

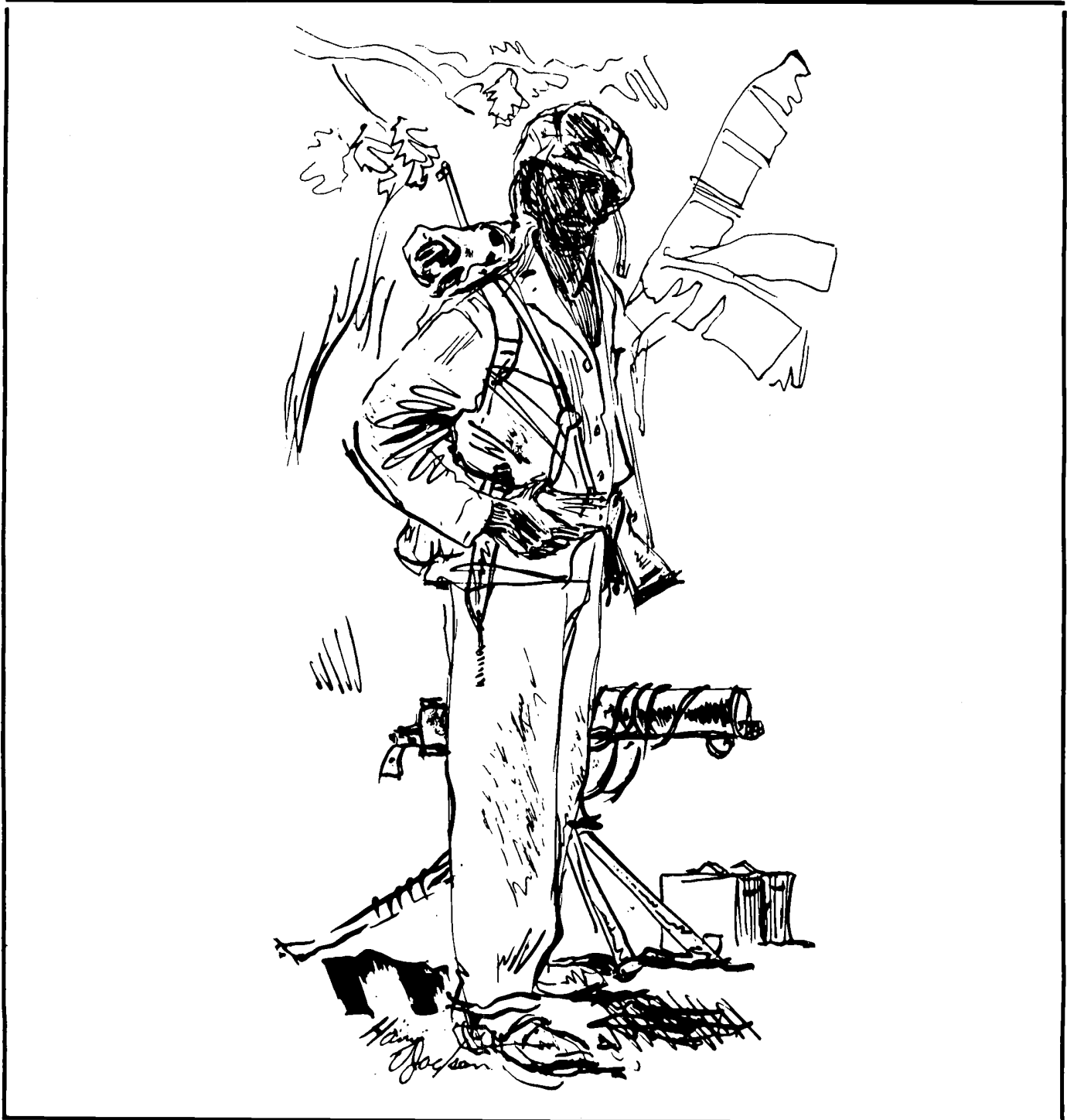
FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

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NUMBER 1



LIEUTENANT HENRY B. WATSON'S MEXICAN WAR JOURNAL SHEDS NEW LIGHT ON THE CONQUEST OF CALIFORNIA . . . AN ANCESTOR OF THE MODERN GRENADE . . . 8TH & I PARADES REFLECT ENTHUSIASM OF 20TH COMMANDANT . . . EXHIBIT HONORS THE PACIFIC WAR . . . FLIGHT LINES: GRUMMAN F6F HELLCAT

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

Volume XV

Summer 1985

No. 1

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THE COVER

Nineteen-year-old PFC Harry A. Jackson of Cody, Wyoming, produced this ink-and-watercolor sketch, "Standing By," in 1944. The original work, by the young holder of a Purple Heart from Tarawa, was lost in transport, but not before being photographed for documentation by the Corps' combat art program and here becoming representative of Marines in the Pacific War. Jackson, who came to the Marines from life as a "cowpoke," went on to study art in Europe and to establish himself as a foremost artist and sculptor of the American west, spending part of each year on a ranch near Lost Cabin, Wyoming.

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Director's Page



BGen Simmons

The Journal of 2dLt Henry Bulls Watson

Monterey, Upper California. . . . Thursday, May 21st, 1846. The weather cool and cloudy, the breeze from the northwest. Went on board the merchant trading ship, Barnstable. They have quite a handsome store room fitted up on board and the shelves contain all the notions of a regular Boston retail store. The supercargo, Mr. Millis, is a very shrewd yankee and a very clever fellow. Sells his goods at one hundred per cent profit over the cost and duties. Bought this book of him. In the United States it would have cost me fifty or seventy-five cents. Here it cost two dollars.

So 2dLt Henry Bulls Watson, commanding officer of the Marine detachment in the sloop-of-war USS *Portsmouth*, begins his journal. On the flyleaf he had entered in a bold hand: "Journal of a Cruise in the Pacific Ocean, in the U.S. ship *Portsmouth* in the Year 1846." Later he would add the years "1847" and "1848."

Actually this is his second journal. His first covers the period 11 January 1845 to 20 May 1846; the second the period 21 May 1846 to 5 May 1848. My first knowledge of the journals came from Ralph W. Donnelly, former head of our

Reference Section and now retired in Washington, North Carolina. He had discovered them during the course of his Civil War researches. (Mr. Donnelly is indisputably the world's greatest authority on the Confederate Marine Corps.) He wrote me last June. Richard A. Long, our indefatigable 19th Century researcher, was put onto this. He telephoned, wrote, and visited the owner of the journals, Miss Elizabeth Sanders, and in September she graciously loaned us the journals along with other personal papers of her great grandfather, Henry Bulls Watson.

Of 9 July 1846 at San Francisco, Lt Henry B. Watson, at right, wrote: "The Marines in full uniform and the sailors in their Sunday mustering clothes, they made an imposing ap-

pearance. . . . we displayed the flag and pounded with drum beat and fife playing Yankee Doodle to the public square in the Yerba Buena where the proclamation was read"



The journals are bound, unruled stationery books in quite good condition. Although the ink has turned brown with age, the handwriting is neat and not difficult to read. The second journal had been copied out in typescript by Miss Sanders, a carbon copy of which came along with the journals. I have been working from that carbon, occasionally checking it against the original manuscript. Under Mr. Long's tutelage, a summer intern, Miss Catherine M. Corrigan, who attended Gallaudet College and is a graduate of Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf at Big Spring, Texas, is doing a fresh typescript of the journals. With Miss Sanders' permission, a limited number of copies of the typescripts will be made.

Promotions did not come fast to Marines serving with the old sailing Navy. Born either in 1812 or 1813, Watson was commissioned a second lieutenant on 5 October 1836, so he had nearly ten years in grade when he opened his second journal. The *Portsmouth*, Cdr John B. Montgomery commanding, had just come into Monterey from patrol of the Mexican coast watching for British ships. War with Mexico was known to be imminent (and actually had been declared a month earlier, but word of this had not yet reached California). The question was: Would the United States get California or would the British? The largest ship in the U.S. Pacific Squadron was only a frigate. HMS *Collingwood*, a ship-of-the-line, was in California waters. American suspicions were that the Californians were more disposed to accept a British protectorate than annexation by the United States.

California was already almost detached from Mexico. In 1836, when Texas rebelled, California followed suit and ran up a single-starred blue flag. Mexico was never again able to reassert her full authority north of San Diego. Two factions now vied for control of Upper California. One faction under Don Pio Pico, the civil governor, the Americans called the "Piconians." The other faction, under Gen Jose Castro, the military *commandante general*, the Americans called the "Castronians." Castro had the advantage of controlling all the revenues of the country, which, Watson observed, "amounts to from two to three hundred thousand dollars a year."

Illustrations are from the series, "Marines in the Conquest of California," by artist Col Charles M. Waterhouse, USMCR. The originals of these paintings hang in the Santa Margarita Ranch House Museum at Camp Pendleton.

Watson's sympathies were with Pico. He explains in his May 25th entry:

The defences of the country are totally neglected, the people and their property are wholly unprotected and all the revenue seems to be or are actually squandered upon and by Castro and his small band [of] courtiers in Monterey. The people are dissatisfied with the profligate manner in which the public moneys are squandered, suffering much from losses by the Indian horse thieves, disgusted with the indolence of Castro, his impolitic course as to foreigners, his unjust impressments recently attempted and the heavy pressure of Taxes which the exorbitant duties imposed on imports produces debarring them almost from the necessities and all the luxuries of life, have been looking around for some time for a suitable person to amend their condition. This person seems to have presented himself in the person of Pio Pico of San Pedro in Lower California, who it seems is now about to decide the question whether Castro shall usurp all the revenues of the country or

whether they shall be expended for the good of the people to whom it properly belongs;—strengthening his cause very much by profession of friendship for foreigners and desiring the incoming of emigrants, the granting land to emigrants, &c.

Watson starts each day's entry, ship's-log style, with a weather report—"clear" and "pleasant" are the most frequent entries. His observations of the political situation ashore are intermixed with his own comings and goings, ship's business, and a good deal of detail about his hobby which was the collection of sea shells. At times he sounds a bit prudish, as later in his May 25th entry:

In the room where I was this evening there were two beds. . . . Some persons came in and one of the ladies present took a seat on the bed in order to make room. Her back was toward me, and without the least ceremony she took up the tail of her [dress] and shoved herself around by throwing herself round on her butt as she sat by lifting her feet & legs up and with some effort changing her position, in the movement showing those private parts which modest women are always studious to conceal. But what struck me as most objectionable was the dingy and apparently unclean condition of her under linen;—neither the rudeness nor the dirt was excusable in the lady. . . .

The *Portsmouth* did not tarry long at

Watson, with the relief force, described the Mule Hill camp: "We found the troops in the most pitiable condition. . . . living on mule meat and parched wheat, they having . . . burned all their camp equipage" after the Battle of San Pascual.



