

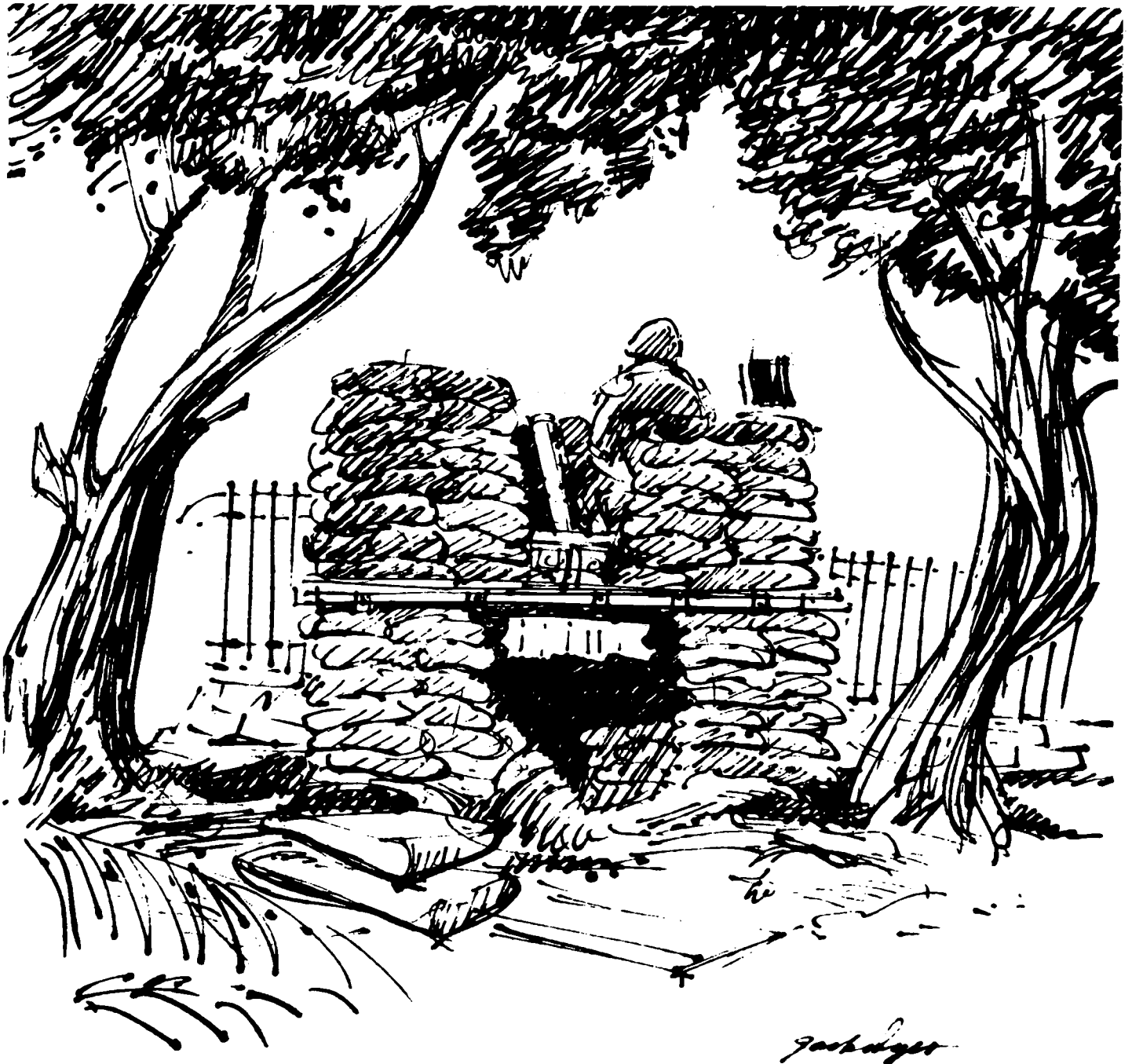
# FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

VOLUME XIII

WINTER 1984

NUMBER 3



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# FORTITUDINE

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

Volume XIII

Winter 1984

No. 3

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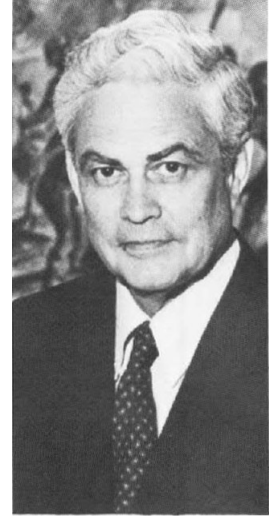


### THE COVER

Maj John T. Dyer, USMCR (Ret), executed this pen-and-ink drawing, "Echo Company Bunker, Lebanon," during his recent active duty visit to the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit deployed there as the U.S. contingent of the Multinational Force.

*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 70-pound, matte-coated paper. Printing, by offset lithography, is by the Defense Printing Service.

# Director's Page



BGen Simmons

## Lebanon and Grenada

THE NEAR-COINCIDENT Beirut bombing and Grenada intervention presented us with the problem (and opportunity) of collecting operational history in real time. The historical effort of the Marine Corps had not been thus challenged since the end of the Marine Corps involvement in Vietnam.

Early on we decided on an "integrated" approach. That means we have put both the Historical Branch and Museums Branch of the History and Museums Division at work on both Lebanon and Grenada. This synergistic approach was not possible during Vietnam when the Historical Division (or Historical Branch as it was while under the old G-3 Division) was one entity, the Combat Art Program another entity under the Division of Public Affairs, and the Marine Corps Museum was still another entity somewhat loosely under Marine Corps Base, Quantico.

Grenada was barely underway when we were directed to send an oral historian to the scene to collect operationally oriented interviews from the participants. This mission was not unlike the field interviews conducted in Vietnam (of which we have a great store, some 6,431 interviews).

Choosing an oral historian for the task was not hard. As readers of *Fortitudine* probably know, the one and only full-time oral historian we have is Mr. Benis M. Frank, who heads the Oral History Section in the Historical Branch. Ben has been at oral history since its inception in the Marine Corps in 1966.

Our program is older than the oral history programs of the other Services and Ben is widely regarded as the dean of military oral history.

If Ben is the dean, then the late BGen S.L.A. Marshall must be regarded as the patron saint, because it was Marshall who through such books as *Men Against Fire* showed the uses of immediate interviews from a wide range of participants in a military action.

Ben's bucolic weekend at his home in Bowie, Maryland, was interrupted and he was on his way to Grenada on 30 October. He has reported to readers of *Fortitudine* on this in "The Odyssey of an Oral Historian" which appeared in the Fall 1983 issue. Briefly, he joined 22d Marine Amphibious Unit at Grenada, transited the Atlantic and Mediterranean with 22d MAU in the USS *Guam*, conducted 36 interviews, cross-decked to the USS *Iwo Jima*, and returned as far as Sigonella, Italy, with 24th MAU, the unit hit in the 23 October bombing.

On getting back to Washington, Ben handed off his Grenada responsibility to Maj Ronald H. Spector, USMCR, and got back to collecting and

*On the actual day of battle truths may be picked up for the asking; by the following morning they have already begun to get into their uniforms.*

Gen Sir Ian Hamilton  
*A Staff Officer's Scrap-book during the Russo-Japanese War*

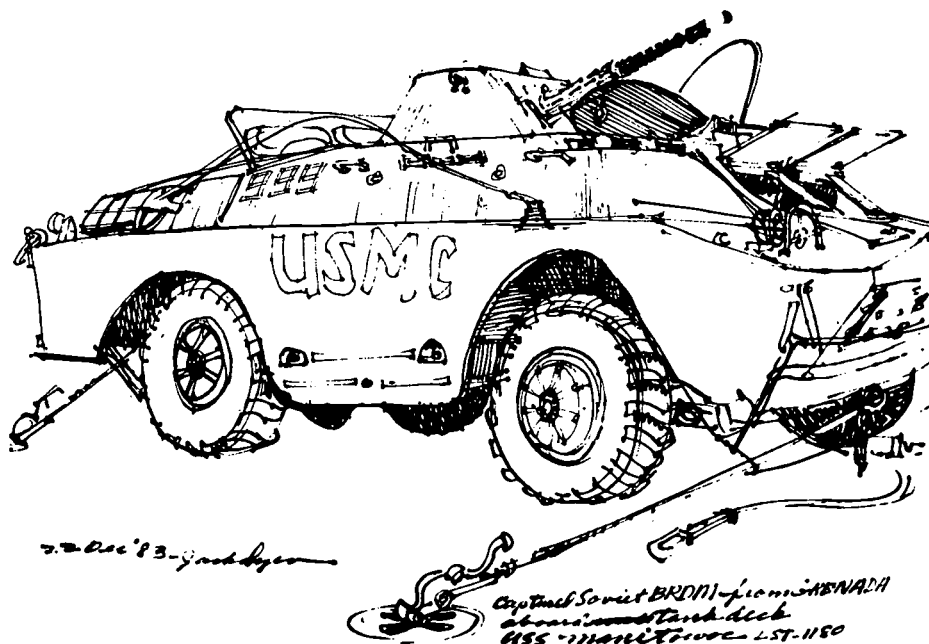
writing a Lebanon history, an assignment given him immediately after the bombing.

Both Mr. Frank and Maj Spector have been given the same deadline: Ben is to deliver a manuscript of a Lebanon monograph and Ron the manuscript of a Grenada monograph by 15 March 1984 which is about the same time as this issue of *Fortitudine* should be being mailed out to its readers.

We are using the term "monograph" advisedly. We are not attempting to tell the "whole" story of either Lebanon or Grenada. As monographs they will have a single focus, dealing in detail only with Marine Corps participation in these operations and written from the perspective of the MAU level of command.

If all goes well, and we intend to push to make sure that it does, we expect that we will have both monographs published and ready for distribution by 1 July 1984. Amongst other uses, that will be in time for the 1984-85 academic year at Quantico (and other Service schools for that matter).

There will be a difference in the monographs in that Grenada has a beginning, middle, and end, whereas Lebanon has a beginning, and a middle, but not yet an end. Events are still transpiring in Lebanon, as I write this. The Lebanon monograph will have to stop abruptly at about the end of January 1984. That will take it through the Long Commission report and at least part of its aftermath. Therefore the last line in the Lebanon monograph will probably be "To be continued."



On board USS Maniwoc (LST-1180) this Soviet-built BRDM-2 Amphibious Scout Car was taken in Grenada. Armed with 14.5 and 7.62 mm machine guns, its four mid-vehicle belly wheels may be lowered for improved off-road and ditch travel.

On the other hand, we should be able to wrap up Grenada. Maj Spector was brought to active duty, beginning 1 December, for 90 days for this purpose. In civilian life, Ron is a writing historian, working on Vietnam, for the U.S. Army's Center of Military History. His *The Early Years: The U.S. Army in Vietnam* has just been published.

As a Reserve officer, he is also a member of Mobilization Training Unit (Historical) DC-7. MTU DC-7 is made up of a varying number of Reserve officers (just now the number is 10) who have expertise in historical matters and who can be called upon to perform special historical tasks.

Each member of the MTU works on an assigned historical project throughout the year. Unit histories and regularization of personal papers collections are typical undertakings. Maj Spector, for example, has been working on a revision of *A Brief History of the 5th Marines*.

But the ultimate purpose of the MTU is to provide for the augmentation of the historical effort of the Fleet Marine Forces in the event of mobilization or crisis situations. It is envisioned that in event of mobilization or in major deployments, as in the case of Vietnam,

that historical sections would be activated at Fleet Marine Force; Marine amphibious force (MAF); division, wing, and force service support group (FSSG); and Marine amphibious brigade (MAB) levels to oversee such historical tasks as the submission of after-action reports, command chronologies, field interview programs, collection of artifacts—for example, enemy weapons—and supervision of combat art and combat photography programs.

Under the Marine Corps Mobilization Management Plan these historical sections—of three to five officers and enlisted Marines—normally would be activated only during periods of conflict, national emergency, or mobilization. Thus they do not affect the peacetime manning level of the Marine Corps.

*The only history worth reading is that written at the time of which it treats, the history of what was done and seen, heard out of the mouths of the men who did and saw.*

John Ruskin  
*Stones of Venice*

MTU (Hist) DC-7 has been tasked with preparing standing operating procedures and orders for these historical sections. Eventually the members would be slotted for their specific mobilization billets.

