FORTITUDINE

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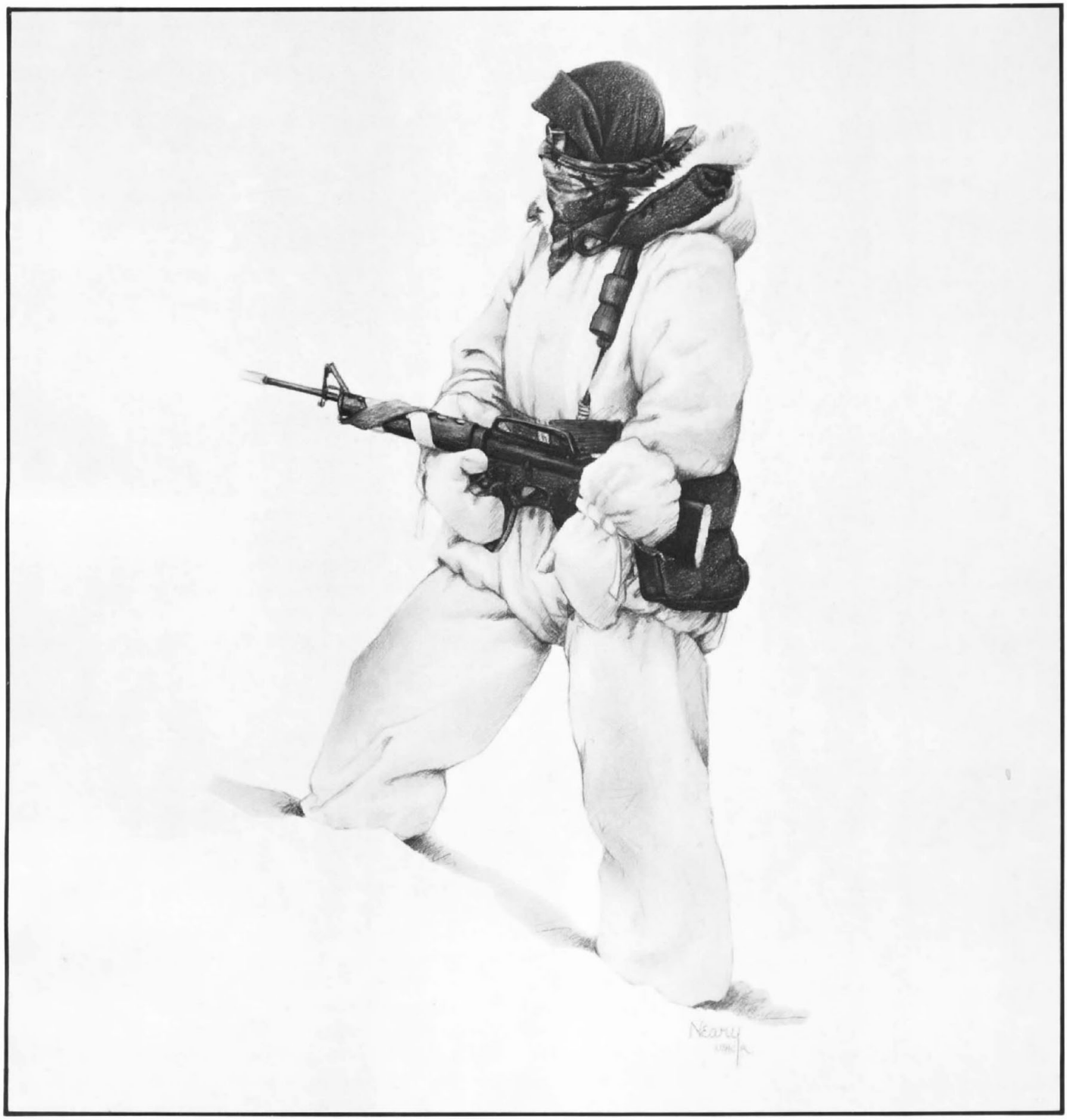

ARTIST DEFIES ARCTIC COLD TO RECORD MARINE EXERCISE . . . MAJOR WALLER, HERO OR VILLAIN? THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE CARABAO DECIDES . . . VETS OF THE 'GREAT WAR' DESCRIBE GRUELING MARINE EXPERIENCE . . . REFURBISHED AIR-GROUND MUSEUM REOPENS . . . FLIGHT LINES: DOUGLAS SKYTRAIN

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FORTITUDINE

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

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THE COVER

Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR, is a professional artist, the originator of the *Marine Corps Uniforms 1983* color plates on display throughout the Corps, and a frequent contributor to *Fortitudine*. The self-portrait sketch at right and the cover for this issue are products of her participation in a Marine cold-weather exercise in Norway, when a canvas map case served to carry her sketchbooks, pens, pencils, and camera. The artwork is part of a collection described by the artist in an article beginning on page 15. On the cover, a Marine—two days after the landing in northern Norway—stands alert for signs of the enemy in an all-white snowscape.

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 by offset lithography.

Director's Page

Waller at Samar

BGen Simmons

There are certain things in life that are unchangeable and immutable. One of those things is that the Wallow of the Military Order of the Carabao is held on the first Saturday evening in February. So it was that 976 members of the Herd and guests gathered at the 86th Annual Wallow at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington on 1 February.

The luminaries at the head table were too numerous to be listed here and they might not want to be listed anyway. It is an unabashedly chauvinistic and jingoistic evening. BGen Charles L. Cogswell, USMC (Ret), as Grand Paramount Carabao, presided. Gen Paul X. Kelley, our Commandant, made the head table but was well down the list in seniority.

The Marine Drum and Bugle Corps was deafeningly present and, as always, brought the audience, mostly grayheads, to its feet. The Marine Band had an even larger role to play. This year, as always, there was a satirical musical revue the exact nature of which is best left unreported. The members of the band double as the chorus and some of the principals of the Carabao Players. Baritone MGySgt Michael Ryan is a particular favorite. Band Director Col John R. Bourgeois is the Director del Musico. The last time John Philip Sousa directed the Marine Band before his death was at a Carabao Wallow.

The program cover of the annual Wallow traditionally features a caricature of the current Grand Paramount Carabao by noted cartoonist Gib Crockett. BGen Charles L. Cogswell, USMCR (Ret), is the most recent Marine to hold the highest office.

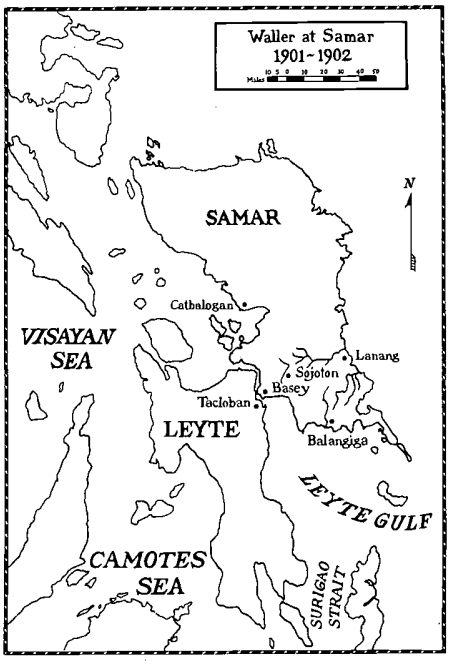
The Marines have always been strong in the Carabao and with good reason. The order was organized in Manila in November 1900 as a parody of the Order of the Dragon, formed in Peking by officer participants in the Boxer Campaign. Membership originally was limited to officers who fought in the Philippines from 1898 to 1902 and this included a good number of Marines. Membership criteria have since become considerably more elastic. To quote a 1939 history of the Order: "The 'Days of Empire' grow remote as time passes, but the memories of those days of spirit, adventure, danger and romance will live forever through the Veteran and Associate Carabaos, and the Teneros, or Calf-Carabaos, those adult sons of the original Veterans who are also full members." There are now also Amphibious Carabao, Companero Carabao, and Honorary Carabao, the last classification being reserved for Presidents of the United States and former Governors-General of the Philippines.