Monterey. Watson's June 1st entry reads:

The weather pleasant. A courier from Lt. Gillispie, he had overtaken Capt. Fremont. They, that is, Capt. and Lt. had had two fights with the Indians, a considerable number was killed. It had [been] determined some days ago to sail to-day for San Francisco. Consequently we got under way about eleven o'clock and we over took the Barnstable about two o'clock, she having been becalm[ed] during the night. A Thick fog is over hanging the land tonight.

Two days later he wrote:

The weather pleasant, breeze light. Made sail and stood into the Bay of San Francisco, the Barnstable just behind us. The entrance into the Bay is very narrow between two high promontories of land projecting out into the sea. On the eastern bank of the Bay is the ruins of an old Mexican fort. . . . We anchored at what is called San Salito [Sausalito] about six miles from the Yerba Buena at which place the B[arnstable] went. . . .

And on 7 June he wrote:

Lt Gillespie arrived today from Capt. Fremont's camp, having left him seven days ago. I can learn nothing from Gillespie. All his movements as well as those of Fremont seem involved in mystery. Gillespie has had one or two very narrow escapes from the Indians. He says that he shall return in a day or so to Fremont's camp.

The mysterious Gillespie—1stLt Archibald H. Gillespie—had received his orders from President James K. Polk personally eight months earlier. President Polk's diary entry for the night of 30 October 1845 is cryptic. It says that he held a confidential conversation with Gillespie on the subject of a secret mission on which he was about to go to California. "His secret instructions and the letter to Mr. Larkin, U.S. Consul at Monterey, in the Department of State," wrote Polk, "will explain the object of his mission."

Unfortunately, the copy in the Department of State has never been found and Gillespie destroyed his copies, after memorizing their contents, en route to Veracruz. After a leisurely and somewhat adventurous crossing of Mexico he emerged at Mazatlan on Mexico's west coast where he reported to Commo John D. Sloat, the elderly commander of the U.S. Pacific Squadron. He then went

on to California in the sloop-of-war *Cyane*, Capt William Mervine commanding, by way of Honolulu, arriving at Monterey on 17 April.

Gillespie delivered his memorized dispatch to Thomas O. Larkin, the consul, and then proceeded north to find Capt John C. Fremont for whom he also had a message and some personal letters. Fremont had left St. Louis in June 1845 with 60 mountain men, including the already legendary Kit Carson. Since December he had been swinging back and forth between Oregon and California, occasionally fighting with the Indians and skirmishing with Castro's Californians.

Gillespie met up with Fremont on the banks of Klamath Lake at dusk on 9 May. With Fremont were ten of his men including Carson. Fremont told Gillespie that there were 800 Americans in northern California ready to take up arms. So absorbed were they in their dreams of empire that they turned in without setting a proper watch and a Klamath Indian war party caught them in their blankets. Fremont had three men killed. The raiders left behind one dead Indian and Carson pointed out that the Indian's half-ax and the steel tips to his arrows were English-made. In retaliation for his losses, Fremont marched to the nearest Indian village and burned it after killing 14 or 15 Indians.

The combined Fremont and Gillespie force then started south for the California settlements, Gillespie going on ahead to Yerba Buena, present-day San Francisco, for supplies. It was there that he was directed to the *Portsmouth* across the bay at Sausalito. He got most of what Fremont needed from the American sloop and on the morning of 11 June started back up the Sacramento in one of the *Portsmouth's* boats.

Gillespie rejoined Fremont at Sutter's Fort and learned that the Bear Flag had been run up at Sonoma and California declared a republic. Fremont had aligned himself with the Bear Flaggers and sent Gillespie back to San Francisco with the news. The *Portsmouth* moved her berth from Sausalito to Yerba Buena on 24 June.

Watson's entry for 26 June notes the arrival of news that the difficulties with England had been settled. As for the war with Mexico, Watson writes, "We also

learn that there are large military preparations making in the United States, but for what purpose I cannot divine, certainly not to whip the Mexicans, for poor devils they seem to be determined to whip themselves."

Gillespie arrived the next day. Watson was getting the war fever and for 27 June he writes:

Lt. Gillespie arrived this evening and announced the most astonishing intelligence, Lieut [sic] Fremont has united his forces with the revolutionists. They have sixty men stationed at Sutter's Fort, sixty at Sonoma, and forty at San Rapheal. . . .

Meanwhile Fremont was skirmishing with Castro, pushing him back toward San Francisco Bay. On July 1st, Watson writes:

Fremont reached the San Salito this morning and Castro retreated from his position at the White Island and took post at San Siando [Liando or Leandro]. . . . Castro is secure until F. gets Boats which will most likely be tonight. Fremont crossed the bay with a few men and spiked all the cannon at the Fort among them very beautiful Brass eighteen pounders.

Before Fremont could get together his boats and men, Castro retreated out of reach and Fremont went back to Sonoma to celebrate the 4th of July. There he consolidated his filibusterers into the California Battalion, 224 mounted rifles, with himself as commander and Gillespie as adjutant. The *Portsmouth* also celebrated the 4th of July. Watson noted that the winds were too high to dress ship but they did run up a national flag at each mast head and at noon fired a salute of 28 guns.

Fremont, after relieving the neighboring Californian ranches of 700 horses and 500 beef cattle, led his battalion to Sutter's Fort where he learned that the Stars and Stripes had gone up over Monterey.

Capt Mervine, now in command of the 50-gun frigate *Savannah*, had landed there on 7 July with 250 sailors and Marines from his own ship and the sloops *Cyane* and *Levant*. Two days later there was a parallel action at Yerba Buena. Dispatches had reached the *Portsmouth* from Monterey announcing that the long-talked-of war with Mexico was now official: Gen Zachary Taylor had won



Watson called San Gabriel “the first regular Battle of California.” His Marines helped compose the American left flank in turning back the Californians’ charge.

two great victories in Texas, and Commo Sloat had formally taken possession of Monterey. Watson records the events of July 9th at Yerba Buena as follows:

The weather pleasant. Agreeably to arrangements made last night, the Marine small arms men and pike men landed opposite the ship. The Marines in full uniform and the sailors in their Sunday mustering clothes, they made an imposing appearance. I formed them in double column. . . . [Then] we displayed the flag and pounded with drum beat and fife playing Yankee Doodle to the public square in the Yerba Buena where the proclamation was read by the 1st Lieut. in English and in Spanish by the Vice-Consul when we hoisted the flag, with three cheers from the troops and the American settlers present. I then took possession of the custom house and converted it into a garrison.

Fremont raised the American flag over Sutter’s Fort on 11 July and then started for Monterey, entering the town on 22 July. Commo Robert F. Stockton, who had arrived with the frigate *Congress*, relieved the lethargic Sloat the next day. One of his first acts was to swear the California Battalion into the U.S. forces, characterizing them as irregular naval mounted infantry.

Fremont’s quasi-Marines were then embarked in the *Cyane* and on 29 July landed at San Diego, taking it without a fight. Los Angeles was occupied next and Gillespie was left at the City of the Angels—a grand name for a dirty little pueblo of from 1,500 to 2,000

souls—with 80 men and the title of military commandant.

Watson devotes several pages of his journal to just how bad Gillespie was as a governor. The following is a sample:

The Californians were acting in good faith on their parols of honor, and following their usual amusements and avocations of life and would no doubt have remained quiet, but for the new regulations introduced by Gillespie. Every one at all familiar with the habits and character of the Californians knows that they invariably ride at a gallop when on horse back, and gaming is a national passion of the Spanish character, and in California where the villages are so small and so scattering there is not the least impropriety in galloping through what is called the streets, but which in fact are little more than public highways.

Gillespie’s harsh rule was exacerbated by the bad conduct of his small garrison, who had discovered the delights of California wine and brandy. He was soon besieged by a force which he, with some probable overstatement, estimated at 600 Californians, led by Pio Pico’s younger brother, Don Andres Pico, described by Watson as a handsome young man. Gillespie capitulated on 29 August and was allowed to march out of town with full military honors. He and his men were lifted off the beach at San Pedro by the sloop *Vandalia*. A month later the *Vandalia* fell in with Capt Mervine’s *Savannah*. Mervine decided to

have a go at Los Angeles. He landed on the morning of 7 October, 310 sailors and Marines plus Gillespie’s 70 or so volunteers. Mervine marched his column into a narrow canyon and got the worse of it from Californians firing down from the rim.

Stockton with the *Congress* joined Mervine and the *Savannah* on 24 October. Another landing was attempted on the 27th. Gillespie’s men were to secure the beach before dawn. They got spooked by a real or imagined enemy, and the landing was called off. The squadron now sailed for San Diego which was still in American hands.

A messenger reached Stockton at San Diego on 3 December with word that BGen Stephen W. Kearny with his Army of the West had reached Warner’s Ranch near San Bernardo after a hard march west from Santa Fe. Gillespie with 39 mounted riflemen was sent out to meet Kearny. He reached him on 5 December and must have been dismayed to learn that the “Army of the West” was no more than a hundred dragoons on worn-out horses. Gillespie told Kearny that Don Andres Pico was in the vicinity of Rancho Santa Margarita—that’s present-day Camp Pendleton—with a hundred Californians.

The Battle of San Pascual was fought the next day, Kearny’s dragoons and Gillespie’s riflemen against Pico’s lancers. The Californians left the field first, so technically it was an American victory, but Kearny’s little army had been roughly handled. Of a total of 153 Americans, 19 were dead and at least 20 more wounded. Kearny abandoned his baggage and dug in on “Mule Hill,” so-called because mule-meat was the chief item on the menu. Kit Carson, who had scouted for Kearny during the march west, slipped through the Californian lines, and got to San Diego with the bad news.

During most of these eventful six months the *Portsmouth* had stayed berthed at Yerba Buena. Not until 6 December did she lift the hook to sail south, reaching San Diego on 9 December. Here Watson learned of San Pascual which had just been fought. Stockton ordered ashore the *Portsmouth*’s Marines and also 130 sailors. They landed at 7 p.m. and marched six miles to the Commodore’s head-

quarters. Joined by a like landing party from the *Congress*, they received orders to draw six days of half-rations of bread and pork and get ready to go to the relief of Kearny. The column, 215 sailors, Marines, and volunteers, moved out at a quarter to eleven. They were commanded by Navy Lt Andrew V. F. Gray, but military activities, Watson noted, were conducted by the adjutant, Lt Jacob Zeilin, commander of the Marine detachment of the *Congress* (and a future Commandant). They made a night march of 15 miles, paused for four hours, and then marched another 15 miles which brought them within sight of Pico's campfires. Pico withdrew and the relief force marched into Kearny's camp unopposed. In his December 10th entry, Watson writes:

The Gen[eral] received us with true military politeness and urbanity. We found the troops in the most pitiable condition. The men nearly naked, and without tents, living on mule meat and parched wheat, they having in order to facilitate their travelling, burned all their camp equipage and tents immediately after the Battle of San Pasqual. I breakfasted with the General and learned the particulars of the fight which took place the Sunday preceeding our arrival. In the camp exposed to the frost at night and the sun by day lay the unfortunate wounded of the fight. Poor fellows, they were pitiable indeed.