As a means of developing this mobilization potential and to exercise the individual members of the MTU we have been sending them off these last several years to major exercises, usually, that is, of MAB size.

Grenada and Lebanon have given us an even more realistic testing. The apparatus is still creaky; if it had been better oiled we might have been able to have assigned Maj Spector to Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, or the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit at the very inception of the Grenada operation.

Ron Spector has already told *Fortitudine* readers how he came to be a Marine combat historian in his "A Government Historian's Memoir" (Spring 1981). Readers with long memories will recall that he came into the Marine Corps in 1967 with a Ph.D. in history from Yale and brief service as a civilian with the historical office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff behind him. He had finished his recruit training at Parris Island and was in his last week at the Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Lejeune when he received orders assigning him as a historian with III MAF in Vietnam. He arrived in time for *Tet* and found the 3d Marine Division's historical team at Khe Sanh and the 1st Marine Division's historical team covering the battle of Hue. He left active service in 1969 but came back into the Reserve in 1980 as a specialist officer.

We had thought earlier of sending Ron to Lebanon. He had accompanied Ben Frank on an interview session with members of the returned 22d MAU back in January 1983 and he was eager to go to Lebanon in August but it proved easier to send Ben.

Ben, of course, is an old war horse with enlisted service in World War II (1st Marine Division at Peleliu and Okinawa and in North China) and commissioned service in Korea (5th Marines). He was a principal writer and editor of

Volume V, *Victory and Occupation*, of the official series, *History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in World War II*. He is also the author of the commercially published *Denig's Demons and How They Grew*; *Halsey*; and *Okinawa: The Great Island Battle*.

Another old war horse in the Marine Corps Historical Center stable who has been pressed into Lebanese service is John T. Dyer. Regularly, as a civilian, Jack is the Curator of Marine Corps Art here at the Center. As a Marine captain he was one of the best and most prolific of our combat artists in Vietnam. He works in several media but his most characteristic work is in pen-and-ink and water color.

We have sent him out several times to cover exercises, including NATO exercises in Turkey, Norway and Germany; stateside exercises at Camp Lejeune and Camp Drum; jungle training at Fort Sherman, Panama Canal Zone; and a real deployment to the "Rose Garden" at Nam Phong, Thailand, in 1973.

The originals of his work can be found hanging in high places. Many of his pieces have been used as cover art or as illustrations by the *Marine Corps Gazette* and other magazines. He is also now Major, USMCR (Ret).

We "activated" him for Lebanon. He was there from 23 until 31 December. One of his collateral assignments was to deliver to 22d MAU a huge (34-inch by 54-inch) Christmas card signed by all members of the House of Representatives.

Jack is back now with a full sketch book and several finished pieces. A sampling of his Lebanon work, along with his lively trip report is at pages 12 to 15 of this issue.

Jack covered the post-bombing scene in Lebanon. There is also some pre-bombing art coverage.

Col Edward M. Condra, III, whose regular duties are those of Public Affairs Officer, Headquarters, FMFLant, was out in Lebanon from 10 until 18 March 1983 on duties that included picture making. Ed Condra is a triple-threat person: engineer, public affairs officer, and artist.

As a captain and engineer he did some very fine, precise drawings in Vietnam,

particularly of airfield operations. As a major he was the mainspring in putting together the command museum at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island. As a colonel he has done much to enhance the historical holdings of HQ, FMFLant and to increase the awareness of the command to art opportunities and usage. His Lebanon artwork is now hanging in Norfolk and we look forward to accessioning it into the Marine Corps art collection.

We have also had some volunteer Lebanon art submissions, most notably those of Sgt Arturo Alejandre. Sgt Alejandre's regular duties were those of graphics specialist at MCDEC, Quantico. He was in Lebanon from the first of January 1983 until mid-March 1983.

He stopped by in December enroute to the West Coast to leave his portfolio with us. It is impressive. He was on his way to Camp Pendleton and was at the decision point as to whether he was going to re-enlist. We hope that he does. We need new blood and fresh talent in our combat art program.

Another of the old war horses who has come pawing and stamping into the fray is LtCol A. M. "Mike" Leahy, USMCR

(Ret). (The "A." stands for Albert which he never uses.) Mike, a helicopter pilot, as a combat artist in Vietnam in 1967 and 1968, was probably the most productive of the artists working with Marine Corps aviation subjects. He served also during this period as Deputy Director, under Col Raymond Henri, of the Combat Art Program. As with Jack Dyer's Vietnam art, Mike's has been widely exhibited and reproduced.

As a civilian, Mike works for Naval Air Systems Command. He was selected for 30 days temporary duty to cover the Grenada operation as a civilian artist under Navy auspices. He was there from 16 through 19 December and came back with a fine portfolio of reconstructed action scenes, most of them featuring Marine Corps helicopters, of the key events in the Grenada intervention.

This portfolio, and Mike's story of how he developed it, is scheduled for publication in the May *All Hands*. We expect to use his product to illustrate Spector's Grenada monograph and also to form part of a fairly comprehensive Grenada and Lebanon art exhibit which will also include work by Dyer, Condra, Alejandre, et al.

*Aviation writer Maj Batha points to a bullet hole in a fragment of a Marine Corps CH-46 helicopter downed near Grand Anse while Grenada writer Maj Spector, who just returned from that Caribbean island, holds a Cuban soldier's Soviet helmet.*



Leahy, Dyer, and Spector were all three charged by us to police up the Grenada and Lebanon battlefields and to bring back some of the debris, which, upon accessioning by the Museums Branch, becomes "artifacts" for future study and exhibit. There are more details on this in this issue's "Acquisitions."

We also have our bid in for the Marine

Corps' share of captured weapons from Grenada. These are desirable, not only for exhibit purposes but also for training uses. Of course we have passed up many of the 15,000 weapons, such as AK-47s, as duplicating those already in our collection in quantity. However, there were some unusual weapons in the haul including North Korean AK-74s, the com-

munist bloc's .22 caliber answer to our M-16; the latest Russian squad automatic; various rare light machine guns and submachine guns; and, of course, the BTR-60s, which are 8-wheeled armored personnel carriers. There were also uniforms and 782 gear in profusion and we have asked for our share of these.

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## Recent Books of Historical Interest

From the library of the Marine Corps Historical Center, recently published books of professional interest to Marines:

*Assault From the Sea: Essays on the History of Amphibious Warfare.* LtCol Merrill L. Bartlett, USMC (Ret) ed. Naval Institute Press. 453pp, 1983. An anthology offering a comprehensive history of amphibious thought and experience; it is divided into four sections: the age of the sail, the age of Mahan, the two-ocean war, the era of superpowers. \$26.95

*Delta Force: The U.S. Counter-Terrorist Unit and the Iran Rescue Mission.* Charlie A. Beckwith. Harcourt, Brace, 360pp, 1983. An account of the counter-terrorist unit's part in the Iranian Hostage Rescue Mission, by the unit's one-time commanding officer. \$14.95

*The Lion and the White Falcon: Britain and Iceland in the World War II Era.* LtCol Donald F. Bittner, USMCR. Archon Books, 1983. Examines the role and importance of Iceland to Britain in particular and to the Allies in general from diplomatic, military, strategic, and personal perspectives. LtCol Bittner is on the staff of the Marine Corps' Command and Staff College. \$25.00

*The Vietnam Experience.* Series by Boston Publishing Co. distributed by Time-Life Books. 1981. 8 volumes in print; 14-18 volumes in series. A multi-volume account of the Vietnam War from the end of World War II through 1975. Similar in format to the Time-Life series of books. \$14.95 per volume to subscribers; \$16.95 in bookstores

*Vietnam as History.* Peter Braestrup. University Press of America. 1983. A report of a conference held January 1983 at Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. The conference marked the tenth anniversary of the Paris Peace Agreement and the fifteenth anniversary of the Tet Offensive. The chief purpose of the meeting was to discuss what is now known about the higher conduct of the war by the U.S., North Vietnam, and South Vietnam. The second purpose was to discuss what lessons, if any, the experience should signal to U.S. civilian and military leaders in the 80s. \$16.75, hardbound; \$8.75, paperback

*Amphibious Warfare Developments in Britain and America From 1920-1940.* Kenneth J. Clifford. Edgewood, Inc. 302pp, 1983. Describes the simultaneous—separate but remarkably equal—development of amphibious operations in the United States and Great Britain. \$11.00

*Marines at War.* Ian W. Dear. Ian Allen Ltd. (London) 128pp, 1982. Details eight major actions of the Royal Marines and U.S. Marines in World War II—Wake Island, Guadalcanal, Tarawa, and Iwo Jima for the USMC; Force Viper in Burma, the Normandy Landings, Walcheren, and the Five Rivers campaign for the Royal Marines. A realistic account of amphibious operations in World War II. Approx \$17.50

*For Self and Country: For the Wounded in Vietnam, the Journey Home Took More Bravery Than Going into Battle; A True Story.* Rick Eilert. Morrow. 320pp. An autobiographical account of eight months in Marine Rick Eilert's life from point man in Con Thien to outpatient status from Great Lakes Naval Hospital. \$13.95

*Peleliu 1944.* Harry A. Gailey. Nautical & Aviation Press. 300pp 1983. A critical new look at the campaign, incorporating information from recently translated Japanese documents and new archeological research, setting the battle for Peleliu in the context of the larger war. \$17.95

*Conversations with the Enemy: The Story of PFC Robert Garwood.* W. Groom, G. P. Putnam Sons. 411pp, 1983. Marine PFC Robert Garwood's story of his 14 years of survival in Vietnam, and his subsequent trial. \$16.95

*Battle for the Falklands.* Max Hastings and Simon Jenkins. W. W. Norton. 384pp, 1983. An account of British political decision-making and of the naval and military operations by two eminent British journalists. \$17.50

*Women in the Military.* MajGen Jeanne Holm, USAF (Ret). Presidio Press. 420pp, 1982. A comprehensive account of what women have done throughout the services, by Gen Holm, who at the time of her retirement was the highest-ranking woman ever to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. \$16.95—EAE

# Acquisitions: Lebanon Flag and O'Bannon Dirk

**T**HE MARINE CORPS MUSEUM is proud to acknowledge recent acquisitions related to the actions in Lebanon and Grenada.

Sgt David W. Cox, USMC, serving with the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit, returned with a Lebanese flag which had been signed by the members of his unit on their tour of duty. Sgt Cox, now assigned to the Inter-American Defense College, had the flag framed and presented to the museum. LtCol Albert M. Leahy, USMCR (Ret), returned from duty as a combat artist in Grenada with a varied selection of uniforms, papers and artifacts from that action. These items will be incorporated into a new exhibit on present day Marine Corps activities.

In the realm of antiquities, the collection received a significant donation from Mr. William H. Guthman, of Westport, Connecticut. This was the midshipman's dirk belonging to Presley Neville O'Bannon. The dirk has been placed on permanent display alongside the presentation sword of Lt O'Bannon.

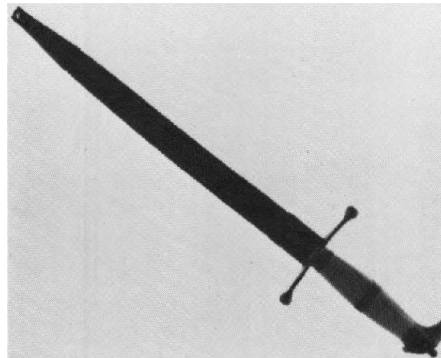
**T**he largest donation to be received this quarter was a M1944 M3H4 one- and one-half ton truck, donated by Mr. Gary Kutcher of Potomac, Maryland. Mr. George MacGillivray, presented a Japanese Type 96 machine

gun which he captured on Cape Gloucester, to be used in the 40th anniversary exhibit on that campaign.

Response to the request for items deal-



*Above, Lebanese Flag signed by MSSG-24 Marines. Below, Lt O'Bannon's dirk has "PNOB" engraved on the silver throat of its scabbard.*



ing with Woman Marines has shown the generosity of many donors, including a rare item of headgear used by Woman Marines in the aviation field, donated by former Marine Capt Eleanor Russell.

A complete collection of World War I uniforms and equipment, used by former Marine Cpl Charles J. Merwin, were donated by the Merwin family through their attorney, Mr. Malcolm C. Hughes. Cpl Merwin served in France with the 5th Marines.