Headquarters of the Carabao is traditionally the Army and Navy Club on Washington's Farragut Square. That club is currently being re-built so the headquarters is somewhat dispersed. We are storing some of the records and paraphernalia at the Marine Corps Historical Center. The winter season's monthly luncheons are being held at Blackie's House of Beef. I had the honor of speaking at one of those luncheons on 21 January.

The subject of my talk was Maj Littleton W. T. Waller, USMC. His Virginia family was so proud of that name "Waller" that they used it twice, combining it with another good Virginia name, "Tazewell," so his full name was Littleton Waller Tazewell Waller. On 29 February 1902 he returned with his battalion to Cavite. As he testified later:

> "Leaving Samar without the faintest suspicion of anything wrong we reached Cavite . . . we expected a warm welcome home. This welcome we received from the flagship *New York*—the ship's sides were lined and cheer after cheer went up for us . . . . I went to report to my Commander-in-Chief and was met with the charge of murder."

Most of my audience at the luncheon were retired senior officers. I supposed that most of them had sat on a general court-



martial at one time or another, but I doubted if many, if any at all, had ever sat on a court where the charge was murder. So I suggested that they now had that chance and that we would re-try a case that was now almost 85 years old.

The case really began in September 1901. Company C, 9th U.S. Infantry, was three months back from China and now occupying Balangiga in southern Samar. Balangiga was a collection of nipa huts clustered around the only two real buildings in the town, a city hall and church built of coral and plaster. The soldiers were barracked on the second floor of the church and their mess tents were set up close-by.

About a year earlier, Gen Vincente Lucban, half-Chinese and half-Tagalog, had come to Samar to organize the insurrection. The Americans called the natives "Moros," but they were basically Negritos with Chinese, Moro, and Spanish blood mixed in, and they spoke a Visayan dialect. The Spanish had left them in close to their aboriginal state. No road went into the interior and there were few trails.

Gen Vicente Lucban's insurrectos *were armed with muzzle-loading muskets, bolo knives, and a fearsome reputation.*

Lucban's followers had some muzzle-loading muskets, numerous "bamboo" cannon called *lantacas*, a fearsome reputation, and, of course, bolo knives. They used dead-falls, mantraps, and pits lined with sharpened bamboo stakes. A native police chief suspected of collaborating with the Americans was burned at the stake with a kerosene-soaked American flag wrapped around his head.

The commanding officer of Company C, 9th Infantry, was Capt Thomas W. Connell, U.S. Military Academy, Class of 1894. He was a good man and he thought that with kind words and deeds and improved sanitation, he could keep insurrection from coming to Balangiga. On returning from patrol on 27 September 1901, he learned of President McKinley's assassination. He ordered his men to wear black arm bands.

The next morning was Sunday and the troops, at their own pace, came wandering into the mess tents for breakfast. Hash, biscuits, and coffee were being served. Only three sentries were under arms.

Then, while the church bells rang out in frantic alarm, *insurrectos* came in at the soldiers from all sides. Very few of the soldiers reached their Krag-Jorgenson rifles or .45-caliber revolvers.

Of the three officers and 71 enlisted men at Balangiga only 26 men survived. Some of these managed to reach Basey, some 30 miles up the western coast. Company G, 9th Infantry, the garrison at Basey, piled into the gunboat *Vicksburg* and came charging down on Balangiga. Before they landed, the 1,000-ton *Vicksburg* worked over the town with her six 4-inch guns.

Company G went ashore and found 250 native dead as well as the mutilated bodies of 36 of their comrades from Company C. The decapitated body of Capt Connell was found in a latrine. His finger had been cut off to get his class ring and his head had been slow-roasted over a fire.

Twenty of Lucban's stragglers were rounded up, put to digging a mass grave for the American dead, and then turned over to a firing squad made up of survivors of Company C. The native dead were piled in a heap, doused with kerosene, and burned.

Lucban continued his insurrection. On 16 October, Company D, 9th Infantry, met

Bolomen at Weyler carried Krag rifles probably taken in the Balangiga attack.

400 bolomen at Lower Gandara, killed 81 of them, but lost ten dead and six wounded themselves. Next day the garrison at Weyler was attacked by 100 natives, some of them armed with Krag rifles apparently taken at Balangiga.

The U.S. Army commander in the Philippines was MajGen Adna Romanza Chaffee, a tough, leathery 60-year-old who had come up through the ranks during the Civil War. He had fought Indians on the plains and more recently, during the Boxer troubles, had commanded the U.S. forces in China. He was a member of the Order of the Dragon and would be the Grand Paramount Carabao in 1902.

To put down the insurrection in Samar he activated the Sixth Separate Brigade to be commanded by BGen Jacob H. Smith, USA, a small man with a big voice that gave him his nickname "Hell-Roaring Jake." Smith set up his brigade headquarters at Tacloban, across the Straits of San Juanico from Basey. There weren't enough soldiers to fill out his brigade so he suggested that the Navy might provide a battalion of Marines from the two-regiment brigade at Cavite.

Chaffee telegraphed back to Smith: "Admiral Rodgers offers three hundred

Marines. Where is the best place to send them?"

Smith replied, "Would recommend Marines be sent Basey and east including Balangiga."

On 21 October, Maj Waller received written orders naming him "Commanding Officer of the Marine Battalion destined for service in the Island of Samar . . . ." On the following day he received an important modification to his orders: he was not to regard himself as detached from the 1st Brigade of Marines.

Waller was then 45 years old, a short, sturdy man with a strong nose, and an impressive mustache. In the Spanish-American War he served in the *Indiana* and was present at Santiago de Cuba in the defeat of Adm Cervera's fleet. After the battle he was sent ashore with a landing party to take off the wounded and prisoners from three Spanish ships. For this he received a special meritorious service medal.

He commanded a battalion (and at times the Marine regiment) in the Boxer Rebellion and was advanced two numbers on the lineal list and brevetted a lieutenant colonel for distinguished conduct in the Battle of Tientsin. His men invariably referred to him as "the Colonel." His friends called him "Tony." He was known to like his whiskey.

Maj Waller's battalion on Samar consisted of 13 officers, two Navy doctors, and 300 Marines in broad-brimmed field hats.

His battalion, consisting of four companies, embarked in the *New York* on 22 October, altogether himself, 13 Marine officers, two Navy doctors, and 300 Marines in broad-brimmed field hats, blue flannel shirts, khaki trousers and leggings, and heavy marching order.

Next morning the *New York* reached Catbalogan in the Straits of San Juanico. Gen Smith came on board for a conference with RAdm Fred Rodgers, Commander, Southern Squadron. Smith defined the territory in which Waller was to operate and made clear his wishes, afterwards reported as "I want no prisoners. I wish you to burn and kill. The more you burn and kill, the better it will please me."

Waller then drafted his basic operation order, dividing his battalion into two parts; half to go to Balangiga, the remainder to stay at Basey with the battalion headquarters. Patrol operations, which Waller called "expeditions," began immediately from both Basey and Balangiga.

Smith specifically directed that the campaign be waged in accordance with General Order 100 of 1863. This order, issued by Lincoln, was a code of 157 articles for the "government of armies in the field . . . ." General Order 100 had served the Army well in the Civil War and in the Indian Wars. It prohibited wanton violence under penalty of death but it also gave commanding officers broad powers under martial law to punish treachery.

Smith at Tacloban was soon receiving almost daily reports from Waller of so many bolomen and carabao killed, so many huts burned, so many boats sunk or destroyed. Lucban's base, however, was at Sojoton where he had a fortified position in 200-foot-high cliffs that appeared almost impregnable.

On 17 November, Waller made a three-pronged attack against Sojoton, coming himself by way of the Cadacan River, while two other columns under his two senior company commanders, Capt David Porter and Capt Hiram Bearss, marched by land. The Marines went up bamboo scaling ladders to get at the *insurrectos* and in hand-to-hand fighting killed 30 of them. Waller recommended that Porter and Bearss be given either Medals of Honor or brevet promotions. Gen Smith, Gen Chaffee, and everyone up to and including the Secretary of War, Elihu Root, congratulated Waller and his Marines on their performance at Sojoton.