Watson goes on to give a good summary of the battle but says nothing of Gillespie who was one of the wounded. On the 11th they formed up for the march back to San Diego. "During the whole morning," writes Watson, "small parties of the Californians might be seen riding about the plain, and on the tops of the surrounding hills, but none ventured to within gun shot of our camp. . ."

A two-day march got them back to San Diego. They had thoughtfully picked up 200 head of cattle and a sty full of pigs along the way ("a very grateful relief and change to mule meat").

Kearny and Stockton together had a combined force of about 700. Neither would yield full command to the other, so it was agreed that Stockton would be commander-in-chief and Kearny field commander. The dual commanders started their march north to

reconquer Los Angeles on 29 December. In his journal entry for the date Watson rates the two men as follows:

And here I may as well give a hint of our two Commanders. Brigadier General Kearny is one of the most polite gentlemanly and urbane men I have ever known, kind and affable in his conversation, polite in his bearing and in a word he is both as a gentleman and a soldier one of the very finest men in the army or in the country. . . . Commodore Stockton is without exception the most overrated man I have ever met and I am sure that I express the sentiment of a great many or most of the gentlemen of the Squadron out here, and is at times at least in conduct a crazy man. He is pompous, inflated, phlegmatic, morose, and not infrequently coarse and vulgar in his manners and conversations, wrapped up in his own importance, he is totally regardless of the feelings of others, vain beyond belief. . . . Fond of talking, he uses a prodigious quantity [of] bombast gas and foolishness. Indeed, he goes by the name of gaseous Bob.

Watson, who was marching with a change of clothes, a blanket, and a watchcoat in his knapsack, noted approvingly that:

The Gen[eral] is very plain in everything. He on this march simply used two pack mules for transporting all his camp equipage, his tent and cooking utensils, and not infrequently assisted in pitching his own tents.

As for Stockton:

He, on this march, had two large Baggage waggons for his own personal convenience, carrying a Brass Bedstead, and a Mahogany Table, with a large quantity of china and silver plate.

On 2 January they reached the Mission of San Luis Rey at present-day Oceanside. Watson found it "magnificent" and he gives a lengthy description. The next morning they moved out early. Writes Watson:

About evening we received a courier from General Flores [Jose Maria Flores] with dispatches. In this dispatch, Gen Florez stated, it was generally reported and believed that a peace had been concluded between the U. States and the Republic of Mexico, and demanding that Commodore Stockton should return to the Port of San Deigo, embark his troops and leave the ports of California, signing himself Governor and Commander-in-

chief of California. . . . To this Stockton replied, that he knew nothing of any peace and that he should not return to San Deigo, until he had taken the capitol, that he, Stockton, was Governor and Commander-in-chief of all California and that he wished nothing to do with any man who did not recognize him Stockton as such and further that if he caught Flores he would shoot him, issuing at the same time a proclamation granting pardon to all other Californians who should lay down their arms and return quietly to their homes. . . .

The morning of 7 January "about 10 a.m. we passed the large and decayed Mission San Juan Campistanna [Capistrano] with colors flying and drums beating. In this Mission were lying a number of unfortunate Californians who were wounded in the battle of San Pasqual, some of whom our Doctors say are mortally wounded."

They camped that night at Santa Ana and next morning, 8 January, they reached the San Gabriel, or as Watson describes the day:

This day is the 32nd anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, is now the eventful occasion of the first regular Battle of California. We made a very [early] start this morning in the usual order. The San Gabriel was about eight miles off. We however continued on . . . until we reached some Indian huts about two miles from the river. We had observed several parties of the enemy at a distance from our flanks. At this place near the huts . . . we halted and formed as follows: The Dragoons with one company of sailor Musketeers . . . composed the Front. The Right Flank, was composed of a portion of the marines, one company of sailor musketeers . . . and one company of Pikemen. The Left Flank composed of the remains of the marines under my command and two companies of sailor musketeers. . . . The rear was composed of . . . two companies of volunteers . . . under the command of Lieut. Gillespie. There were four pieces of cannon in Front, and two [to] the rear. . . . In this order we advanced on the river. We found the enemy posted on the right bank of the river on an eminence of about forty feet above the level of the river with four pieces of artillery. They were about six hundred men strong, all mounted on superb

horses, and armed with carbines, pistols and lances about eight feet in length and as keen as razors. The lance is their best weapon, and on horseback they use it with remarkable ease and effect . . . we advanced on the left bank of the River, when the enemy opened on us with their long gun. They fired too high hence no damage was done.

At this point, according to Watson, Stockton and Kearny got into an argument as to how the river was to be crossed. Kearny wanted the Navy long guns brought forward to cover the crossing but Stockton said the range was too great. For 15 minutes the Americans stood where they were without firing a shot. They then waded across the river which was about 50 yards wide. The Californians were drawn up in line on a 40-foot rise about 500 yards away. The Navy long guns got in what Watson calls some "excellent shots" and the Americans got ready to charge.

However, the Californians charged first. The Americans formed squares, the classic defense of infantry against cavalry, and at a distance of about 70 yards, according to Watson, the Californians broke off their attack and left the field.

Gillespie's volunteers had fought dismounted and the Californians had run off their horses which gave Watson considerable satisfaction. The whole action had taken about an hour and twenty minutes. American losses were one killed and five wounded.

The Americans made camp close by. Some cattle were slaughtered and the victory celebrated with a barbecue. Stockton made a speech in which, by Watson's account, he declared their victory as splendid as those of Gen Zachary Taylor at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma and indeed as fine as any of Napoleon's more memorable campaigns.

The next day there was a final action at La Mesa which Watson describes as follows:

The enemy were entrenched in a small ravine. So soon as we had drawn them out of this position (which was nearly an hour and during which they were playing upon us with their long guns without our returning a single shot), we halted and opened up upon them with our big guns, when a cannonade was kept up on both sides for some time. The enemy as

was said having expended all their ammunition, sallied out and formed in single files for the charge. I have never in my life seen a more beautiful sight than they presented. They were mounted on elegant horses and are without exception the best horsemen in the world. They all had broad white bands around their hats. We learned after that this was worn by them as a distinguishing mark, for as they said they should break our lines and then in the confusion which would ensue that they might kill some of their friends unless there was some mark by which they might be known. This breaking of our lines they found they were unable to do. They formed in single file, and charged on us at full speed. We remained at a halt firm in our ranks. They came up to within fifty yards of our left flank, when they received a most galling fire of musketry from our lines and also a cross fire from our cannon. At this discharge they wheeled and retreated. We saw a number of vacant saddles, and wounded horses. The Californians retreated in considerable confusion, and in a few minutes we saw their cannon and the principal part of their force far in our rear, retreating.

Stockton led his victorious army into the City of Angels on 10 January 1847. Three days later the Californian army surrendered at Cahuenga, except for

160 die-hards who chose to ride off to Sonora. Stockton could now turn his attention to Baja California. Mazatlan, Guaymas, Muleje, San Blas, and San Jose were quickly, and for the most part, uneventfully taken.

The landing at Mazatlan was on 10 November 1847, the Marine Corps' 72d Birthday. But, as we did not make 10 November 1775 our official birthday until 1921, it is doubtful if there was any cake-cutting. A landing force of 730 sailors and Marines went ashore, covered by the frigates *Congress* and *Independence* and the ever-present sloop *Cyane*. Jacob Zeilin, now a captain, was installed in the Presidio as military governor.

Watson received a well-deserved and long over-due promotion to first lieutenant on 3 March 1847 and a brevet promotion to captain on 20 November 1847 for his services at San Gabriel and La Mesa. After leaving the *Portsmouth* he would serve in the *Levant*, sister sloop of the *Cyane*, and later in the frigate *Cumberland*, the same *Cumberland* that would be rammed and sunk by the Confederate ironclad *Virginia* in March 1862. But by that time Watson was no longer in the Federal service. He had resigned his commission in 1855. During the Civil War he served as colonel in the North Carolina Confederate forces. He died on 25 January 1869.

The Californian Lancers at La Mesa were praised by Watson: "They were mounted on elegant horses and are without exception the best horsemen in the world. . . . They formed in single file, and charged on us at full speed. We remained at a halt firm in our ranks." They retreated under "a most galling fire."



Oral History Report

In the interim since the last Oral History Report there have been a number of new accessions to the Marine Corps Oral History Collection, as well as a number of interviews which have been conducted for the Oral History Program.

In the Winter 1983 issue of *Fortitudine*, this column noted that Benis M. Frank, head of the Oral History Section, and Maj Ronald H. Spector, USMCR, had gone to Camp Lejeune to conduct the first in a series of interviews with the staff and commanders of the Marine Amphibious Units which had participated in the peacekeeping mission in Lebanon. Mr. Frank subsequently visited Camp Lejeune again in March 1983 and Beirut in May-June and November of that year, and Camp Lejeune once more in 1984 to obtain as many interviews as possible with MAU personnel. Included in this package of Lebanon-related interviews are those conducted also with the Chaplain of the Marine Corps, Capt Eli Takesian, ChC, USN, and the Commandant's senior Marine aide, LtCol Frank Libutti. Also interviewed about their tours in Beirut were members of the Marine Security Guard Detachment formerly assigned to the American Embassy there.

Another interview recently completed was conducted with retired Reserve Maj Earl J. Wilson, who was commissioned as a public relations officer in BGen Robert L. Denig's Combat Correspondents' program early in World War II and saw quite a bit of action in the Pacific. His interview will join Gen Denig's and Maj Norman T. Hatch's in telling of the Marine Corps public affairs effort in the war. Scheduled for early interviewing is former Marine Corps combat correspondent Keyes Beech, who went on to become a very successful newsman in civilian life.

During this period the oral history outreach program, in which members of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation conduct interviews for the Oral History Program, was doing quite well. On the West Coast, LtGen Alpha L. Bowser interviewed MajGen Carl W. Hoffman about his career, while on the East Coast, veteran Marine aviator MajGen Norman J. Anderson interview-

ed other veteran Marine aviators for the program. In the course of his efforts, Gen Anderson interviewed MajGens Paul J. Fontana, Victor A. Armstrong, and Arthur H. Adams. He also interviewed BGen Austin R. Brunelli, who had been an aide to CMC MajGen Thomas Holcomb during the early days of World War II, and later commanded the 5th Marines. Back on the West Coast, Foundation member Jeffrey Stolrow is interviewing MajGen Kenneth J. Houghton in a number of sessions.

