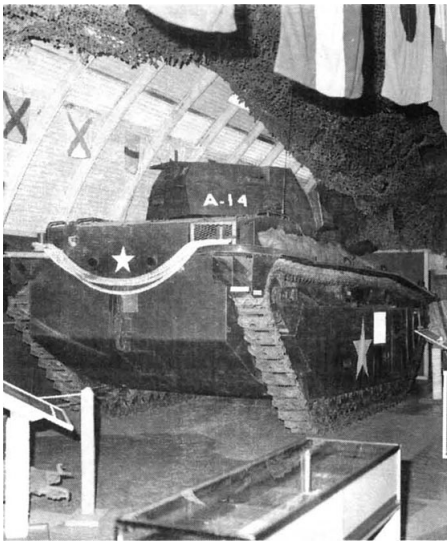
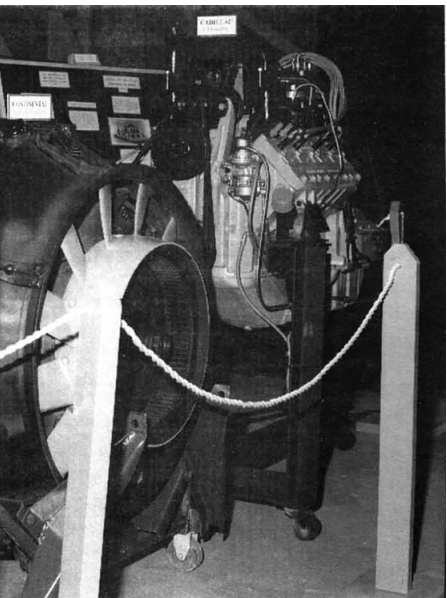




The LVT 3 and a roadside sign call attention to the museum created by the Assault Amphibian School Battalion at Pendleton.



Complementing the modified LVT (A) 5, above, are Continental and Cadillac V-8 engines, below, that powered amphibians.



of steam because of logistical problems. However, early last year, Marines working under LtCol Clayton F. Nans, commanding officer of the Assault Amphibian School Battalion, began the process of establishing a museum.

Building 21561, one of the last World War II-style Quonset huts, was cleaned out and two World War II amphibian tractors moved in. Eventually, a total of seven tractor variants were added. Over the next several months, Marines from the Assault Amphibian School Battalion, Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch, General Support Maintenance Company, and several local volunteers cleaned, scraped, painted, and even fabricated new steel cleats for several of the vehicles, all in an effort to stabilize the historic vehicles.

While the museum provides a home for these antique amphibian monsters, it also provides the school a unique training tool, exposing students at all levels—the “1800 basic crewman,” the “1803 basic assault officer,” and the “1833 advanced unit leader”—to the historical origin of their MOS.

Asked why the museum was established, LtCol Nans said, “Because we are amtrackers and proud of the traditions and valor of Alligator Marines.” Speaking at the museum’s dedication, guest of honor Col Victor J. Croizat, who as a young Marine lieutenant commanded a company of tracked vehicles at the landing on Guadalcanal, said: “For me, it’s like going back in time. Think of putting 30 men in one of these boxes and dropping them off on an unfriendly beach. It’s very challenging just to do the navigation, much less hit the beach with people shooting at you.” □1775□



The Museum’s dedication and opening day ceremony featured guest of honor Col Victor J. Croizat, USMC (Ret). Then-2dLt Croizat was executive officer of Company A, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, which was assigned to support the 1st Marine Division on the day following Pearl Harbor and took part in the Guadalcanal landing.



'Homemade' Histories Can Preserve Marine Fact and Lore

by Benis M. Frank
Chief Historian

I RECEIVED A LETTER in early October from Jerry Brooks, in which, among other things, he made a cogent observation concerning unit histories. He said: "Formal Marine Corps official unit histories are seldom made at levels below the regimental level. Most of us in units at the battalion level [and below] have to be content being footnotes or sentences or paragraphs in the larger histories unless we work together to compile our lower level unit histories. In my opinion, many WWII Marine combat units are now passing into oblivion as [their] last members are passing on. Sad."

He also went on to say, "Most of us don't realize that we can combine our remembrances, photos, and documents and compile an interesting, accurate, and informative unit history book. The unit history books will outlive us by a hundred years in many of our own local libraries . . ."

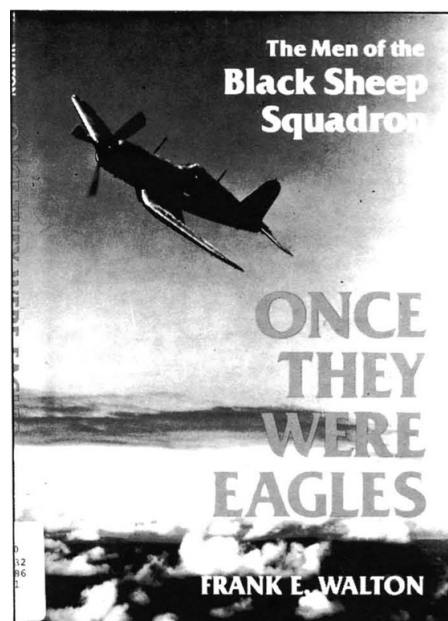
Mr. Brooks is exactly right. In our own five-volume official *History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in World War II*, and our five-volume *U.S. Marines in Korea, 1950-1953*, the nature of each World War II landing and the overall campaign in Korea, the immensity of these operations, did not permit us to go below battalion level except when a company or platoon was involved in extraordinary action. In our soon to be 11-volume *U.S. Marines in Vietnam* series we did go below battalion

The original members of the "Black Sheep Squadron," photographed here on Vella Lavella in the Pacific in December 1943, are the subjects of Frank E. Walton's Once They Were Eagles, a "unit history" with the added distinction of commercial success.



