

FORTITUDINE

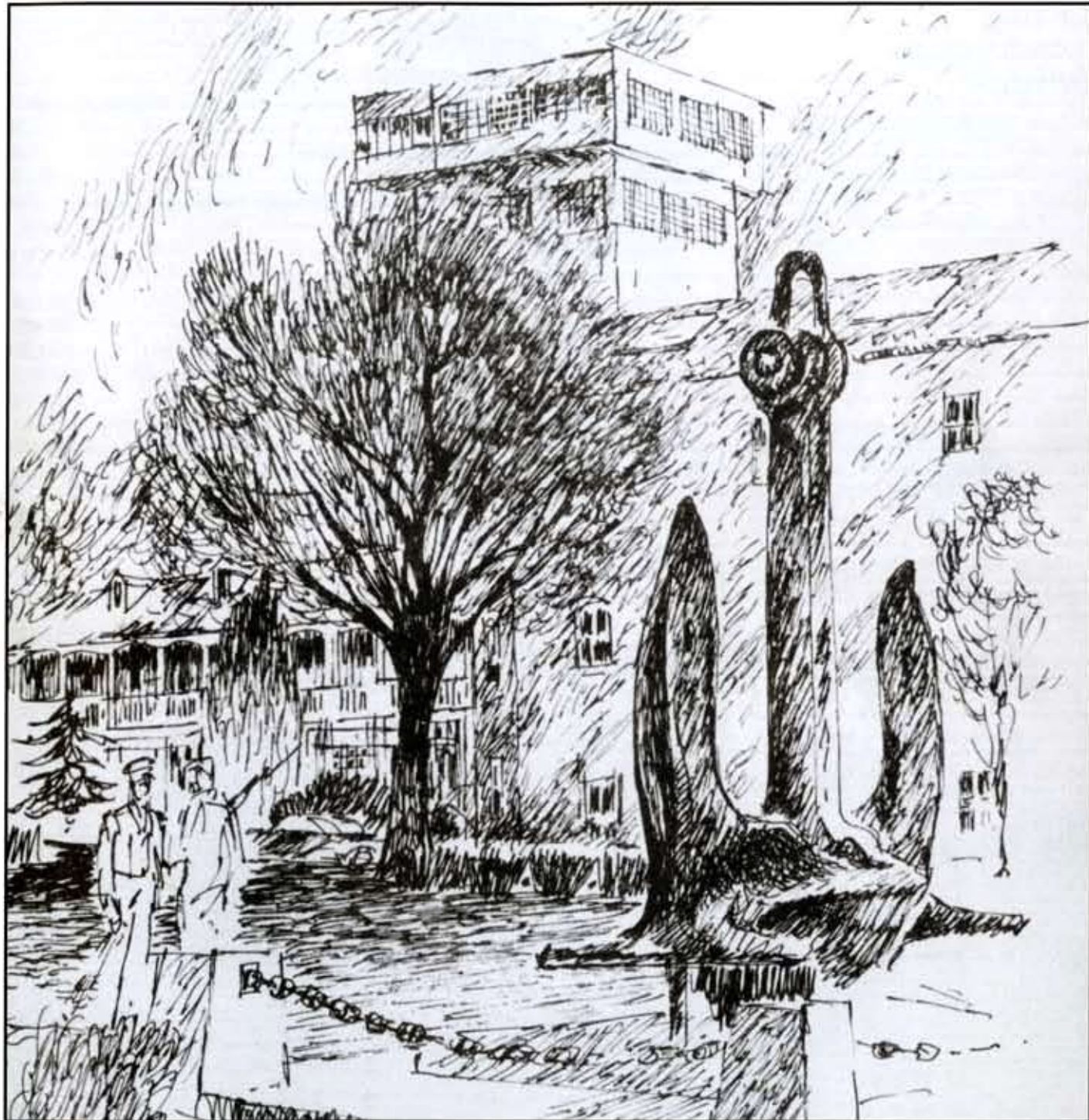
BULLETIN OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

HISTORICAL BULLETIN VOLUME XXVI

SPRING 1997

NUMBER 4

PASS THIS ISSUE ON
TO ANOTHER MARINE



HISTORICAL CENTER MARKS 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CORPS AND COUNTRY . . . WORLD WAR I MARINE GREETED ON 100TH BIRTHDAY . . . HISTORY OF ROEBLING'S 'ALLIGATOR' AND 'CROCODILE' NEARLY LOST TO PREPARATION FOR IG INSPECTION . . . BANQUET HONORS AUTHORS AND STAFF OF WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATIVE PAMPHLETS

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FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Volume XXVI

Spring 1997

No. 4

This quarterly bulletin of the Marine Corps historical program is published for Marines, at the rate of one copy for every nine on active duty, to provide education and training in the uses of military and Marine Corps history. Other interested readers may purchase single copies or four-issue subscriptions from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office. The appropriate order form appears in this issue.