**W**hile attending the fall meeting of the Marine Corps' Historical Foundation, many members took the opportunity to present items to the museum. These included an assortment of aviation items from BGen James Howarth, Jr., USMCR (Ret), of Arlington, Virginia; a set of World War II training aids and a corpsman bolo knife from Col Orlow Zumwalt, USMC (Ret) of Gaithersburg, Maryland; and a 1945 map of Honduras donated by LtCol Douglas Binney, USMC (Ret), of Alexandria, Virginia.

Space does not permit the listing of all the generous donations received this quarter, however the kindness and efforts of all those presenting items to the collection are deeply appreciated.  
—JHMcG

## 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 his many volunteer hours in keeping the books for the Marine Corps Museum Shop:

**CWO Gordon F. Heim, USMC (Ret)**

For five years of service as Museum Shop Volunteers:  
**Col James Sperry, USMC (Ret), and Mrs. Sperry**

For over 250 hours as a Museum Shop Volunteer:

**Mrs. Charles Drake  
Mrs. J. B. Townsend**

For over 192 hours as a Museum Shop Volunteer:

**Mrs. Lawrence Bosshard**

For over 50 hours as a Museum Shop Volunteer:

**Mrs. Earl W. Johnson**

For over 36 hours as a Museum Shop Volunteer:

**Mrs. William Carr**



# Military History at "Command and Staff"

by LtCol Donald F. Bittner, USMCR

Military Historian, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico

**D**URING THE 1982-83 academic year, the study of military history has been reemphasized at the Command and Staff College. This renewed stress on serious study of man's ability to wage war—which goes all the way back to the roots of our profession—is part of a general trend in professional military education in the United States. Military history, although never neglected at the college, has moved from elective status to a central place within the core curriculum.

The "Battle Studies Program"—at the center of this renewed emphasis—has three main elements: campaign analysis studies; historical perspective presentations; and a symposium, "War Since 1945." The primary focus is on the campaign analysis studies, in which each of the 12 permanent conference groups studies a significant campaign which has occurred in the modern era. The product of each conference group of 13 or 14 officers is a two-hour presentation to the College, in which the students discuss the results of their research and analysis. Their framework of analysis is applicable in studying any of past campaigns, contemporary problems, or future situations.

## ELEMENTS OF ANALYSIS

- Principles of War
- Forms of Maneuver
- Command and Staff Functioning
- Objectives of Each Campaign/Battle
- Tactical Conduct of Combat Operations
- Role or Importance of Logistics
- Use, Misuse, or Neglect of Intelligence
- Personal Abilities and Qualities of Commanders
- Levels of Professionalism
- Use and Effect of Supporting Arms
- Significance of and Effect upon Doctrine
- Composition of the Combatant Forces
- Ideologies of the Warring Sides
- Terrain
- Civil-Military Relations
- Effect of Technology on Weapons, Tactics, and Operations
- Long-Term Results of the Battle or Campaign
- Causes of the War in Which the Campaign Occurred
- Use of Deception
- If Appropriate, How Marines Conceptually Would Do It Differently Today

The campaign analyses are objective. There are no "good guys" or "bad guys" in the studies; rather, all sides are studied in a detached manner, to ascer-

tain what occurred and why. The analyses try to determine why commanders and their staffs acted as they did, and to identify consequences of command decisions and staff recommendations.

**T**hree campaigns of particular interest to Marines, which were studied in the 1982-83 academic year, reflected these goals. The analyses of Belleau Wood (1918) and Peleliu (1944) scrutinized the operations of the Germans and Japanese, as well as the Marines. The students soon discovered the reality behind familiar generalizations of high combat professional effectiveness, that has long been associated with the armed forces of Germany and Japan: their leaders were skilled in application of tactical doctrine, the use of terrain, the art of command, the coordination of supporting arms, and in personal preparation for their responsibilities. Furthermore, the study of the projected invasion of Japan in 1945-46, *Operations Olympic/Coronet*, revealed that the Japanese had thoroughly studied the amphibious operations of the United States forces as they moved through the South and Central Pacific

## Reference Section Supports Student Research

**O**ver the past two years, scores of officers from the Command and Staff College and the Amphibious Warfare School at Quantico, Virginia, have visited the Marine Corps Historical Center to conduct research for the campaign analysis portion of their academic program. The visitors from Quantico normally begin their research in the Reference Section with a review of the appropriate subject, geographical, unit, and biographical files. From there, they can move to the official records and reports of the Marine Corps units involved in particular battles or operations in the Archives Section.

The Center's library either contains or can locate published material that adds depth to the study. Finally, the Oral History and Personal Papers Collections occasionally provide

additional perspectives, from the written or oral memoirs of key participants in the campaigns being analyzed.

The Center has assisted Marines in studying battles and operations that include: Belleau Wood, Nicaragua, Haiti, Peleliu, Wake Island, Saipan, Chosin Reservoir, Hue City, and Operation Dewey Canyon. The researchers have also been assisted in locating appropriate photos and maps to enhance their presentations.

Through this research assistance, two of the core objectives of the Marine Corps Historical Program are being advanced: making the historical experience of the Corps available for practical study and exploitation; and fostering a Corps-wide realization that military history can be a basic aid to contemporary problem-solving in the theory and practice of military science.—DJC



between 1942-45; hence, they correctly anticipated the nature of the projected invasion of their homeland, and where the landings would take place.

One conference group also studied the Marine involvement in Haiti between 1915 and 1934, as a means of reemphasizing to the current generation of field grade officers the Marine Corps' heritage in nonconventional warfare conflicts. The Haiti case also reaffirms the continued relevance of this form of potential commitment of the Corps in the future.

The Battle Studies Program has made a fast start. No program, however, can remain unchanged; it must undergo continual evolutionary change to avoid any hint of stagnation, to remain intellectually challenging, and to shift orientation as appropriate. Accordingly, some of the campaigns to be studied must change each year. For the 1983-84 academic year, nine of the 12 campaigns are new. Five are of special interest to students of Marine Corps history:

- *Gallipoli* focuses on the major amphibious assault of World War I and the subsequent Marine Corps analysis of its lessons in the inter-war era.

- *Wake Island* draws attention to another element of our amphibious mission: the defense of an advanced naval base.

- *Saipan* discusses that famous amphibious assault of World War II, plus the thorny problem of command in battle and inter-service relationships through the "Smith versus Smith Controversy."

- *Nicaragua*, like *Haiti*, draws attention to the Marine heritage in non-conventional warfare and to a country much in the current news and in which Marines have an historical relationship.

- *Operation Dewey Canyon* is a study of a key regimental-level military operation of the Vietnam War.

To compare and contrast the campaigns studied in the 1982-83 and 1983-84 academic years reveals a growing emphasis on the American military tradition—and within that, the diverse heritage of the Marine Corps in the profession of arms. In addition, significant campaigns of both our allies and foes, past and present, provide new perspectives and further material for reflection.

Two other points should be noted about the campaigns under study. Anzio is a classic study of an amphibious landing where subsequent operations ashore are tinged with controversial interpretations. Consequently, there can be no absolutely "correct" answers to the historical questions posed by that campaign. In addition, the British assault in 1944 on Walcheren Island stresses the amphibious mission of the College, but from different perspectives. The operation is analyzed from the viewpoint of our allies in their conduct of the assault, to include the use of naval and air assets. But this analysis also examines German

preparations to defend against an amphibious attack. The Royal Marines have granted complete access to their archival holdings for this operation, and the Command and Staff College has copies of all pertinent operational records, planning documents, and after-action reports from Canadian and British military archives.

To enable the students to place their campaign analysis studies within a proper context, the second element of the Battle Studies Program is organized around the concept of "Historical Perspectives." This instruction consists of presentations by the military historian,

## CAMPAIGN ANALYSES

### 1982-83 Academic Year

CAMPAIGN	FOCUS
1777 Little Big Horn	Principles of war Commander's personal command decisions and consequences thereof
Belleau Wood	Entry of U.S. Marine Corps into modern warfare during World War
Operation Sea Lion	Hilter's projected invasion of Britain; defense against amphibious operations
Kursk	Armor warfare on the Eastern Front; defensive operations followed by counter-offensive
Anzio	Amphibious operations and subsequent operations ashore
Peleliu	Marine Corps Central Pacific amphibious assault; defense against amphibious assault
Walcheren Island	Amphibious assault: how our allies did it
Operation Olympic/Coronet	Projected amphibious assault against Japan
Chosin Reservoir	Cold weather operations; air-ground operations
Hue City	Vietnam operations; combat in built-up areas
Haiti	U.S. Marine Corps heritage in non-conventional operations

### 1983-84 Academic Year

1777	Principles of war
Chancellorsville	Military leadership, chance, terrain
Boer War	Nonconventional operations
The Marne, 1914	Pre-War strategic planning and subsequent attempts at operational execution
Gallipoli	Initial modern amphibious operation, and Marine Corps analysis of its "lessons"
Nicaragua	USMC nonconventional war
Wake Island	Defense of an advanced naval base
Anzio	Amphibious assault in Europe, subsequent operations ashore, command decisions, and role of individual personalities
Saipan	Central Pacific amphibious assault, inter-service relations in an operational environment
Walcheren Island	Brigade-sized amphibious assault against an objective linked to a major strategic goal; how our allies did it
Algeria	Counterinsurgency (terrorist) operation in urban and rural environments
Operation Dewey Canyon	Regimental combat operation in Vietnam, leadership, ambushes, supporting arms

with a special focus on the nature of history and the field of military history. This is followed by a two-hour filmed interview with one of Britain's foremost post-World War II soldiers, Field Marshal the Lord Carver. Lord Carver, while drawing upon historical examples of World War II operations in North Africa, Italy, and Western Europe (as

## GUEST LECTURERS

### 1982-83 Academic Year

- Dr. Russell Weigley (Temple University), "Lessons of Amphibious Warfare: Normandy, A Case Study"
- Mr. Martin Blumenson (George Washington University), "Masters of the Art of Command"
- Dr. Jay Luvaas (U.S. Army War College), "Problems of Lessons Learned: The Civil War, A Case Study"
- Dr. Dennis Showalter (Colorado College), "The Prussian Military Revolution of the 19th Century"
- Dr. Dominick Graham (LtCol, Royal Artillery, Ret) (University of New Brunswick), "Tactical Reform in the Midst of War: The British Army and World War I"
- Dr. Larry Addington (The Citadel), "Blitzkrieg: The German Example, 1865-1945—Conception, Capability and Inability"

### 1983-84 Academic Year

- Dr. Russell Weigley (Temple University), "The American Way of War"
- Mr. Martin Blumenson (National War College), "Master of the Art of Command: George S. Patton, A Case Study"
- Dr. Jay Luvaas (U.S. Army War College), "The Use, Misuse, and Nonuse of Military History"
- Mr. Byron Farwell (independent author), "The British Military Tradition: Maritime, Continental, and Colonial Constabulary"
- Dr. Dennis Showalter (The Colorado College), "The German Military Tradition: Kesselschalt to Blitzkrieg, 1870-1945"
- Dr. Douglas Porch (The Citadel), "The French Military Tradition in Victory and Defeat"

well as his own experience), makes interpretative observations on the profession of arms, leadership, training, and combat operations. This interview is also part of the instructional program at the British Army Staff College, Camberley, and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth.

In addition, six distinguished historians are invited to the College to speak on subjects pertinent to the field of military history.

The topics of each speaker are specifically selected so that they add perspective to each student's awareness of military history and relate to the campaigns being studied. For the 1983-84 academic year, three speakers will also address the military traditions of our major North Atlantic allies: France, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

A two-hour military history readings seminar is also part of the course of study. All the students will participate in this seminar, conducted through their permanent conference groups under the direct cognizance of each faculty advisor, with the military historian serving as the general coordinator and advisor.

It should be noted that major works on strategy, such as those by Clausewitz and Mahan, are part of another readings seminar which is a key element of the strategy instruction program of the College.