Meanwhile, Gen Anderson's memoirs were recently accessioned into the Oral History Collection. Gen Anderson was an American Airlines pilot who entered the Marine Corps prior to Pearl Harbor. He was a transport pilot during the war and later transferred to fighter aircraft. While commanding the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Vietnam, and during his tour in Southeast Asia, he became deeply involved in the single-management issue which has doctrinal ramifications to this day. Gen Anderson's comments on this and other Vietnam-related events are a rich source for researchers.

Also recently accessioned was the lengthy interview conducted with LtGen Ormond R. Simpson for both the Marine Corps Oral History Collection and the Texas A&M University Collection by Dr. Terry Anderson of Texas A&M. Himself a graduate of the university, Gen Simpson told of his early days there, comparing it with the institution as it is now. Gen Simpson is Vice President for Student Services at Texas A&M. He spoke of his early days in the Corps and his World War II experiences, including his assignment as a logistics officer to the staff of Gen Douglas MacArthur for the invasion of Japan. Gen Simpson's perceptions of Gen MacArthur are closer to those of D. Clayton James in his three-volume biography of MacArthur than those of author William Manchester in his widely read work. Gen Simpson commanded the 3d MEB in the Thailand expedition and the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam; the interview will be an important source for historians working in this era.

The Collection also recently benefitted from the generosity of the Navy Chaplain Corps' oral history program, which contributed a number of interviews conducted with chaplains who

served with Marine Corps units. The latest interviews received are with RAdm Henry J. Rotrige, who served at Parris Island and was FMFLant Force Chaplain; Capt Frederick W. Meehling, who served at Quantico 1937-39, 1945-47, and 1953-54, and during World War II was assigned to the 3d Marine Division; RAdm Richard G. Hutcheson, Jr., who served with the 11th Marines in Korea; RAdm Withers Mc. Moore, who served at Parris Island, with the 3d Marine Division in Japan, and at MCAS, Cherry Point; and RAdm Francis L. Garrett, who was at Quantico from 1962 to 1965, and in Vietnam with III MAF, 1965-1966.—BMF

Recent Books of Historical Interest

From the library of the Marine Corps Historical Center, recently published books of professional interest to Marines. These books are available from local bookstores or libraries.

A Special Valor: the U.S. Marines and the Pacific War. Richard Wheeler. Harper and Row. 466 pp., 1983. The author, a former Marine and also author of *Iwo*, has written a history of the Marine Corps in the Pacific campaigns of World War II. Included are Wake Island; Guadalcanal; and the landings at Tarawa, Guam, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. The stories of Bougainville, Saipan, Eniwetok, and Kwajalein are also described. The text is supplemented with maps and photographs. \$24.95

Iwo Jima, Legacy of Valor. Bill D. Ross. Vanguard Press. 376 pp., 1985. A history of the battle, as well as a story of the men who fought there: Marines, sailors, and their Japanese opponents. The author himself served with the 3d Marine Division on the island. Includes black-and-white photographs to complement the text. \$22.50

And Brave Men, Too. Timothy S. Lowry. Crown Publishers. 246 pp., 1985. The author, who served two tours in Vietnam with the Marines, traveled across the country interviewing Medal of Honor recipients from the Vietnam War. The resulting book includes the personal accounts of these men and the men who fought along with them. \$14.95—EAE

Acquisitions

*Hearts of oak are our men,
Hearts of oak our ships.
Ready boys, ready,
Steady boys, steady.*

“Hearts of Oak” was a popular sea chanty, or work song, in the days of sails and long guns. It took skill and determination to sail the seas and fight effectively in the days of America’s frigate Navy. The Marine charged with the duty of fighting aboard these vessels was equipped with an array of armament far different from that of today’s Fleet Marine Force, but in some ways surprisingly similar.

The early nineteenth century equivalent of “General Quarters” was the command “Beat to Quarters.” With the strains of the rope-tension drums sounding the alarm, Marines would man their positions.

One of the most important positions for a Marine was in the fighting tops. This platform, high above the deck, provided an excellent vantage point of the enemy ship. Here the Marine would prepare and fire his muzzle-loading weapon. It was a French Marine’s shot from the fighting tops that struck down Admiral Lord Nelson in the famous Battle of Trafalgar.

Another job of the Marines aloft was that of lobbing grenades from their

The model of incendiary in the Museum was used from 1775 to the War of 1812.



In “Fighting Tops,” Col Charles M. Waterhouse depicted the Marine at center preparing to hurl a grenade. A different type of grenade is employed from this position high above the deck, but the painting shows how all such weapons were used.

platform down onto the decks of the enemy. With luck these grenades would hit a powder supply bringing the engagement to a quick conclusion. The minimum impact would be ignition of a fire, a serious hazard to a wooden ship.

The Marine Corps Museum has recently received an example of an early grenade. Mr. George Handzo, Jr., delivered to the Museum a ceramic ball he had recovered while his brother was doing excavation work at the site of Picatinny Arsenal. The Arsenal provided arms and ordnance to the Navy in its early years. The ceramic ball, once cleaned, proved to be a grenade, its probable date of manufacture circa 1805.

The grenade is made of glazed clay, and measures 2.56 inches in diameter. It is hollow with a series of ten holes equally spaced around the sphere.

The production of these weapons was a laborious task. Once the clay body had been baked hard, all but one of the holes would be sealed with a flammable cloth. Through the remaining hole would be poured a carcass (flaming shell) composition made of:

Potassium Nitrate.....	50 parts
Sulphur.....	25 parts
Antimony (powdered)....	5 parts
Rosin.....	8 parts
Pitch.....	5 parts

The ingredients show this as a highly incendiary material that would be difficult to extinguish and would stick to everything, much like modern napalm.

Once filled, the remaining hole would be sealed, and a copper wire attached. The final step in production was the addition of a long leather thong to the copper wire.

At the sound of “Beat to Quarters,” the Marines went aloft with a supply of grenades and a brazier of coals. As the enemy ship closed the distance, a grenade would be placed among the coals. When heated, and the cloth sealing the holes set afire, the grenade was whirled about the head by means of the leather thong. At the proper instant, with the materials burning brightly, the grenade would be released like an ancient sling shot. The flaming shell would fly through the air, and upon impact of the enemy’s deck, would burst apart. The flaming contents would be rapidly spread across the wooden planking. If not leading to the destruction of the ship, the flames would certainly hamper the enemy’s ability to fight on.

This antique weapon is a reminder of days long gone. A comparison however, of the skill, training, and discipline needed to use this weapon, and those issued today, show that some things never change.—JHMcG

Account Illuminates Guadalcanal Record

One of the most interesting and important items added to the Personal Papers Collection in recent months is the World War II diary of the late LtCol Harold W. "Indian Joe" Bauer, USMC, who earned the Medal of Honor in the skies over Guadalcanal in 1942. Col William D. Bauer, USMC, donated his father's diary to an already voluminous collection of personal materials.

The account begins in December 1941, prior to the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and continues almost daily until LtCol Bauer was lost in combat on 14 November 1942. Valuable for documenting the build-up of Marine Corps aviation in the early days of World War II, the diary is also a fascinating glimpse into aerial combat experience during the first days of the battle of Guadalcanal.

On 3 October 1942, Bauer wrote, "Our division dove on 10 zero's. We got 3 on the first pass . . . I definitely shot down four and might have got more. . . . At the end of [the] affair I noticed a parachute going down in the water when suddenly a zero came out of nowhere and fired a very long burst at the dangling pilot. . . . I went after the zero with much gusto. . . . I'm positive he didn't get his plane back to base."

The diary also reveals the personal side of a Medal of Honor holder of World War II. "As I sit here," he wrote in early 1942, "it is still difficult for me to realize that we are actually on our way down under. I expect to wake up any minute and find it all a dream."

The holdings of the Personal Papers Collection continue to expand at a rapid rate during the 40th anniversary of World War II. The Bauer diary is one of a number of new items that illuminate Marine Corps history of the 1941-1945 era.



LtCol Harold W. Bauer

Currently, special categories of items are especially wanted for the Collection: combat letters and diaries from all periods of Marine history, particularly World War II; personal papers from Marines who served in shipboard detachments, from all periods; and personal papers from Marines who served in armored units, from all periods.—JMM

Historical Quiz: Marine Commandants

1. Which Commandant of the Marine Corps served the longest term as CMC? 10. 14.
2. Which state claims the most CMCs as native sons? 9. Five (Shepherd, Fite, Chapman, Barrow, Kelley).
3. Who was the first Commandant to serve in the grade of four-star general? 8. Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., age 89.
4. How many CMCs were born outside the United States? 7. Seven (Fuller, Neville, Barnett, Lejeune, Russell, Greene, and Cushman).
5. Which two Commandants had the same middle name? 6. Two (BGen Jacob Zeilin and MajGen George Elliott).
6. How many CMCs attended West Point? 5. John Archer Lejeune and Alexander Archer Vandegrift.
7. How many CMCs graduated from the Naval Academy? 4. One (Anthony Gale, Ireland).
8. Who is the oldest living former Commandant of the Marine Corps? 3. Alexander A. Vandegrift, by the Act of Congress of 21 March 1945.
9. Since World War II, how many Assistant Commandants of the Marine Corps have gone on to serve as CMC? 2. Pennsylvania (5): Nicholas, Barton, Harris, Zeilin, and McCawley.
10. How many CMCs are buried at Arlington National Cemetery? 1. Archibald Henderson (from 17 October 1820 until he died on 6 January 1859).

8th & I Parade Season Owes Origin to Gen Shepherd

by LtCol Wayne A. Babb, USMC

Early this summer, Governor Charles S. Robb of Virginia was invited to be the reviewing official for an evening parade at Marine Barracks, 8th & I, in Washington. The invitation was not out of the ordinary since many distinguished civilian and military leaders have been honored guests at evening parades held at the oldest post of the Corps. However, of note is the fact that the Governor, then known as Capt "Chuck" Robb, USMC, was the adjutant at 8th and I during the late 1960s. During that tour, Capt Robb met his wife, the former Lynda Bird Johnson and the daughter of the late President, at the Barracks' officers' mess. Even though the Governor's parade was one of the few over the years to be cancelled due to inclement weather, drenching rain did not prevent the Commandant from entertaining the state's highest official at the Commandant's House that evening. Nor did the wet weather preclude the Governor and his wife from spending some time with the current complement of Barracks officers and their spouses at the restored Closed Mess and bachelor officers' quarters at Center House.

Yet, the traditional, landing-party-manual, by-the-book parade the Governor was to review, and the many other parades held this summer and reviewed by other distinguished Americans, in the words of Gen Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., former commander of the Barracks and 24th Commandant of the Marine Corps, "were not always that way."