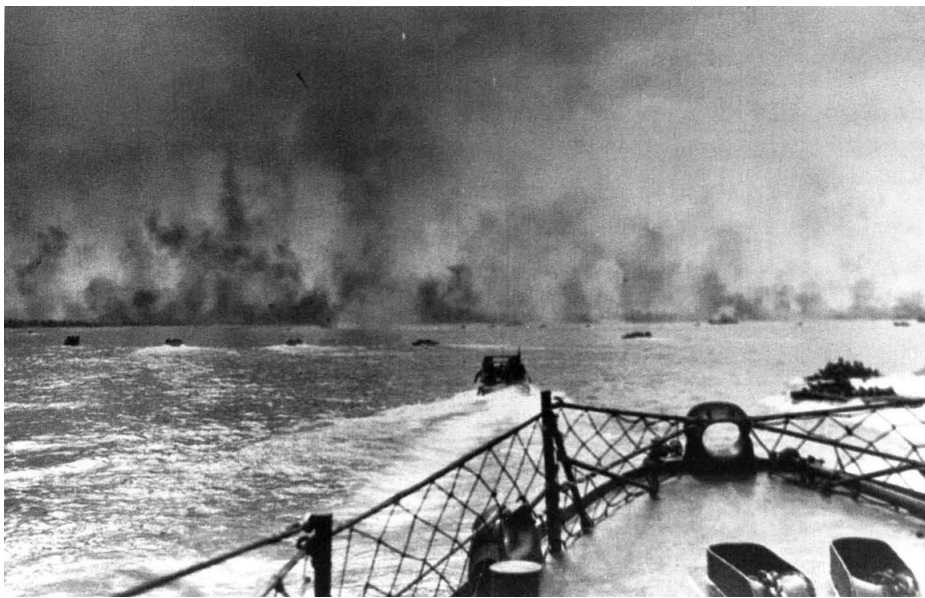
and sometimes even below company level just because it was a small-unit war, for the most part. Again, the nature of combat in Vietnam dictated how we would write its history. Then, in our official Persian Gulf War history, we will be dealing with battalions, regiments, divisions, and the I Marine Expeditionary Force. Those who have read the Gulf War monographs we have published to date will note this to be the case.

HAVING SAID THIS, I will now take up Mr. Brooks' other comment, i.e., unless individuals and postwar unit associations undertake to write their own histories, the institutional memory may very well be lost. This is all too true. However, with the advent of the 50th anniversary of World War II and with the approaching commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, some excellent autobiographical histories have already been published. The first of these which comes to mind is Dr. Eugene B. Sledge's *With the Old Breed from Peleliu to Okinawa*, which tells of his experiences as a mortarman in Company K, 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, in those two amphibious assaults. This outstanding work has seen many editions and has been acclaimed by such noted military historians as John Keegan as being one of the exemplar autobiographies to come out of World War II. As a veteran of those two opera-



tions and, as is Gene Sledge, a 1st Division Marine, I can attest to the accuracy of his descriptions. With relation to the Korean War, I have just read a moving autobiography by 1stLt Joseph R. Owen, USMC (Ret), who served with Company B, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, in Korea. The book is entitled *Colder than Hell: A Marine Rifle Company at Chosin Reservoir*. It was recently published by the Naval Institute Press, and I recommend it. There are similar works both in and out of print, but these are two good examples of how institutional memories of events, periods, campaigns, and units can be kept alive.

In the Historical Center Library, we have a number of unit histories which were written by individuals who were former members of the unit about which they wrote, or the history was a team effort by unit members. A few titles from among this group of histories are: Edward W. Farmer, *A View from the Rear Rank: A Story of Marine Air Warning Squadron Eight in World War II*, published by the author, an AWS-8 member, in 1992; John J. Forster, *The History of the Eighth Field Depot and Eighth Service Regiment, U.S. Marines in World War II*, 1992; Charles L. Henry, *2d Airdrome Battalion, Fleet Marine Force, United States Marine Corps, a.k.a. 17th Defense Battalion, 17th Antiaircraft Battalion, 17th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion, from 28 October, 1942*



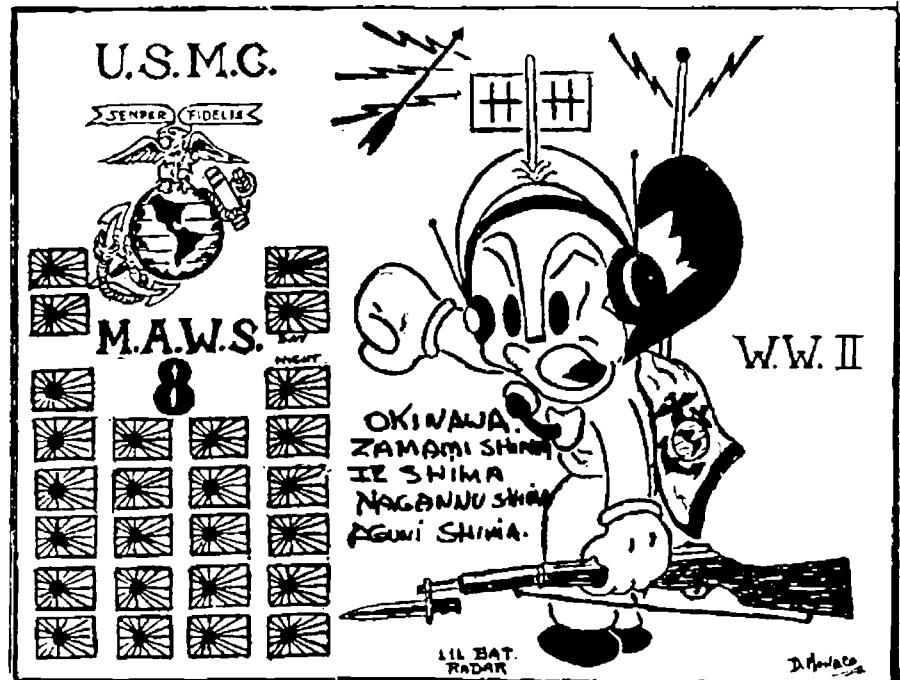
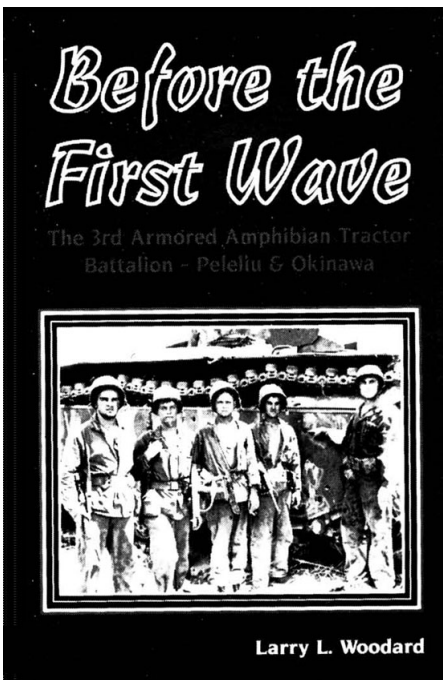
Histories such as Larry I. Woodward's *Before the First Wave: The 3d Amphibian Tractor Battalion—Peleliu and Okinawa* provide the detail that often is lacking in official histories. Above, landing craft head toward the heavily bombed Peleliu beaches.

