BL in late 1945 during the occupation of Japan. He was a colonel and OinC of the Japanese airfield at Omura on the island of Kyushu.

It was a sad thing to learn that he had died a few months later when his car collided with a train near Homestead, Florida.

Robert M. Haynes
LtCol, USMC (Ret)
Olympia, Washington

Book Chronicles Corps In Vietnam in 1966

U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966 is the newest of the division's major publications and the third in a projected 10-volume Vietnam operational historical series. Written by Mr. Jack Shulimson from the perspective of the III Marine Amphibious Force, the book describes efforts to consolidate the three enclaves established during 1965—employing a balanced strategy of base defense, conventional offensive operations, and counter-insurgency tactics—resulting in a near doubling of Marine forces in the country by the end of the year. The text is illustrated by 194 contemporary photographs and 34 maps. The Superintendent of Documents has the volume on sale; the price is \$9.00.



Acquisitions

As 1982 drew to a close, the Registrar's office was again filled with its usual assortment of boxes and parcels containing everything from weapons to photographs, waiting to be cataloged. We consider 1982 to have been a very successful year in terms of new acquisitions, in that we received over 800 new items, mainly through private donations. As has been the case for the past several years, these gifts covered nearly the entire span of the Marine Corps' history and ranged from machine guns to early 19th Century personal correspondence.

Our collections are broken down into major categories and then further sub-divided into collections of similar objects. In this update we will discuss the "soft" items, such as personal papers, photographs, and art, received in 1982.

Most of the personal papers and photographic collections donated to the Museum deal with World War II. In 1982, we were given some outstanding collections. Mr. William A. Brudo of Lake View, New York, sent us a print of the 4th Marine Division insignia which included autographs of the field grade officers of the division as well as a listing of the various campaigns in which the division fought. LtGen William K. Jones, USMC (Ret), of Alexandria, Virginia, donated leadership training materials which were used in the 2d Marine Division. From Maj Malcolm A. Hill, USMC (Ret), we received a noteworthy collection of aviation photographs featuring the F4U-4 Corsair, operational photographs of MAG-11, and scenes of Marine aviation at Guadalcanal.

During World War II, many small unit newspapers sprang up throughout the Pacific area. We have examples of many of these in our collection. LCdr Cecil R. Threadgill, USN, of New Orleans, Louisiana, added several copies of the "Peleliu Breeze" to this collection in the late spring of 1982. These were printed by the 26th Marines of the 5th Marine Division, which served as the Peleliu garrison force from October 1945 to March 1946.

Supporting our recent exhibit on "Marines in the Movies," BGen Leonard E. Fribourg, USMC (Ret),

of Newport Beach, California, gave us his original script and location maps for the 1949 movie "Sands of Iwo Jima." Then-Capt Fribourg served as the technical advisor to this famous John Wayne film. Other collections highlighting the Iwo Jima campaign of 1945 were donated by Mr. Raymond B. Smith of Irving, Texas; Col William P. McCahill, USMCR (Ret), of Arlington, Virginia; and Mrs. Eleanor A. McKinnon of Sacramento, California.

Both BGen Austin C. Shofner, USMC (Ret), and BGen John F. Kinney, USMC (Ret), sent us fascinating accounts of their experiences as prisoners of war. BGen Shofner was captured in the Philippines and BGen Kinney was captured at Wake Island. We are expecting to receive more items from Gen Kinney, including some artifacts from his prison camp.

World War I continues to be a period about which more and more researchers are inquiring. We were given material on the Marines serving with the 2d Division (Regular), A.E.F., by Mr. George MacGillivray of Bethesda, Maryland; Mr. Robert A. Wood of Cincinnati, Ohio; Mrs. Frederick Poser of Hudson, Florida; Mr. J. Moore of Augusta, Kentucky; and Maj Stephen L. Shivers, USMC, of Lexington, Kentucky. Maj Ronald Achten, USMC (Ret), of Bishop, California, gave us a unique diary belonging to Wilbur S. Talbott which follows his service with the 76th Company of the 6th Marines in France. From Mr. Luther Stephens of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, we received a Holy Bible inscribed to A. A. (Wally) Wallgren, the famous cartoonist for the *Stars and Stripes*.

The between-the-wars period of the 1920s and 1930s saw numerous smaller actions by the Marine Corps around the globe. Documents and photographs from this period are finally receiving interest commensurate with their historical importance. The "China Marines," so well described by the late Col John W. Thomason, USMC, were represented in collections donated to us by Mr. William F. Egan of Brownsville, Texas; Mr. Carl F. Leach of St. Joseph, Missouri; Capt James C. Goodwin, USMC (Ret), of Golden, Colorado; BGen Joseph B. Knotts, USMC, of Twentynine Palms, California; and Mrs. William F. Phillips of Berkeley, California. Materials dealing with the Marine occupation of Haiti were given by Col Homer Sterling, USMC (Ret), of San Diego, California, and Rev. Alexander Livesay of Chevy Chase, Maryland. Perhaps the most significant collection in this era was

received from the estate of the late BGen Eli T. Fryer, USMC (Ret). We were given Gen Fryer's Medal of Honor, in addition to a fine collection of papers and photographs dealing with Haiti, the Philippines, and Vera Cruz.

The 1914 landing at Vera Cruz, Mexico, was further illuminated by materials donated by Mr. Ronald E. Fisher of Charlottesville, Virginia, and Col C. R. Schwenke, USMC (Ret), of Valparaiso, Florida. Documents and photographs of Marines in the pre-World War I period were also given to us by BGen Robert L. Denig, Jr., USMC (Ret), of Los Altos, California, and LtCol John E. Paepcke, USAF, of Annapolis, Maryland.

Marines participated in various Civil War battle re-enactments during the 1920s. Both Col Don Holben, USMC (Ret), of Oceanside, California, and Mr. Eugene B. Smith, mayor of Havelock, North Carolina, gave us photographs of the Gettysburg re-enactment. Another collection from this same period was given to us by Maj Douglas K. Evans, USAF (Ret), of Alexandria, Virginia. This was a collection of papers and photographs dealing with early Marine Corps aviation which belonged to his late father, BGen Frank T. Evans, USMC (Ret).

Not many of our collections pre-date the American Civil War. This year, we considered ourselves very fortunate to receive a group of documents relating to the career of the late SgtMaj George F. Altemus, USMC, who enlisted during the Civil War. His grandson, Mr. Albert Altemus, Jr., of Maryland, generously made these available to us. Mr. William H. Greer, Jr., of Washington, D.C., gave us an 1860 map of the United States which shows all the military posts in the country at that time. Our earliest gift this year was the journal of Lt Thomas Tingey Craven, USN, who served in USS *Peacock* in the early years of the 19th Century. We received this from Mr. Willis S. Whittlesey III of Salt Lake City, Utah.