The final element in the historical perspectives segment of the Battle Studies Program is the historical introduction to each major student operational problem exercise. This presentation outlines the major learning objectives of each problem. Each historical introduction also has an additional purpose: to make students realize that many situations they will later confront as commanders and staff officers have already been encountered by their predecessors. This causes the elements of some problems to remain similar, even though the specifics may have been altered by the passage of time between campaigns. Two general examples illustrate this point:

1. In comparing contemporary and future operations with those of the past, weather and climate are always key factors—

## READING LIST

TITLES WHICH MUST BE DISCUSSED IN THE SEMINAR: *The Causes of War*, Geoffrey Blainey; *The Conduct of War, 1789-1961*, J. F. C. Fuller; *Attack and Die*, Perry Jamieson and Grady McWhiney; *The War Plans of the Great Powers, 1881-1914*, Paul Kennedy; *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire*, Edward Luttwak; *The American Way of War*, Russell Weigley.

OPTIONAL VOLUMES TO BE ASSIGNED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE FACULTY ADVISOR: *War Since 1945*, Lord Carver; *U.S. Marines and Amphibious Warfare*, Philip Crowl and Jeter Isley; *How to Make War*, James Dunnigan; *How the North Won*, Herman Hattaway and Archie Jones; *War in European History*, Michael Howard; *With Shield and Sword*, Warren Hassler; *The Art of War: Waterloo to Mons*, William McElwee; *Semper Fidelis*, Allan Millett; *War in the Modern World*, Theodore Ropp; *Yours to Reason Why*, William Seymour; *Great American War Movies*, Larry Suid; *Maritime Strategy in the Nuclear Age*, Geoffrey Till.

TITLES NOT TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE READING SEMINAR—GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY: *Military Organization and Society*, Stanislaw Andreski; *The War Lords*, Lord Carver; *Armies and Societies in Europe, 1494-1789*, Andre Corvisier; *The Encyclopedia of Military History*, Trevor Dupuy; *The Pursuit of Power*, William McNeill; *Men in Arms*, Richard Preston, Sydney Wise, and Hetman Werner; *Practicing History*, Barbara Tuchman; *The Ordeal of Total War*, Gordon Wright.

especially in the extremes of cold, tropical, and desert environments; and

2. In maintaining military transportation systems, animals have had to be fed and watered, and vehicles have had to be fueled; over the years, the problems of logistical support have changed in form but not in substance.

The historical introductions for operational problem exercises are taught by the College's Landing Force Operations Division. Examples include the linkage of "Frequent Wind" (the evacuation of Saigon in 1975) with "evacuation of U.S. citizens . . . Eastern Mediterranean" and Alexander the Great's Persian campaigns with a present-day Persian Gulf amphibious assault and subsequent operations ashore scenario.

The last element of the Battle Studies Program is the "War Since 1945" symposium. This is a one-day activity in the spring which consists of seminars, panels, and a guest speaker presentation.

Between 22-24 students with demonstrated writing skills are selected to enroll in the "War Since 1945" seminar, which is taught by the College's military historian. For eight months they research, analyze, and write about conflicts since 1945. In the spring, these officers in turn conduct separate seminars for the rest of the students.

The symposium focuses on warfare since the end of World War II in which the United States was not actively or directly involved. This exclusion is deliberate to make the students aware of events and trends in warfare and the profession of arms that are independent of the continuing East-West conflict. The wars are separated into conventional and nonconventional ones.



*BGen James D. Hittle and the late Col Robert D. Heintz, Jr., career-long Marine practitioners of the study, exposition, and practical application of military history.*

For 1983-84, the students could not select a war that had been studied in the previous academic year or undertake a joint effort on a particular conflict unless it could be analyzed from a fresh perspective. To cover the war in the Falklands, for example, three officers are studying that conflict independently,

from three different viewpoints. The 22 officers in the seminar, then, will have covered 22 separate topics by year's end.

In the "War Since 1945" symposium, each student participates in one conventional and one nonconventional war seminar conducted by the designated officers. In the later stages of the symposium, students can question panels that compare conventional and nonconventional warfare, and can also listen to a guest speaker address a particular aspect of warfare since 1945. In June 1983 the speaker was the noted soldier-scholar Col Trevor Dupuy, who addressed the interrelationships of human and technological factors in war.

The Battle Studies Program is designed to acquaint the students with significant factors in warfare and the evolution of the profession of arms, with special emphasis on the modern era. The mental processes involved are similar to those involved in analyzing contemporary problems, and field grade officer students soon recognize the similarities in past, current, and future military situations. Certain key factors tend to emerge as "constants": command, control, and communications; logistics; terrain; and, possibly the most important of all, the human element.

The ultimate objective of this program is to develop the innate abilities of each student. There is no way a study of military history can make an officer into another Lee, Pershing, Lejeune, Patton, or Vandegrift. It can only reinforce the capability he already possesses.

#### WAR SINCE 1945 SEMINAR

##### Conventional

##### Nonconventional

##### 1982-83 ACADEMIC YEAR

Chinese Civil War, 1945-1949  
Arab-Israeli War, 1948-1949  
Suez, 1956 (Israeli operations)  
Yom Kippur War, 1973  
(Air operations only)  
Turkish-Cypriot War, Cyprus, 1974

Algeria, 1954-1962  
Afghanistan, 1978-1983  
El Salvador, 1979-1983  
  
Nicaragua, 1977-1979  
Philippine Insurgency, 1968 to present  
Rhodesia, 1968-1980  
Malaya, 1948-1960

##### 1983-84 ACADEMIC YEAR

Chad, 1970s-1984  
Cuba: Bay of Pigs, 1961  
Falkland Islands, 1982  
(Air defense of the fleet)  
Falkland Islands, 1982  
(Ground operations)  
Falkland Islands, 1982  
(Offensive tactical air operations)  
Hungary, 1956  
Indo-Pakistani War, 1971  
Iranian-Iraqi War, 1971  
Nigerian Civil War, 1967-1970  
Sino-India, 1962  
Suez, 1956 (Operation Musketeer)  
Yom Kippur War, 1973 (Ground operations)

Angola, 1961-1976  
Cuba, 1956-1959 (Castro to power)  
  
El Salvador, 1979-1984 (Law of Land Warfare)  
El Salvador, 1980-1984 (operations)  
  
Ethiopia, 1974-1980  
Kenya, 1952-1960  
Mozambique, 1961-1976  
Nicaragua, 1974-1980 (operations)  
Oman, 1965-1975  
The Congo, 1960-1967

# Lebanon Notes from a Sketch Pad

by Maj John T. Dyer, USMCR (Ret)

OVER THE 1983 Christmas holiday, I had the special professional opportunity of visiting and sketching the Marines deployed to Beirut, Lebanon, and the ships offshore. As a retired Reserve major, I returned to active duty from 15 December through 15 January, primarily as an artist but with the secondary mission of collecting historical artifacts for the Marine Corps Museum. These notes are an impressionistic complement to the drawings on these pages, a sampling of the 90 pieces I produced during the trip.

I used a Koh-I-Noor artist's sketch pen with brown waterproof ink, drawing on Strathmore 8" x 10" sketch pads or a number of textured offset printing blotters cut to 8 1/2" x 11" sheets. The stable tactical situation allowed for a number of on-the-spot drawings with concurrent editing of nonessential detail. I used a Nikonis underwater 35mm camera, purchased by the Marine Corps Art Program in 1967 for use in South Vietnam's rice paddies, and my own 1/2-frame Konica 35mm camera, a 1966 PX bargain, for reference photos. I carried all equipment in a throw-away canvas demolition bag with cloth tie-ties similar to a World War II Japanese haversack. My camouflage flak vest had two ample pockets and the snap strap holders kept equipment in place. Our 40-year-old steel helmets were rumored to be scheduled for replacement by new Kevlar editions shortly. ("There goes the infantryman's footwisher and stew pot.")

The new BRMD amphibious scout car captured on Grenada by Co G, BLT 2/8 was carried in the tank deck of the Landing Ship, Tank USS *Manitowoc*. It had "USMC" painted in white on sides and rear and the instruction plates and books in the vehicle were in English.

A sergeant showed me a handsome Russian 35mm camera, his souvenir from Grenada, replacing his own camera damaged during the invasion. A number

of "big eyes," tripod-mounted Russian binoculars, are in use in Marine bunkers. A color portrait of Castro and a Soviet manpack radio were in my temporary bunk room-studio on board the USS *Guam* and there were other souvenirs enough to equip a small revolution.

I was able to work on board the *Guam* at night in a makeshift studio in the troop officer's bunk room temporarily vacated by two BLT officers who were ashore. The set-up was ideal. I went ashore to sketch and gather reference during the day and had an electrically lit area with running water to develop material while impressions were fresh at night.

The CH-46 helicopter's normal, zig-zag course 10 feet above the blue Mediterranean allowed an occasional glimpse of the contrasting white and beige Beirut cityscape, red-brown earth, and clouds of black smoke from burning trash against distant grey-green fog-topped hills.

Any inclination toward sightseeing reverie was dashed one day by a sudden series of evasive maneuvers the pilot initiated when a cockpit instrument alerted him to the fact that the helicopter was being tracked by radar associated with an anti-aircraft weapons systems. The maneuvering makes a firing solution more difficult, and may even break the radar's lock-on.

The pile of concrete fragments and twisted, rusting reinforcing rods that was once the headquarters of Battalion Landing Team 1/8 is a rough, poignant memorial to the tragic events of 23 October 1983. Tatters of clothing and equipment dangle from surrounding trees, and a metal ammunition box cover is still imbedded in a palm tree over a new bunker position a hundred yards away. The odor of decay lingers, a gleaming red and white tube of crushed toothpaste surfaces amongst the rubble to be disturbed by a Marine boot.

The BLT ruins are next to helicopter landing zone Cardinal. I passed them at least twice every day I was ashore.

Tons of Christmas mail in bright red, yellow, and orange bags kept coming. There was enough fruit cake to build a fortress addressed to "Peacekeepers, Any Marine, Soldier or Sailor," as well as personal letters, cards, and packages. Marines tried to answer all mail.

Bob Hope came ashore with his producer Christmas morning about 0900. He performed in a U-shaped area formed by the Beirut Airport Safety Office building then housing the Joint Public Affairs Office, a galley, and chapel. With no illusions of personal safety, he shared his audience's risks for a time.

While I sketched the "Hotel" Battery area from atop a sandbagged 155mm ammunition bunker a ricochet warning was broadcast. You could hear them "thwack" against the berms protecting the position. They were the byproducts of firefights among Beirut's competing militias near our perimeter. The battery had "adopted" a Lebanese two-month old puppy named "Short Round." Her bed was a pile of unfilled green sandbags.

Two British "Ferret" desert yellow scout cars and a Land Rover modified with roll bar and anti-mine steel plating were parked outside of the Battalion Landing Team Aid Station while the wounded finger of a trooper of the 16/5th Queens Royal Lancers was treated. The offending bullet had ricocheted off a rubber strap guide pad on his flak vest.

Explosive Ordnance Demolition (EOD) Marines blew up two piles of dud ammunition at the end of the runway on 29 December, two loud ground shakers, one plumed black smoke the other white. A commercial airliner, just taking off, passed the columns of smoke, giving its passengers a good view and a war story.