Patrolling went on and so did the killing of insurgents, but the assault on Sojoton seemed to end organized resistance in southern Samar. Smith now ordered Waller to run a telegraph wire from Basey to Balangiga, then to go on around to Lanang on the east coast, and from there scout a telegraph route overland across Samar back to Basey.

Waller marched out of Basey on 8 December. For the next several weeks he operated from Balangiga, getting into several firefights and coming back to the coast on Christmas for a holiday menu of roast carabao with boiled potatoes, onions, and biscuits, and a reading of Dicken's *A Christmas Carol* by Waller himself. Next day, with fifty men, he started up the shoreline for Lanang. The rest of his command returned to Balangiga.

Waller arrived at Lanang, which was garrisoned by Company K, U.S. 1st Infantry, on 27 December. His plan was to go up the Lanang River as far as possible, then across the mountains to Sojoton, and then down the coast into Basey. The straight-line distance looked to be 35 or 40 miles. Waller figured it to be a four to six day march. An Army lieutenant, who had just returned from a 12-day patrol, however, warned him that the supposed trail across Samar to Sojoton did not exist.

Next morning, 28 December, the expedition, consisting of Waller, five officers including Captains Porter and Bearss, 50 enlisted Marines, some soldiers from Company K, 33 native porters or *cargadores*, and two native guides named Smoke and Slim, loaded into boats the Filipinos called *bancas* and started up river. They made 17 miles the first day and eight miles the second day. From then on it would have to be overland. The boats were sent back with the 1st Infantry soldiers. It rained incessantly and Waller's men were already suffering from leeches and being constantly wet.

On the 31st they reached the crest of the mountain range and next day, New Year's Day 1902, they started down the slope following a compass course of west southwest. This should have brought them to the Sojoton River but it did not. The river they intersected was the Suribao and it flowed

(Continued on page 7)

Acquisitions

Samar Marine's Rare Linen Coat Given to Museum

by John H. McGarry III, Registrar

When Maj Waller's column reached Basey after their arduous trek through the mountains, Waller reported that one sergeant turned to him and said, "I don't think we would show up well at a drawing room." Waller stated the condition of his own uniform as rags, and his hat a hat by courtesy only.

Included with the annual report to the Commandant for the year 1902 is a description of material issued to the battalion of Marines ordered to Samar to quell the insurrection. Among the items provided to Marines for field service that year were linen coats.

These uniquely Marine Corps coats traditionally have puzzled the curatorial staff. None were known to be in existence and photographs of the period are lacking sufficient detail to see how they were constructed. It was known that the linen coats were developed for service in Cuba. In the 1898 report to the Commandant, Maj F. L. Denny, Quartermaster of the Marine Corps, says the health of the men in this tropical campaign was greatly enhanced by the issue of linen campaign suits. These suits are described as light in weight, and of strong texture. They are listed among items procured by the Quartermaster over the next several years.

The procurement of clothing at the turn of the century was handled in practically the same way it had been during the Revolutionary War, more than a century earlier. The Quartermaster purchased bolts of cloth by contract. When received, the material was cut to a specific pattern by a professional cutter who was a civilian employee of the Marine Corps. The cut cloth was issued to "operatives" for assembly. These women (widows and orphans of Marines being given preference) would take the cut cloth to their homes and sew them together. After completion, they would be returned to the Quartermaster for inspection, and the operatives would be paid on a piecemeal basis.

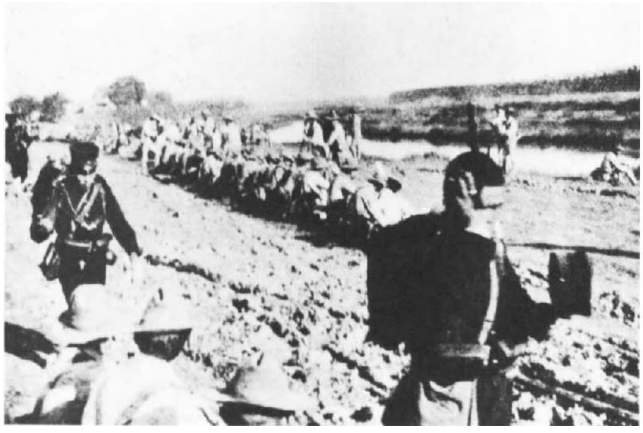
By 1900 the linen coats were being issued to Marines stationed in hot climates, including the detachments in the Philippines. This accounts for the descriptions of the linen coats appearing in the relief columns sent to aid the Legation Guard during the Boxer Rebellion. Not all Marines in the relief column, nor in the Philippines brigade, would have been seen in the linen suits, as the khaki trousers and blue flannel shirts were more widely worn. But the photographic record indicates that these lighter-weight garments did in fact see service. Until quite recently, however, there was no hard evidence of the fact.

In November 1984, Charles S. Morgan made a visit to the Historical Center to conduct research on his father, who had served with Maj Waller in the Philippines and took part in the march across the mountains. In later correspondence with BGen Simmons, Mr. Morgan asked if the Museum would be interested in his father's effects from this service. One year later, two boxes arrived from Concord, Massachusetts. The boxes contained an assortment of handmade bolo knives and scabbards, a Filipino blow gun, buttons, insignia, and a brown linen uniform coat!

Upon inspection, the coat appears to be made of a medium weight pure linen fabric. It has a rise-and-fall collar, and two slash front breast pockets. It is well made, carefully cut and machine sewn, exactly as an item supplied by the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot should appear. Unfortunately, it lacks any of the traditional quartermaster inspection marks, but this is not unusual in uniforms of the time.

The coat is in excellent condition, and appears never to have been worn. The material, while no doubt comfortable in a tropical climate, without constant care would have shown wear quickly—perhaps helping us to understand why Maj Waller's sergeant would not "show up well at a drawing room."

The Marines in the foreground of this photograph of the Peking relief expedition are believed to be wearing the linen tropical-weight coats also issued to Marines in the Philippines.



The donation of his father's brown linen Marine Corps uniform coat by Charles S. Morgan helped curators fill a known gap in the Museum collection and provided needed facts.

(Continued from page 5)

east not west. Rafts were built but would not float, their maps, bad as they were, were lost. The expedition was soon down to one-third rations.

By 3 January it was obvious to Waller that most of his men were no longer in a physical state to keep up. He decided to press on to the west coast with one lieutenant and 13 of the Marines who were still in good shape. Capt Porter was left behind with the main column. Porter's instructions were to follow at a slow pace along a trail which Waller would mark.

At mid-day on the 3rd, Waller and his men reached a clearing. Waller made a fire with the lens of his field glasses and his patrol dined on bananas, palm hearts, and roasted sweet potatoes.

About this time Capt Bearss and a corporal caught up with them with a message from Porter, apparently asking permission to return to Lanang. Waller sent off a native runner named Victor with a reply to Porter telling him to come forward to the clearing and rest his men there.

The next day, 4 January, Waller's party reached another clearing, this one inhabited. They captured five natives, two of whom, a man and a boy, said they knew the way to Basey. The other captives were released and these two were placed under guard to act as guides.

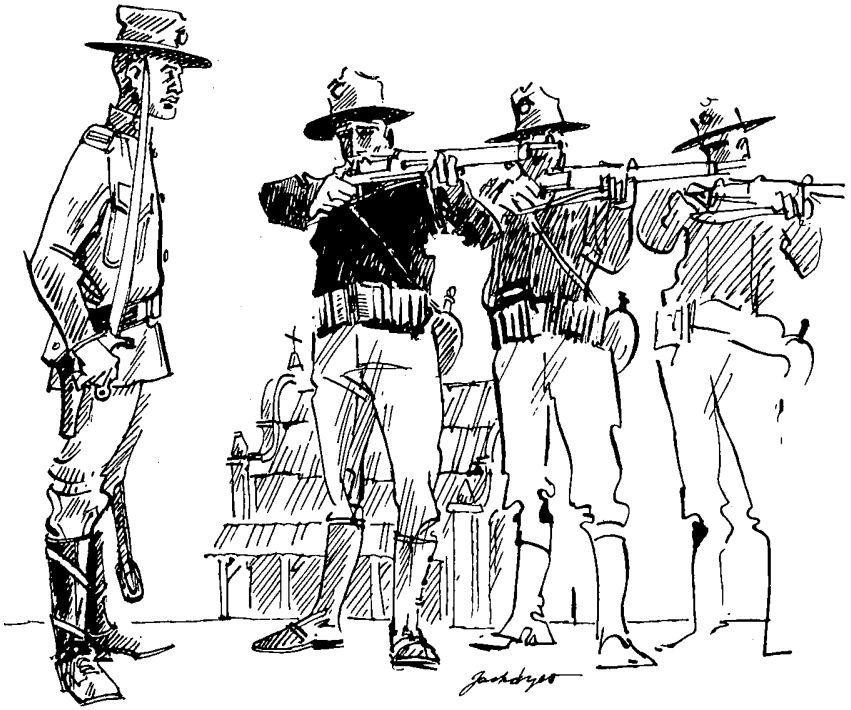
On the 5th they reached the Sojoton River but found it too rain-swollen to cross. During the day Victor, the runner whom Waller had sent with the message to Porter, rejoined Waller's party. He said that he had been unable to get through to Porter. That night, sleeping under a blanket, Waller felt someone stealthily removing his bolo from his side. He kicked the knife out of the intruder's hand and put his pistol to his head. The intruder turned out to be Victor.