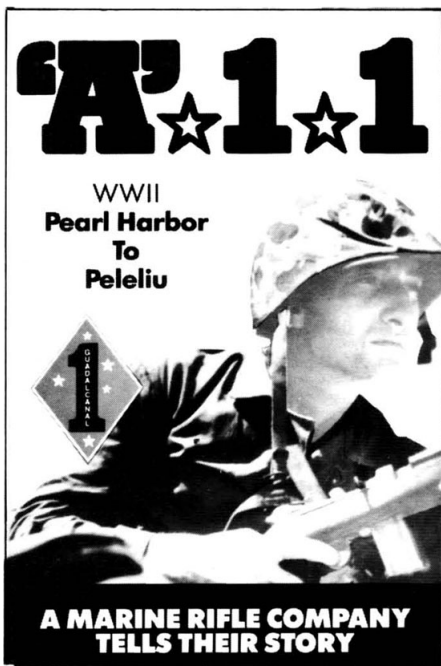
to 6 December, 1945, 1985; Hugh Morse and George Head, *A-1-1, Pearl Harbor to Peleliu*, published in 1993 by the A-1-1 Book Committee; Ezell Odom, *A Montford Point Marine: Fleet Marine Force Pacific: A Few Experiences by one of the Chosen Few*, 1993; Raymond S. B. Perry, *The Bombers of MAGSZAM: A History of Marine Bombing Squadron 611*, published in 1987 by the author; *2nd Armored Amphibian Battalion. USMC, WWII: Saipan, Tinian, Iwo Jima*, 1991; Frank E. Walton, *Once They Were Eagles: The Men of the Black Sheep Squadron*, University Press of Kentucky, 1986; Arthur W. Wells, *The*

Quack Corps: The Men of the Second Marine Amphibian Truck (DUKW) Company, 1992; Larry I. Woodward, *Before the First Wave: The 3rd Armored Amphibian Tractor Battalion—Peleliu and Okinawa*, Sunflower University Press, 1994; and *Super Breed I: A Journal of the First Marine Engineers, Pioneers, and Seabees*, Wyatt Publishing Company, 1990. In addition, we hold a history of the 9th Defense Battalion, written by the son of one of its members, retired Marine Maj Charles D. Melson, whose last tour of duty was as a "Lil Bat," a radar-equipped mascot, adorns the history by Edward W. Farmer. *A View from the Rear Rank: A Story of Marine Air Warning Squadron Eight in World War II*.

historical writer in the Marine Corps Historical Center.

If someone reading this gets a hankering to do a unit history, well, the Historical Center is the place to begin his or her research, and the History and Museums Division staff is here to give professional guidance. This Center was the brainchild of the former Director of Marine Corps History and Museums, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret), who conceived it as being a "one-stop Marine Corps history resource," wherein a scholar researching Marine Corps history could find most, if not all, of the material he or she was seeking. To begin with, our Archives Section has, or knows how to retrieve, the war diaries and after-action reports of both World War II and Korea, and the command chronologies of the Vietnam and the Persian Gulf Wars. The Archives Section can also retrieve operation orders for most, if not all, of the Marine Corps' wars in the 20th century. Another rich source of information within the Archives Section is our Personal Papers Unit, which holds the personal papers (letters, orders, photographs, and the like) of Marines, from private to flag rank, who served in the Civil War, and earlier, as well as those who served in more modern times. This is an enormously rich source of 2,656 processed personal collections, and about 500 which are undergoing processing. Many a visiting scholar has supped heavily on the





material in this collection, as well as on the contents of the Marine Corps Oral History Collection. This group contains the transcripts of interviews conducted with most past Commandants, beginning with Gen Clifton B. Cates, and ending with Gen Carl E. Mundy, Jr. The collection also contains the transcripts of more than 300 former and retired prominent Marines, many of whom were junior officers in World War I and rose to general officer rank in World War II. Interviews in this group also relate to the Korean War as well as Vietnam. With respect to Vietnam, we

Denizens of 'Boot Camp'—oversized mosquitoes and gnats—illustrate Farmer's Marine Air Warning Squadron 8 history.

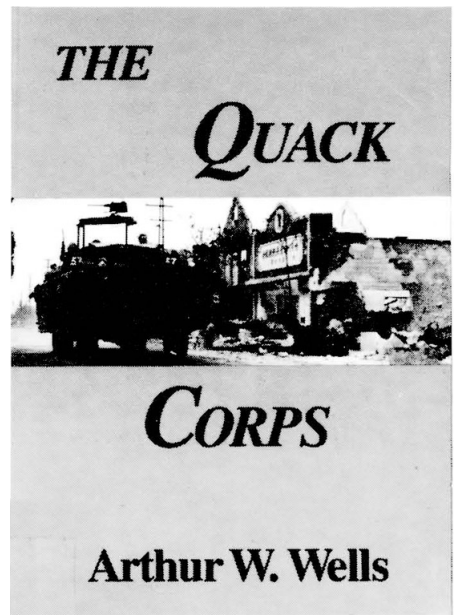


have close to 6,000 interviews conducted in the field in Vietnam, many of them with Marines who had just come in from patrols or after close combat with the enemy.