More than 800 artifacts were donated to the museum during 1982. The oldest was the gift of Mr. Joseph M. Whalen of Greenbelt, Maryland, who excavated a Revolutionary War pewter button near the Fredericksburg, Virginia, house of Captain John Paul Jones. The button, probably from an overcoat, bears the motif of a rope-bordered, unfouled anchor. It is on exhibit in the Continental Marines display case of the Museum's Time Tunnel.

Other pre-World War I gifts were a M1895 McKeever cartridge box given by Mr. William A.

Cook of Meriden, Connecticut; a M1904 enlisted dress coat from LtCol and Mrs. John E. Paepcke of Annapolis, Maryland; and a group of campaign medals from Mr. James W. Anderson of Kettering, Ohio. Mr. Anderson's father served in the Marine Corps from 1912 to 1916 and was awarded medals for participation in the Nicaraguan Campaign of 1912, the Panama expedition, the landing at Vera Cruz, Mexico, and the initial Haitian intervention in 1915.

World War I period uniform items given to the Museum in 1982 included a Marine Corps version of the M1918 U.S. Army cold weather cap. This was donated by Mr. George A. Petersen, proprietor of a local militaria shop, National Capital Historical Sales, Ltd. Mr. Robert A. Wood of Cincinnati, Ohio, sent in the medals and insignia worn by Sgt C. G. Baumgartner, and Mrs. Frederick Poser of Hudson, Florida, gave us her late husband's World War I uniform. Another complete forest green enlisted uniform was donated by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Schram of Great Falls, Virginia.

One of the most interesting uniforms received in 1982 was one tailored for a child. The donor, Mr. Ray Sunderland, of Locust Valley, New York, wore this when his father was stationed at Quantico during 1917-18.

Adding to our small collection of battlefield relics from Belleau Wood, the mayors of Chateau Thierry and Belleau, France, presented the Museum with a selection of relics, including barbed wire, ammunition boxes, a "tea and sugar" tin, and a spent bullet lodged in wood. These have been on temporary exhibit in the "Recent Accessions" case located at the entrance to the Museum.

Another gift which will be exhibited soon is a set of "USMC" marked pre-World War I leather saddlebags donated by Mr. Ernie M. Firkin of Alexandria, Virginia, and his brothers. We plan to use the saddlebags to complete our M1904 McClellan saddle exhibit. Mr. Firkin and his four brothers served in the Marine Corps.

An engraved Marine officer's sword was given to the Museum by RAdm Philip W. Snyder of Arlington, Virginia. The inscription on the scabbard states that the sword was presented to Lt W. S. Hilles (Mrs. Snyder's father) by the Marine Detachment at the Philadelphia Marine Barracks in 1917.

Another presentation item was the silver Secretary of the Navy's Rifle Trophy marksmanship badge awarded in LtCol David S. McDougal in 1933.

Strangely enough, this was found on a beach near Del Mar, California, and then forwarded to the Museum by Capt Edward H. C. Fredericks, USN (Ret), of San Diego, California. LtCol McDougal's widow, Mrs. Doreen Bottrell, of Oakville, Ontario, Canada, graciously donated the badge in memory of her late husband who was killed in action at Okinawa in 1945.

When Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Sprague found a

Distinguished Flying Cross behind their Julian, California, business, they contacted Col E. F. Carey, USAF (Ret), of the International Aerospace Hall of Fame. Through his assistance, we now have Maj Louis M. Bourne's decoration which was awarded for his non-stop flight from Miami to Nicaragua in 1926. In 1982, we also received two other outstanding collections of medals from the Second Nicaraguan campaign; one from Mrs. Morris K.

Certificates of Appreciation

Recent awards of Certificates of Appreciation issued on behalf of the Commandant of the Marine Corps to persons who have made significant contributions to the Marine Corps Historical Program are as follows:

For participation in the Oral History Program:

Gen Robert E. Cushman, Jr., USMC (Ret)
Col John A. Daskalakis, USMC (Ret)
Mr. John H. Bakke
Dr. Edward Coffman

For on-site research in the Dominican Republic in connection with the upcoming exhibition and publication, "Marines in the Frigate Navy":

Col Howard T. Pittman, USMC (Ret)

For work in connection with the Personal Papers Collection:

Col Wesley C. Noren, USMC (Ret)

For work in support of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation's Museum Shop program:

Col Robert L. Simmons, USMC (Ret)

For donations and loans to the Marine Corps Historical Center:

Mr. James Anderson
Mr. David R. Green
Mr. Roderick B. Jones
Mr. Joseph Lemuel Walker, Jr.
Mr. Joseph M. Whalen

For coordinating and directing the "Defense of Wake Island" diorama:

Mr. Glen T. Frakes

For design and construction of the Wake Island diorama:

The Class of 1985, Gilbert Junior High School, Gilbert, Arizona, collectively, and individually to students:

Tom Funicello
Dori Deskins
Lisa Green
Doug Morrison
George Page
Brian Seldidge
Julie Townsend
Cindi Vega
Doyle Wofford
Brian Zimmerman

For service as museum docent:

Janet Carson
Mary King

Kurtz of Coronado, California, and one from Mr. Robert S. Werries of Milton, Florida.

As Col and Mrs. Robert W. L. Bross were moving from Washington to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, they came by the Museum to give us an assortment of items from both Col Bross' service and Mrs. Bross' father (BGen George W. McHenry) service. Part of the collection was a nickelled Smith & Wesson .38-caliber revolver which then-Lt McHenry captured from the Nicaraguan bandit chief, Ortez, in 1928.

Two other very noteworthy small arms from this period were donated by Mr. Thomas A. Sousa of Palo Alto, California. These were bandmaster John Philip Sousa's personal shotguns, both made by L. C. Smith Company and exquisite examples of the gunsmith's craft. One is an "A2 grade" barreled gun in 12-gauge and the other is a "field grade" double in 20-gauge. After the famous composer's fall from a horse in 1921, he never recovered sufficiently to carry the heavier gun, so he purchased the lighter 20-gauge which he then used until his death. Mr. Sousa reports that he used both of his illustrious grandfather's guns for hunting until recent times; however, both are in near-perfect condition.