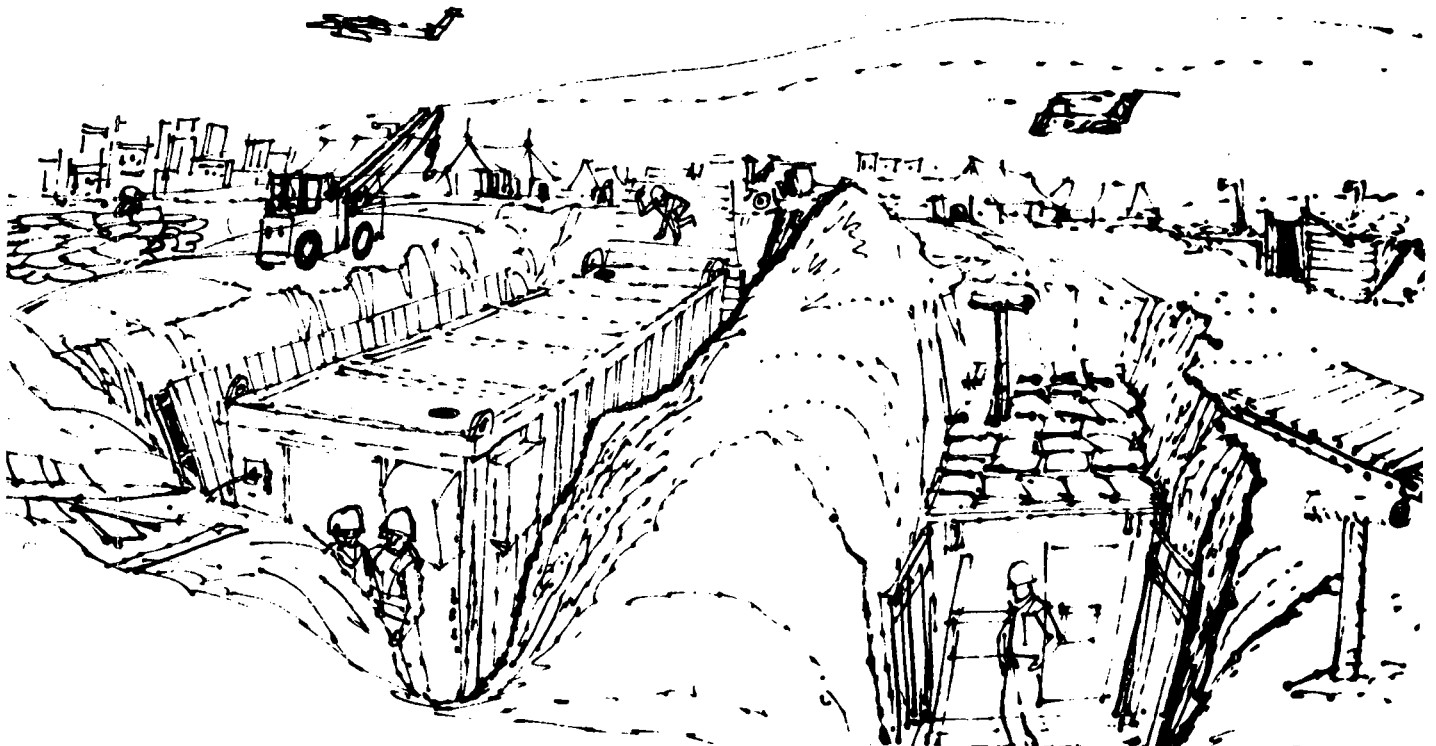


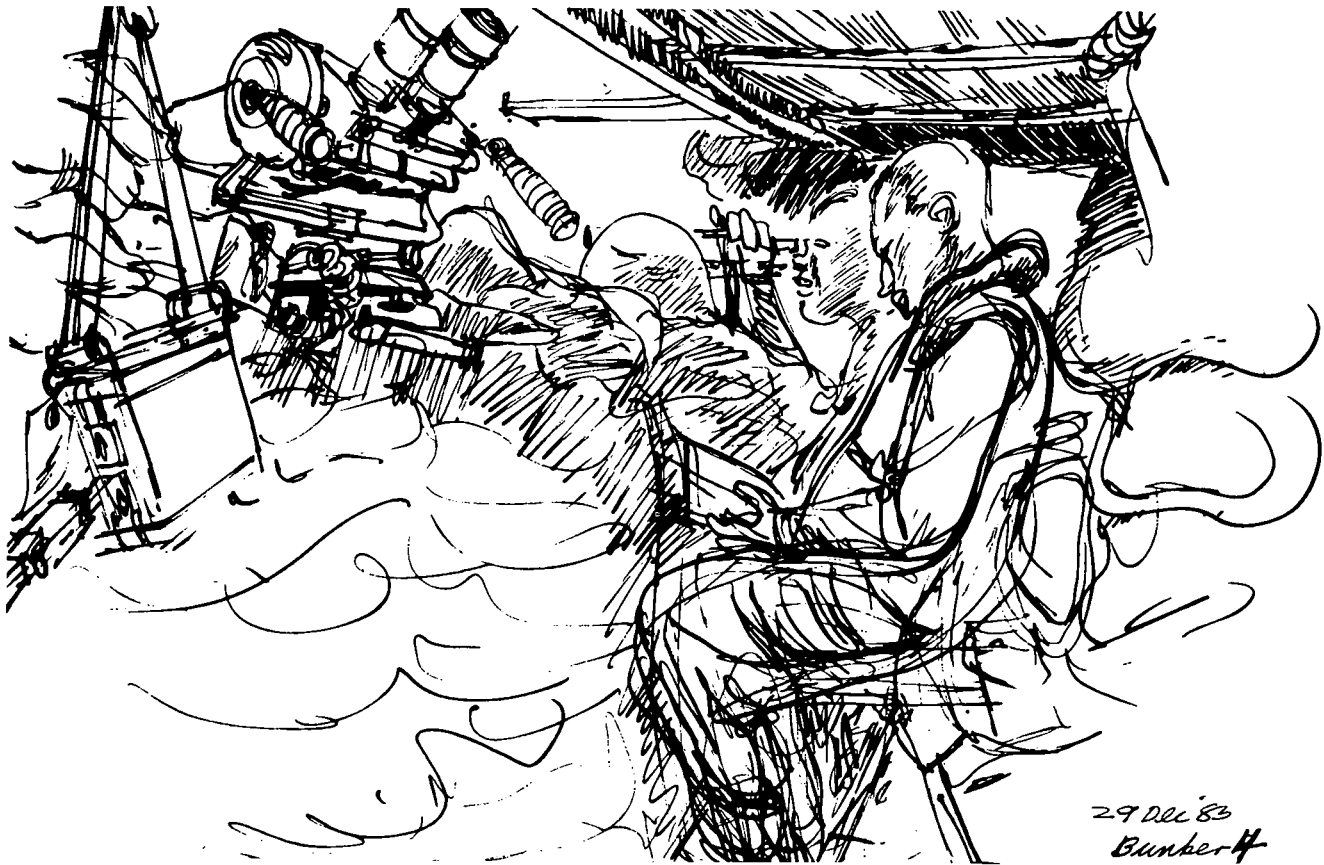
*Recon Marine - my ballistic duffel*



*Above, a reconnaissance Marine, standing near the artist's baggage, hefts his combined "fighting" and "living" loads. Above right, troop officers' bunkroom on the USS Guam.*

*Below, "Conex boxes," expeditionary containers familiar to Vietnam-era veterans, combine with the older technology of the sandbag to provide overhead cover for 22d MAU Marines.*

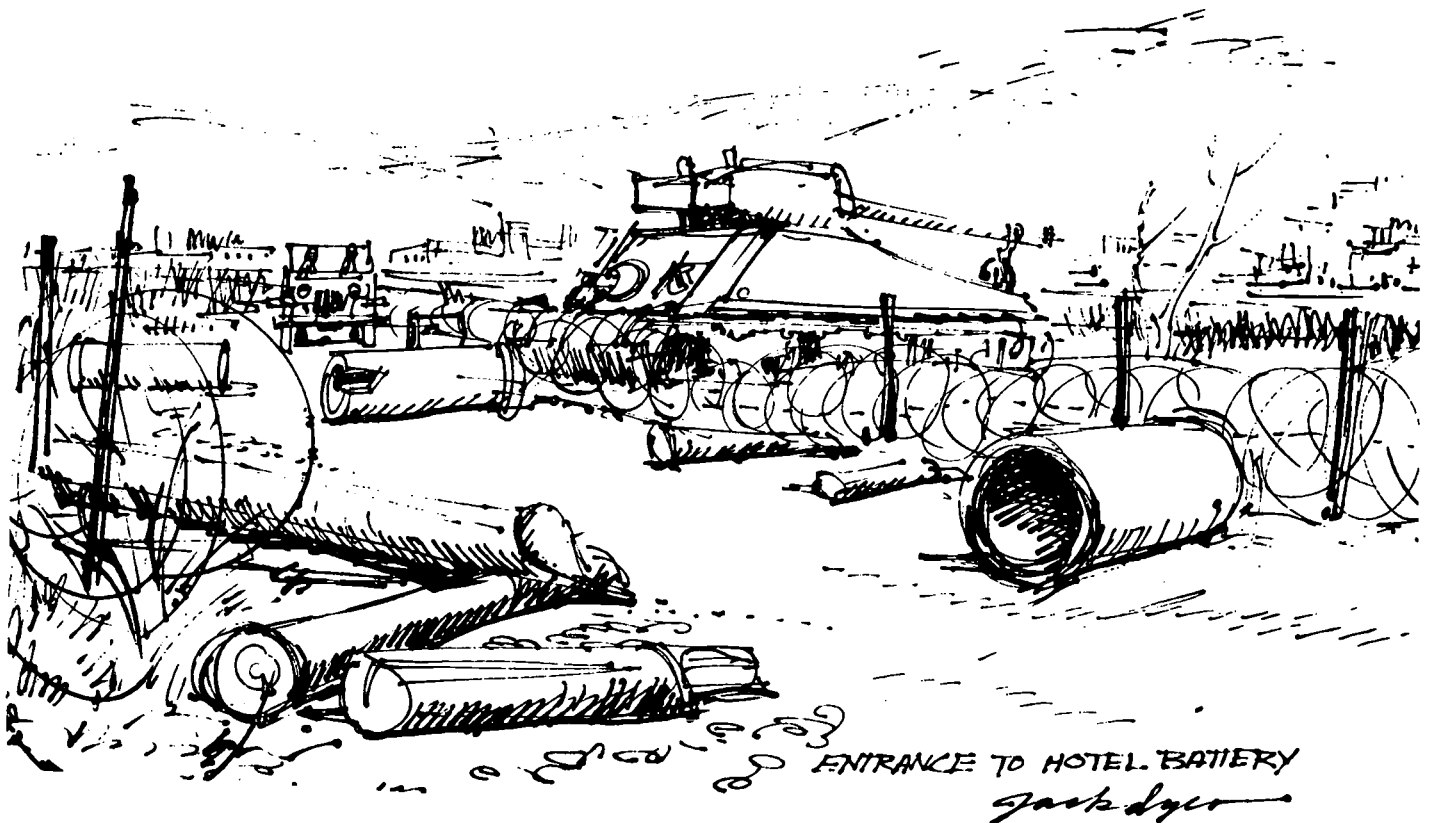




29 Dec 83  
Bunker #

Above, Marines keep watch from Bunker No. 4, a sandbagged position. The Soviet-made "big eyes" binoculars in the foreground were taken in Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury).

Below, an Israeli tank, casualty of earlier fighting, is parked near the entrance to Battery "H," 3d Battalion, 10th Marines, tasked organized artillery of Battalion Landing Team 2/8.



ENTRANCE TO HOTEL BATTERY  
Jack Dyer



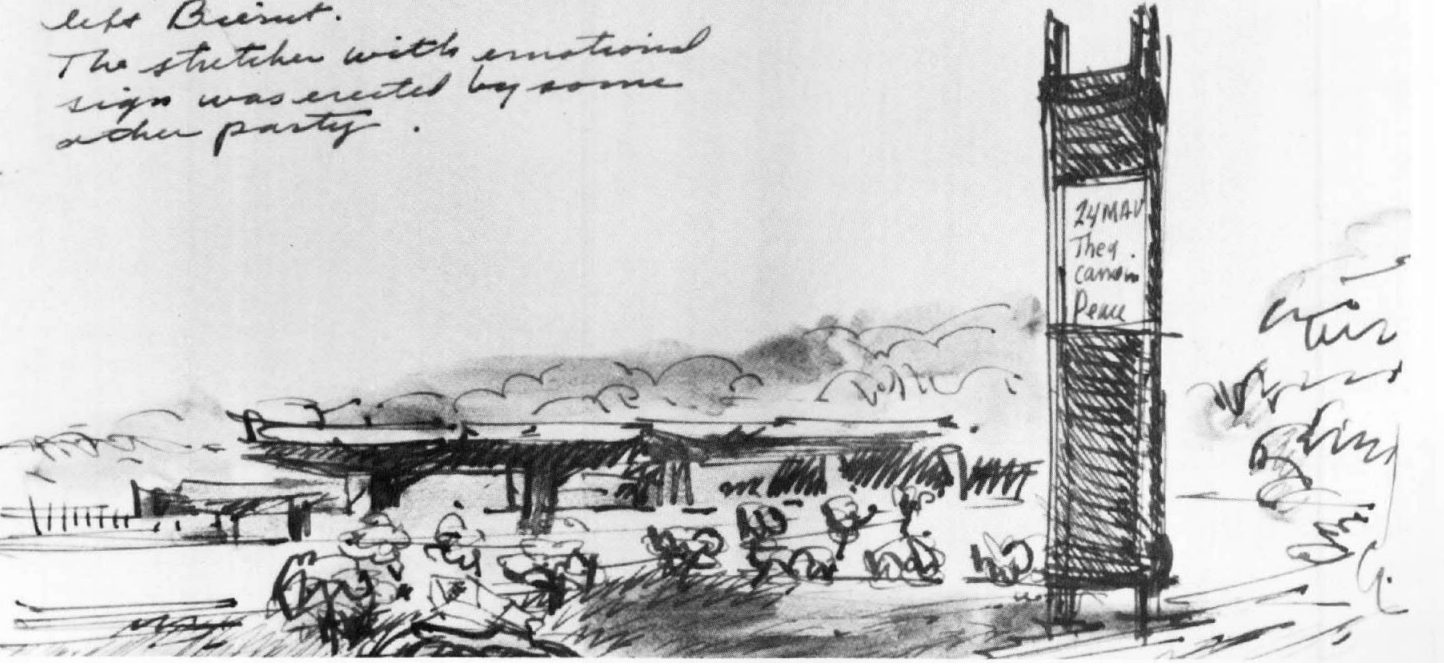


BEIRUT, LEBANON - DECEMBER 1983

Above, these four perspectives of the former BLT headquarters ruins emphasize the destructive force of the explosion that left rods reinforcing the concrete bent and exposed.