Waller's party reached the Cadacan River the following day. Here they were met by a cutter sent up by the garrison at Basey. They tumbled on board and by mid-afternoon were in Basey. Waller said of these men: "Cut, torn, bruised, and dilapidated they had marched without murmur for twenty-nine days, and, having accomplished what no white troops had done before, they thought not of it but of each other." Since 8 December when they first left Basey, they had marched 190 miles.

Waller changed into a clean uniform and crossed over the Straits of Tacloban to report to Smith. A relief party left that evening to search for the Marines he had left behind. Waller himself joined the relief party two days later. The party remained out in the bush for nine days but could find no trace of Porter and his Marines. On 17 January Waller returned to Basey and collapsed with fever and exhaustion.

Capt Porter, failing to receive a reply to the message he had sent forward with Capt Bearss, had decided to return to Lanang. Like Waller, he also decided to go ahead with a party of Marines in the best physical shape. In this case he took 1stSgt John Quick, who already had a Medal of Honor from Guantanamo in 1898, six Marines, and six natives. He started back on 3 January, leaving behind the rest of the patrol under 1stLt Alexander Williams. Upon reaching the Lanang River, Porter dropped off four of his seven Marines who were too

Waller felt someone stealthily removing his bolo from his side. He kicked the knife out of the intruder's hand and put a pistol to his head. It was the native runner, Victor. (Special illustrations for this article are by Maj John T. Dyer, Jr., USMCR [Ret]).



Early in the afternoon of 20 January a lieutenant marched nine of the natives under guard down Basey's main street to the town plaza. A Marine firing party shot the nine in groups of three. Among those executed were the native runners Slim and Victor.

weak to proceed. He reached Lanang four days later, on 11 January.

Because of flood conditions it was not until 14 January that Company K, 1st Infantry, could start a relief party back upriver. A day later they reached the four men Porter had left behind and on 16 January reached Williams and the remainder of his party. Williams had been stabbed several times by one of the native porters. Ten of his Marines had been dropped off along the trail. Five were known to be dead. Five simply disappeared. Those who were left were in wretched condition.

The gunboat *Arayat* took the 24 surviving Marines and the ten remaining *cargadores* from Lanang to Basey on 19 January. Waller was still sick with a fever that sometimes went up to 105 degrees. He listened to his officers and non-commissioned officers, all of whom recommended that the *cargadores* be shot.

Early afternoon on 20 January a lieutenant marched nine of the natives under guard down Basey's main street to the town plaza. A Marine firing party shot the nine in groups of three. Another Filipino had been executed the day before and one more would be executed later in the day. One of those executed was the native guide Slim. Another was Victor.

On 22 January Waller reported the executions in a telegram to Smith, saying: "It became necessary to expend eleven prisoners. Ten who were implicated in the attack on Lieutenant Williams and one who plotted against me."

On 23 January Gen Chaffee arrived at Tacloban.

"Smith," he asked, "Have you been having any promiscuous killing in Samar for fun?"

Waller heard of this inquiry but was not disturbed. On 19 February welcome orders came from Marine Brigade headquarters. On the arrival of the transport *Lawton*, his battalion would return to Cavite.

So it was that Waller and his battalion arrived at Cavite on 29 February where he learned that Gen Chaffee had preferred charges against him for the murder of 11 natives of the Philippine Islands. Chaffee, it must be said, was reluctant to court-martial Waller but he had his orders straight from the Secretary of War, Elihu Root.

The general court-martial convened in Manila on the morning of 21 March 1902. Presiding was BGen William H. Bisbee, USA, himself a tough old Indian fighter. The remainder of the court consisted of six Army and six Marine officers.

Waller's first plea was to challenge the jurisdiction of the court. His counsel, going back to Walker's original orders as modified, argued that he had not been detached from the 1st Marine Brigade and thus did not come under the Army's Articles of War. The court concluded that this was indeed the case, but their decision was overruled by Gen Chaffee, the convening authority. Chaffee was under considerable political pressure and was not going to have the charges dismissed because of a technicality.

The trial went on in the stifling Manila heat. In his defense, Waller cited Article 82 of General Order 100 which stated that guerrillas, "if captured, are not entitled to the privileges of prisoners of war, but shall be treated summarily as robbers and pirates."

"Hell-Roaring Jake" Smith, called to testify for the defense, turned out to be an evasive witness. He denied that he had ever told Waller to "kill and burn." He denied that he had ever mentioned General Order 100 to Waller. This was an evasion of the worst sort: he had perhaps not discussed the order in conversation but he had referenced it in his written orders for the conduct of the campaign.

The trial went on for 18 long days. Then, after less than a half-hour's deliberation, the court announced its verdict.

Before telling the assembled Carabaos how the court voted, I asked them for their own verdict. There were about a hundred present at the luncheon and only one found Waller guilty. (Later it turned out he had misunderstood some of the circumstances.)

The Manila court-martial had voted for acquittal, 11 to two.

Secretary of War Root did not like the results of the court-martial and said so. The Judge Advocate General, however, eventually threw out the whole proceedings. As Waller's counsel had first argued, he determined that the court was without jurisdiction.

Immediately after Waller's trial, "Hell-Roaring Jake" Smith was himself court-martialled, found guilty of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline," and sentenced to be admonished. The mild sentence did not please President Theodore Roosevelt who ordered Smith placed on the retired list.

Waller and his battalion were sent home in May 1902. Ahead of Waller were many years of distinguished service. He commanded Marine brigades in active compaigning in Panama, in Cuba, at Vera Cruz, and in Haiti. He did not, however, became Commandant, as well he might have, if it had not been for the business of Samar.

During World War I he was side-lined in Philadelphia as the commanding general of the Advance Base Force. He retired in 1920 as a major general and died in 1926.

His two senior company commanders, Capt Porter and Capt Bearss, eventually received Medals of Honor for Sojoton, but not until 1934 when they got them from Franklin D. Roosevelt.

As I told the Carabao luncheon, they are all gone now, those Marines who served with Waller, but while they lived, when a survivor of the march entered the officers mess, there was a toast: "Stand, gentlemen, he served on Samar."

The gentlemen at the luncheon stood and repeated that toast once again, perhaps for the last time:

"Stand, gentlemen—*they* served on Samar." □*1775*□

USMC Grand Paramount Carabaos

The following distinguished Marines have served as Grand Paramount Carabaos:

MajGen George F. Elliott.....1907
MajGen Wendell C. Neville...1921
MajGen Ben H. Fuller.....1930
BGen Hugh Matthews.....1935
MajGen James G. Breckinridge.1939
BGen Charles R. Sanderson...1946
Gen Clifton B. Cates.....1950
Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr...1956
Col Jean W. Moreau.....1960
Gen Graves B. Erskine.....1964
LtGen Alan Shapley.....1969
Gen Leonard F. Chapman.....1973
LtGen Frederick L. Wieseman..1977
LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr...1981
BGen Charles L. Cogswell.....1985

Three Sources for Marine Pictures

by Danny J. Crawford
Head, Reference Section

Regular readers of *Fortitudine* may recall that in the Summer 1981 issue, we reported that the Marine Corps Historical Center was losing its Still Photo Archives. At that time all Marine Corps still photographs from 1941 to the present, held at the Center since its opening in 1977, were moved to the new Defense Audiovisual Agency (DAVA) facility at the Anacostia Naval Station in Washington, D.C.