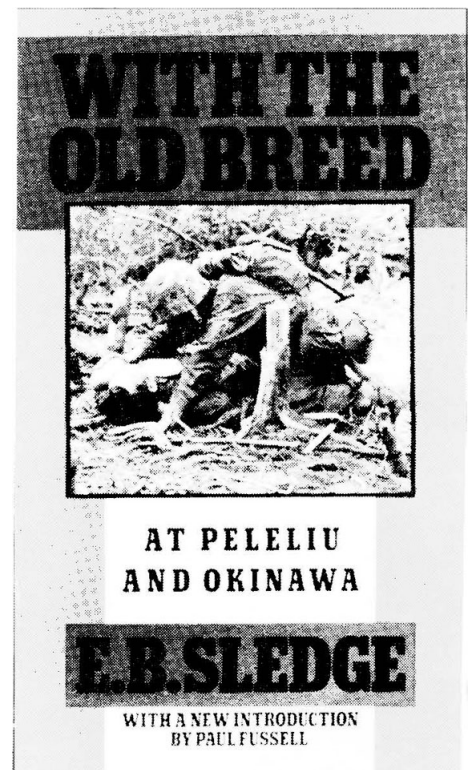
THERE ARE A couple of other sections in the History and Museums Division which can be of assistance to the aspiring researcher. One such area is our Historical Library, established in 1843 by Colonel Commandant Archibald Henderson as the library for Marine Corps Headquarters. Since that time, it has grown to where it now holds more than 41,000 bound volumes and periodicals; 4,000 reels of microfilm; and a growing collection of videotapes and CD-ROMs. The book collection concentrates on Marine Corps history; histories of amphibious warfare and related naval history; American history; museum studies; and histories of military uniforms and weaponry. If the library doesn't have a book which a researcher needs, it can most likely be obtained through an interlibrary loan.

Another important area for researchers is our Reference Section. Each year, the Section's Reference Historians respond to upwards of 8,000 written, telephoned, and walked-in requests. The section holds thousands of subject, geographical, unit, and biographical files. The subject files include an extensive collection of materials on events, issues, and wars of the Marine Corps from its founding to the present. The geographical files contain a collection of records on locations where Marines have landed or been stationed. Histories of Marine Corps bases and barracks are also found here. The unit files contain working files on all Marine Corps units, past and present. Within these files on both air and ground units are histories of each unit, commanding officer lists, and unit lineage and honors records. Our biographical files provide information on more than 15,000 prominent Marines, such as former Commandants and recipients of the Medal of Honor, and other notables who had an impact on the history of the Corps. The Reference Section also holds the microfilmed muster rolls of the Corps going back to 1798. These are important to anybody who is working up a command list, or just looking to see the names of all the Marines who served in a certain unit at a certain time.

In any case, anyone who wants to write



a unit history, or research primary sources around which a unit history is to be written, will have to visit the Marine Corps Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard. Here, experienced professional Marine Corps historians can guide a researcher's efforts and direct him to the areas which hold the material which will advance his efforts. Marine historians encourage such efforts because they often mean that a hitherto-unexplored area of Marine Corps history will at last be revealed. The final product will help fill in the "gaps" in Marine Corps history. And that is always to the good. □1775□



Awards Cite Veteran Pilot Condon and Author Moskin

by Charles R. Smith
Historian

FOR HIS LIFELONG interest in Marine Corps history and service to the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, MajGen John P. Condon, USMC (Ret), was presented the support group's Heritage Award at its fall 1996 Awards Ceremony. MajGen Condon subsequently died in December 1996 [see "Memorandum from the Chief Historian" on page 3 of this issue].

Condon entered the Marine Corps in 1934 upon graduating from the Naval Academy and earned his wings as a naval aviator in 1937. As a young pilot he was one of the Marine Corps' pioneers who flew from aircraft carriers, an experience which would influence his appreciation of the flexibility of Marine Corps aviation down to the present day.

In World War II he served on Guadalcanal, in the Northern Solomons, and at Okinawa, where he commanded Marine Aircraft Group 14. During the Korean War, he commanded MAG-33, the first Marine aircraft group to fly jet aircraft in combat, and MAG-12, the last group to fly the legendary Corsair against the enemy. Later, he commanded both the 1st and 3d Marine Aircraft Wings. Following his retirement in 1962, he completed a doctoral degree and embarked upon a second career in the aerospace industry.

ONE OF THE earliest senior officers to affiliate with the Historical Foundation, MajGen Condon served successively as vice president, president, and chairman of the board. His leadership of the Foundation during its formative years, noted Foundation President LtGen Philip D. Shutler, Sr., USMC (Ret), "did much to shape its subsequent successful course and direction." Recently, MajGen Condon, working at the Marine Corps Historical Center, drafted a history of Marine Corps aviation and completed a history of Marine aviation on board carriers in World War II, which is scheduled to be published by the U.S. Naval Institute Press. "In all things," concluded LtGen Shutler, "John Condon epitomizes the ideal fighter pilot, officer, gentleman, and scholar."



Former commander of both 1st and 3d MAWS, MajGen John P. Condon also was a president of the Historical Foundation.

Mr. J. Robert Moskin received the Distinguished Service Award, the Foundation's highest award, at the 26 October 1996 ceremonies for his extensive accomplishments in American and Marine Corps history and his service to the Foundation as a director, member of the awards jury, and seminar chairman. A native of New York and a graduate of Harvard University, Moskin's long relationship with the Ma-

J. Robert Moskin, right, accepts the Marine Corps Historical Foundation's Distinguished Service Award from Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Richard I. Neal.



rine Corps began in 1956 after the tragic Ribbon Creek incident at Parris Island. Then a senior editor with *Look* magazine, he made an in-depth study of the Marine Corps which ultimately led to his writing *The U.S. Marine Corps Story*, a comprehensive history of the Corps, published in 1977 and subsequently revised and expanded. His other works include *The Decline of the American Male*, *Turncoat*, *Among Lions*, and his most recent, *Mr. Truman's War*, the story of the period between the end of World War II in Europe and the final victory over Japan.

"In sum," the Foundation concluded, "Mr. Moskin has made a superb contribution to American history, to military history, to the Marine Corps, and, most especially, to the Marine Corps Historical Foundation."

DR. DONALD E. BITTNER, professor of history at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, was this year's winner of the Colonel Robert Debs Heinl, Jr., Award, presented to the author of the best article pertinent to Marine Corps history. His article, "Shattered Images: Officers of Royal Marines, 1867-1913," was published in the January 1995 issue of *The Journal of Military History*.

Dr. Bittner received his doctorate in history from the University of Missouri in 1974. He served in the Marine Corps from 1963 to 1989 with the 2d Field Artillery Group, Marine Barracks, Keflavik, Iceland, and on board the *Talladega*, before retiring as a lieutenant colonel. His publications cover a wide variety of military subjects from Britain and Ireland during World War II to the portrayal of the British Army in Jane Austen's novels.

The General Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Award, given to the author of the outstanding nonfiction book pertinent to Marine Corps history, was presented to Dr. Eric Bergerud for his *Touched with Fire: The Land War in the South Pacific*, published by the Viking Press. Through careful research and numerous interviews with participants, he presents a vivid account of World War II fighting men who adapted to an environment that tested the limits of their endurance.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota and the University of California at Berkeley, he received a fellowship from the Army's Center of Military History that enabled him to write two books on the Vietnam War. He currently teaches history at Lincoln University, a small college in San Francisco.