Below, "24 MAU, They Came in Peace" is inscribed on an upended litter next to a utility cover and a cross of flowers, a memorial to the casualties of the 23 October 1983 bombing.

a marine utility cover on a rock and flowers forming a cross pointing at the ruins of the BLT building were dedicated at a simple, silent ceremony by a few members of 24 MAU before they left Beirut. The stretcher with emotional signs was erected by some other party.





# Historical Neighbors “On the Yard”

## *Expanded Navy Activities near Marine Corps Historical Center*

REGULAR READERS of *Fortitudine* will remember that, in the Spring 1978 issue, BGen Simmons discussed the physical setting of the Washington Navy Yard’s historic district where the Marine Corps Historical Center had recently (May 1977) come on board. Six years on, there have been significant changes and additions to an area that has become, de facto, the naval service historical district, headquartering the historical activities of the Department of the Navy’s two traditionally linked, operationally teamed, and distinct sea services.

Leutze Park, a vista now shared with our Navy counterpart, the Dudley Knox Center for Naval History as well as the Chief of Naval Operations’ quarters in Tingey House and the Commander, Naval District of Washington’s Quarters B, continues to function as the ceremonial parade deck of the Navy. The Wednesday night summer parades and band concerts, after several years in Leutze Park have removed, together with their modern-functional bank of bleachers, to a former parking lot area on the Anacostia River side of the Navy Memorial Museum.

Building 57, which in 1978 Gen Simmons called the “fraternal if not identical



*Sword in hand, a corporal marches his detail of “Eighth and Eye” Marines past buildings 57 and 58 enroute back to the Barracks. These men have been practice firing blank volleys, in preparation for ceremonial honors at military funerals.*

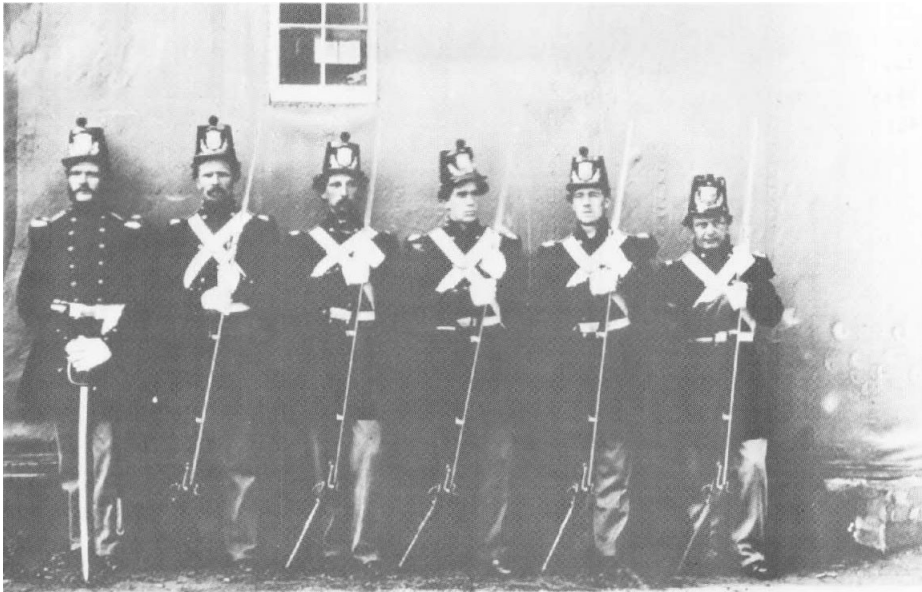
twin” of the Marine Corps Historical Center, has, as programmed, become one of three adjoining buildings which house the Dudley Knox Center for Naval History. The Center Director’s Office, Administration, Historical Research Branch, Ships’ Histories Branch, a por-

tion of the Operational Archives Branch and the Naval Historical Foundation are in Building 57.

This building, built in 1866 and enlarged in 1899 has been used to store provisions and clothing, for ordnance inspection and an ordnance school, as a

*“Fraternal twins” fronting on Leutze Park are the Marine Corps Historical Center and, behind the anchor of USS Enterprise (CV-6), The Dudley Knox Center for Naval History. The tall searchlights on the left illuminate the Navy’s parade deck.*





*120 years after these Marines mustered for Matthew Brady's camera at the Washington Navy Yard, shining toecaps, snowy white gear, glistening brightwork and immaculate weapons are still among the outward signs of discipline and esprit.*

barracks and, immediately prior to its present occupant, as Headquarters, Chesapeake Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

Across Leutze Park from the Marine Corps Historical Center is the rear portion of Building 76, the Navy Memorial Museum. This elongated former site for the manufacture of naval gun breech

mechanisms, has recently been renovated with a new deck and a foretop from USS *Constitution* as the centerpiece. The displays trace the history of the Navy from the American Revolution to the exploration of outer space. It is a "hands-on" museum where young visitors can train a World War II antiaircraft gun or sight through a submarine

periscope. Overhead cranes, installed in the building to handle the great weights of gun components, are still used by the museum staff to move and position large exhibits. Outdoor displays in Willard Park, adjacent to Building 76, complement those on the museum floor.

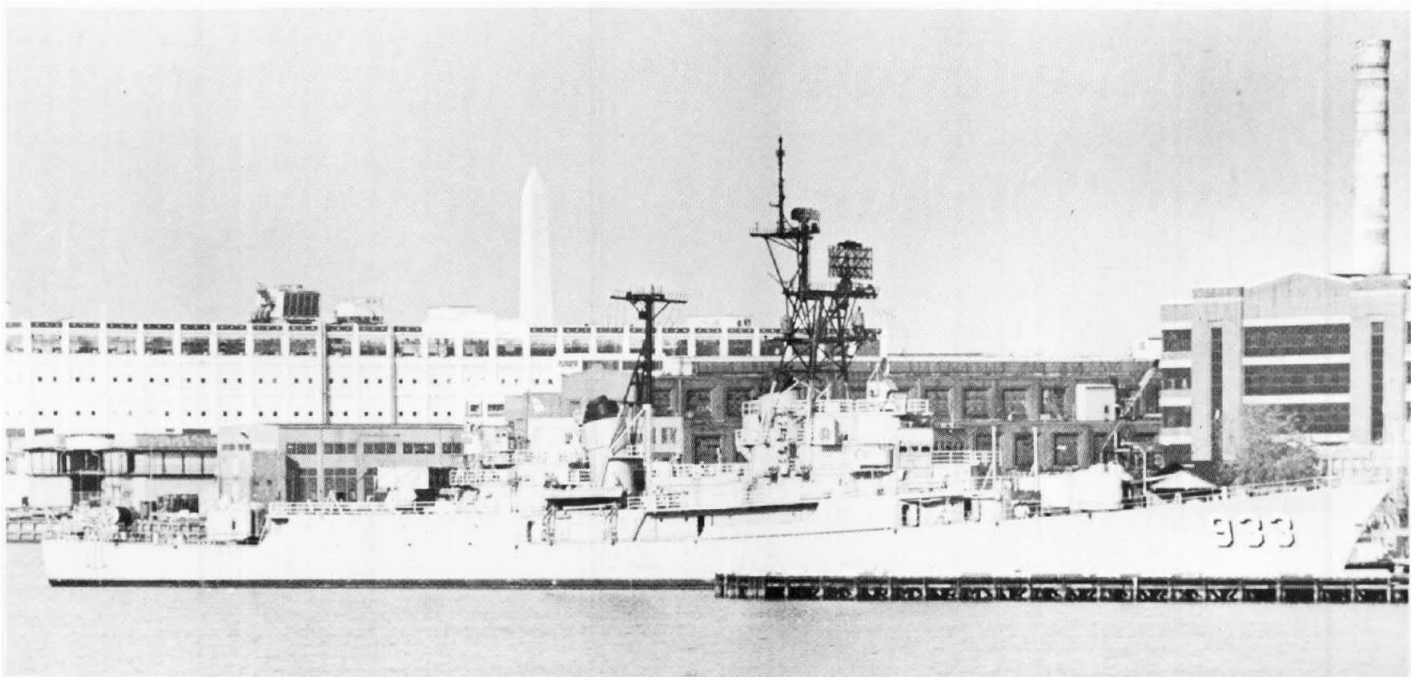
Across Willard Park, alongside in the Anacostia River, is the former U.S. Navy destroyer *Barry* (DD-933) which was dedicated as a permanent display ship on 2 February 1984.

*Barry*, the third destroyer named for Commo John Barry, American Revolutionary War hero, was commissioned in September 1956. She is the third of the Forrest Sherman class destroyers, with a length of 424 feet and a beam of 45 feet.

While in commissioned service, *Barry* joined other U.S. ships enforcing the Cuba quarantine during the October 1962 "Missile Crisis." She also served in the Gulf of Tonkin during 1965-66. *Barry* was decommissioned in November 1982 after 26 years of service.

*Barry* is open for general visiting from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends and holidays. Visitors may tour the exterior decks and bridge of the ship by referring to self-guide brochures and following signs describing weapons systems and deck machinery.—EFW

*Forrest Sherman class destroyer Barry, (DD-933), her mast sharing the skyline with the Washington Monument, is now a display ship permanently berthed near the Navy Memorial Museum within a short walk of the Marine Corps Historical Center.*



# Last Chance at History

**E**VEN AFTER 65 years, the memories of Oliver W. Freeman remain vivid. As a member of future Commandant 1stLt Clifton B. Cates' platoon of the famous 96th Company, 6th Marines, Freeman saw service in World War I from Bouresches to Blanc Mont. Perhaps his most chilling moments of the war were outside of the town of Lucy, 14 June 1918.

"The Germans must have seen us go in . . . They started pouring mustard gas shells in the middle of us and that was at midnight. . . . I just happened to sit on the bank nearest to the German front lines and the shells would just go over my head, just skim off the bank . . . you could hear the fellows moaning and groan and yelling for first aid but couldn't get to them . . . nobody could move cause it was pitch dark. . . . At 6:00 in the morning the shelling stopped, it was starting to get light . . . and I could see people coming up a road, soldiers leading one another, they were blind. Those that smoked cigarettes were just like committing suicide. They breathed the gas down in their lungs and died . . . just remember I was just sixteen years old."

Freeman recorded his service as part of an effort by the Marine Corps Museum to preserve the history of First World War Marines before the last veteran disappears. He is one of fifteen former Marines to respond to an initial call for papers from World War I. The Marines represented ten companies of the 5th, 6th, 11th, and 13th Regiments and typify all manner of service during the period. Material received includes typed and written accounts of service, photographs, magazines, company rosters, and even unpublished unit histories. In all cases, the material is an increasingly rare and valuable contribution to the holdings of the Personal Papers Collection for World War I.