The Department of Defense had created DAVA in October 1980 with the goal of providing centralized management and control of all the Armed Forces' still and motion media facilities, and to provide cost savings by eliminating duplication of personnel and equipment.

The loss of the Center's photo resources, however, created difficulties not only for our visiting researchers who had grown accustomed to doing their "one stop" historical research at the Center, but also for numerous in-house needs such as photo support for museum displays, historical monographs and articles, and other projects produced in the Division. Initially, the Reference Section assigned one of its historians the additional duty of assisting with in-house and other official photographic requests, while serving as a liaison between our Division and the various photographic depositories. It soon became apparent, however, that a full-time photo researcher was needed in the Division due to the heavy volume of photo requirements.

By the end of 1983, Mrs. Regina Strother, who had worked with Marine Corps photographs for nine years, both at the Center and later at DAVA, was hard at work meeting the diverse photographic needs of the History and Museums Division. Over the past two years, Mrs. Strother has responded to hundreds of in-house and official Marine Corps photo requests and has established a historical photographic file which now contains more than 1,000 images. Having a full-time photo researcher, and the photographic file, has enhanced the operations of our publications and exhibits program and improved the service we can provide to Headquarters Marine Corps.

A review early last year of the functions and responsibilities assigned to DAVA convinced the Secretary of Defense that these functions and responsibilities could be more effectively performed by operating on a decentralized basis, and he directed the disestablishment of DAVA effective 30 September 1985. The Navy Department has been assigned executive agent for all still photo holdings.

The Marine Corps still photo collection, containing more than 500,000 images, will remain in its present location at the Anacostia Naval Station, accessible to researchers of Marine Corps photos covering the past 45 years. The depository is now called the DOD Central Still Photo Depository.

Photos depicting the Marine Corps prior to World War II have been held at the National Archives and Records Administration since 1972. Researchers should write to the proper activity for photographic assistance:

For still photographs taken prior to 1941 and motion pictures taken prior to 1960: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Audio-Visual Department, Washington, D.C. 20408; telephone (202) 523-3236.

For Marine Corps photographs dating from 1941: DOD Central Still Photo Depository, Building 168, NDW, Anacostia Naval Station, Washington, D.C. 20374; telephone: (202) 433-2166/2168.

For motion pictures dating from 1960: DOD Central Motion Media Depository, Norton Air Force Base, California 92409; telephone: (714) 382-2513.

How Biggest Ship Was Sunk; O'Day's Lucky Camouflage

TORPEDOING THE HIEI

I was pleasantly surprised to see the picture of the "Turkey," the TBF Avenger, the type of aircraft I flew in as a turret gunner during World War II [*Fortitudine*, Fall 1985].

I was more surprised when the article "Flight Lines," on page 29, mentioned my old squadron VMTB-131.

I was most pleasantly surprised to see the mentioning of the first flight of Marine aircraft to torpedo attack the battleship *Hiei*, the largest battleship in the world.

However, you did not mention by name who were the pilots and crews . . . .

One of those TBFs was flown by Lt Martin Roush. The radioman was PFC Maynard and the turret gunner was Sgt Dominick Pace. I do believe Lt Roush was the flight leader of that section. . . .

This is how I remember that mission:

The pilots assembled in the operations tent on that morning of 11 November (maybe the 10th) and drew "lots" for their targets. Some went after the cruisers, or the battlewagons, etc.

Roush drew the battleship for our target.

We took off on that morning from Henderson Field. We climbed and slowly circled to the right, keeping the scattered cloud layer between us and the Japanese battlewagon. *Hiei* was in the middle of their fleet.

When we were east of the battleship, the other planes broke from the formation and it was every plane for themselves.

Lt Roush put us east of the target so we would be coming in out of the sun, and also, we would hit them and continue toward Guadalcanal and home base.

Roush immediately "dropped" that plane from about seven thousand feet to wave-top high. We came in at sea level and I mean sea level. We were attacking them from their 10 o'clock position.

I swivelled my turret as far to the left as I could (normally the turret faces aft.) so that I could see over the .50 caliber (which is on my left side). And it offered me a little more protection.

The radioman, Maynard, was down in the "hole" not knowing just what the hell was going on. I tried to tell him as much as I could using hand signals.

As Lt Roush bored on in, I could see that "wagon" getting bigger and bigger. They were throwing everything at us. We couldn't miss. I remember praying that Roush wouldn't get hit. We had no chance of bailing out. The "red golf balls" kept streaking past us. Our propeller tips must have been inches from the wave tops.

When we got close to range, Roush had to "set-up" for the torpedo launch. For that minute or so (seemed like an hour) we were like sitting ducks. Roush had to be at the right altitude, so, he had to climb a little; we couldn't be in any kind of a sideslip; and we had to be perfectly level. And at the same time figure in the correct amount of lead for the torpedo to course. All this while under intense anti-aircraft fire.

Roush held that torpedo until absolute minimum range.

Immediately after the launch, we dove for wave-top level and continued toward the *Hiei* presenting a minimum profile. When we got to just before the bow of the wagon, Roush pulled up and put the plane in a hard starboard turn. We flew close to the ship (couldn't have been more than 150-200 feet) and parallel from bow to stern.

Flying parallel to the battlewagon, I could now use my weapon. I had the perfect strafing position. And that I did. I raked that ship from bow to stern. I can still see those tracers bouncing in the gun "tubs" off the decks and into open hatches. I can also remember the Japanese sailors in the gun tubs firing at us.

Maynard couldn't get an angle to strafe. All he could do was look out the little side port hole and pray, I guess. He had the hard part.

We flew away from the stern of the ship, climbing slowly, away from all ships and back to Henderson bomber strip.

I do believe Lt Roush was the only one who scored a direct hit on that first historical flight.

Miraculously, we did not take many hits. I think there were only seven or eight holes in our plane. But there was a large rip, about a foot long through the left elevator.

Lt Roush and I flew together from that first mission until the end of the war, two combat tours.

GySgt Dominick Pace, USMC (Ret)
Pascagoula, Mississippi

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES?

. . . my attention was drawn to the list of battle honors inscribed on the Marine Memorial [*Fortitudine*, Winter 1985-1986]. I note with interest that the Marine Corps, as opposed to other Federal agencies, chose as a title for the conflict of 1861-65, "War Between the States" vice "Civil War." Can those of us from south of the Potomac surmise that this inscription includes an indirect salute to those gallant men of the Confederate States Marines? I wonder what the story is behind this point?

David O. Hale
Woodbridge, Virginia

EDITOR'S NOTE: In February 1952 the 20th Commandant, Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., reviewed a proposed list of wars and campaigns to be inscribed on the Marine Corps War Memorial. Gen Shepherd, a Virginian and graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, in his own hand substituted "War Between the States" for the typed entry "Civil War" on the list. The term, "Civil War," had become preferred usage only relatively recently. In the south the war had been known variously as "War of Secession," "War of Northern Aggression," and "War Between the States." In the north it was officially "War of the Rebellion." Gen Shepherd may have been reacting to the southern influences of his youth.

VETERAN REPEATS FLAG RAISE

Many thanks for the excellent article regarding MajGen James L. Day and the return of the 48-star flag to Okinawa for the 40th anniversary [*Fortitudine*, Winter 1985-1986]. It is important to add to the article the fact that on 21 June 1985 that hallowed flag was raised by former machine gunner Cpl Dan Dereschuk, a survivor of G-2-22 who raised that same

flag on both the northern and southern ends of that bloody battlefield in 1945. Dan was also nearby when Maj Courtney, executive officer of 2-22, was killed on Sugar Loaf and subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor. Dan now lives in Santa Rosa, California and his daughter Jean is a Marine captain stationed on Okinawa.