Unfortunately, old flags are almost always found in poor condition. We were very surprised, therefore, to find that the two "blue" organizational colors that Col Andrew I. Lyman, USMC (Ret), recently donated were in very good shape. These were the original Fleet Marine Force colors and the Fourth Marines colors, both pre-dating 1939.

Nearly all the uniforms and accoutrements from the World War II period that we accept for our collection are in good condition and we were pleased to receive a substantial number in 1982. Among these donors were Mr. Christopher Beck of Bowie, Maryland; Maj Ronald Achten, USMC (Ret), of Bishop, California; Mr. James K. Gillian of Anchorage, Alaska; Mrs. Juanita D. Fisher of Sacramento, California; Miss Helen A. Meisenheimer of Amarillo, Texas; and Capt Calhoun Smith, USMC (Ret), of Arlington, Virginia.

Other donors of World War II uniforms were Mrs. Charles H. Larkin III of Eden, New York; Mr. E. R. Davis of Mission Viejo, California; and LtCol Jonathan F. Swain, USMCR, of Sudbury, Massachusetts. LtCol Swain's donation was a set of now-scarce camouflaged utilities, while Mr. Davis' gift included an assortment of captured Japanese material.

It seems that most Marines did some souvenir hunting during the Pacific campaigns, judging from the amount of Japanese items offered to us. A surprisingly large proportion of Marines brought home captured Japanese machine guns. These deactivated war trophies are spread throughout the country and we get a few each year. This year, Maj Guy Washburn, USMC (Ret), of Laguna Miguel, California, and Mr. Herm Lewis of Yucca Valley, California, respectively, gave us a 7.7mm Type 99 and a 6.5mm Type 96. Mr. Lewis captured his Type 96 on Tarawa and we expect to display it, along with Lt William D. Hawkins' cigarette case donated by Mrs. Bernice Abbott of El Paso, Texas, in our upcoming Tarawa exhibit in Headquarters, Marine Corps.

Another of our projected exhibits concentrates on Marine parachutists in World War II. The major components of this display were sent in by Mr. Eldon C. Anderson of San Diego, California, who collected them from his former World War II comrades. They include Mr. William Keller, Mr. J. Murray Smith, Mr. C. E. Pierce, Mr. Ralph B. Johnson, Mr. Oliver C. Disotel, and Mr. William Hyland.

Our completely revitalized Aviation Museum received a wealth of new items for its collection this past year. From Reverend Frank T. Hawkins, Jr., of Phoenix, Arizona; Mr. Elton D. Boone of Inglewood, California; Maj Frank H. McFadden, USMC (Ret), of Roanoke, Virginia; and former staff member MSgt Walter F. ("Fritz") Gemeinhardt, we received a fascinating array of flight equipment and material.

Both BGen Frederick Payne, Jr., USMC (Ret), and BGen John F. Kinney gave us collections including aviation related uniforms and medals. BGen Kinney also donated a very curious group of reproductions of the ingenious machines he devised while a prisoner of the Japanese.

Prisoner of war uniforms from the Vietnam War were donated by LtCol J. Howard Dunn, USMC (Ret), of Keystone Heights, Florida. LtCol Dunn's gift sparked a regularization and recataloging effort on our collection of all POW uniforms.

Another collection of uniforms from the Vietnam period was given to us by BGen Joseph L. Stewart, USMC (Ret), of St. Petersburg, Florida.

It is unfortunate that we never have enough space to thank all those who have so generously donated historical materials to our collection. Their kindness and efforts on our behalf are, nonetheless, deeply appreciated. — KLS-C

'Dig' at Parris Island Continuing

by SSgt Karl Klicker

Santa Elena, the 16th-Century Spanish settlement on what is today Parris Island, continues to provide insights into our colonial history through the results of archeological excavations there over the past four years by a University of South Carolina (USC) team. The "dig," funded by grants from the National Geographic Society, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Explorers Club, as well as USC, has uncovered house sites, artifacts, and other evidence of the Spanish village that existed there from 1566 to 1587. Plans call for further investigations at the site of Santa Elena, which supervising archeologist Stanley South described as "perhaps the most important archeological discovery in decades in North America."

The 1981 season's work, largely underwritten by the National Geographic Society, included the excavation of a well that had been identified earlier (see *Fortitudine*, Fall 1979). Although the well did not yield the hoped-for trove of artifacts, it did provide a notable find in the shape of an almost intact, 400-year-old Spanish barrel which had been used to line the shaft.

Team archeologist John Goldsborough described the Spanish well-digging technique. "They would dig a hole about 10 or 12 feet in diameter," he said. "When they reached the water table, they would take a barrel and twist it into the sand. A child would be set in the hole to scoop the sand out of the barrel. When the barrel could turn freely, they would force another barrel on top of that, sometimes having a well three barrels deep. Then dirt would be filled in around the barrels so only the top of the last barrel would be exposed."

The barrel came out of the pit on 24 July 1982 with the help of a crane and operator from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. It is now undergoing preservation treatment at USC.

Following the 1981 season, there was considerable discussion of future plans for Santa Elena, including its appearance following final conclusion of the ar-

SSgt Klicker, a writer and photographer on the staff of The Boot at Parris Island, has frequently reported on the excavations at Santa Elena during past archeological seasons.

cheological work. The parties concerned, including BGen Simmons, the Commandant's representative, met at Parris Island in February 1982. At the meeting Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, Director of the



University of South Carolina archeologists regard this 400-year old Spanish barrel as the major artifact recovered during their 1981 digging season at the 16th Century Spanish town of Santa Elena, located adjacent to the Parris Island golf course. Ground water preserved the barrel after the Spanish colonists used it to line a shallow well.





John Goldsborough, a member of the 1981 University of South Carolina team excavating the 16th Century Spanish colonial settlement of Santa Elena, talks with David Brill (left), a National Geographic Society photographer. They are standing beside the excavated area where archeologists discovered the remains of three Spanish structures. White pie plates mark the postholes forming one such structure. The Spanish used the large pits for preparing mud plaster for their houses and then filled the pits with trash and refuse.

Institute of Archeology and Anthropology at USC, pointed out that the possibilities ranged from simply backfilling the excavations to the construction of a tourist attraction. He and the rest of the attendees agreed with Gen Simmons' proposal. "We should not go beyond the archeological evidence," said Gen Simmons. "Rather than reconstructing a fort or town; a factual hint of what we know to have existed would be more evocative." The approved plan now calls for backfilling the moat of Fort San Felipe while leaving a suggestion of the moat and parapet. The Marine Corps will be responsible for ecological controls such as keeping the nearby marsh from encroaching on the historical area.