**O**ne of the most remarkable of the Marines who responded is George H. Donaldson, formerly of the 78th

Company, 6th Marines. His memories of the battle at Blanc Mont are especially poignant. Donaldson's company is credited with two Medals of Honor during the battle, as well as capturing 285 prisoners and 75 machine guns. Donaldson recalled:

"As I arrived at the top of the ridge, Maj (Thomas) Holcomb saw my Chauchat (light machine gun) and placed me on the left flank of the company. . . . Well, just after that a machine gun opened up on us and we dropped in the small ditch. . . . Word was passed down our little ditch, 'Has Cpl McDonald set up the machine gun yet?' And we sent word back that we were under direct fire from a German machine gun nest. The word came back that our left flank was open and to set up the machine gun. Well, Cpl McDonald raised his head to see what he could do and two machine gun bullets went through his helmet and head and he fell back with his face about six inches from mine. His face turned black and he died without a struggle. . . ."

Another former Marine who donated his personal papers is Raymond D. Woeter. After joining the 18th Company, 5th Marines in time for the St. Mihiel offensive, Woeter fought in all of the major campaigns of the 4th Marine Brigade. His closest brush with death came at the close of the war in the famous night crossing of the river Meuse, 10 November 1918. Once on the far side of the river bank he remembers:

"We could hear the Germans talking to each other . . . while we waited still as a mouse, we heard one of the Germans calling, 'Adolph, wo bist du?' One of our company who could talk German started talking to him. . . . All was going along fine until the German

asked were we on the river bank . . . instead of using the German word for yes, he used the French word . . . you could hear a pin drop then . . . we were ordered to fire a volley straight ahead, hoping to hit something. I don't know what good it did but the Germans knew we were on their side of the river."

Despite the wide variety of material received, all responses have one common thread. The men are still filled with pride over their Marine Corps service. In the words of Oliver Freeman, "I am really proud I was a Marine. It really sticks to you the rest of your life."

**A**ccording to the Veterans Administration's records, only 320,000 servicemen survive today out of 4,800,000 who served in World War I including 65,000 Marines, 24,000 of whom served overseas. Of those remaining 50,000 die each year. No one knows the exact number of Marines who survive today, but estimates range from a few hundred to several thousand. No Marines are among the 43 known survivors of the Boxer Rebellion, Spanish-American War, and the Philippine Insurrection.

Those men with World War I service are now the oldest representatives of the Marine Corps' tradition of combat excellence, but they grew fewer with every passing month. When the last World War I Marine is gone, an irreplaceable portion of Marine Corps history will disappear.—JMM

*Parris Island's "Iron Mike" Memorial.*



# In Memoriam

LTGEN CARSON A. ROBERTS, a veteran Marine aviator, died at his home in Pinehurst, North Carolina, on 18 December 1983 at the age of 78. He was a native of Lancaster, Wisconsin, who, upon graduation from the University of Wisconsin, was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant. In his first four years of service following Basic School, Lt Roberts served at Marine Barracks, Pensacola, Florida, and with the 1st Marine Brigade in Haiti. He entered the flight program in January 1934 and received his wings the following November. In the pre-World War II period, he served with Marine squadrons on both coasts and at Guantanamo Bay. Capt Roberts was adjutant of MAG-11 at the outbreak of war and was reassigned as operations officer and promoted to major in April 1942. In the Pacific War, Col Roberts was assistant operations officer of Shore Based Aircraft, Forward Area, Central Pacific, and at the end of the war he was G-3 of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. He filled a number of staff and command billets during the interwar period and in May 1951, he was ordered to Korea, where he was successively Deputy Chief of Staff, 1st MAW; CO, MAG-33; and Chief of Staff of the wing. In 1954, Col Roberts was assigned as Director of the Marine Corps Development Center, and was promoted to general officer rank the following year. From January 1956 to October 1957, he served as Inspector General of the Marine Corps, with a brief respite as Director of Armed Forces Information and Education in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Gen Roberts was assigned duties as Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans) at HQMC in 1957, and two years later became commander of the 1st MAW. He was then assigned as commander of the 3d MAW, followed by a tour as commander of Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. His final tour of active service was as CG, FMFPac, from which command he retired in 1964. Following full military honors, Gen Roberts was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 21 December 1983.



*LtGen Roberts*

BGEN VICTOR F. BLEASDALE, USMC (RET), who served in the Marine Corps from 1915 to 1946, during which time he fought in Haiti, in five World War I campaigns, in Nicaragua, and in Okinawa in World War II, died at the age of 88 on 10 February 1984 in London, England, where he had lived for a number of years after retirement. Born in New Zealand, he grew up in Janesville, Wisconsin, and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1915. He joined the Marine Expeditionary Force in Haiti, where he participated in the engagements at Le Trou, Fort Capois, and in northern Haiti. He went to France in June 1917, and after completing several training schools, he was commissioned in the field and given command of a machine gun section in the 6th Machine Gun Battalion. Then-2dLt Bleasdale fought in the battles of Belleau Wood, Soissons, St. Mihiel, and Blanc Mont. For his outstanding services on 16 October 1918 in the battle of Blanc Mont, he was decorated with the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross, and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm. He had led a small group of volunteers in knocking out two German Maxim machine gun positions holding up the Marine advance. He was later awarded a Silver Star Medal for his bravery in 18 July near Vierzy in the battle of Soissons, when he exposed himself to intense artillery and machine gun fire to carry ammunition and encourage his men. Capt Bleasdale won a second Navy

Cross in Nicaragua while leading a mounted patrol against insurgents. His citation in part reads: "Capt Bleasdale, accompanied only by his orderly, rode ahead into the town and on being attacked, fearlessly proceeded against tremendous odds, and returned the fire, holding the enemy in check until the arrival of reinforcements." During the interwar period, Gen Bleasdale filled a number of assignments to stateside and foreign duty stations. He achieved a great reputation for his dedication to training Marines. At the beginning of World War II, he was serving as chief of staff of the 2d Marine Brigade and sailed with it to Samoa in January 1942. He returned to the United States in 1943 to become chief of staff of the Training Center at Camp Lejeune, and in 1944, assumed command of the 29th Marines, which he led on Okinawa. Gen Bleasdale retired in December 1946, following his promotion to general officer grade. He remained interested in Marine Corps history during his retirement years, and supported the Marine Corps historical program by commenting on the drafts of its publications. He visited the Marine Corps Historical Center several times in recent years to participate in his oral history interview and to join the Mayor of Belleau and several citizens when they donated World War I artifacts from that battle site. Bleasdale's remains were cremated in London on 15 February.

*Then-Maj Victor F. Bleasdale, of the National Guard of Nicaragua, taken during the Nueva Segovia Expedition of 1927.*



# World War II Chronology

## January-February 1944

1-2 January. The 21st Marines was relieved by the 182d Infantry, Americal Division, USA, on Bougainville.

2 January. BGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Assistant Division Commander, 1st Marine Division, launched an attack by the 2d and 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, and the 3d Battalion, 5th Marines toward Borgen Bay, New Britain.

3 January. RAdm Richmond K. Turner, USN, issued Operation Plan A6-43 listing components of the assault on the Marshalls, and setting forth the mission of the Joint Expeditionary Force.



*MajGen Holland M. Smith, CG, V Amphibious Corps, confers with MajGen Charles H. Corlett, USA on the the flagship shortly after the initial wave of troops landed on Kwajalein.*

3 January. The 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, repulsed a Japanese counterattack on Target Hill, the most prominent objective within the Yellow Beach defenses on New Britain.

4 January. Elements of the 3d Battalions, 5th and 7th Marines, attacking toward Borgen Bay, New Britain, overran the 2d Battalion, 53d Japanese Infantry, which was defending Suicide Creek.

5 January. MajGen Holland M. Smith released V Amphibious Corps Operation Plan 1-44, which superseded Operation Plan 3-43. The new plan established the landing forces for the Marshalls Operation, which included the Northern Landing Force, the Southern Landing Force, the Majuro Landing Force, and designated possible landing beaches on Roi Namur and Kwajalein Islands.

11 January. The 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, supported by Marine artillery, overran Aogiri Ridge, New Britain, defended by the elements of the 53d and 141st Japanese Infantry Regiments.

11 January. Company B, 1st Tank Battalion, arrived at Arawe, New Britain, to support U.S. Army units there.

13 January. The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Ocean Area, issued a se-

cond plan for the Central Pacific operations in 1944, outlining the following timetable: a carrier raid on Truk in support of the invasion of the Admiralties and Kavieng, about 24 March; the capture of Eniwetok and Ujelang Atolls in the Marshalls, 1 May; the capture of Mortlock and Truk in the Carolines, 1 August; and the invasion of Saipan and Tinian, 1 November, and of Guam, 15 December. If Truk could be bypassed, it was proposed that the Palaus be invaded on 1 August.

14-16 January. The 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, supported by Marine artillery captured Hill 660. A counterattack by elements of the Japanese 141st Infantry was repulsed, marking the end of Japanese defenses in the Cape Gloucester-Borgen Bay area on New Britain.

16 January. The withdrawal of the 3d Marine Division from Bougainville was completed.

16-17 January. Company B, 1st Tank Battalion, spearheaded an assault by U.S. Army troops against Japanese positions on the Arawe Peninsula, New Britain. The Japanese were forced to withdraw to the Lupin area.

21 January. Gen Hitoshi Imamura, commanding the Eighth Area Army at Rabaul, ordered the Japanese force located in western New Britain to withdraw and concentrate in the Iboki area for further movement to Talasea.

21 January. Organic weapons of the 25th Marines and the Special Weapons Battalion, 4th Marine Division, were concentrated along the north shore of Ennugarret to bear on Namur in support of the 24th Marines assault there.

26 January. The V Amphibious Corps staff drew up a tentative study for the rapid seizure of Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, which first reviewed the idea of two divisions striking or or about 1 May 1944. Originally, a landing by the 2d

*On board ship before Kwajalein, MajGen Harry Schmidt, CG, 4th Marine Division, points out the objective to RAdm Richard L. Connolly, the Northern Task Force Commander.*





Marines was scheduled for 19 March, but was later postponed to 1 May.

**27-28 January.** Representatives of the South, Southwest, and Central Pacific Commands met at Pearl Harbor to discuss, coordinate, and integrate their planning. The conferees reviewed the two alternative schedules for operations in the Pacific: (a) Truk, 15 June; Marianas, 1 September; Palaus, 15 November, and (b) Truk, bypass; Marianas, 15 June; Palaus, 10 October.

**29-30 January.** Carrier task forces followed by surface bombardment struck Taroa and Wotje in the Marshalls; land-based planes bombarded Kwajalein and Roi-Namur.

**31 January.** Northern Landing Force troops from the 25th Marines, landed on Mellu and Ennuebing Islands in the Marshalls, and captured Ennubirr, Ovella, Ennumennet, and Ennugarret Islands in Kwajalein Atoll. U.S. Army troops of the



*Among the ruins of Parry Island, Marines search for stray Japanese. The heaviest naval gunfire bombardment of the Eniwetok campaign was focused on the vital 200-acre island.*

Southern Landing Force seized the islets guarding the Ninni Pass, Kwajalein Atoll.

**31 January.** The V Amphibious Corps Reconnaissance Company secured Calalin and Eroj, the islands commanding the entrance channel to Majuro Atoll, and crossed to Uliga and Darrit Islands; the 4th Platoon seized Majuro Island.

**1 February.** Combat Team 23 (23d Marines reinforced) landed within the lagoon across the south beaches of Roi Island, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, and after seizing NAT Circle, the final Japanese stronghold, the island was declared secured.

**1 February.** U.S. Army troops, spearheaded by the 32d and 184th Regimental Combat Teams, assaulted Kwajalein Island.

**1 February.** A detachment of the V Amphibious Corps Reconnaissance Company captured Arno Atoll, Marshall Islands. The 2d Battalion, 106th Infantry, USA landed on Majuro Atoll, garrison and base development troops and equipment were unloaded on Uliga and Dalap Islands.

**2 February.** MajGen Harry Schmidt, commanding the Northern Landing Force, ordered the 4th Marine Division reserve commander to proceed with the seizure of islands in

the northern portion of Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, to be executed by Combat Team 25 and Company A, 10th Amphibian Tractor Battalion. Landing Team 2 made the initial movement, securing eight islands on the first day without opposition.

**2 February.** The 7th Reconnaissance Troop, USA, began the seizure of minor islands in the southern sector of Kwajalein Atoll.

**2 February.** Combat Team 24 launched a coordinated attack toward Natalie Point on Namur, Marshall Islands; Namur was declared secured when two advancing forces joined on the point. The capture of Namur marked completion of the major task facing the 4th Marine Division in Kwajalein the 4th Marine Division in Kwajalein Atoll.