Charles J. Leonard, Jr.
Danville, California

SEARCHING KHE SANH VETS

I am author of *Chosin: Heroic Ordeal of the Korean War*, *76 Hours: The Invasion of Tarawa*, and *The Root: The Marines in Beirut*.

I am presently writing a narrative account of the Siege of Khe Sanh (January-April 1968) and need to receive detailed personal accounts from participants.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who served at or in support of the Khe Sanh Combat Base (including air and artillery) during the siege.

Eric Hammel
1149 Grand Teton Dr.
Pacifica, California 94044

THE BRITS WORE 'TOP HATS'

A note to say how much I enjoyed reading your article "The Battles of Craney Island and Hampton" in the Fall 1985 issue of *Fortitudine*. It is a most interesting account of a little-known incident and since it in part concerns my old Corps, the Royal Marines, it was naturally of more than passing interest to myself. In general I found this issue of the magazine to be of outstanding quality as to content and congratulate all concerned in its production.

I am sure you will not object if I mention that apart from the drawing on page 7 showing an officer, none of the other drawings can depict Royal Marines as they never at any time wore the head-dress shown—the so-called "Belgian" shako—nor for that matter did they wear its predecessor the "stove-pipe" shako. Whilst the British Army was wearing these types of head-dress the Royal Marines converted from the centre company tricorn, light company cap and grenadier company bearskin to the famous "top hat" headdress as worn at Trafalgar and elsewhere during the Napoleonic wars. I assume either your artist worked from incorrect information or he was depicting either the British Army or Canadian troops involved. Even the Royal Marine Artillery wore the "top hat" with a very large and ornamental plate on the front, specimens of which may be seen in our Corps museum and in reference books. The infantry Marine used the plume or tuft which in the case of the officer illustrated on page 7 should be at the left side and not at the front as shown. The officers' "top hat" came into use a considerable time after the enlisted men adopted it, the officers continuing in their bicorn certainly until well after 1805.

I have been fortunate enough to be supplied with *Fortitudine* for a number of years now and I say it is a most excellent specialist publication and am very grateful that through the kindness of your illustrious Corps I am able to receive a copy.

With best wishes for the continued success of the History and Museums Division.

P. G. Tilbury
Hornchurch, Essex
United Kingdom

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Tilbury's letter launched an immediate, intensive search for material supporting the illustrations. The search proved Mr. Tilbury absolutely correct and the artist wrote thanking him for his constructive and accurate criticism. Mr. Tilbury responded with a full-color Royal Marines Christmas card showing the accurate uniforms of the period and a wish that the artist need not be "keelhauled or whatever . . . ."

VMFA-115 MEMENTOES

I am in the final stages of writing the official history of VMFA-115 for the Marine Corps Historical Center. If any of your readers have written or photographic material relating to this squadron, I would be most grateful to hear from them.

Capt John C. Chapin, USMCR (Ret)
Marine Corps Historical Center
Building 58, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374-0580

HARD-TO-FIND BOOKS

I am writing to enlist your help in finding some out-of-print books . . . . I thought that some of your readers . . . might . . . assist in my search.

Historical Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., published two multi-volume sets of histories following WW II and Korea. I have three volumes of one set and four volumes of the other. I am missing three volumes to complete both sets. Since I participated in both these "wars," I am extremely interested in completing these sets. The volumes I need are: *History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in World War II* (Vol III, *Central Pacific Drive*, and Vol V, *Victory and Occupation*) and *U.S. Marine Corps Operations in Korea* (Vol I, *The Pusan Perimeter*). . . . I have been trying to obtain these books for over 10 years.

Billy J. Hill
806 Mitchell Road
Jacksonville, North Carolina 28540

FALLEN TREE HID O'DAY

I have read Phil [LtGen James P.] Berkeley's letter in the fall [1985] issue of *Fortitudine* with more than passing interest. I too was a recent arrival in Nicaragua at that time and had just established a one platoon garrison at El Sauce. My orders required that I go to Esteli to pick up 27 horses and I was in Esteli at the same time Eddie O'Day was there for the same purpose. I got my horses first and left to return to El Sauce. Our route followed a narrow trail over mountains and it was not long before our 27 horses were strung out a mile or so from end to end and the nine men of the partol scattered throughout. As we neared El Sauce the trail split with a well defined branch continuing straight ahead and another branch following the telegraph wire to the left. When I reached that point the leading elements were well down the poorer trail following the wire. An old man begged me to get them back and follow the better trail and warned that the one we were taking was only to service the wire and was almost impassable. He actually dropped to his knees and begged me. I saw no possibility of reassembling the patrol and so when he said that the wire led to El Sauce we continued on down that trail. It was dark when we reached El Sauce and the town was quiet and dark with not a light showing. We found our small garrison alerted to repel a bandit attack. They had information that a bandit group had laid an ambush for us on the better trail. By getting lost

we had eluded them. I think it was two days later that O'Day was ambushed at Bromaderas. (In *Fortitudine* it is spelled Bromadros).

I was not present at the battle at Bromaderas so my knowledge of it is second-hand as told to me by Slim Chappell (2dLt Guy D. Chappell who had been my roommate at Annapolis). At the time of the incident I believe he was at Palacaguina. He said that they heard the shooting and he took a patrol to investigate. They reached the scene of the battle just at daybreak and after a short exchange of fire drove the bandit group off. O'Day, who had spent the night hiding under a fallen tree crawled out but was so badly bitten by insects that he was not immediately recognized. I think Slim said that O'Day's hair had turned white but I am not sure of that. I saw Eddie O'Day later and his account was much the same as the above. I believe he told me that bandits sat on the fallen tree under which he was hiding and kicked him with their heels. He thought they were speculating on where he was.

A year later while I was at the Battalion Headquaraters at Pueblo Nuevo I was ordered to take a patrol to Bromaderas to disinter the bodies and prepare them for return to the States. For reasons I no longer remember Lt. Harris replaced me and made the trip along with Dr. Dickensen. The task proved to be more gruesome than expected as the dead had been wrapped in ponchos before burial and were only partially decomposed. The patrol had to remove the ponchos and bury the bodies again. I was glad to have missed the trip. It is my recollection that there were eight bodies to be recovered.

Slim Chappell was killed in a plane crash in the summer of 1930 when the top wing of a plane he was testing folded over the cockpit trapping him. I accompanied his body to Arkansas for the funeral. His widow gave me a blood stained Nicaraguan coin with a 30 caliber hole in it; a souvenir of the Battle of Bromaderas.

Col Frank M. June, USMC (Ret)
Pebble Beach, California

P.S. After writing the above I looked through some old papers to see if I could find any reference to the incident in question. I located some fragments of old intelligence reports of the period and in one for March 1928 I find this entry: A native, Francisco Melendez, reported that Sandino personally supervised the ambushing of Lt. O'Day's patrol. Melendez was said to have escaped from bandit captivity and was interviewed by the C.O. at Jicaro on March 14. He supplied almost a full page of information. Elsewhere in the same report is an item indicating that Daraili is the main message center for Sandino. I presume this may be the Darali referred to in the Berkeley letter. □*1775*□

Historical Quiz

Some Entertaining Marines

by Reference Section, Marine Corps Historical Center

1. This famous comedian saw active duty in the Marine Corps during World War II as a sea-going Marine and as a light-antiaircraft gun crewman, and participated in the occupation of Japan.

2. This well-known actor, a PFC who fought on Kwajalein and Eniwetok, and was later wounded in action on Saipan in June 1944, relived the past by portraying a sergeant in the World War II movie epic "The Big Red One."

3. This 1964 Olympic Gold Medalist in the 10,000-meter run, a former first lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve, continued competing in track, representing the Corps until he left active duty in June 1965.

4. This successful humor columnist served with the Marine Corps from 1942-1945, stationed for almost two years on Eniwetok in the Pacific where he edited his outfit's newspaper.

5. Although he eventually attained the rank of "captain," this favorite children's television personality served as an enlisted Marine during World War II.

6. This member of the Baseball Hall of Fame alternated his Marine Corps service as an aviator and jet pilot in World War II and Korea, with his civilian career with the Boston Red Sox.

7. This well-known talk-show co-host served as a Marine fighter pilot in World War II, and was later called back to active duty during the Korean War, flying over 85 combat missions, which earned him six Air Medals. He is now a colonel, USMCR (Ret).