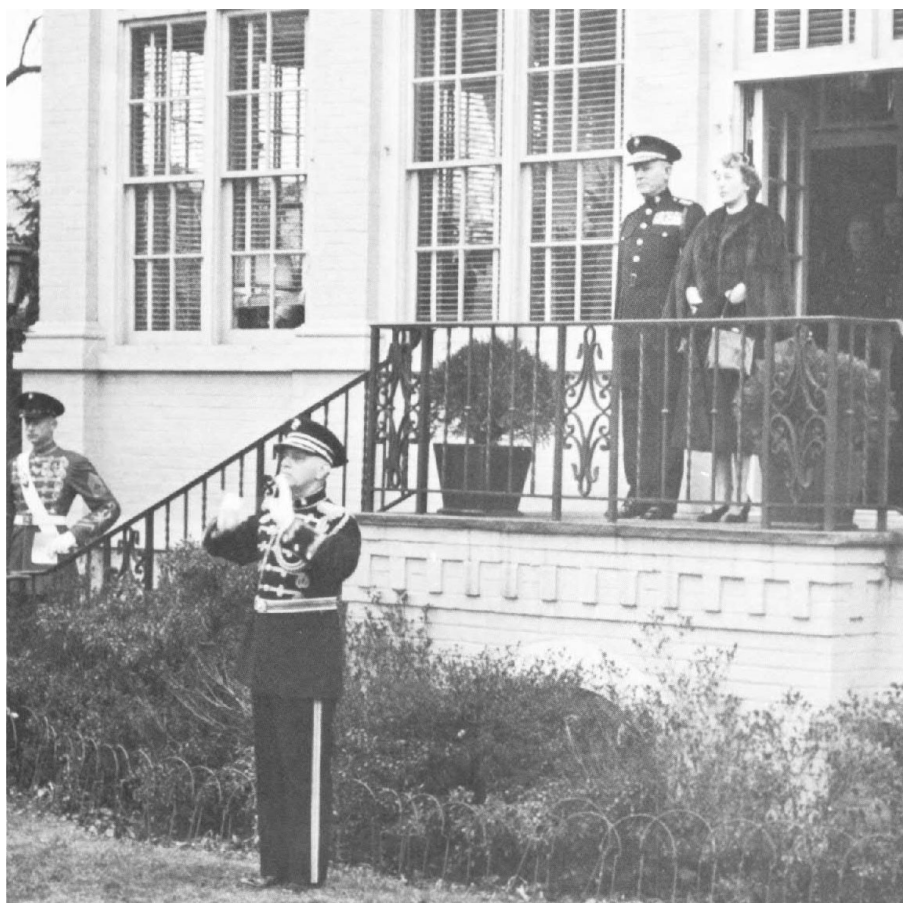
The oral histories of several retired and deceased flag officers whose careers were inextricably linked to the post many regard as the "real birthplace of the Corps" are useful for plotting the development of the Barrack's ceremonial functions. These comments, made with pride and with admiration, describe a search for military perfection. The present-day parade, with all its pageantry, special lighting, and music is expected to attract more than 75,000 spectators this summer.

In 1934, the 20th Commandant, Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., then a major having returned from four years with the Gendarmerie in Haiti, assumed temporary command of the Barracks. Maj-Gen John H. Russell, Commandant at the time, informed Maj Shepherd that he was to go to the Marine Barracks and, in General Russell's words, "I want this

place straightened out. Make a military garrison of this post. It's the oldest post in the Corps and it should be the best." Having essentially a free hand to do as he wished, Maj Shepherd began the task of "smartening the men up as Gen Russell told me to" by having a parade and guard mount every morning. In addition, the officers and men conducted an

In 1934, then-Maj Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., was ordered by MajGen John H. Russell, the Commandant, to make the Washington Marine Barracks the best in the Corps.





Returning to the Barracks on 1 January 1952, the 20th Commandant and Mrs. Shepherd are serenaded by the U.S. Marine Band as they occupy their new quarters.

afternoon parade once a week and invited guests from the military and civilian community of Washington to attend.

Many accounts show that various ceremonial functions were held at the Barracks over the 200-plus years of the Corps' existence. However, it is clear that Gen Russell's directions were the catalyst and Maj Shepherd's actions were the functional basis of the parades held at the Barracks today. LtCol John H. Admire, in his history of the Evening Parade, noted that "throughout the 1800s the close-order drill and parades performed at the Barracks were an expected and normal part of the training of new recruits and officers." Indeed, it might be argued that the history of Marine Corps expeditionary forces and their effectiveness is an extension of the training of the officers and men who joined them from 8th and I. In 1911, the relocation of recruit training to Parris Island gave the Barracks the time to perfect its participation in ceremonial events in the nation's capital. While the mission of the Barracks became a bit

more ceremonial, no commander forgot the responsibility to first train Marines as fighting men since military contingencies both foreign and domestic have often caused the cancellation or postponement of ceremonial functions.

The integration of ceremony, drill, and training may have been inspired by the 3d Commandant, LtCol Franklin Wharton, who as noted by Col Robert D. Heintz Jr., in *Soldiers of the Sea*, simply ordered on 6 September 1808, "Headquarters of the Marine Corps at Washington considered as the school where young officers and recruits are to be instructed in the various duties which they may be called upon to perform, it is expected that in future the Commanding or Senior officer in Barracks will order such Parades as he may think necessary to insure the same, exclusive of those already ordered; and that he will require the attendance of such officers on them as he may think proper."

In LtCol Wharton's period, officer and recruit training, in addition to the Corps' Headquarters, were located at

the Barracks. The Barracks at 8th and I was the Corps' major post until the separation to other locations of the Headquarters and recruit training functions in the early 1900s. However Spartan they may have been, ceremonial functions were a way of life at the Barracks from the beginning. However, until MajGen Russell gave Maj Shepherd his marching orders in 1934, parade activities had little systematic structure or continuity.

Maj Shepherd changed all that almost immediately.

Under the watchful eye of the Commandant, Maj Shepherd initiated a full season of regularly scheduled parades during the summer of 1934 and brought to bear a strong British military influence. As Gen Shepherd recorded in his oral history transcript, "During the period I was in Shanghai, I was very much taken with the drum and fife corps the British regiments had out there. . . . So when I was the executive officer at the Marine Barracks in Washington I organized a small drum and bugle corps to go along with the band. . . ." Maj Shepherd's tour as commanding officer of the Barracks was only a few months as he was relieved by Col Emile P. Moses and became executive officer. Gen Shepherd said about his relationship with Col Moses, "We became close friends and worked in complete harmony

Gen Shepherd takes the review at a Barracks Sunset Parade at a time when the "British influence" was the greatest.



with each other. I admired Col Moses very much and learned a great deal from him." The structure of the Sunset Parade, as these late afternoon events came to be known, thus was the result of a joint effort of Col Moses and Maj Shepherd.

The ceremonial era spanning the more than two decades after Shepherd's arrival have come to be known as the period when British influence was the greatest. The late BGen Robert H. Williams, USMC, also known as "English Bob," and the commanding officer of the Barracks during the latter part of Gen Shepherd's tour as Commandant, said, ". . . it was Gen Shepherd who developed the parade. . . . The Sunset formerly, now the Evening Parade, was developed as it is very largely by Gen Shepherd. . . . The form of the parade, its size and many details connected with it, which we might say are little

Britishisms, and the British are very good at parades, were done by Gen Shepherd."

During Gen Shepherd's tour as Commandant in the mid-1950s, he took an active role in expanding some of the innovations he began 20 or so years before. He made the late Friday afternoon Sunset Parade one of the most desirable social events in Washington. Even though there were no stands and the 600 chairs filled every conceivable space, the garden parties given by the Commandant and Mrs. Shepherd accommodated a full house virtually every Friday afternoon. In order to take full advantage of the potential positive impact of the Sunset Parade on invited guests, Gen Shepherd initiated the polishing or gold-plating of the medals; double soling of ceremonial shoes; chrome-plating of rifle butts, bayonets, and other parts of weapons; and adding cleats to heels in

order to place additional emphasis on precision drill.

The two decades following Maj Shepherd's tour at the Barracks were filled with changes sandwiched around World War II. When Maj Shepherd left the Barracks in 1936, he could not know that he would eventually return in a position to refine his earlier efforts. Whatever influence Gen Shepherd may have had on the naming of Col Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., as Col "English Bob" William's relief as commanding officer of the Barracks, would also be important. For it was under Col Chapman's guidance and direction that the most dramatic changes occurred at the Barracks, leading to the highly popular and successful evening parades presented today. In an upcoming issue of *Fortitudine* the Chapman years will be examined—a period of innovations which Governor Robb will remember well.

Formal garden parties given by the Shepherds attracted guests who frequently helped to fill the 600 available chairs, in the absence of grandstands, afterwards for the Friday afternoon

Sunset Parades. Gen Shepherd assists Mrs. Shepherd through the gate of Commandant's House, followed by their guests, Commissioner of the Trust Territories and Mrs. Frank Midkiff.



In Memoriam

Col Angus Malcolm "Tiny" Fraser, USMC (Ret), died on Saturday, 6 July, at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Washington, D.C.. He had been hospitalized since an accident at Thanksgiving. He was 72.

Col Fraser, a decorated combat veteran of World War II, saw service around the globe during his nearly 30 years in the Marine Corps, serving in England, China, Guam, Korea, Samoa, and Taiwan along with numerous stateside assignments.

Born in Galveston, Texas, on 5 March 1913, Col Fraser graduated from high school at San Antonio before becoming a member of the Texas National Guard. In September 1936 he enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve and in February 1939 was appointed a second lieutenant in the Reserve. He was assigned to extended active duty in July 1940 and with the outbreak of World War II was ordered with the 8th Marines to Samoa.

He returned to the United States in August 1943 but went back to the Pacific area a year later. He arrived on Guadalcanal with the 29th Marines, 6th Marine Division, and was assigned as regimental operations officer during the training for and in operations against the enemy on Okinawa from April to June 1945. He was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat "V" for meritorious service during that campaign.

Col Angus M. Fraser



Col Fraser subsequently served as a battalion commander on Guam and later in Tsingtao, China, until his return to the United States in early 1946. After serving at Norfolk, Virginia, with the Amphibious Training Command for three years, Col Fraser went to London, England, to attend the Joint Services Staff College. In December 1949, he was assigned to the Office of the Naval Attache, London, serving also as liaison officer, Combined Operations Headquarters.

Returning to the United States in November 1951, Col Fraser was next appointed Secretary, Marine Corps Development Center, and Joint Landing Force Board, Quantico. In July 1952, he was assigned to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for duty as Secretary of the Joint Landing Force Board.

Col Fraser was ordered to Korea in October 1953 where he served as senior advisor to the 2d Korean Marine Corps Regiment, and as executive officer, Advisory Group, 1st Korean Marine Corps Brigade, earning a Navy Commendation Ribbon and the award of the Republic of Korea Ulchi Medal for his exemplary service during this period. He remained in Korea as regimental executive officer of the 7th Marines until November 1954.