ESTABLISHED BY Col Robert G. F. Hanke, USMCR, in memory of his father, Wing Commander Ralph Hanke, Royal Air Force, the General Roy Geiger Award is given to the author of the best article published in the *Marine Corps Gazette* in the field of Marine Corps aviation during 1995. This year's recipient was Dr. Eliot A. Cohen for his article, "Airpow-

er, the Next War, and the Marine Corps," published in the November 1995 issue.

A graduate of Harvard University, Dr. Cohen has written extensively on a variety of subjects in strategic studies and military history, including net assessment, the nature of war in the Third World, and problems of intelligence analysis. A consultant to the White House, CIA, Department of Defense, and the Commission on Roles and Missions, Dr. Cohen currently is a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and professor of strategic studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

THE SERGEANT MAJOR Dan Daly Award was presented to LCpl Chance D. Puma, USMC. The award, funded by *Leatherneck* magazine, is given for superior writing pertinent to Marine Corps history by an enlisted author for a Marine Corps post or station periodical. LCpl Puma received the award for his article, "Bugle Calls," published in *Pass in Review*, which outlined the history of Marine buglers and highlights Marine Barracks Washington as the only Marine Corps post still using a live bugler.

LCpl Puma began his Marine Corps career in 1994. Following basic training at Parris Island and Marine combat training at Camp Geiger, he attended the Defense Information school at Fort Benjamin Harrison, completing the basic journalism and broadcasting courses. He reported to Marine Barracks Washington where he was assigned as a staff writer and combat correspondent for the post magazine, *Pass in Review*. LCpl Puma became editor af-

ter attending the Defense Information School's editors' course.

The Colonel John H. Magruder III Award for excellence in depicting Marine Corps history in exhibits or displays in a museum or similar setting was presented to the IVT Museum, Assault Amphibian School Battalion, Camp Pendleton, in recognition of an immaculately restored collection of all operational types of IVTs, making use of an existing historic structure [see article, page 12].

Two Colonel John H. Magruder Special Recognition Awards were made. The first was given to LtCol Charles V. Mugno, USMC, for the MajGen Paul J. Fontana display at the MCAS Cherry Point Officer's Club, a historical display in a non-museum setting. The large encased wall panel displays photographs, memorabilia, and biographical information of MajGen Fontana, a distinguished Marine Corps aviator and leader.

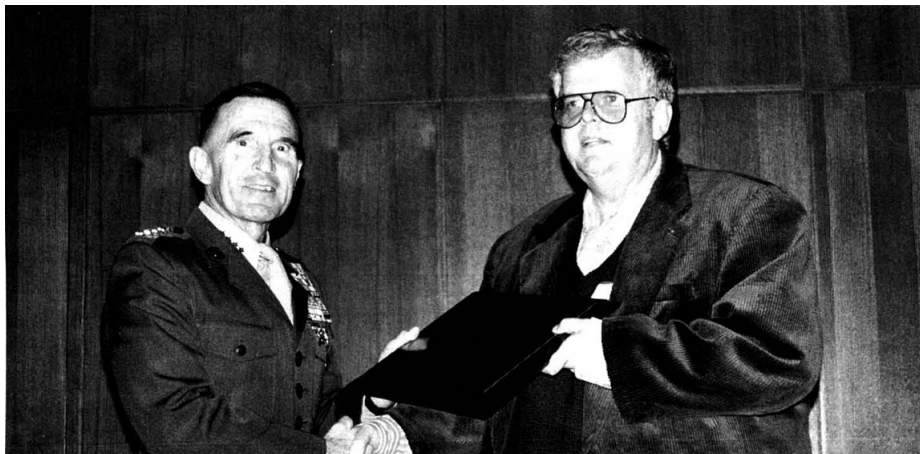
Special recognition also was made of the Brooks Detachment of the 1812 Marine Brigade, a living history group. The detachment was formed three years ago to develop an educational program that would show the life of a War of 1812 Marine. It is named for Lt John Brooks, son of a governor of Massachusetts, who died while commanding the Marine detachment at the Battle of Lake Erie.

COL EDWARD M. CONDR A III, USMC (Ret), was this year's recipient of the Colonel John W. Thomason, Jr., Award for his positive and continuing contributions to Marine Corps art. The Thomason Award, named for the highly decorated combat officer and artist, is given for excellence in the fine or applied arts, including photography, in depicting the historical or contemporary Marine Corps.

Holder of degrees from several prestigious art schools and universities, Col Condra entered the Marine Corps in 1960 and served two combat tours in Vietnam as an engineer officer and field commander. He has also been an author, visual communications instructor, and director of the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia. As a combat artist, his pictorial coverage of Marines and the wars in Vietnam and Lebanon have been reproduced widely, and more than 100 pieces of his work form part of the permanent Marine Corps Art Collection.

□1775□

Dr. Eric Bergerud, right, cited for his recently published Touched with Fire: The Land War in the South Pacific, received the General Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Award for the best nonfiction book pertinent to Marine Corps History, presented to him by Gen Neal.



Reservists Aim to Fill in Blanks in 4th Division History

by Maj Craig A. Swanson, USMCR
Historical Detachment, 4th Marine Division

THE CELEBRATED World War II history of the 4th Marine Division is well known. Activated at the height of the war in August 1943 at Camp Pendleton, California, the division participated in some of the most bitterly contested amphibious assaults of the war, against the Japanese-held islands of Roi and Namur in the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas Islands, and finally, Iwo Jima. In its short but eventful two years, three months, and thirteen days of wartime existence, eight members of the 4th Division were awarded the Medal of Honor. The division itself earned a Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with one Bronze Star, a Navy Unit Commendation Streamer, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Streamer with four Bronze Stars, and the World War II Victory Streamer. The World War II history of the 4th Division is described in many general historical works on the war in the Pacific, and is the subject of two books concentrating entirely on the division's exploits. What is less well known is what the 4th Division has done since the end of the Second World War.