The 1982 season concentrated on the excavation of the moat surrounding the northwest bastion of Fort San Felipe, thanks to funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the expansion of the study of the town of Santa Elena, under a grant from the National Geographic Society. The data and artifacts from this past season are now being studied by Mr. South and others at the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology. A preliminary report will be completed next spring and will shape the course of future work.

The Santa Elena site, adjacent to the fairway of the eighth hole of the Parris Island golf course, includes the impressive monument, known to generations of Parris Island veterans, that commemorates the supposed location of Jean Ribault's Charles Forte, the abortive French settlement of 1562. Ar-

An unidentified golfer on the 8th tee at Parris Island watches Jeanne Metropol, a member of the 1981 University of South Carolina expedition excavating the Spanish settlement of Santa Elena, wash down a pile of oyster shells discarded by Spanish settlers 400 years ago. The shells formed part of a trash heap associated with the remains of a Spanish structure.



cheological work by Mr. South and his associates, however, has proven the monument actually to be located on the site of Fort San Marcos, one of two later Spanish forts.

All photographs courtesy of Stanley South, University of South Carolina.

In Memoriam

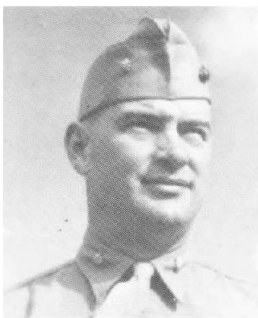


Former Sgt Albert A. Schmid, a native Philadelphian who was blinded in the battle of Tenaru River on Guadalcanal, died on 2 December 1982 in St. Petersburg, Florida. He was awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary

heroism in that battle. Schmid was a member of a Company H, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines gun squad which came under heavy fire during an early morning enemy attack on 21 August. At that time, Japanese forces were attempting to force a crossing of the Tenaru in front of Schmid's position. When the gunner was killed and the section leader badly wounded, Schmid, a loader, took over, alternately loading and firing the weapon until an enemy grenade put the gun out of action, wounding Schmid and blinding him. He and his gun crew were credited with killing over 200 enemy soldiers.

After his return to the United States and hospitalization, and after receiving the Navy Cross, he was nationally idolized as a popular war hero. A book, *Al Schmid—Marine*, was written about him in 1944, and a movie, "Pride of the Marines," based on the book, was released the following year.

Sgt Schmid was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 6 December 1982.



Medal of Honor winner Col Justice M. "Joe" Chambers, USMCR (Ret), died at the age of 74 at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, after a long illness. He was born in West Virginia in 1908 and enlisted in the Marine

Corps Reserve in 1929. He was commissioned three years later. When the Reserve was mobilized in 1940, then-Capt Chambers was assigned to the 1st Brigade in Guantanamo Bay.

He was awarded the Purple Heart for his actions during the assault on Tulagi, where he commanded a 1st Raider Battalion company. He was awarded the Legion of Merit and a second Purple Heart following

the Saipan-Tinian operation, where he commanded the 3d Battalion, 25th Marines. In the Iwo Jima fighting, still commanding this battalion, Col Chambers performed the actions which won him the Medal of Honor.

In part, his citation reads, "Col Chambers . . . led his landing team ashore under a furious barrage of machinegun and small arms fire Exposed to relentless fire, he coolly reorganized his battleweary men, inspiring them to heroic efforts by his own valor and led them in an attack on the critical, impregnable high ground."

Col Chambers was physically retired in 1946. As a consultant in the postwar years, he was closely involved with legislation affecting the Marine Corps. From 1946 on, he was the assistant chairman of the Federal Personnel Council, staff advisor to the Senate Armed Services Committee, and deputy director of the Office of Emergency Planning. Col Chambers was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors on 3 August 1982.



Former GySgt Don V. Paradis died on 3 November at the age of 86 after a long illness. Born in Detroit, Michigan, he enlisted in the Marine Corps in April 1917 immediately after the United States declared war on Germany. Mr.

Paradis did his recruit training at Parris Island, and joined the 80th Company, 2d Battalion, 6th Regiment at Quantico and remained with his company throughout the fighting in France and the postwar occupation of Germany. For his gallantry in action he was decorated with two Silver Star medals and the French Croix de Guerre. After the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Robert E. Cushman, Jr., read Mr. Paradis' oral history memoirs, he invited Paradis to accompany him to France in May 1974 to attend Memorial Day ceremonies in Belleau Wood. In acknowledging receipt of Mr. Paradis' taped memoirs, the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Earl E. Anderson, wrote the donor, "The Marine Corps is indeed fortunate in retaining the loyalty of so many men who served in its ranks, no matter the length of their tours of active duty. . . . as you know, the health and well-being of the Marine Corps is sustained by the record of accomplishment

of those who wore its uniform in all its battles, and your tapes add to that record." Mr. Paradis donated his body to medical science. A memorial service will be held at a later date.



Col David W. Bridges, USMC (Ret), died on 4 October at the age of 62 in Virginia Beach, Virginia, after a long illness. A native Floridian, he was commissioned in the Marine Corps in 1942 shortly after graduation from the University of

Florida. He spent World War II first as a tactics instructor at Quantico and at sea in USS *Canberra*. Then-Maj Bridges landed at Inchon in September 1950 with 1st Battalion, 1st Marines as operations officer, and later was awarded a Bronze Star Medal and a gold star in lieu of a second award for his service in Korea.

Following this overseas combat tour, he was in succession executive officer of the Tulane University ROTC unit, head of the Ground Officer Control Unit at HQMC, Marine Corps advisor to the Military Assistant Advisory Group in Spain, and CO of 2d Battalion, 3d Marines on Okinawa.

Col Bridges then served as chief of the Ground Combat Division, Marine Corps Landing Force Development Center at Quantico, and for five years before his retirement in 1969, as director of the Plans and Operations Division, Landing Force Training Unit, Atlantic.

Throughout his career, Col Bridges was considered an outspoken, well-liked, and quite distinguished officer. Following his retirement in Virginia Beach, he received a master of science degree from Old Dominion University and a certificate of advanced graduate study in education from the College of William and Mary. Before his death, Col Bridges was a professor of gerontology and director of continuing education at Tidewater Community College's Virginia Beach campus.

Col Bridges was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on 8 October 1982.

MSgt Roger M. Emmons, USMC (Ret), died at the age of 86 in San Diego, California, on 11 November. As an aircraft gunner, he served with the 1st Marine

Aviation Force in World War I. Prior to World War II, he was recalled to active duty and was serving in USS *Tennessee* at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked. During the war he served on Guam and later in China. He was with MAG-11 in Korea during that war. On 31 July 1968, he retired at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.