8. This renowned motion picture star, a former sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserve, was assigned duty as a motion picture production technician, and later helped in the staging and broadcasting of the "Halls of Montezuma" radio program originating at Marine Corps Base, San Diego, during World War II.

9. This popular screen personality, remembered for his role as the cocky American POW in "The Great Escape," enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1947 and served as a rifleman and an amtrac crewman.

10. This former World Heavyweight Boxing Champion was a member of the Marine boxing team at Camp Lejeune and his last fight as a Marine earned him an Olympic Gold Medal in June 1976.

(Answers on page 30)

Visiting Marine Vets Share Memories of World War I

by J. Michael Miller
Curator of Personal Papers

"We were at the foot of this hill . . . . This plane came over and right on its tail was a German . . . . He [the German] came back . . . . We had tracer bullets and we got credit for knocking this plane down . . . . It must have had 1500 holes in it . . . . Everybody was firing at it . . . . The pilot was living, was wounded, but the fellow with him [the rear gunner] was dead."

These reminiscences of the St. Mihiel offensive in 1918 were part of a recent oral history interview with John C. Ashworth during his visit to the Marine Corps Historical Center. Another former Marine who recalls the "Great War" is James H. Draucker. Both Mr. Ashworth and Mr. Draucker were interviewed as part of the Museum's current effort to collect additional papers and memorabilia of World War I.

Former Marine John C. Ashworth is second from right in this photograph taken outside Belleau Wood on 2 June 1918, as Cpl Ashworth's machine gun crew awaited the German advance. Retreating French soldiers pause behind the Marines for the picture.

Mr. Ashworth became a Marine on 7 June 1917 when he was sworn in at the Marine Barracks in Portsmouth, Virginia. Only the top four of his group of 34 were selected for the Marines; the remainder were sent to the Army and Navy. He received his basic training at the Portsmouth Naval Base and found time to play baseball against teams from visiting battleships. His recruit company was sent to Quantico to form a machine gun company, but the men were given leave until barracks and firing ranges were completed.

Following training at Quantico with Lewis machine guns, Ashworth and the company shipped to France on board the converted German steamer *Dekalb*. After duty in a quiet sector and training on the French Hotchkiss machine gun, his company of the 4th Marine Brigade went into action at Belleau Wood to halt the German advance.

Ashworth entered the Wood on 11 June and came out on 23 June: "We got into position . . . looking off to Bouresches . . . . This place stunk to beat hell . . . . And come to find out there were a couple of dead Germans right at the gun position . . . . [We had] six hours of it. Their heads would knock about when we fired."

His next combat came at Soissons and in the St. Mihiel offensive. His machine gun crew would follow the main assault waves, and Ashworth added, "You were very good if you could follow at a hundred yards . . . . If they needed help, they would call . . . . They would look [at you] a little cockeyed because they knew that a machine gun would draw fire."

On 19 July 1918, his 77th Machine Gun Company was supporting Maj John "The Hard" Hughes' battalion of the 6th Marines. The battalion was to be relieved by the French, but a violent discussion took place between the American interpreter and a relieving French officer. Hughes stepped in, and asked what was being said. The interpreter attempted to explain the delay, but, according to Ashworth, Hughes walked up to the French officer and said, "Look! Germans! La! La! La!", pointing with his finger, and turned around and said, "Come on!", and withdrew, leaving the Frenchman behind.

Ashworth ended his combat in the Meuse-Argonne. On 1 November, "A fog settled in . . . . It was bad . . . . All of a sudden we heard these things rattling . . . . It was men coming to deliver rations.

On a tour of the Museum, John C. Ashworth points to the Indian head patch he wore as a member of the 6th Machine Gun Battalion in France in 1918. Mr. Ashworth saw combat in the battles of Belleau Wood, Soissons, St. Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne.

Men of Company E, 11th Regiment, 5th Marine Brigade, pose together at Montier-chaume, France, in 1918. First on the left is Pvt James H. Draucker. Pvt Draucker earlier served at the Washington Navy Yard under the supervision of GySgt Dan Daly.

That was the last we saw until November 8. We were living on our backs."

Following the end of the war, he returned to the United States and paraded in New York City. Ashworth then went to Quantico to be reviewed by President Woodrow Wilson, and was discharged shortly thereafter.

Former Marine James H. Draucker's service in World War I was quite different from Mr. Ashworth's. Mr. Draucker belonged to the 11th Regiment of the 5th Marine Brigade and arrived in France too late to see combat. However, Draucker's service is representative of the thousands of Marines who never reached the front, serving in possibly less glamorous but vital duty during the war.

Draucker was first stationed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and then went to the Washington Navy Yard. While stationed in Washington he served with GySgt Dan Daly. Draucker remembered one morning inspection, when "Daly made a sharp left turn and walked right up to me within inches. His steel grey eyes met mine like a laser beam. He said, 'What is your name?' I replied [and] he then said, 'Your uniform freshly pressed?' I answered, 'No sir, I wore it on liberty last evening for only two hours.' He replied immediately, 'Sergeant, put this man on the restriction list. No shore liberty for two weeks.' I remarked, 'Jeepers! I'm mixed in with 70 men and he could spot a little thing like that!' "

He then shipped to France after joining the 11th Marines at Quantico. The regiment was at sea for two weeks before reaching France, when Draucker and his comrades happily put their feet back on dry land. There followed a period of training for combat and orders to go to the front when the armistice was declared. The 11th and 13th Marines were shipped to Brest, France, prior to returning home where they were greeted by the commander of the 5th Brigade, BGen Smedley D. Butler.

Gen Butler formed both regiments into a large field and "gave a 20-minute speech and wished us *bon voyage*. He said, 'Let's all sing the *Marines' Hymn*.' With no music, he started it by using his megaphone. After about a minute and a half, he shouted, 'Stop, stop, stop!' Believe me, there was a sudden silence all over the field. Then for four minutes he just looked at us. He then raised the megaphone to his mouth and said very firmly, 'Men, I know I can't make you sing the *Marines' Hymn*, but I can make you wish you had. So, let's try it again.' And he started it again. When it was completed, he said, 'That was much better. Thank you! Bon voyage!' He then ordered the brigade dismissed."

Before Draucker returned home, he was assigned as a guard at Camp Pontanezen, which served as a departure point for American units preparing for the return voyage. He volunteered for unlimited duty in the 15th Separate Battalion, the last combat unit to leave Europe. Draucker protected supply posts from black market hijackers and guarded military prisoners. One of his most interesting assignments was at the so-called "brides camp," officially known as the separation camp, where Americans and their foreign brides were processed before returning home. The camp was divided down the middle by a fence and Draucker recalled, "The men were quartered on one side, the women on the other. . . . I walked along the fence several times each night to be sure that regulations were obeyed. My reward for doing my duty was to be cussed at, pleaded with, cajoled, etc."

On 10 December 1919, Draucker left for the United States after serving 15 months overseas and reached Philadelphia at the end of a 16-day journey. His battalion was disbanded on 30 December at Quantico but he continued to serve in the Marine Corps until 12 April 1920 when his discharge was approved.

Both Mr. Draucker and Mr. Ashworth are proud of their service in the Marine Corps. Places, names, and events are fresh in their memories despite the years that have gone by. ☐1775☐

World War I Marine James H. Draucker comments on his donation of personal documents for curator J. Michael Miller.

New Art for Collection Portrays Marines in the Arctic

by Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR

Two years ago, in March 1984, I was assigned a period of active duty with the 4th Marine Amphibious Brigade (MAB) as a combat artist, to record visually the events and people participating in NATO exercise Teamwork 84. This operation was held above the Arctic Circle in the Troms region of northern Norway.

Since then, I have finished a selection of watercolors and other pieces for the Marine Corps Art Collection illustrating the rigors of a Marine exercise in a landscape of deep snow and unaccustomed wet cold.

The 4th MAB, commanded by BGen Norman H. Smith, consisted of Regimental Landing Team 2, Marine Aircraft Group 14, and Brigade Service Support Group 4, and was joined by Marine Reservists of the 1st Battalion, 25th Marines. Allied military forces from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Canada, and Norway also participated.