Shortly after the conclusion of the war, Marines of the 4th Division were either

discharged or reassigned as it was deactivated in September 1945. On 8 June 1962, however, the division was formally reactivated, this time as the Marine Corps Reserve's ground combat component. Where once the Reserve had existed as a collection of disparate units stationed around the country with little or no contact with one another, the reactivated 4th Division encompassed all of the ground combat elements of the Reserve. Objectives were to enhance training, administration, mobilization, unit cohesion, and combat effectiveness. The 4th Marine Division was to serve as the Marine Corps' strategic reserve, ready at short notice to mobilize and provide the same capabilities as active-duty divisions. Development from an ideal to a reality, however, took literally decades to fulfill.

IN THE 1960s, the 4th Division's new headquarters was formed, again at Camp Pendleton, and basic questions were addressed over the role the division would play in Marine Corps planning. In the 1970s, the division's readiness continued to improve as training steadily became more realistic and both the quality and quantity of assigned Marines rose dramati-

cally. In the 1980s, training improved further, with greater variety and more ambitious exercises as funds became available to equip the Reserve with the same weapons and equipment as its active-duty counterpart. In the 1990s, with the division's extensive participation in the Persian Gulf War, it came full circle from its World War II origins. Once again, Marines of the 4th Division were engaged in combat. Unlike the post-World War II period, however, after this war the 4th Division was not deactivated, but instead became increasingly important in a period of austere defense budgets and different national security concerns.

The complete story of the 4th Marine Division has, until now, not been presented in any serious way. The need for filling the gap in the historical record from World War II to the present was first addressed in June 1995 when the division's Commanding General, BGen Frederick R. Lopez, issued the order to bring the division's story up to date with a hardbound, book-length, illustrated history. Members of MTU-NY05 were assigned to the special task with a projected completion date of April 1997. (While the project has been in progress, MTU-NY05 was formally

Marines of the 4th Division hurl grenades toward an enemy foxhole on Saipan in 1944. The valiant World War II history of the

division, the subject of two books concentrating entirely on it, is well known. The division's role in the post-war Corps is not.





Marine Reservists were represented in large numbers in the Persian Gulf War. Here, in January 1991, Marines of Battalion Landing Team 1/4 disassemble a Soviet-built ZPU-1 machine gun, previously operated by Iraqi forces on Miradam Island in Kuwait.

redesignated as the Historical Detachment, 4th Marine Division). Work began immediately to accomplish the basic research for text, photographs, and original art from sources including the Marine Corps Historical Center, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the Hoover Institution Library and the archives of the Marine Corps University. Research material includes a myriad of both primary and secondary sources including command chronologies, periodicals, the *Congressional Record*, maps, Marine Corps orders and other documents, personal papers, base newspapers, Marine Corps Historical Center publications, photographs, art-

work, oral histories, independent research reports, and material submitted by the various units of the division.

The goals of the ambitious project are both to present a detailed and lively chronological narrative of what the division has done during its existence and to address a number of related thematic issues. For example, the work will examine subjects important to the history of the division such as the impact of the ending of the draft and the implementation of the Total Force concept, the transitions from control from Marine Corps districts to the 4th Division's headquarters, the relations between Instructor/Inspector staffs

and Reserve units, and mobilization planning and implementation. In this way, the work is intended to be both interesting to the general reader curious about the history of the division, and useful to policymakers seeking serious insights into the 4th Division's past in order to better chart its future.

WHILE THE WORK is intended to meet rigorous standards of historical scholarship, it also should prove lively and informative, with liberal use of photographs and artwork and a focus on the individual Marines who have been members of the division over the years. As a valuable adjunct to existing research material, the 4th Division Historical Detachment is also in the process of conducting additional oral histories of key individuals in the division's past and of its current leaders.

Anyone interested in contributing any material (old letters, photos, documents, old 4th Marine Division publications, oral histories, etc.) to enrich this project should contact the Officer-in-Charge, 4th Marine Division Historical Project, Col Richard Van Horne, in care of the Marine Corps Historical Center. The new history is scheduled for completion in the late spring or early summer of 1997. Distribution will be made by the 4th Marine Division and, since the book will be published through the Government Printing Office, it may also be available for purchase through GPO bookstores. [1775]

Historical Quiz

Marine Corps Aviation

*by Midn2C Richard M. Rusnok, Jr.
United States Naval Academy
Reference Section Intern*

1. When did Marine Corps aviation "get off the ground?"
2. What were the two primary aircraft used by the Corps during World War I?
3. Which airplane, originally found unsuitable for carrier operations, was used with great success by Marines in the Pacific during World War II?
4. What was the name given to the Japanese airfield captured after ferocious fighting on Guadalcanal in World War II?
5. What squadron was commissioned in 1948 to experiment with rotary wing flight?
6. Which Marine pilot and baseball star flew 38 combat missions during the Korean War?
7. How many aircraft were downed by Marine pilots during the Korean War?
8. Which helicopter appeared first in Viet-

- nam in 1966 and continues to provide close air support to Marines today?
9. What is the nickname of the Lockheed KC-130F aircraft flown and maintained by Marines, which is used to support the Blue Angels flight demonstration team?
10. Which aircraft entered Marine service in 1983 and served as a replacement for the McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom and the Grumman A-6 Intruder?

(Answers on page 22)

Japan's National Library Fulfills Microfilm Agreement

by Frederick J. Graboske
Head, Archives Section

ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE aspects of my job recently has been working with the professional archivists of the National Diet Library (NDL) of Japan on their project to microfilm large portions of the Marine Corps' World War II records. So it was doubly a pleasure to welcome Mr. Tatsuhiro Watanabe, chief of the NDL's Modern Japanese Political Documents Division, when he arrived here on 3 December 1996.

Mr. Watanabe visited the Historical Center earlier, in 1995, to give the final go-ahead for the project, and subsequently was my host in Japan during my visit there in February 1996. The purpose of his visit this time was the formal presentation of a copy of the first batch of completed microfilm. Because these reels cover the Okinawa campaign it was appropriate that they be accepted on behalf of the Marine Corps by Chief Historian Benis M. Frank, an Okinawa veteran and the author of three books on the subject.

After the formal presentation, Mr. Watanabe invited us to appraise the unusual quality of the microfilm by comparing it to the original paper copies. Mr. Frank and our archives specialists were im-

pressed. The now-yellowing and -brittle original records were brighter and clearer on the microfilm, thanks to the skills of the camera operators. For the first time in many years, handwritten charts for being freshly copied were completely in focus and were easily legible.