As the historian of the Marine Corps Aviation Association, over the years MSgt Emmons strongly and continuously supported the Marine Corps historical program with many donations of publications, documents, and photographs. He was buried on 15 November in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego.



Gen Edwin A. "Al" Pollock, USMC (Ret), 83, died 5 November in Charleston, South Carolina, after a short illness. A graduate of The Citadel, and much later chairman of its Board of Trustees, Gen Pollock was commissioned a Marine

second lieutenant in 1921. In 1928, as a member of the Marine detachment serving in the *Galveston*, he and his Marines were ordered ashore in Nicaragua and participated in the famed Coco River patrol led by then-Capt Merritt A. Edson, who was on the trail of Sandino, the Nicaraguan bandit leader. As commanding officer of 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, he won the Navy Cross for his actions during the Japanese attack across the Tenuro on Guadalcanal. He was the 1st Marine Division's D-3 for the Cape Gloucester operation, following which he was reassigned to MajGen Clifton B. Cates' 4th Marine Division as Chief of Staff for the Iwo Jima landings. Later, as Director of Plans and Policies at Headquarters, Marine Corps, Gen Pollock was credited with helping to preserve the Marines' traditional amphibious mission and force-in-readiness concept before U.S. entry into the Korean War. He commanded the 1st Marine Division in Korea from August 1952 to June 1953. He was the only Marine to command both Fleet Marine Force Pacific, at Pearl Harbor, and Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, in Norfolk. Gen Pollock retired from the latter command on 1 November 1959 and was advanced to the rank of general for having been specially commended in combat.

World War II Chronology

January-March 1943

1 January. The 2d Marine Aviation Engineer (Battalion) landed on Guadalcanal.

2 January. The Guadalcanal-Tulagi command was designated XIV Corps under MajGen Alexander Patch, USA.

3 January. The text of the Japanese "Army-Navy Central Agreement on South Pacific Operations," setting forth Japan's newly approved strategy, was radioed to Rabaul; key points were enumerated which were to be occupied or strengthened in the northern and central Solomons and eastern New Guinea after the evacuation of troops on Guadalcanal was completed.

4 January. The 6th Marines and 2d Marine Division Headquarters arrived on Guadalcanal.

12 January. The 6th Marines and the artillery of the 2d Marine Division became part of the Composite Army-Marine (CAM) Division, a provisional unit which also included the 182nd (less 3rd Battalion) and 147th Infantry regiments and the artillery of the Army's Americal Division. The 1st Marine Division from Guadalcanal arrived at Melbourne, Australia, for rehabilitation.

13-15 January. The 2d Marine Division launched its westward coastal attack on Guadalcanal.

14-21 January. At the Casablanca Conference, the Allied strategy of war for 1943 was determined. An advance toward the Philippines through the Central and Southwest Pacific was agreed upon, as was "unconditional surrender" of the enemy.

15 January. The 2d Marines left Guadalcanal for New Zealand.

21 January. Marine Fleet Air, West Coast, was commissioned at San Diego.

22-23 January. XIV Corps launched the final offensive on Guadalcanal. The 25th Infantry Division attacked toward Kokumbona and by 23 January had taken the high ground to the south dominating the coastal area around the Japanese positions. The CAM Division advanced westward toward the southeast heights of Kokumbona, and overran it on the 23rd.

24-26 January. The CAM Division made contact with the 25th Infantry Division's 27th Infantry on 24 January on the high ground above Kokumbona. Pursuit of the fleeing Japanese continued up the north coast of Guadalcanal.

26 January- 8 February. The CAM Division, attacking westward along the Guadalcanal coast, attempted to trap the Japanese at Cape Esperance. This attempt failed when the Japanese completed their evacuation of the island on the night of 7-8 February.

27 January. Headquarters of the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing was established at Efate, New Hebrides.

29 January. Mrs. Ruth Cheney Streeter was commissioned a major in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve and became its first director.

7 February. The 3d Marine Raider Battalion, along with the antiaircraft elements of the 11th Defense Battalion, were included in the major reinforcing units of the Russells occupation force. Marine Aircraft Group 21 was assigned to operate from Banika Airfield.

9 February. The "Total and complete defeat of the Japanese forces on Guadalcanal" was announced by MajGen Alexander Patch, USA, CG, XIV Corps.

15 February. RAdm Charles P. Mason, USN, relieved BGen Francis P. Mulcahy (who had controlled all aircraft stationed on Guadalcanal during the final phase of its defense) when the joint air command, Commander, Aircraft, Solomons, was established.

21 February. The 3d Raider Battalion landed unopposed on Pavuvu in the Russells, and later antiaircraft guns and crews of the 11th Defense Battalion were positioned on Banika.

25 February. Gen Douglas MacArthur issued his campaign plan for the Southwest Pacific which took the position that the Central Pacific route would be "time consuming and expensive in our naval power and shipping."

28 February. A plan was completed by Gen

MacArthur's staff which called for a more deliberate advance in the Southwest Pacific.

1 March. Marine Bomber Squadron 413, the first Marine medium bomber squadron, was commissioned at Cherry Point, North Carolina.

1- 4 March. The battle of the Bismarck Sea.

8-25 March. The 155mm and 90mm batteries of the 3d Defense Battalion were employed as field artillery in the defeat of a strong Japanese offensive against the Allied perimeter on Bougainville.

12 March. The F4U was first employed in combat when the flight echelon of Marine Fighter Squadron 124 arrived at Henderson Field (Guadalcanal) from Espiritu Santo.

15 March. The 1st Marine Raider Regiment was organized for operations on Dragons Peninsula, New Georgia.

17 March. Marine Scout-Bomber Squadron 243

arrived at Johnston Island from Ewa, Hawaii.

20 March. Maj John W. Sapp from Marine Torpedo-Bomber Squadron 143 led the first aerial mine-laying mission in the South Pacific, off the Solomons chain.

22 March. The Japanese Army and Navy staffs issued a new directive for operations in the Rabaul area which emphasized the primacy of a defensive effort in New Guinea.

28 March. The Joint Chiefs of Staff issued a directive which outlined a new scheme of operations for the campaign against Rabaul. The schedule called for the establishment of airfields on Woodlark and Kiriwina Islands, to be followed by the seizure of bases on Huon Peninsula and the occupation of New Georgia, western New Britain, and southern Bougainville.