"Teamwork" for white-clad U.S. Marines in this recollection is pulling a well packed "polk" through the frozen landscape of the Troms region of northern Norway.

A Norwegian Home Guard soldier from the Refresher Training Camp at Maukstad Moen near Skjold, leads a pack horse from the Horse Transport Company over the snow-covered hills. These sturdy horses, native to Norway, can be fitted with round snow shoes made of iron and bamboo, and employed to pull sledges loaded with supplies into otherwise inaccessible terrain.

Aboard an Air Force C141 departing for Norway from Cherry Point, North Carolina, via Goose Bay, Maj Neary watched Marines Col John J. Hilgers and 1stLt Norma S. Stewart steal some sleep before the long days ahead in the Arctic-weather exercise.

An Italian soldier, from a unit assigned to act as the opposing force, acknowledges his capture by a U.S. Marine in white parka and snowshoes from 4th MAB's Regimental Landing Team 2, during an action fought three days after the landing at icy Rossfjord. Other Marine units participating in the NATO exercise were from Brigade Service Support Group 4 and the Reserve's 1st Battalion, 25th Marines.

Two warmly dressed German paratroopers proceed towards an assembly area where they will join allied troops for training jumps over the frigid Norwegian terrain from a German UH-1D helicopter. Marine air was present for the exercise from MAG-14.

Wishing to be as mobile as possible throughout the exercise, I kept my materials for sketching and drawing to a minimum, depending heavily on my camera and notebooks. When in the field, I carried a canvas map case, which was ideally suited to hold several sketchbooks and a variety of pens and pencils, and a 35mm camera with telephoto and wide-angle lenses. After the first few days I also carried candy bars and trail mix, as I was moving around considerably and missed many meals.

The Allied Press Information Center (APIC) in Bardu, about 15 miles south of Bardufoss Airfield and 50 miles from the landing beaches at Rossfjord and Balsfjord, was my home base. This was ideal for my purposes, as all press representatives reported in and out of the APIC, and their transportation to and from the camps and exercise area were arranged there. Participating NATO nations had military representatives assigned to the APIC who were invaluable in assisting me in visiting the various allied camps.

There were times when I found myself not well equipped for the task at hand, such as when I had the opportunity on short notice to visit a Norwegian Army unit that was camped high in the mountains north of Skjold.

In the woods, away from roads, and in snow that was more than waist deep, the unit was engaged in a mock battle. They moved about easily, being equipped with snow shoes. I had none with me, but was determined to do my best to follow their movements. Being fairly light in weight, I was able to take two or three steps at a time before falling through the thin, frozen crust into the soft snow below—a rather exhausting and inefficient way to travel. The Norwegian soldiers were very much "at home" in the snow, and most individual tents were cozy and warm, having "split-level floors" dug into the snow, and reindeer-skin rugs (provided by the occupants).

The ground was totally snow-covered throughout the exercise, and it continued to snow periodically, but the weather often was warmer than expected. This, unfortunately, kept the snow on the ground fairly wet, exposing troops to a lot of cold moisture. Several times, the vehicle in which I was riding was commandeered by corpsmen in order to transport Marines suffering from hypothermia to field hospitals or back to ships.

In the days prior to the combined U.S.-U.K.-Netherlands landing, I visited the Norwegian Refresher Training Camp at Maukstad Moen; the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force (AMF) camps made up of units from Canada, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, and the United States; the German field hospital; the U.S. Marines' camp near Red Beach; and the landing beaches along the Malengen, Bals, and Ross fjords before their scenic isolation was disrupted by the cacophony of activity that accompanied what was then the largest combined landing exercise in Arctic zones. ☐1775☐

A Norwegian Home Guard soldier from Brigade North carries a machine gun. Both soldier and weapon have snowshoes.

Having removed his pack and web gear during a rest in the wet snow, a Marine provides a dry writing surface for a buddy.

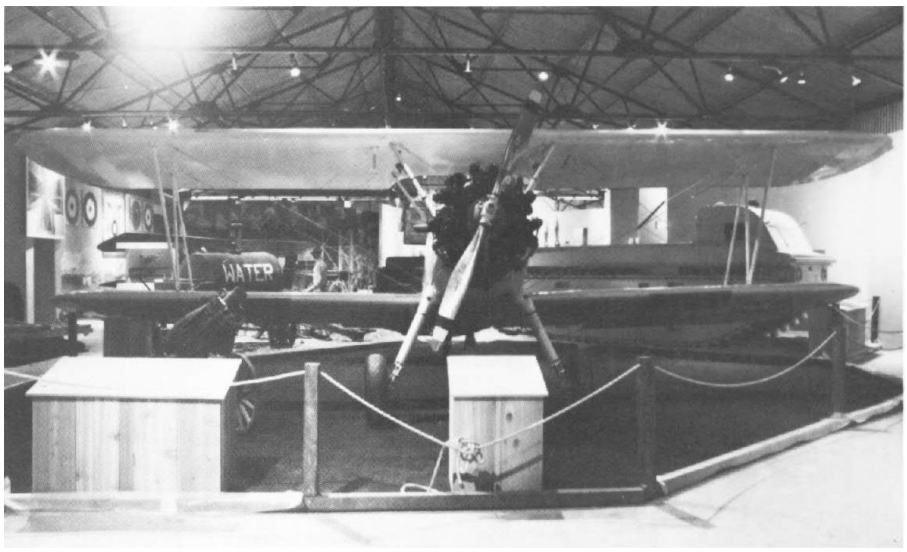
Remodeled, Expanded Air-Ground Museum Reopens

by Col Brooke Nihart, USMC (Ret)
Deputy Director for Museums

As this issue of *Fortitudine* hits the streets the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum at Brown Field, Quantico, will open for the season after its 1 December to 30 March winter hibernation.

These pages [*Fortitudine*, Fall 1981-Winter 1982; Fall 1984] have already told of our plans designed to upgrade the former Aviation Museum to the Air-Ground Museum, presenting the Marine Corps' development of air-ground team doctrine, organization, and operations. Indeed, on 1 April 1985, when the museum opened for the season, it was redesignated with the new title. Sufficient ground weapons and equipment had been integrated into the aircraft exhibits to justify the change.

The acquisition and restoration of additional aircraft and major pieces of ground equipment demanded their addition to the exhibit hangars. While the "World War II" hangar with its memorable Grummans, Douglas SBD, Corsairs, and others remained open, the "Early Years, 1912-1940" hangar was closed in order that new exhibits incorporating additional gear might be installed.



Stearman N2S training biplane at north end of "Early Years" hangar was used in the late 1930s into World War II. M1A1 75mm pack howitzer is seen under the right wing.

First, the buildings within a building, familiar to past visitors and containing exhibits on early Marine aviation heroes and an art gallery, were removed to make more room for floor exhibits. Changes comprised three elements: an island containing the crew-served and artillery weapons of the 1900-1914 period; a second island with World War I artillery and vehicles on one side and a 1939 pre-production Amtrac on the other; and an astro-turf section suggesting a grass airstrip with an N2S Stearman "Yellow Peril" training plane and crew-served weapons of the 1930s.

Around the periphery of the hangar, false walls provide space for inset cases containing mannequins in Marine uniforms and personnel equipment presenting Marines of the 1900-1940 period.

Aside from these major additions, the "Early Years" hangar looks much the same as before, at first glance. The yellow shellacked fabric and bamboo framework of the 1912 Curtiss A-2 Pusher is in its old place, as are the DH-4 DeHavilland fighter-bomber and Thomas-Morse Scout, all to the right front as the visitor enters. The 1917 Renault-type light tank remains the same as before and the FB-5 and F4B-3 Boeing biplane fighters are still at the hangar's north end.

". . . In the Air, on Land and Sea . . . " theme panel at entrance to the "Early Years" hangar at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum at Quantico, shows all arms and services of the Corps at work in the 1912-1940 period. Museum opens on 1 April.

But follow me for a quick tour: As we enter from the parking area on the right of a short hall we see a thematic photo-montage with the title, "On land and sea and air." The photographs show every activity of the Marine expeditionary forces of the early 1900s—machine guns,