On his return to the United States, Col Fraser was named assistant to the secretary of the General Staff at Headquarters Marine Corps and was promoted to the rank of colonel in October 1956. In February 1957, he was assigned to the Policy Analysis Division and later was named head of the Strategic Plans Section, Plans Branch, G-3 Division. He next became Special Projects Officer at Headquarters Marine Corps in April 1958. Following this assignment, he entered the National War College. Upon graduation in June 1959, Col Fraser was transferred to Quantico as Chief, Tactics Section, Marine Corps Tactics and Techniques Board.

In March 1960, he was ordered to Taiwan where he served as senior Marine advisor to the Chinese Marine Corps,

Military Assistance Advisory Group. Upon his return from the Republic of China, Col Fraser joined the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, California, where, in turn, he commanded the 1st Service Battalion and the 1st Marine Regiment. Following this tour he became chief of staff of the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

During his career, Col Fraser served with and was touched by such luminaries of the Corps as Generals Shepherd, Thomas, and Twining, and legendary Marines as Thomason, Bleasdale and "Bigfoot" Brown.

He retired from active duty in November 1964 and moved to the Washington area where he became a management consultant to the Smithsonian Institution and served as a senior research analyst specializing in Chinese defense matters with the Institute for Defense Analysis and other research groups. In addition to several studies he authored while with the Institute for Defense Analysis and other research firms, he wrote *Your Future in the Marine Corps* (1969) and *The People's Liberation Army: Communist China's Armed Forces* (1973). His articles on a wide variety of military topics appeared in numerous scholarly journals. He also served on the Commandant's Advisory Committee on Marine Corps History and more recently on the Board of Directors of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation.

At the time of his accident, Col Fraser was well along on a biography of Gen Gerald C. Thomas supported by a grant from the Historical Foundation. He had thoroughly researched Gen Thomas' career, made use of his personal papers and oral history transcripts in the Historical Center, done extensive oral interviews with Gen Thomas, and corresponded widely with Marines who had served with the general. It is anticipated that the material Col Fraser had gathered will be used to eventually complete the project. —DJC

Museum Exhibition Commemorates 40th Anniversary of WWII

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas

“From Dawn to Setting Sun: The U.S. Marine Corps in World War II” is the latest major exhibition in the Museum’s Special Exhibits Gallery. It was opened to the public during the first week of June and is expected to be on display into 1986.

The exhibition is composed of 16 displays, each of which addresses a World War II campaign, from the 1941 defense of Iceland to the occupation of China and Japan at the end of the war. Most of these exhibits were built over the past five years and first shown in the lobby of Headquarters, Marine Corps, on the 40th anniversary of the battle or period which the display commemorates.

Although it was a great help to the curatorial staff to begin with existing displays, constructing a unified exhibi-



Among 16 component displays is the one devoted to the capture of Peleliu, which includes firearms used in the battle and Marines’ souvenirs of the defending forces.

Displays made for the lobby of Headquarters Marine Corps form the basis of “From Dawn to Setting Sun.” This grouping awaited re-installation by the Exhibits Section.



tion still required a major effort on the part of the exhibits staff, as each of the component displays was completely redesigned to fit in new cases and available wall space. The Exhibits Section worked for several months making special mounts for artifacts and framing new maps and documents.

Aside from its obvious appeal to veterans, and its timeliness, this exhibition is also noteworthy in that it is the Museum’s first major show based on computerized cataloging methods. Most of the artifacts and about half of the documents were selected from print-outs generated by the computer located in the Registrar’s office. Since most of our artifacts received prior to 1976 have not yet been re-cataloged and entered into the computer, those items chosen for the displays were mainly ones which have been mentioned in past “Acquisition” columns of *Fortitudine*. As examples, BGen James J. Keating’s molds for the “George” medal are in the Guadalcanal exhibit, Pvt Carl A. Clausser’s medals are in the Iwo Jima exhibit, and the Japanese sword donated by GySgt Francis H. Killeen is prominently displayed in the center of the exhibit on Peleliu.

Although limitations on space prevented exhibiting all of the various small arms used in the Pacific theater, the most widely known ones are included. In fact, several of the 30-plus weapons on display were actually carried or captured by Marines in campaigns ranging from Tarawa to Iwo Jima. Similarly, most of the artifacts in each cased exhibit are directly associated with the event and the Marines who took part in it.

This aspect of the exhibit also carried over into the use of documents related to individual Marines. A bonus of our comprehensive re-cataloging effort for the Personal Papers Collection was realized when the new finding aids turned up material which had not been closely examined in recent years by the

staff. Some items of importance were rediscovered among the hundreds of collections which have recently been inventoried on a page-by-page basis. From this bounty, the curatorial staff was able to supplement documents in the exhibition found through the computer search.

It is hoped that the blend of two- and three-dimensional objects will tell the story of the Marines in the war, as well as give the viewer some sense of what it must have been like to be there. Museum visitors can follow the progress of Marine units to victory, since all of the component displays contain at least one original map, many of them with overlays graphically charting the course of the campaign in the Pacific. Mr. George MacGillivray, a Museum volunteer in the cartographic collection, researched and located these in the course of his work in

regularizing this extensive collection.

Augmenting the maps and documents is a series of original photographs which chronologically follow the action and point out salient features of the different campaigns. Most of the more than 500 photographs in the exhibition were selected from the files of the Defense Audio-Visual Agency, but the staff also was able to solicit a number of unpublished personal photographs for several displays.

The personal side of the war is thus presented hand-in-hand with the historical and technological aspects of the exhibit. Those who lived through these times can relive their memories and those who were not alive then can gain an appreciation of the heroic struggles in combat of their fathers and grandfathers.

Recruiting Poster Art Adorns Center

Red-and-white vertical stripes and a rectangular blue box filled with rows of white stars are a strong backdrop for a young Marine brandishing a pistol: this important example of American patriotic art was created as a recruiting poster by artist James Montgomery Flagg and is one of a number of his works in the Marine Corps Art Collection. A mini-exhibit of original poster art from the Collection dating from World Wars I and II,

Poster artist James Montgomery Flagg converses with his model, Capt Ross E. Rowell, pioneering Marine aviator.



including this one, currently is hung in the reception area of the Historical Center's second-floor offices.

Flagg is known to have produced 47 patriotic paintings later reproduced into posters, magazine covers, or flyers. His most famous poster, recognized by millions from its display in post offices and recruiting stations, is undoubtedly "Uncle Sam Wants You." It's actually a self-portrait produced with the help of mirrors. Flagg used actors and contemporary Marines as models for his other posters. The Marine with the pistol in the Historical Center display is Capt Ross E. Rowell, at the time, 1916-17, in charge of the Corps' Publicity Bureau. Rowell later achieved fame as a Marine aviator, beginning as the perfecter of formation dive bombing in support of ground action in the second Nicaraguan campaign of 1927.

"Tell That to the Marines!" is another of Flagg's works which enjoyed instant public recognition. The angry figure depicted is a stage actor who later also posed for a "Tell That to the Marines!" statue. The phrase was an unofficial motto of the Corps in World War I, boosted by Flagg staging an enactment of the poster on the steps of the New York Public Library for a war bond drive, and singer Al Jolson and songwriter Gus Edwards producing a song by the same name.

TELL THAT TO THE MARINES!



"Tell That to the Marines!" was yet another of Flagg's popular renditions.

In September 1915 the Corps launched a "comprehensive press campaign" from the Publicity Bureau in New York City. The recruiting effort eventually extended to newspapers and magazines, radio programs, recruitment letters, and, especially, posters. The Bureau secured the participation of a number of talented and renowned American artists for the production of recruiting posters and much of their creative outpouring has found its way into the Collection, as a significant resource for scholars of both art and American history. — WSH

FLIGHT LINES

Grumman F6F Hellcat

The F6F Hellcat continued the same all-metal, single-engine, single-seat, mid-wing design used by Grumman in its production of the F4F Wildcat. There was, however, only a family resemblance between the two aircraft. Early combat experiences against Japanese aircraft demanded substantial

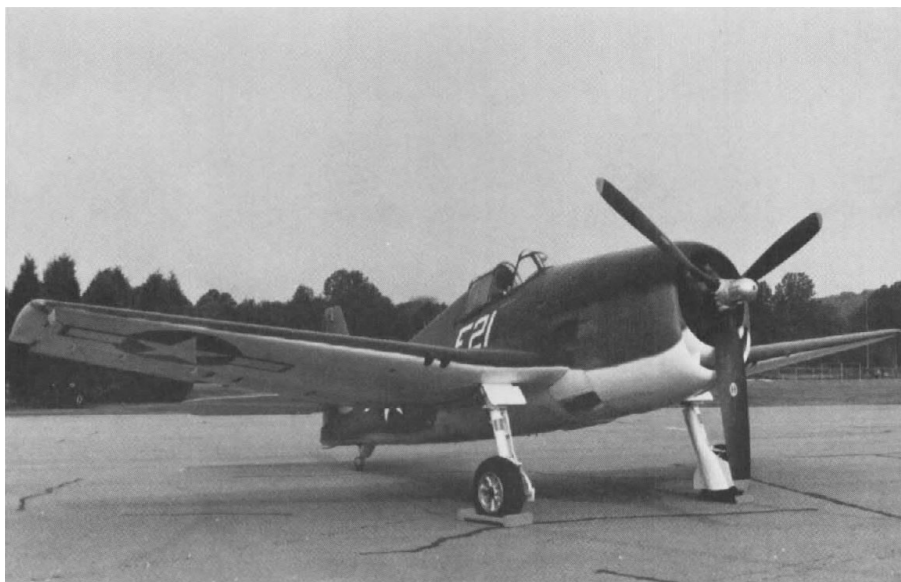
performance improvements over those of the Wildcat. As a result, the first production model of the Hellcat, the F6F-3, exhibited a 60 percent increase in maximum gross weight over its Wildcat predecessor. This permitted major increases in fuel and ammunition capacities. More significantly, the F6F-3's

powerful Pratt & Whitney R-2800-10 Double Wasp engine gave American pilots an advantage over their Japanese opponents in the areas of level flight airspeed, rate of climb, and service ceiling. Further, as with the Wildcat, Grumman's emphasis on superior armament and rugged construction continued to provide major dividends in combat.

Fifteen months after the introduction of the F6F-3 into the fleet, an improved version of the Hellcat, the F6F-5, entered service. The F6F-5, the major production type of the series, was nearly identical to the F6F-3 in appearance. Despite an increase of over 1,000 pounds in the aircraft's gross weight it had a higher airspeed than the F6F-3.