31 March. The 2d Marine Brigade was disbanded in Pago Pago, American Samoa.

The Inspector General Reports

Units recently achieving an "outstanding" in their command historical programs were:

**Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton,
California**

**Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support
Activity, Camp Pendleton**

**1st Battalion, 4th Marines,
7th Marine Amphibious Brigade (MAB),
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
(MCAGCC),
Twentynine Palms, California**

**1st Battalion, 5th Marines,
1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton**

**3d Tank Battalion, 7th MAB, MCAGCC,
Twentynine Palms, California**

The current Manual for the Marine Corps Historical Program, MCO P5750.1E, provides the necessary direction and guidance to permit

all units to achieve "outstanding." Among significant actions required are:

The commander must assign a staff historian. This member makes certain that a Unit Historical Summary File is maintained. He supervises the composition of the command chronology, ensuring that the first name, middle initial, and last name are used to identify individuals throughout. The staff historian assures that those streamers displayed on the organizational colors coincide with those listed on the Certificate of Honors. And, too, that the Certificates of Lineage and Honors are displayed in a prominent place in the headquarters. The narrative summary of the command chronology should be written from the commander's viewpoint, highlighting significant accomplishments of the unit and discussing the approaches and techniques used to overcome problems and achieve unit objectives during the period covered. Finally, the commander must personally sign the command chronology.



Thomason's Uniforms Unfolded

The talented limner of Marine Corps subjects in the first half of this century, Col John W. Thomason, Jr., apparently produced these sketches to illustrate his own or someone else's ideas for summer liberty and field service uniforms. Art curator Jack Dyer says that four negatives dated October 1941 were rescued in 1958 from housecleaning at Headquarters, Marine Corps and added to the collection. An official apparently wanted a short-sleeved shirt changed to long; the handwriting alongside is not Thomason's. A Cossack-style tunic with pleated chest and back lacks pockets. This is curious, Mr. Dyer says, since it would have left Thomason nowhere to carry his many pens, pipe, and tobacco. The curator wants additional information from Marines who might have been in on the project.



Oral History Report

In connection with its on-going program of interviewing Marine Security Guard Battalion Marines, the Oral History Section recently added 11 interviews to those already conducted with the security guards. The principal interviewer in each case was Mr. Danny J. Crawford, the assigned author of a projected history of Marines and the State Department. These interviews include one with Marines who served in detachments at such diverse places as Beirut, Lebanon; Montevideo, Uruguay; Ottawa, Canada; Asuncion, Paraguay; San Salvador, El Salvador; Bridgetown, Barbados; Sanaa, Yemen; and Ouagoudougou, Upper Volta. Especially interesting and pertinent are the interviews with the Marines who recently returned from Beirut.

Other single-issue interviews recently obtained were those which the head of the Oral History Section conducted at the Marine Corps Aviation Association meeting in New Orleans. The interviewees and the subjects on which they spoke were: Col John F. Carey, the Battle of Midway; Col Archie Clapp, the Shu Fly operation and Marine helicopters in Vietnam; Col Edward V. Finn, MAG-51 training for an attack on Nazi submarine pens in France; LtGen Frank C. "Mickey" Tharin and BGen John F. Kinney, VMF-211's last days on Wake; Col Theodore A. "Ted" Petras, the 1st Marine Division's provisional observation squadron; Col Hamilton Lawrence and LtCols William B. Freeman and L. Toler Bryan, early days of Marine Corps air operations on Guadalcanal; and Dr. Victor S. Falk, duties of a flight surgeon during the early days of the Cactus Air Force on Guadalcanal.

Another interview recently added to the Oral History Collection is one with Mrs. Nancy Heintz, widow of the late Col Robert D. Heintz, Jr., whose death foreclosed his interview. Mrs. Heintz spoke of those things which Col Heintz had not yet discussed, such as his participation in the 1958 Edinburgh Military Tattoo, his tour as head of the Naval Advisory Group in Haiti, and his relationship with Gen Shoup.

Col Warren Baker, USMC (Ret), Executive Officer of Marine Barracks, 8th and I, Washington, D.C., 1951-54, is being interviewed about his experiences during this tour of duty. Of special interest will be

his comments on the role of barracks personnel vis-a-vis the White House.

Several interviews have been completed in recent months. One was with Col William P. McCahill, USMCR (Ret), who was one of the first officers recruited by BGen Robert L. Denig when he began his public affairs and Marine Corps combat correspondents programs prior to World War II. As the 4th MarDiv public relations officer, Col McCahill took part in the Roi-Namur and Saipan-Tinian landings and later in the war was a public relations officer on the staff of Adm Nimitz. Postwar, he was active in the Reserves and the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association.

The Vietnam writers joined the Oral History Section in interviewing Col William H. Dabney in a "marathon" four-hour-long interview during which the latter discussed the fighting around Hill 881 South and Khe Sanh when he commanded Company I, 3d Battalion, 26th Marines in 1968. Col Dabney also spoke of his experiences as a advisor to the Vietnam Marine Corps during the Lam Son 719 operation.

The Oral History Collection has accessioned a number of single-issue interviews of historical interest. One such interview was with John H. Bakke, a "China Marine" of the 1920s. Another interview was with the late Edward Holmgren, a Swedish immigrant, who borrowed the birth certificate of a fellow Swede—Andreas Carlsson—and though underage, as Carlsson enlisted in the Marine Corps before the Spanish-American War. Noteworthy is the fact that Holmgren-Carlsson joined Huntington's battalion to fight in Cuba.

Maj Eugene M. Boardman was one of the first Japanese language officers to be commissioned from civilian life before the start of World War II. He was interviewed for the Oral History Program by a fellow University of Wisconsin faculty member, Dr. Edward M. Coffman. Maj Boardman participated in a number of operations in the Pacific beginning with Guadalcanal and his 43-page transcript highlights the problems and successes of Marine language officers.

In 1964, Col Barry Zorthian, USMCR (Ret), a public affairs officer for the United States Information Service in India, was posted to Saigon. The following year, he became director of the Joint U.S. Public Affairs Office and wore a second hat as counselor of embassy with the rank of minister. In his interview, which covers the period 1964-68, he

tells of the problems the embassy and MACV had with the press coverage of the Vietnam war and his role in MACV/embassy press relations.

During the course of his interview, LtCol Karl T. Soule, USMCR (Ret), who was one of the first motion picture specialists commissioned in World War II, relates the Marine Corps' urgent need to train qualified movie photographers and speaks of his assignment to the 1st Marine Division and participation in the Guadalcanal landing. Later in the war, Col Soule was assigned to the 3d Marine Division and FMFPac before returning to Quantico to train photographers.