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ABOUT THE COVER

Retired MSgt John C. DeGrasse, longtime art director of both *Leatherneck* magazine and the *Marine Corps Gazette*, died at age 70 in September 1996. His work, particularly his frequently published sketches, is so familiar to Marines that few will have trouble identifying the artist of the sketch this issue's cover. Producing it in 1977, DeGrasse included the corner of the newly remodeled "Old Stores Building" at the Washington Navy Yard, at right, and the neighboring official home of the Commandants of the Naval District of Washington. The sketch was coincidental with, and celebrated, the opening of the new Marine Corps Historical Center in the former "Old Stores Building." Now that it's the anniversary of that auspicious opening, Chief Historian Benis M. Frank looks back with pleasure on the accomplishments of 20 years, beginning on page 3.

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Keeping a Faithful and Impartial History

It hardly seems possible to we few, we happy few, remaining plank owners of the Marine Corps Historical Center, that it has been 20 years since we first opened our doors officially to the public on 17 May 1977. I suppose that at the outset I should name these plank owners and their current positions. They are Evelyn A. Englander, librarian; Catherine A. Kerns, composition services technician; Danny J. Crawford, head of the Reference Section; Jack Dyer, curator of the Combat Art Collection; Dr. Jack Shulimson, head of the Histories Writing Unit; Charles R. Smith, historian; Richard A. Long, head of the Oral History Unit; Charles A. "Tim" Wood, curator and acting head of the Museums Branch; Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas, head and curator of the Material History Section; BGen Edwin H. Simmons, Director Emeritus, who retains an office in the Center; and the author, who is Chief Historian of the Marine Corps and acting head of the Historical Branch.

When I reported on board the then-Historical Branch, G-3 Division, in June 1961, it was located in two places at Headquarters Marine Corps and had been for some time. The library and archives were on the third deck of the first wing of the Navy Annex, which overlooked Arlington National Cemetery. The administrative and writing sections were in Building 3, Henderson Hall, a ramshackle building of World War II vintage, which, it seemed to me, was held together by the many coats of paint applied since it was first built. It was fit then for neither mice nor men, but we both survived. In 1973, these sections moved across the street to the Navy Annex to occupy offices opposite the library and archives. At this time, our recently appointed new Director of Marine Corps History and Museums, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, who had been elsewhere in Headquarters Marine Corps separate from his sections, was now in an office co-located with his entire division, less the Museums

Branch, which remained in Quantico, and the Combat Art Section, which remained in the basement of Building 3. Actually, the Museums Branch gained the History and Museums Division's first beachhead in the Navy Yard's Building 198 in 1972, followed soon after by the art collection.

A harbinger of things to come appeared in a short notice in the Summer 1972 *Fortitudine*, which noted that new quarters for a Marine Corps Historical Center were at that time the subject of "much study and anticipation." It seems that the Guard Company, Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, S.E., Washington, D.C., was to move into a new bachelor enlisted quarters being constructed at the corner of 8th and I Streets, S.E., and when the company moved in 1975, Building 58 in the Washington Navy

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the Marine Corps Historical Center fronting Leutze Park at the Washington Navy Yard occupies the "Old Stores Building," torched during the War of 1812 to prevent capture of its contents by

British troops. It later was the Yard's Marine Guard Company barracks. Today it houses both the historical records and important artifacts of the Marine Corps, as well as its historians.



Benis M. Frank



In May 1977, former Assistant Commandant, retired LtGen Merwin H. Silverthorne, studies the World War I display in the Marine Corps Museum. Gen Silverthorne earned the Navy Cross while with Marines of the American Expeditionary Force in France during the war.

Yard, was to become vacant.