**2-3 February.** Units of the U.S. Fleet began to arrive at Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands.

**2-4 February.** Landing Team 1 (1st Battalion, 25th Marines) secured Boggerlap, Boggerik, and Hollis Islands in the Marshall Islands without opposition.

**4 February.** RAdm Richmond K. Turner and RAdm Harry W. Hill conferred with MajGen Holland M. Smith and BGen Thomas E. Watson on plans for the seizure of Eniwetok; the target date for the landing was set at 12 February (later changed to 17 February). Adm Hill was assigned to overall amphibious command, and BGen Watson's Tactical Group-1 was directed to provide the assault troops.

**4 February.** Adm Raymond A. Spruance, USN, announced that the capture and occupation phases of Majuro Atoll had been completed. The island commander, Capt Edgar A. Cruise, USN, assumed responsibility for the area.

**4 February.** Two planes from Marine Photographic Squadron 954 executed the first photo reconnaissance of Truk Atoll.

**4-7 February.** Landing Team 3 (3d Battalion, 25th Marines) assumed the role assigned to Landing Team 1 (1st

*Applying lessons learned at Tarawa, the landing at Roi was preceded by intensive naval gunfire bombardment. Marines search a battered Japanese building showing such fire's effect.*



Battalion, 25th Marines) of securing islands in northern Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands. The landing team—augmented by Battery C, 14th Marines, and naval support—captured 39 islands unopposed, completing the mission of the Northern Landing Force.

**6 February.** Elements of the 17th Regimental Combat Team, USA, secured Ennugenliggerlap Island, Marshall Islands, completing the mission of the Southern Landing Force. Only Bigej and Eller Islands had offered resistance.

**6 February.** The V Amphibious Corps formally released Tactical Group 1 as the landing force reserve of the Kwajalein operation and assigned it duty under the Commander, Task Group 51.11 to participate in the Eniwetok landing.

**7 February.** Ground elements of the 4th Marine Base Defense Aircraft Wing arrived at Roi, Marshall Islands.



*On Eniwetok, a flame team of the 3d Battalion, 22d Marines pauses while reinforcing the 106th Regiment, USA. The flamethrower was effective against coconut log fortifications.*

**8 February.** Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands was declared secured. The bulk of the Northern Landing Force—the 14th Marines, the 23d Marines, and the 2d Battalion, 24th Marines—departed the Kwajalein area. Combat Team 25 was selected to garrison Kwajalein and together with Company A, 10th Amphibian Tractor Battalion, was temporarily detached from the 4th Marine Division to report to the atoll's commander.

**10 February.** Operations in western New Britain were declared ended.

**10 February.** On New Guinea, the Huon Peninsula Campaign was concluded when Australian troops, advancing overland from Sio, met the American task force that had seized Sidor.

**11 February.** The first U.S. plane landed on Roi Island's airfield.

**12, 14, 15 February.** The rear echelon of the 4th Marine Division departed the Kwajalein area.

**12-20 February.** Company B of the 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division, landed and patrolled Rooke Island in the Bismarcks. No Japanese were encountered.

**13 February.** Gen MacArthur issued a directive calling for the seizure of Manus in the Admiralties, and Kavieng on New Ireland with a target date of 1 April 1944.

**13 February.** The Army's 35th Fighter Squadron moved on to Airfield No. 2, Cape Gloucester, New Britain.

**16 February.** Army and Marine patrols from Arawe and Cape Gloucester, respectively, made contact at Gilnit on the Itni River, thus securing western New Britain and bringing to a conclusion the combat operations in the southern Itni Valley.

**17 February.** Task Group 51.11 shelled Engebi, Parry, Jap-tan, and Eniwetok Islands in Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, while planes from Task Group 58.4 bombed and strafed the islands. Marines of Tactical Group 1, landing from Task Group 51.11 secured Camellia and Rujiyoru Islands, Eniwetok Atoll. Artillery of the 2d Separate Pack Howitzer Battalion and the 104th Field Artillery Battalion, USA, was placed on Camellia and Rujiyoru, respectively, and registered fire against Engebi Island.

**17 February.** An attack force of 70 planes from Carrier Forces, Commander Central Pacific, was intercepted by 80 Japanese planes over Truk Atoll; 60 Japanese aircraft were destroyed in the air and 40 more on the ground.

**17-18 February.** Central Pacific task forces under VAdm Raymond A. Spruance, USN, struck airfield installations and shipping in the anchorage at Truk Atoll, revealing the weakness of that base. This raid was the deciding factor in Japan's decision to withdraw all combat aircraft from Rabual, and the Allied decision to bypass the atoll.

**18 February.** The 22d Marines assaulted Beaches White 1 and Blue 3, Engebi Island, Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands. The Tactical Group Commander declared the island secured except for an isolated pocket of Japanese. Landing Team 3 and the 2d Separate Tank Company were reembarking to participate with the 106th Infantry Regiment, USA, in the landing on Eniwetok Island.

*Their faces and uniforms showing the fatigue and grime of two days intensive combat ashore, Marines enjoy hot cups of coffee on board ship following the fall of Eniwetok Island.*





**18 February.** Elements of Company D (Scout), 4th Tank Battalion, arrived on Bogon Island west of Engebi in the Marshalls to intercept any Japanese fleeing in that direction.

**19 February.** U.S. Marines, Army and Navy aircraft executed the last opposed air raid against Rabaul in the Bismarcks. After this date, the Japanese abandoned air defenses there.

**19 February.** The V Amphibious Corps Reconnaissance Company landed on Muzinbaarikku Island, Eniwetok Atoll, against opposition from Japanese positions on Engebi Island. Company D (Scout) secured a number of islands southwest of Engebi in the Marshall Islands.

**19 February.** The 1st and 3d Battalions, 106th Infantry, USA, landed on Beaches Yellow 2 and 1, Eniwetok Island, Marshall Islands, respectively; the 3d Battalion, 22d Marines disembarked on Beach Yellow 1.

**19 February.** BGen Thomas E. Watson, commanding Tactical Group 1, assigned the 22d Marines on Engebi Island to the capture of Parry Island.

**19 February.** The ground echelon of Marine Aircraft Group 22 arrived at Engebi Island, Eniwetok Atoll.

**19 February - 15 May.** Aircraft, Solomons attacked Rabaul in the Bismarcks. Marine Bomber Squadron 413, relieving Army B-25s, raided around the clock.

**20 February.** Tactical Group 1 Operation Order 3-44 was issued postponing the attack on Parry Island in the Marshalls until 22 February and providing for the reembarkation of the 3d Battalion, 22 Marines, and the 2d Separate Tank Company on Eniwetok, on 21 February, to participate in the assault.

**20 February.** Company D (Scout), 4th Tank Battalion, landed on the southern group in the western chain of islands, Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, and secured Rigili Island against light resistance and the other seven islands in the chain without encountering any Japanese.

**20 February.** The 3d Battalion, 22d Marines, and the 1st Battalion, 106th Infantry, USA, attacked south on Eniwetok Island, and secured the southern end. The 104th Field Artillery Battalion, USA, landed to support the attack on Parry Island and the advance of the 3d Battalion, 106th Infantry, up the northeast neck of Eniwetok Island.

**20 February.** The 3d Army Defense Battalion relieved the 22d Marines on Engebi Island, Eniwetok Atoll.

**20 February.** The Japanese abandoned the airfields ringing Blanche Bay in the Bismarcks.

**21 February.** The northern end of Eniwetok Island in the Marshalls was secured by U.S. Army troops, and the American flag was raised over the island.

**21 February.** The V Amphibious Corps Reconnaissance Company secured, without opposition, 10 islands and islets in the eastern rim of Eniwetok Atoll.

**21 February.** The 3d Battalion, 22d Marines, was withdrawn from Eniwetok Atoll in preparation for the invasion of Parry Island.

**21 February.** The 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, occupied Karai-ai, a key Japanese supply point on New Britain.

**22 February.** Landing Teams 1 and 2, 22d Marines, assaulted the northern portion of Parry Island and secured the

island against stiff resistance. Its possession marked the successful completion of the Eniwetok Operation.

**22-23 February.** Task Force 58 struck the southern Marianas; initial intelligence photographs of Saipan, Tinian, and Aguijan were taken.

**23 February.** The 3d Battalion, 106th Infantry, USA, landed on Eniwetok Atoll and began mopping-up activities. Landing Team 2, 22d Marines, and the 2d Separate Tank Company reembarked, followed by the remainder of Regimental Combat Team 22 on 24 February.

**23 February.** Marine patrols from sea and land reached Iboki, a primary Japanese supply base, but found it abandoned; the last cohesive unit of the Japanese forces defending western New Britain had passed through the village on 16 February.

**24 February.** The 1st Battalion, 141st Japanese Infantry, withdrew northward from its defensive sector near Lupin.

**25 February.** The 10th Defense Battalion assumed responsibility for Eniwetok Island in the Marshalls.

**25 February.** The 22d Marines departed Eniwetok Atoll for Kwajalein Island to relieve the 25th Marines; various attached units were ordered to Hawaii. Only Regimental Combat Team 106, USA (less the 2d Battalion) remained of the assault force that had arrived at Eniwetok Atoll on 17 February.

**29 February.** The 22d Marines relieved Combat Team 25 as the garrison force on Kwajalein Atoll, and the combat team departed the area to rejoin the 4th Marine Division in Hawaii.

*Fighter pilots of the "Whistling Devils" squadron of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing pose at a base in the Marshalls, from which they continued to harass bypassed Japanese bases.*



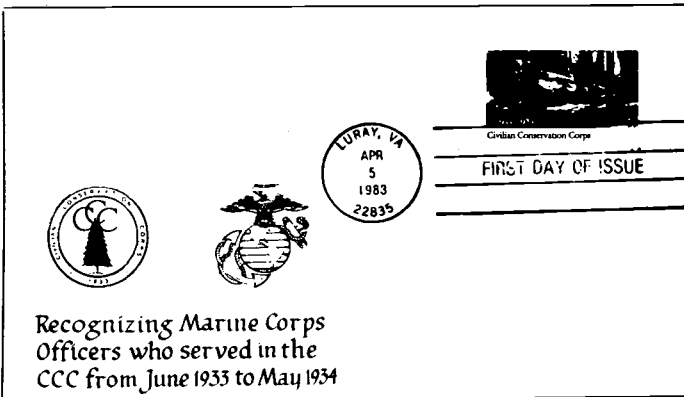
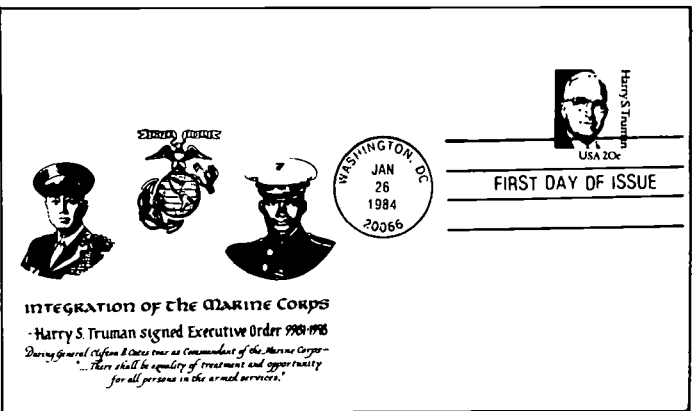
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## Two Philatelic Footnotes To Marine Corps History

Museums Branch staff members have during the past year prepared first day covers of two less publicized milestones of Marine Corps history. Covers featuring the commemorative Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) stamp and the President Harry S. Truman stamp were designed and produced by



members of the Exhibits Section to honor those Marine Corps officers who served as part of the CCC from June 1933 to May 1934, and to commemorate initiatives toward racial desegregation of the Marine Corps during Gen Clifton B. Cates' commandancy. Mr. Carl M. DeVere, Sr., and GySgt David Dendy produced the artwork featuring the seal of the CCC and the likeness of Gen Cates and black Marine Medal of Honor recipient Pfc Ralph H. Johnson. Mr. Benny E. Lenox, Sr., handled the correct cancelling procedures on the first days of issue at Luray, Virginia and Washington, D.C. The covers are presently on sale in the Museum Gift Shop for \$1.50.