Navy preference for the F6F as its primary carrier-based fighter, Marine Corps satisfaction with the Corsair as a fighter-bomber, and saturated aircraft production capacity limited the Marines' primary use of the Hellcat to its night-fighter version. Marine Night Fighter Squadron 532 [VMF(N)-532] was the first Marine F6F unit to see action when it began flying night combat air patrols from Tarawa in January 1944. VMF(N)-541 earned the honor of being the first Marine F6F squadron to achieve tangible results when it scored 22 victories during the December '44—January '45 time frame while supporting MacArthur's forces in the Philippines. Most successful of all Marine Corps night fighter squadrons, however, was VMF(N)-533. Commanded by Maj Marion M. Magruder, "Black Mack's Killers" were credited with 35 confirmed victories during the Okinawa campaign, and the squadron's Capt Robert Baird was credited with six kills, making him the Marine Corps' only night-fighter ace.

The Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum possesses two Hellcats. An F6F-3 (bu. no. 41476) is on display at Quantico. The other Hellcat, an F6F-5K (bu. no. 94263), is on display at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, Long Island, New York. — FMB.



The Grumman Hellcat was produced from 1942-44 as the F6F-3 and beginning in April 1944 as the F6F-5. Both models had maximum airspeeds in excess of 300 knots.

Technical Data

As depicted by the F6F-3 airplane characteristics and performance chart issued 8-4-42 for fighter configuration with 1,200 rounds of ammunition.

Manufacturer: Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation, Bethpage, New York.

Type: Carrier-based fighter.

Accommodation: Pilot only.

Power Plant: One 2,000-h.p. Pratt & Whitney R-2800-10.

Dimensions: Span, 42 ft., 10 in.; Length, 33 ft., 10 in.; Height 11 ft., 11 in.

Weights: Empty, 8,992 lbs.; Gross, 11,486 lbs.

Performance: Max. speed, 380 m.p.h. at 24,000 ft.; Service ceiling, 35,400 ft.; Range, 1,000 st. mi.; Climb at sea level, 2,310 ft. per min.

Armaments: Six fixed, forward-firing .50-caliber machine guns.

Reserve Historical Unit Report: Women Marines Volume Readied

Col Mary V. Stremlow, USMCR, a former member of Mobilization Training Unit (Historical) DC-7, returned to the Historical Center on 28 May. For the next three days, she and Mrs. Laura J. Dennis, the Center's volunteer public affairs officer, worked on captions for the upcoming publication of "A History of Women Marines, 1946-1977." The history will join the works already published on the services of women in the Marine Corps of World Wars I and II.

The project was conceived in 1975 by then-Col Margaret A. Brewer, the last Director of Women Marines and subsequently the first woman brigadier general in the Marine Corps. At that time she noted that the phasing out of women-only organizations was starting a new era for women in the Corps, and ending an old one. Gen Brewer felt that this significant period in the history of women in the Marines deserved to be recorded for posterity. For that reason, Mary Stremlow, then a lieutenant colonel, was recalled to active duty for one year on 1 October 1976, to research and write the history. A year later, in September 1977, the newly promoted Col Stremlow delivered a draft manuscript of the history.

In January 1977, MSgt Laura J. Dennis, USMCR, was assigned as research assistant on the project. MSgt Dennis, who began her Marine Corps career in 1953 when she joined a Reserve unit in Detroit, was serving on active duty at Headquarters Marine Corps with the Division of Public Affairs, now Division of Information, when she was reassigned to the history project. She retired from the Reserve in January 1978 with 22 years of service, and two months later, at the Director's request, rejoined the staff at the Center in her present civilian volunteer status.

In the intervening years, the draft manuscript has been edited and sent out to many woman Marines and other knowledgeable sources for comments. Those comments have been incorporated into the original text, and photographic illustrations have been researched and selected.

Col Stremlow joined the Women Officer Candidate Course in 1953 as Mary Vertalino and was commissioned in 1955 after graduating from Buffalo State Teachers College. Her active duty included tours as a commissary officer at Camp Lejeune, an instructor at Woman Officers School at Quantico, an inspector-instructor of the Woman Reserve Platoon and woman officer selection officer at Boston, and as a company commander, S-3, and executive officer of Woman Recruit Training Battalion, Parris Island.

Col Stremlow is aided by typesetter Mrs. Catherine A. Kerns.



Since leaving the regulars in 1963, Col Stremlow has continued to have frequent tours of active duty at Woman Officers School, Quantico, and at Headquarters Marine Corps, where she has served on several special projects and boards. From May 1978 to April 1981, she was a member of MTU (Hist) DC-7, and from 1981 to 1985, she served as the officer-in-charge of the Mobilization Station in Buffalo.

Col Stremlow, who currently is the manager of administration at Sierra Research Division, LTV Aerospace and Defense in Buffalo, is a member of MTU NY-2, which works with the 25th Marines. As the Regimental Education Support Team (REST), the unit is developing lesson plans for recurring classes, such as drug and alcohol abuse and voting rights.

Col Stremlow is currently proof-reading and correcting the amended manuscript and writing a preface. The history will thereafter be sent to the Government Printing Office for publication. — CVM

FOUNDATION NEWS

(Continued from page 24)

LtCol John E. Gray, USMCR (Ret)
 Col Ronald L. Sowers, USMCR
 Col William J. Wise, USMC (Ret)
 Col John C. Vernon, Jr., USMCR
 Mr. Clifford J. Osborn
 Dr. Paul W. Rossey
 LtCol Richard McCarthy, Jr., USMCR (Ret)
 Mr. James B. Sales
 LtCol Frederick C. Grawe, USMCR (Ret)
 LtCol George A. Jonic, Jr., USMCR
 Mr. James M. Rosed
 Mr. Robert B. Shea
 Col William G. Paul, USMCR (Ret)
 Mr. Maurice W. Fletcher
 Col Phil Yeckel, USMCR (Ret)
 Mr. John M. Hennessey
 Col Maxie R. Williams, USMC (Ret)
 CWO2 Lawrence E. P. O'Brien, USMCR
 LtCol Richard R. Willich, USMC (Ret)
 Maj Joseph McNamara, USMCR
 LtCol Wayne L. Twito, USMC (Ret)
 LtCol Alan G. Bralower, USMCR (Ret)
 LtCol R. W. Murphy, Jr., USMCR (Ret)
 Maj Joseph N. Mueller, USMCR
 Col M. L. Williams, USMC (Ret)
 Sgt David V. Enter, USMC (Ret)
 Col James R. Smith, USMCR
 BGen Leonard E. Fribourg, USMC (Ret)
 Maj Elva B. Spencer, USMCR (Ret)
 LtCol Nathaniel B. Rosoff, USMCR (Ret)
 Mr. John M. Priestley
 Col J. Shelton Scales, USMCR (Ret)
 Mr. J. Stewart Bryan
 Col John T. Coyne, USMCR

Members' inquiries about the Foundation's activities may be sent to the office at the Center or calls can be made to (202) 433-3914. — The Secretary, MCHF

World War II Chronology

July-September 1945

Final Operations and the End of the War Against Japan

1 July. The final phase of the naval war against Japan opened when the Third Fleet sortied from Leyte, Philippines, to attack the home island and destroy the Japanese naval and air forces.

10 July. The Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet (CinCPac) ordered MajGen Louis E. Woods' Tenth Army Tactical Air Force, on Okinawa, to conduct operations in conjunction with the Eighth Air Force, U.S. Army Strategic Air Force, in the Pacific.

13 July. The Far East Air Forces expanded to conduct tactical operations in support of the planned invasion of Kyushu, Japan.

16 July. At Alamogordo, New Mexico, the first atomic bomb was successfully exploded.

On the scene for the occupation of Nagasaki, Japan, on 23 September 1945 was Marine SSgt Martin Cohn, who recorded a

17 July-2 August. The Potsdam Conference met in Germany. The U.S., in company with the United Kingdom and the Republic of China, issued the Potsdam Declaration calling for the unconditional surrender of Japan (26 July).

24-26 July. Pilots on board the Marine escort carrier *Vella Gulf* (VMF-513, VMTB-234, and CASD-3) flew sorties against Pagan and Rota Islands north of Guam.

1 August. Marine Carrier Group 4 on board the Marine escort carrier *Cape Gloucester* (attached to Task Group 31.2), departed Okinawa to cover minesweeping operations in the East China Sea and to launch strikes against shipping in the Saddle and Parker Island group near Shanghai.

6 August. The first atomic bomb to be exploded in combat was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

8 August. The USSR declared war on Japan, to be effective on 9 August.

9 August. Marine aircraft flew their last bombing mission in

company formation of the 2d Marines. The regiment relieved Marines of the cruisers Biloxi and Wichita on duty ashore.





BGen William T. Clement is escorted by the admiral commanding the Yokosuka Naval Base at Tokyo during its surrender to elements of the Third Fleet Landing Force on 30 August 1945.

the Bismarcks when PBJs from Marine Bomber Squadrons 413, 423, 443 and Marine Aircraft Group 61 headquarters raided Rabaul.

9 August. The second atomic bomb to be exploded in combat was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.

10 August. Japan sued for peace on the basis of the terms enunciated in the Potsdam Declaration (26 July).

11 August. President Truman informed Japan that a Supreme Commander would accept its surrender and that the Emperor and High Command would have to issue a cease-fire to all Japanese armed forces before the Allies could accept Japan's suit for surrender.

14 August. President Truman announced that a cease-fire was in effect and that the war had ended. Gen MacArthur was designated Supreme Commander Allied Powers (SCAP) and given authority to accept the surrender of Japan for the governments of the U.S., Republic of China, United Kingdom, and USSR.

14 August. Adm Nimitz, the Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Area (CinCPOA), ordered the cessation of all offensive operations against Japanese forces.

14 August. Japan accepted the Allied unconditional surrender terms.

20 August. The Japanese emissaries to Manila received General Order No. 1. Under its terms, the Japanese commanders of forces in the Pacific islands south of Japan would surrender to CinCPOA or his representatives; and the commanders of forces in Japan proper, the Philippines, and the southern section of Korea surrender to the Commander in Chief, Southwest Pacific Area (CinCSPA) or his representatives.

29 August. Adm Nimitz (CinCPOA) arrived in Tokyo Bay

and authorized Adm Halsey to begin the rescue of Allied prisoners immediately.

30 August. BGen William T. Clement, USMC, commanding the Fleet Landing Force, received the surrender of the Yokosuka Naval Base area, and the First Naval District capitulated to RAdm Robert B. Carney, USN.

2 September. Japan surrendered formally to the Allied Powers on board the battleship USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. The Marine detachments of the *Missouri* as well as Marine officers from Fleet Marine Force, Pacific; the staffs of Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet; and the Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Area along with the Third Fleet were present.