Building 58 is the site of the Navy's "Old Stores Building," which was burned by the Yard Commandant, Capt Thomas Tingey, USN, to prevent its capture by British troops during the

War of 1812. The present building, parts of which are 130 years old, had a variety of uses from sail loft to public works offices before it became the barracks of the Marine Guard Company in 1941. An article, "Building

Among the early exhibitions mounted in the new Center's state-of-the-art Special Exhibits Gallery was this collection of photographs by David Douglas Duncan of Marines in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The opening exhibition in

the Gallery, "Marines in Contemporaneous Art," included the Japanese scroll which pictured Marines accompanying Adm Perry during his "opening" of Japan.



58 Underway," in the Summer 1975 issue of *Fortitudine* gives a fuller history of the building

The establishment of a Marine Corps Historical Center was a long-sought dream to bring the dispersed segments of the now-History and Museums Division together. Building 58 had enough space to permit consolidation of all of the Division's activities and especially to bring the Marine Corps Museum to Washington. Here it would be more readily accessible to the general public. Also, co-location of the Historical Program's scattered elements would offer greater efficiency and effectiveness in the discharge of its mission responsibility to the Commandant and Headquarters Marine Corps, to the Marine Corps as a whole, and to the public. In addition, the proximity of the Marine Corps Historical Center to the Naval History Division and the Navy Museum would facilitate and enhance a closer working relationship between the other Department of the Navy's historical agencies. And finally, the use of Building 58 as a Historical



The Museum's large-scale initial exhibit, "Marines in Contemporaneous Art," was devised by Col Raymond Henri, himself an artist of note, and featured Marines in hundreds of works of art at work and at war in all climes and places.

Center would be in consonance with the Master Plan for Navy and Marine Corps Facilities in the National Capital Region which envisaged the preservation of that portion of the Washington Navy Yard as a Historic District.

We were fortunate in that the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Robert E. Cushman, Jr., after being approached with the need for and concept of a major Marine Corps Historical Center, agreed that this was a worthy project and approved its construction. To his everlasting credit and vision, he allocated some of his limited and tightly held military construction funds, some \$2 million, to convert Building 58 into that center.

Since the building already existed, Swapping of padlocks rather than a groundbreaking ceremony on 15 August 1975 signalled the start of the conversion of the building into the Marine Corps Historical Center. With this exchange, the workmen of Thomas W. Yoder Company, Inc., began the year-long modernization of the structure. Initially, it was determined that the Center would house all sections of the Historical Branch and most of the Museums Branch. Only the technical collections—ordnance and aviation—would remain at Quantico, where they would be used

to support exhibitry in an Air-Ground Museum. The Center's building was almost completely gutted less than a month after the work started.

In the Spring 1976 issue of *Fortitudine*, it was reported that the renovation work on Building 58 was progressing rapidly and was on schedule. At that time, plans were being made at the History and Museums Division's office at Headquarters Marine Corps for the transfer of per-

Two Marine artists, GySgt James A. Fairfax and LICol Albert M. "Mike" Leaby, USMCR, at the 1977 opening, discuss GySgt Fairfax's artistic use of a woven-reed "canvas," actually one of the trays employed by farmers to display produce in marketplaces in South Vietnam.



sonnel, files, and exhibits to the new Center. Inspecting the building itself, it hardly seemed possible that apparent mess of material and partially built sections could come together in a meaningful way to permit occupancy in the near future, and yet it was to be. Although construction was to be completed in August 1976 and occupancy to begin a short time after, a number of things conspired against this plan, not the least of which was a frozen pipe which burst in late January 1977, flooding portions of all four floors. This put off the opening of the Center until Spring.

It took two months for the Division to move into the Center, with all sections moved by mid-March, less two elements—the Combat Art Collection, which would not move until work in the Center had been completed, and the still photographic archives (which we once owned until it was shortsightedly taken from us), waiting for photo filing equipment to be installed.

The official opening of the Marine Corps Historical Center took place on 12 May 1977, hosted by then-Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Louis H. Wilson. Gen Wilson had invited former Commandant, Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr., to officiate at the opening, and he did by making some appropriate remarks about the



Artworks by Col Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR, have frequently comprised special exhibits. The Center's "Artist in Residence" for many years, Col Waterhouse drew this first of his shows from among paintings he produced to illustrate the volume *Marines in the Revolution* by Center historian Charles R. Smith.