The Navy's Chaplains' Corps oral history program is directed by Cdr Henry L. Martin, CHC, USN. Several of the retired chaplains he has interviewed served one or more tours with the Marine Corps, and the interviews with two of them have been donated to the Marine Corps Oral History Collection. One was with Capt John H. Craven, who enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1933, and was discharged two years later to enroll in a seminary. A Baptist minister at the outbreak of World War II, he was commissioned and assigned to the 4th Marine Division, to whose troops he ministered in the Roi-Namur, Saipan-

Tinian, and Iwo Jima operations. During the Korean War, he was again serving with Marines and took part in the Inchon landings and was with the 1st Division at Chosin Reservoir. Chaplain Craven has served at Camp Pendleton, Camp Lejeune, Parris Island, in Vietnam, and on the staff of FMFPac. Appropriately, his last assignment before retiring was as the Chaplain of the Marine Corps.

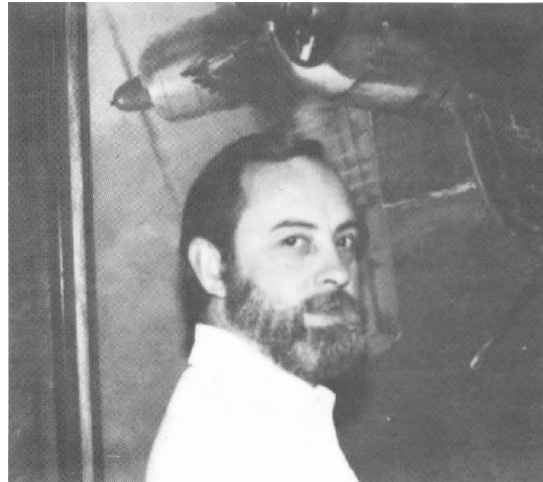
The second interview is with Capt Eugene S. Swanson, whose first assignment to a Marine command was at MCRD, San Diego. His next Marine assignment was as III MAF staff chaplain in Vietnam. From III MAF he went to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. These two interviews join the one conducted with Capt Glyn Jones, CHC, USN (Ret), by Dr. John T. Mason, who, until recently, headed the Naval Institute's oral history program.

In Dr. Mason's collection, there are a number of valuable Marine Corps-related interviews with retired senior naval officers. Copies of these interviews are held by the United States Naval Institute in Annapolis as well as in the library of the Naval Academy. A third depository for these Navy interviews is in the archives of the Naval Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard. —BMF

Quantico Aviation Exhibits Chief Dies

C. Edward Thayer, exhibits specialist at the Aviation Museum at Quantico, Virginia, since April 1980, died on 22 October. Mr. Thayer was born in Washington, D.C., in 1937, and graduated from Mount Vernon High School in Fairfax County, Virginia. He attended the University of Virginia and American University from 1957-61, served in the U.S. Army from 1961-63, and attended the U.S. Park Police Training Academy from 1963-64 and 1967-68.

Prior to joining the Center staff he was an exhibits specialist for the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum, where among other projects, he prepared the base of the popular moon landing module display, which simulates the lunar surface. He previously worked for the Smithsonian's National Museum of History and Technology, the Middle East Division (Rear) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, all in graphic artist posts.



C. Edward Thayer

Mr. Thayer is survived by his wife, Jean, and two children, Kirk and Wendy. Memorial contributions may be made to the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.



The Brevet Medal, obverse and reverse.

Brevet Medal's Design Was Informal Process

by Richard A. Long

A recent interview with retired MSgt Joseph A. Burnett provided us with additional details on the design process for the Marine Corps Brevet Medal and other badges and medals adopted prior to World War II. His recollections of his 30-year career are particularly valuable since preliminary drawings of these medals and badges are practically nonexistent.

The Marine Corps was quite a small organization prior to World War I. Staffs at Headquarters, Marine Corps were equally small. Officers and men performed a variety of tasks but generated relatively little paperwork and maintained few files. Only occasionally, therefore, does the modern researcher find original drawings in the archives.

World War I expansion included the acquisition of the Quartermaster Department's first trained draftsman in 1917. His name was Pvt Burnett. He stayed for the next 27 years.

Joseph Alfred Burnett was born in 1893 in Baltimore. He attended public schools there and took further training in engineering drawing. He took a job with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1915 as a draftsman. Two years later, when he was 24, the Quartermaster's Chief Clerk recruited him as a private of Marines.

Copies of Burnett's drawings are scarce. Unfortunately, he does not have copies of quartermaster property he designed for the Marine Corps. He left these drawings behind when he retired. Our research in the retired records of the Quartermaster's Department has not uncovered specimens of his work.

MSgt Burnett recalls that he designed the Distinguished Marksman Badge, Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge, Marine Corps Rifle and Division Rifle Competition Badge, and the Lauchheimer Trophy Medal. He also remembers designing the Marine Corps' Haitian Campaign Medal, although official credit went to the Bailey, Banks, and Biddle Company of Philadelphia. On the basis of MSgt Burnett's recollection, we believe he drew the original design and Bailey, Banks and Biddle perfected it for striking by the U.S. Mint.

One of Burnett's principal accomplishments is the original design of the Marine Corps Brevet Medal. The Marine Corps gave this rare award to the 20 living Marine officers who received brevet commissions for bravery in battle from the Spanish-American War to the Boxer Rebellion. Contemporary correspondence and all major articles written on this medal attribute its design to QMSgt Joseph A. Burnett.

Seeking a firsthand account from the brevet medal's designer; we arranged to interview MSgt Burnett at his suburban Washington home. He greeted us at the door with a feisty demand for the number of years it took SgtMaj Lelle to earn his stripes. Burnett countered Lelle's modest reply with the boast that it took him only half that time.

We questioned him as to how Quartermaster General Charles L. McCawley asked him to design the medal. Burnett retorted, "Hell, he never asked me. He told me!" McCawley issued simple instructions. He wanted a design unlike any other domestic or foreign medal.

Burnett prepared himself by studying a large number of catalogs and books in various military libraries and the Library of Congress. He asserts he submitted only one design, with the obverse and reverse of the proposed medal on one sheet of paper, and that Gen McCawley accepted it without question. We believe McCawley may have refined the design and he may have added the specifications. We don't know who wrote the official description of the medal that appeared in various publications.

The Secretary of the Navy sent the original drawing to the Treasury Department on 16 July 1921 with an initial requisition for 24 medals. The U.S. Mint retained the drawing in its files; however, a recent search of the Mint's records failed to produce it, although we found a number of closely related contemporary documents.