OUR AGREEMENT with the NDL is that we receive a copy of the completed microfilm in recognition of our cooperation in the project. As the microfilming of segments of the records is completed, we will be retiring the paper records to the National Archives for permanent reten-

tion. Members of the public will be directed to the Archives for access to these records; we will reserve the microfilm reels for Marine Corps use only.

At some time in the not-too-distant future we hope to digitize the records from the microfilm, a quicker and less costly process than digitizing from paper. Our long-term goal is to have the records of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf War available to the public in electronic form. With the help of our astute NDL colleagues, we are making progress steadily toward reaching that goal. □1775□

Tatsuhiro Watanabe, far right, of the National Diet Library of Japan, watches as project manager Shinji Fujishiro, center, displays the new World War II microfilm. Watching at the side are Frederick J. Graboske, Mrs. Joyce Hudson, and Benis M. Frank.



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Letters from Women in Uniform Make Absorbing Text

by Jena Beth Antal

Marine Corps Historical Center Volunteer

THE LIBRARY of the Marine Corps Historical Center receives many recently published books of professional interest to Marines. Most of them are available from local bookstores and libraries.

We're in This War, Too: World War II Letters from American Women in Uniform.

Judy Barrett Litoff and David C. Smith. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994. 260 pages. This book offers a different perspective from most wartime writing. These two history professors have combined their skills to present the reader excerpts from more than 30,000 wartime letters spanning the lives of women in every branch of the Armed Forces. We are taken from the military build-up in Hawaii prior to Pearl Harbor to eyewitness accounts of the Battle of the Bulge. \$27.50

What They Fought For: 1861-1865. James

McPherson. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1994. 85 pages. This Pulitzer Prize-winning Princeton history professor offers a look at excerpts from the letters and diaries of nearly 1,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who, contrary to popular belief, did know why they were fighting and were articulate and informed concerning the issues of the day. Both Union and Confederate soldiers, according to McPherson, saw themselves as custodians of the legacy of 1776. \$14.95.

Fields of Battle: The Wars for North America. John Keegan. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. 334 pages. In Keegan's indomitable style, he takes his readers into our past, discovering the character of the American terrain and climate, and the competition for the land's natural resources. These factors, according to the

author, dictated why men fortified where they did, campaigned as they did, and were drawn to such battlefields as Yorktown, Gettysburg, and Bull Run. He discusses the famous engagements in our military history. The narrative ends with U.S. and Canadian troops saving Keegan's native Britain and liberating France from Germany during WWII. \$30.00

Sailing on the Silver Screen: Hollywood and the U.S. Navy. Lawrence Suid. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1996. The author provides a fully documented history of the making of the Navy's image on film from the earliest days of the movies to the present. His history covers films from pre-World War I to post-Cold War, more than 100 films as varied as *Annapolis* and *Hunt for Red October*. \$45.00

□1775□

Answers to the Historical Quiz

Marine Corps Aviation

(Questions on page 20)

1. The official birthday of Marine Air is 22 May 1912. On that date Lt Alfred A. Cunningham reported to the Marine Barracks at the Philadelphia Navy Yard to begin flight training. He soloed on 20 August 1912 in Massachusetts and became Naval Aviator number five and the first Marine pilot.

2. The Marines used DeHaviland DH-4 and DeHaviland DH-9 bombers, which were obtained through a special deal with the British. They were used for both scouting and basic ground attack missions.

3. The Vought F4U Corsair had many difficulties in its carrier suitability trials. The Marines, however, handily proved the prowess of this aircraft while the Navy sorted out the problems with its airframe. Many Marine Corps aces piloted the Corsair, including perhaps the most widely known Marine ace, LtCol Gregory "Pappy" Boyington.

4. After the Marines captured the partially constructed airstrip on the fifth day of

the battle, they completed it using abandoned Japanese equipment. The airfield became known as Henderson Field, named in honor of Maj Lofton R. Henderson, who was killed at the Battle of Midway leading a dive bombing run. This airfield proved critical to the success of the Pacific campaign.

5. Marine Helicopter Squadron One (HMX-1) was established at Quantico to evaluate the feasibility of the doctrine of vertical envelopment. The squadron continues to exist today primarily to provide helicopter support to the President of the United States and White House operations.

6. Boston Red Sox outfielder Ted Williams, arguably the greatest hitter of all time, was also a captain in the Reserves. He interrupted his baseball career during both World War II and the Korean War.

7. Marine pilots accounted for 27 enemy planes shot down. All but six were accomplished by Marines flying the North

American Aviation Inc. F-86 Sabre. Five other kills were the result of Marines flying in the venerable Corsair and a single kill was recorded by an Douglas AD Skyraider.

8. The Bell AH-1 Huey Cobra was derived from the UH-1 Huey airframe. Armed with rockets and a 20mm cannon, it was the first dedicated helicopter gunship in the U.S. inventory. With planned upgrades, the AH-1 will continue providing support well into the next century.

9. The Lockheed KC-130F is nicknamed "Fat Albert," in reference to the aircraft's appearance and in honor of the famous cartoon character of the same name.

10. The McDonnell Douglas F/A-18A Hornet entered service in January 1983 and the first squadrons deployed in July 1983. Many squadrons have since outfitted themselves with the McDonnell Douglas F/A-18C Hornet. The McDonnell Douglas F/A-18D Hornet replaced the Grumman A-6E Intruder beginning in the late 1980s.

July-December 1948

by Robert V. Aquilina
Assistant Head, Reference Section

Fortitudine's chronology feature continues with a selection of events in the Marine Corps from July-December 1948, including the issuance of a Presidential Executive Order banning color bias in the Armed Services, the enlistment of women into the regular Marine Corps, and the continuation of civil war in China.

18 Jul—In Palestine, a provisional Marine Consular Guard was detached from the 21st Marines on board the USS *Kearsarge* at Tripoli, and sent to Jerusalem to protect the U.S. Consul General in that city.

20 Jul—In Washington, D.C., President Harry S. Truman issued a Presidential Proclamation calling for the registration, during the period 30 August-18 September, of all men between the ages of 18 and 25 for military service. The first inductions were to be held after 1 October 1948.