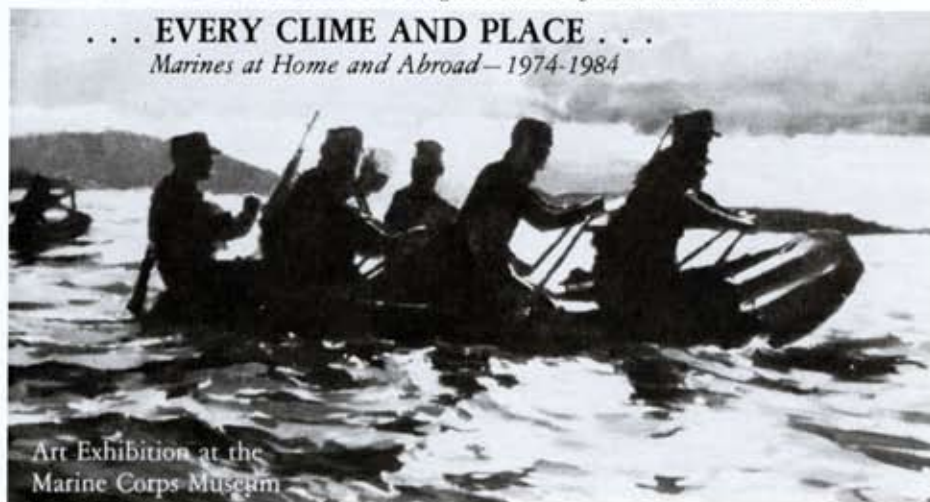
important relevance of the Historical Program to the Marine Corps as a whole, and the role to be played by the Historical Center in all of this. More than 450 retired and active duty general officers from all the Services, government dignitaries, leaders in the historical and museums professions, and invited guests were present to hear Gen Greene. Among these were Gen Cushman, now retired; Gen Gerald C. Thomas; Dr. Felix DeWeldon, sculptor of the Iwo Jima statue; and famed author Robert L. Sherrod, long a Marine Corps favorite as well as supporter, as well as many others.

Two days later, about 350 Marines, civilians, and their families from Headquarters Marine Corps offices and the Marine Barracks, 8th and I, attended an open house at the Center. Before the end of the year, and ever since then, the Center has hosted historians from other Service historical agencies, officers and their wives attending the annual General Officers Symposium, and other groups meeting in the Center. On 12 August, the largest crowd visiting the Center to that date, 600 individuals representing the official government historical

agencies, colleges, universities, and military history organizations in the area thronged the Center.

The next year, in the Spring 1978 issue of *Fortitudine*, Gen Simmons noted in his "Director's Page," that our records indicated that we had 18,399 visitors to the Center since it first opened. Many of them signed our guest book and all comments were highly complimentary, not to say encouraging to the staff. We have had many foreign visitors, some of whom

In 1984, it was time for a look at the post-Vietnam Marine Corps, particularly at the training taking place at Marine bases, and the art in the "Every Clime and Place" exhibit also showcased a new generation of Marine combat artists.



penned their comments in their native language. The personnel of the Center, being versatile, were able to translate most of them. Numerous inscriptions were made by former, retired, or serving Marines, all of whose statements were variations on "Proud to be a Marine," or "Feels like going home," or "Makes me feel proud to be a Marine's wife," and just "Ooragh" spelled various ways. The filled pages of the guest book have been replaced many times since that first opening day, and there has been "nary a discouraging word" on any of them.

Ten years later, in the Spring 1987 issue of *Fortitudine*, Col Brooke Nihart, then Deputy Director for Museums, gave an update on the Center and its myriad activities. He listed the publications which had been published since we first opened our doors, the number of queries that the Reference Section fielded and responded to, the number and varieties of oral history interviews I conducted as head of the Oral History Section, and the accessions of the Personal Papers Collection and the Archives. Col Nihart also remarked on our active exhibition program of Marine Corps art.

Our very first exhibit, mounted in May 1977 in time for the grand opening, was "Marines in Contemporaneous Art," featuring an impressive assortment of art from collections, collectors,



Among guiding spirits of the new Center were former Chief Historian Henry I. Shaw, Jr., and former Marine Corps Archivist Mrs. Joyce Bonnett, both since retired.

and museums from all over the country and Japan, and depicting Marines in all places and climes, and all wars. The project officer for this exhibit was the late Col Raymond Henri, USMCR (Ret), himself a fine artist and writer.