NOTE: By the end of the war, the Marine Corps had reached a peak strength of 485,833. The major Marine ground commands in the Pacific consisted of Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, at Oahu, Hawaiian Islands; the III Amphibious Corps on Guam, and the V Amphibious Corps on Maui, Hawaiian Islands. Marine Divisions were located as follows: the 1st Division, Okinawa; the 2d Division, Saipan; the 3d Division, Guam; the 4th Division, Maui; the 5th Division, at sea en route to Japan; and the 6th Division (less the 4th Regimental Combat Team at Yokosuka), Guam. Of the Marine aviation organizations, Air, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, was based at Ewa and the Marine aircraft wings were distributed as follows: the 1st Wing, Mindanao, Philippines; the 2d Wing, Okinawa; the 3d Wing, Ewa; and the 4th Wing, Majuro. The groups and squadrons of the wings were based either with the wings or on various islands throughout the Pacific. A Marine carrier group in four escort carriers, under the operational control of Carrier Division 27, was attached to the 3d Wing.

The Surrender of Japanese Forces in the Pacific

20 August. VAdm George D. Murray, USN, Commander, Marianas, organized the Marianas Surrender Acceptance and Occupation Command (Task Group 94.3) to standardize the conduct of the surrender and occupation program. It was comprised of the Truk, Bonins, and Palau Occupation Units, the Guam Evacuation Unit, and three other units commanded by naval officers.

22 August. The Japanese garrison on Mille Atoll surrendered; it was the first Japanese group in the Pacific Ocean Area to capitulate.

2 September. Japanese army and navy officers on Truk Island, the largest Japanese force in the Pacific, surrendered. The terms of the capitulation committed Japanese troops on the following islands to surrender: Truk, Wake, the Palaus, Mortlake (Nomo), Mille, Ponape, Kusaie, Jaluit, Maloelap, Wotje, Puluwat, Woleai, Rota, Pagan, Nomoluk, Nauru, and Ocean.

2 September. The commander of Japanese forces on Rota Island capitulated to Col Howard N. Stent, USMC, representing the Guam Island Commander, MajGen Henry L. Larsen.

2 September. The Japanese area commander capitulated the Palau Group and all forces under his command, including Yap, to BGen Ford O. Rogers, USMC, Island Commander, Peleliu.

3 September. The commander of the Japanese forces in the

Bonins surrendered to Commo John H. Magruder, Jr., USN, on Chichi Jima.

4 September. The Japanese commander capitulated his forces to BGen Lawson H. M. Sanderson, USMC, commander of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, representing the Commander, Marshalls-Gilberts Area, and the atoll was designated a Naval Air Facility.

7 September. Gen Joseph W. Stilwell, USA, accepted the surrender of the Japanese Ryukyus garrison, signifying the beginning of American political hegemony in the area.

11 September. Lieutenant Colonel Hideyuki Takeda, Imperial Japanese Army, surrendered the last unified element of the Japanese defenders on Guam.

The Occupation of Japan

8 August. Advance copies of Adm William F. Halsey's Operations Plan 10-45 for the occupation of Japan were distributed, setting up Task Force 31 (Yokosuka Occupation Force).

10 August. Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, directed the 6th Marine Division to furnish a regimental combat team to the Third Fleet for possible early occupation duty in Japan. BGen William T. Clement, USMC, Assistant Division Commander, was named to head the Fleet Landing Force.

10 August. RAdm Oscar C. Badger, USN, was designated Commander, Task Force 31 (Yokosuka Operation Force), and all ships were alerted to organize and equip bluejacket and Marine landing forces for occupation duty in Japan.

11 August. Preliminary plans for the activation of Task Force Able, to participate in the occupation of Japan, were prepared by the III Amphibious Corps. The task force was to consist of a skeletal headquarters detachment, the 4th Marines (Reinforced), an amphibian tractor company, and a medical company.

11 August. Concurrently, officers designated to form Gen Clement's staff were alerted and immediately began planning for Task Force Able's departure for Japan. Warning orders were

passed to the staff directing that a regimental combat team with attached units be ready to embark within 48 hours.

14 August. Amplification of JCS General Order No. 1 called for key areas of Japan, Korea, and the China coast to be occupied.

20 August. The 4th Regimental Combat Team assigned to occupation duty in Japan, arrived on Guam and joined Task Force 31.

21 August. LtGen Robert L. Eichelberger, USA, commanding the Eighth Army, directed that the landing by Task Force 31 at Yokosuka, Japan, be made at the naval base. The reserve battalion of the 4th Marines was directed to land on Futtsu Saki to eliminate any threat by shore batteries and coastal forts.

28 August. The first American task force, consisting of combat ships of Task Force 31, entered Tokyo Bay and dropped anchor off Yokosuka.

30 August. The 11th Airborne Division, USA, and the various advance headquarters staffs landed at Atsugi from Okinawa in conjunction with the arrival of the amphibious landing force—comprising U.S. Marines and sailors, British sailors, and Royal Marine commandos—at Yokosuka and the harbor forts off Miura Peninsula. The first landing craft carrying elements of the 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, went ashore at Futtsu Saki, found the coastal guns and mortars rendered useless, and reembarked. The main landing of the 4th Marines on Beaches Red and Green, Yokosuka, went without incident, and the regiment moved to the "initial occupation line" and set up a perimeter defense for the naval base and airfield.

31 August. Company L of the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, landed at Tateyama Naval Air Station on the northeastern shore of Sagami Wan to reconnoiter the beach approaches and cover the 3 September landing by the 112th Cavalry, USA.

1 September. Allied troops had gained control of most of the strategic area along the shores of Tokyo Bay, except Tokyo.

3 September. The 112th Cavalry, USA, relieved Company L of the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, at Tateyama Naval Air Station, and the Marines returned to Yokosuka.

14 September. A reconnaissance party led by Col Daniel W.

Senior Marine officers present aboard the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay for the formal surrender of Japanese forces

on 2 September 1945 were, from left, LtGen Roy S. Geiger, BGen Joseph H. Fellows, and BGen William T. Clement.



Torrey, USMC, commanding Marine Aircraft Group 22, landed and inspected Omura airfield, selected as the base of Marine air operations in southern Japan.

16 September. An advance reconnaissance party from the V Amphibious Corps—led by Col Walter W. Wensinger, USMC, and consisting of key staff officers of the Corps and the 2d Marine Division—arrived at Nagasaki to prepare for the landing of Corps troops supported by Army units.

16 September. Marine Aircraft Group 31 at Yokosuka airfield came under the operational control of the Fifth Air Force.

19 September. Adm Raymond A. Spruance, USN, as Commander Fifth Fleet relieved Adm Halsey, Commander, Third Fleet, of his responsibilities in the occupation of Japan.

20 September. LtCol Fred D. Beans, USMC, relieved BGen William T. Clement, USMC, commanding Task Force Able, of his responsibilities at Yokosuka, and the general and his staff returned to Guam to rejoin the 6th Marine Division.

20 September. A second reconnaissance party from the V Amphibious Corps, which included key officers from the Corps and the 5th Marine Division, arrived at Sasebo and completed preparations for the landing of Corps troops augmented by Army units.

20 September. An advance flight echelon of Marine Aircraft Group 22 flew onto Omura airfield from Okinawa to support occupation operations.

22 September. The 5th Marine Division and the V Amphibious Corps headquarters troops arrived at Sasebo. The 26th Marines (less the 3d Battalion), reinforced by the 2d Battalion, 28th Marines, landed on beaches at the naval air station and relieved Japanese guards on base installations and stores. They were followed by units of the 13th and 27th Marines and

the 5th Tank Battalion which established guard posts and security patrols ashore.

23 September. MajGen Harry Schmidt, USMC, V Amphibious Corps commander, established his command post ashore at Sasebo and took control of the 2d and 5th Marine Divisions.

23 September. Most of the remaining elements of the 5th Marine Division landed at Sasebo, and MajGen Thomas E. Bourke, USMC, set up his command post ashore. Patrols began probing the immediate countryside; Company C (Reinforced) of the 27th Marines was sent to Omura to establish a security guard over the naval air training station there.

23 September. Marine Fighter Squadron 113 landed on Omura airfield.

23 September. The 2d and 6th Marines, 2d Marine Division, landed simultaneously on the east and west sides of the harbor at Nagasaki for occupation duty and relieved the Marine detachments from the cruisers USS *Biloxi* and *Wichita* which had been serving as security guards.

24 September. Gen Walter Krueger, USA, commander of the U.S. Sixth Army, assumed control of all forces ashore. The remainder of the 2d Marine Division landed at Nagasaki.

27 September. An advance party of the V Amphibious Corps reached Fukuoka, largest city in Kyushu and administrative center of the northwestern coal and steel region.

30 September. Leading elements from the V Amphibious Corps began arriving at Fukuoka, Kyushu. BGen Ray A. Robinson, USMC, Assistant Division Commander of the 5th Marine Division, was given command of the Fukuoka Occupation Force which consisted of the 28th Marines (Reinforced) and Army augmentation detachments.—RVA

Photographers from the 2d Marine Division in October 1945 surveyed ground zero and the extensive devastation caused by

the dropping of the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan. The 2d and 6th Marines performed occupation duties in the city area.



Foundation Names Alger First Executive Director

The Marine Corps Historical Foundation has hired its first Executive Director; LtCol Richard J. Alger, USMC (Ret), assumed the duties on a part-time basis on 1 July.

LtCol Alger is a 1954 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He served in a variety of command and staff billets in his nearly 25 years of active duty, including a billet as operations officer of the 5th Marines in Vietnam in 1967.

Since retirement, LtCol Alger has been employed by Dun and Bradstreet and Arthur Anderson & Co. He currently markets financial planning for A. L. Williams and resides in nearby Alexandria, Virginia, with his wife, Joan.

On 10 June, Foundation President LtGen Donn J. Robertson, USMC (Ret), announced the appointment of LtCol Cyril V. Moyher, USMCR, as the new Secretary of

New officials Lieutenant Colonels Moyher, left, and Alger.



the Foundation, succeeding Mr. Henry I. Shaw, Jr. Mr. Shaw is recovering from recent major surgery and has resumed his tasks as Chief Historian in the History and Museums Division.

LtCol Moyher currently is on active duty with the Division, writing a history of the Marine Corps Reserve since 1966. He also serves as the administrative officer for MTU DC-7, the Reserve historical mobilization training unit.

On 9 August, the Commandant, Gen Paul X. Kelley and several former Commandants, all members of the Foundation, will review the Evening Parade at Marine Barracks, 8th & I, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of VJ Day.

As of 14 June, the MCHF had 960 members. Those who have joined since the listing in the spring issue of *Fortitudine* include:

Col John T. Fishbach, USMCR
LtGen Foster C. LaHue, USMC (Ret)
Col Don R. Duffer, USMC (Ret)
BGen William H. Gossell, USMCR
LtCol Keith Miller, USMCR (Ret)
Col Philip S. Inglee, USMCR
Maj Robert B. St. Clair, USMCR
Capt Robert C. Link, USMCR
Maj Julian B. Lesser, USMCR (Ret)
Capt Harvey J. Fitzpatrick, USMCR
Col Donald E. Marousek, USMCR (Ret)
SSgt Robert F. Brown, USMCR

(Continued on page 19)