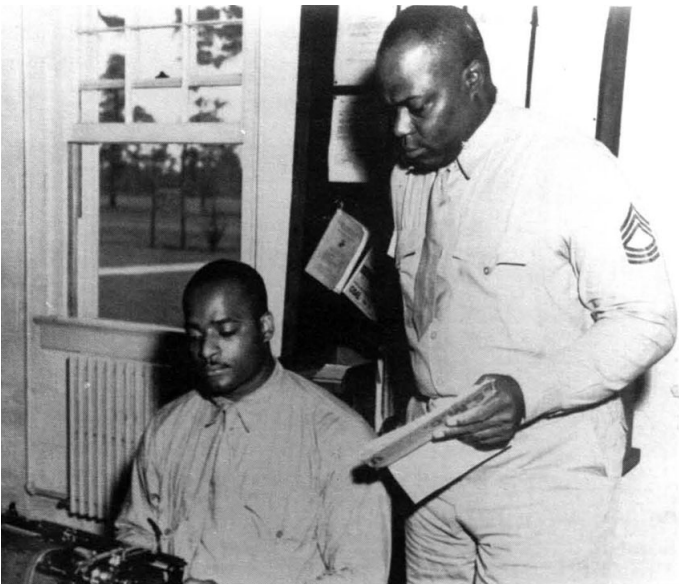
22 Jul—The Marine Corps announced that due to increased voluntary enlistments, the Corps would not need any draftees in 1949.

26 Jul—President Harry S. Truman issued an Executive Order banning color bias in the Armed Services.

25 Aug—2dLt John Earl Rudder, the first African-American Marine officer to receive his commission into the regular Marine Corps, began training in the Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Virginia.

30 Aug—Registration for the second peacetime military conscription in U.S. history began.

31 Aug—The Marine Garrison Forces, Pacific, command was PFC John W. Davis, USMCR, and MSgt Gilbert H. Johnson perform administrative duties at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, on 27 July, one day after President Truman issued his executive order banning color bias in the Armed Forces.



deactivated, and the Commanding General, FMFPac, assumed administrative control of all Marine security forces and supporting establishments in the Pacific Ocean Areas.

13 Sep—The 4th Marines (Rein) left Morehead City, North Carolina, to become the landing force of the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

18 Oct—Col Katherine A. Towle reported for duty at Headquarters Marine Corps as first Director of the Corps' permanent peacetime component of Women Marines.

10 Nov—On the 173d anniversary of the Marine Corps, eight former members of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve were enlisted into the Regular Marine Corps.

17 Nov—A platoon of Marines was sent to Nanking to protect the American Consulate when the fall of that city to Communist forces appeared imminent. The guard was withdrawn in April 1949 when the Communists refrained from looting the city.

18 Nov—A 62-man Marine guard was sent to Haifa and assigned to the U.S. Military Observer Group, which had been stationed there during the Arab-Israeli War.

23 Nov-16 Dec—In China, increased pressure by Chinese Communists caused the United States to transfer Marine Battalion Landing Team 9 (BLT 9) from Guam to Shanghai to aid in the evacuation of American nationals.

31 Dec—Marine Corps active strength was 88,000; women in the regular Marine Corps or active Reserve numbered 24 officers and 300 enlisted women. □1775□

Colonel Katherine A. Towle, who had been an administrator at Stanford University in California, became the first Director of Women Marines at Headquarters, Marine Corps, on 18 October.



Royal Marines in U.S. Stage Birthday Party at Center

by Capt Dave W. H. Wilson, RM

Royal Marines Administration and Operations Officer, British Embassy

ANNUALLY THE ROYAL MARINES serving in the United States of America assemble in Washington, D.C., on or around 28 October to celebrate the birth of our Corps. We take this opportunity to hold a birthday party reception to which we invite as many members of our brother Corps as we can, as well as former USMC exchange personnel and retired Royal Marines living in the USA, not only to swap a few war stories, but also to thank those with whom we work over here and whose assistance, cooperation, and hospitality we enjoy on a daily basis.

Our 332d anniversary reception was held on 31 October 1996. Very generously, the Director of Marine Corps History and Museums offered us the use of the Special Exhibits Gallery of the USMC Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard which, with its splendid displays charting the history of the USMC, proved to be the ideal and most fitting venue that we have had the privilege to use to date.

On arrival guests were greeted by Col Andrew Pillar, the British Embassy Marine Attache, and his wife, Shirley. Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth Band was flown across from England especially for the occasion and added some flourish to the evening with "Beat Retreat" on the quarter-deck and its own rendition of the U.S. Marine Corps Hymn. Col Pillar made a brief address to the assembly, in which he said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen and fellow Marines, thank you all very much for being here this evening to mark the 332d anniversary of the birth of the Royal Marines. Firstly, on behalf of all the Royal Marines stationed in the USA, most of whom are here tonight, I would like to express my gratitude for the many congratulatory messages I have received from the United States Marine Corps and Attache Corps. I would like to say a public thank you to BGen Simmons, Col Monigan, and their staff for affording us the use of this magnificent Museum in which to hold our birthday party and for all their assistance. I cannot think of a more appropriate setting for this event, surrounded as we are by images and exhibits of the valiant

exploits of our somewhat younger, but considerably larger, brother Corps with which we have shared so much throughout our respective histories and with which we enjoy so much in common today

"Now, although we are celebrating our birthday on 1 November, our Corps was actually founded on 28 October 1664, when at the outbreak of the Second Dutch War a regiment of 1,200 land soldiers was raised by order of the Lord Admiral, later King James the Second.

"Titled 'The Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot,' and also 'The Admiral's Regiment,' its men were kitted out in yellow coats, red breeches, and stockings and hats bound with gold braid. It seems we still have a proclivity for making a sartorial statement! The regiment served with distinction during the Dutch Wars and in 1690 was expanded and styled the Marines.

"In 1827, when it was decided to present a new color to each of the four Royal Marines divisions, King George IV was presented with a list of no less than 106 battle honors, in order that he might select those that should be emblazoned on the colors. His Majesty, finding it impossible, directed: 'That the globe circled with a laurel wreath should be the distinguishing badge as the most appropriate emblem of a Corps whose duties carried them to all parts of the globe—in every quarter of which they had earned laurels by their valour and conduct.' The Corps subsequently assumed the crest and badge we wear to this day and we were bestowed with the motto 'Per Mare Per Terram'—By Land and by Sea.

"Since those formative years the Royal Marines have taken part in more battles on land and sea than any other branch of the British Forces and although we have grown considerably tougher and leaner in more recent years our Corps is in remarkably good health as we approach the millenium.

"Again, thank you all for joining with us to celebrate our birthday anniversary and, as a finale, the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth will beat retreat."