SSgt Burnett began a new project in 1924 involving a redesign of the Marine Corps emblem. He said he had been complaining that the eagle on the existing emblem ". . . looked like a sick turkey" and the anchor was not fouled. Gen McCawley agreed and ordered Burnett to produce a new design. During the following year, Sgt Burnett studied bald eagles at Washington's National Zoo and sought technical advice from designers at the Bureau of Engraving and the Smithsonian Institution. Then he worked on the design until he was satisfied.

The design portrayed a full-bodied eagle standing boldly atop the Western Hemisphere with its wings outstretched. Lines of latitude and longitude terminated on the American continents and a fouled anchor intersected the globe. Gen McCawley approved it.

Gen Lejeune forwarded the new design to Acting Secretary of the Navy F. Douglas Robinson, who approved it on 28 May 1925. Thereafter, the new design appeared on monuments, tablets, and flags, as well as on rings, scarf pins, and stationary. Officer



MSgt Joseph A. Burnett, photographed in 1925.

and enlisted cap ornaments, however, remained the same.

Sgt Burnett received considerable publicity after the adoption of his emblem design. Newspapers in Washington and San Diego, the *The Army and Navy Journal*, published accounts of his research and described the new emblem.

There remained within the Corps, however, considerable sentiment for the old emblem's design. This sentiment surfaced in 1935 when BGen Louis McCarty Little, the Assistant to the Commandant, urged MajGen John H. Russell, Jr. to return to the device approved back in 1868.

Other officers, including BGen Hugh Matthews, the Quartermaster General, endorsed the proposal. Gen Russell concurred and the following year, on 16 March 1936, approved a new line drawings by Mr. J. Hale Darby of the Bureau of Yards and Docks. The basic changes to the emblem involved a more delicate and refined eagle and elimination of the longitudinal lines on the globe. Sgt Burnett was not involved in the design process.

Sgt Burnett's main job at Headquarters, Marine Corps during these years was the drafting of architectural and engineering plans. He drew the floor plans for the majority of the new buildings constructed at Quantico in the 1930s and 1940s. He transferred to that base in 1943 and retired from the Marine Corps in 1946.

MSgt Burnett, in his conversations with us, was not particularly impressed with the esteem we held for the rare Brevet Medal, its unique history, or the subsequent appearance of many spurious copies of the medal. He was not bothered that his emblem design survived for a mere 11 years. Perhaps the best statement of his pride in his work came in an interview in 1946. He said, "I laid out the only straight street in Quantico: Barnett Avenue."

Events at the Center

ORAL HISTORY COLLOQUIUM

Mr. Benis M. Frank, head of the Oral History Section, attended the 17th National Colloquium of the Oral History Association at San Antonio, Texas, 7-10 October.

1982 HEINL AWARD PRESENTED

Mr. Jack Shulimson, a senior historian at the Historical Center, and Dr. Graham A. Cosmas of the U.S. Army Center for Military History, won the second annual Col Robert D. Heinl, Jr., Memorial Award given by the Marine Corps Historical Foundation. They received the Heinl Award for their article, "Teddy Roosevelt and the Corps' Sea-Going Mission," which appeared in the November 1981 issue of the *Marine Corps Gazette*. The foundation presents the award for the best article on Marine Corps history published during the year.

On behalf of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, Gen Barrow (left) presents 1982 Heinl Award plaques to Mr. Shulimson (center) and Dr. Cosmas.



Dr. Frank J. Olynyk received an honorable mention for his article, "New Research Could Alter Aces List," in the Summer 1981 issue of *Fortitudine*.

CENTER REPRESENTED AT AHA MEET

On 30 December BGen Edwin H. Simmons chaired a seminar, "The Armed Forces and Public Relations" at the American Historical Association's annual meeting at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. Center historian Mr. V. Keith Fleming, Jr., presented a paper discussing Marine Corps public relations following the 1956 Ribbon Creek tragedy, with special reference to the organization and availability of public affairs support and command reaction to the drowning of six Marine recruits at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina. Dr. Lawrence Suid, a frequent researcher at the Center, presented another paper on the portrayal of Navy activities in motion pictures.

Commenting on both papers was Professor (Col, USMCR) Allan R. Millett of Ohio State University.

Mr. Fleming is completing "U.S. Marines in Vietnam, 1967" and Col Millett wrote *Semper Fidelis*, the widely acclaimed history of the Marine Corps published in 1980.

HAMMEL OPENS SEMINAR SERIES

The History and Museums Division Professional Development Seminar season began on 8 September, when Mr. Eric Hammel, author of *76 Hours: The Invasion of Tarawa*, and more recently, *Chosin: Heroic Ordeal of the Korean War*, spoke on oral history and correspondence interview techniques. He also discussed the uses and limitations of word processors in the writing of military history.

The following month, on the 15th, Miss Karen Garlick, a Folger Shakespeare Library staff member, addressed the topic, "An Introduction to Conservation of Books and Papers: Problems and Approaches to Solutions."

Assigned as the theme of the remainder of the 1982-83 seminar season is "Researching Military History in the Washington Area." Mr. Herman Wolk of the Office of Air Force History gave a presentation on 17 November, at which time he discussed the holdings of his office and how to use them.

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More Events at the Center

ARIZONA STUDENTS OFFER DIORAMA

A 32-square-foot diorama depicting the Marine defense of Wake Island, prepared by 200 junior high school students from Gilbert, Arizona, was installed in the Museum in November. The diorama, which includes 500 small-scale human figures, was prepared under the direction of history teacher Glen Frakes and took more than 5,000 hours to complete. Before coming to the Museum, the diorama was shown throughout the Phoenix area and at a reunion of 150 surviving Marines of the Wake Island defense. A number of students traveled to Washington to present the display.

'UNSUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGNS' TOPIC

Col Oliver M. Whipple, Mr. Jack Shulimson, and Maj Edward F. Wells participated in the 1982 International Military History Symposium at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, from 1-4 August.

The symposium, sponsored by the U.S. Army War College, the U.S. Army Center of Military History, and the U.S. Army Military History Institute, addressed "The Impact of Unsuccessful Military Campaigns on Military Institutions, 1860-1980."

At the Vietnam session, Mr. Shulimson and Maj Wells presented their paper concerning the Marine Corps' experience in Vietnam, 1965-71. In it, they traced the command perspective of Marine Corps involvement through the decisions which culminated in redeployment and rapid reconstitution as the nation's force-in-readiness. Together with the other proceedings of the symposium, this paper will be published in 1983.