The Center often has hosted the famous and near-famous, distinguished authors and senior commanders and commandants of Marine Corps from around the world. But no visit was more anticipated than the ground-breaking one by

Mounting this exhibit was an all-hands effort on the part of the Museums Branch with assistance from our Support Branch. Other memorable exhibits followed in the years leading up to the present. The paintings of Col Charles H. Waterhouse have often rated their own exhibits. His first paintings for the History and Museums Division were done to illustrate *Marines in the Revolution*, our contribution to the celebration of the bicentennial of the United States in 1976. Since that time, we have shown many of his other Marine Corps-related works, and we have had exhibits which represented Marines of all eras, their weapons, equipage, and uniforms. One would be hard put to single out one exhibition over another. They were all devoted to Marines in history.

Viewing all the visitors to the Center over the years, hosting them, and addressing their needs, fully validates Gen Simmons' initial concept of the Center as being a one-stop

ColGen Dmitri A. Volkogonov, head of the Soviet Institute of Military History, in 1990. He is greeted at the entrance by SSgt Randy Shouse, USMC, head of the Center's Security Unit.

Marine Corps history resource. Since the Center first opened, we have supported six Commandants—from Gens Wilson, Robert H. Barrow, Paul X. Kelley, Alfred M. Gray, and Carl E. Mundy, Jr., to Charles C. Krulak—with all sorts of historical information for speeches, trip books, Congressional testimony, roles and missions information, and sundry other matters. That is not to say that we didn't support former Commandants and the Headquarters staff in all the years of historical program's life. We have aided countless authors and scholars, including John Toland, Leon Uris, J. Robert Moskin, Clay Blair, Allan Millett, and James Webb, to name a few. We have assisted researchers without number who have come to the Historical Center to make use of Marine Corps records and taped interviews we hold here as well as those same items we recall for them from the Federal Records Center. Of course, we did all that, too, when we were at Headquarters Marine Corps. We estimate that in the last 20 years, our





ColGen Volkogonov, flanked by an aide and an interpreter, presented then-Director of Marine Corps History and Museums BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret), a selection of volumes for the Center Library. Gen Simmons, along with other historians, had visited Moscow in 1989 and met Gen Volkogonov there.

Reference, Library, and Archives Sections and the Oral History Unit have assisted more than a quarter of a million people—serving, former, and retired Marines, Marines' families, and the general public. We support the Marine Corps' Professional Military Education and unit history programs, as well.

We have had some unusual visitors to the Center, not the least of them a group of Polish military historians who, coming here in 1991, was repaying a visit to Poland in 1990 by the heads and representatives of the Service historical offices in Washington. Our former Chief Historian, Henry I. "Bud" Shaw, Jr., was our representative on this exchange. An exchange of an even more momentous nature coincided with the appearance of *glasnost*, which broke out between the United States and the Soviet Union in the late 1980s. It began with a visit to the United States in 1988 of Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev and some of his senior staff officers. In June the following year, Adm William J. Crowe, Jr., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, returned the visit together with the

vice chiefs of the four services. Meanwhile, in April 1989, Gen Simmons, together with a delegation of other Service historical agency heads and senior historians, headed for Russia at the invitation of ColGen Dmitri A. Volkogonov, head of the Institute of Military History in Moscow (For the full story of this visit, see "Mission to Moscow," *Fortitudine*, Spring 1989). A year later, Gen Volkogonov and some of his staff historians paid a visit to Washington in April 1990, and during the course of their visit, they were hosted by the various Service historical agencies at a number of different affairs.

As we approach the 21st century, we will find that our tasks are no less daunting than those which we faced in the previous century. We will, of course, commemorate the 100th anniversaries of Marine Corps participation in the Spanish-American War and the Boxer Rebellion, the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, and the 25th anniversary of the Vietnam War with appropriate publications and exhibits, and support other Marine Corps activities in the same areas accordingly. Our Historical Program

Campaign Plan envisages our continuing a series of Marine Corps institutional histories, continuing and upgrading existing museums programs, and continuing to observe significant Marine Corps-related anniversaries as they occur. We also anticipate that we will continue to be affected by the technological revolution wherever that takes the whole historical community as well as the rest of the country.

The Marine Corps has always been interested in its own history. One of the earliest examples supporting that conclusion is found in a letter dated 5 April 1848: "To the Commissioned and non-commissioned Officers of the Corps of Marines, and others interested." It was written by Brevet Brigadier General Commandant Archibald Henderson, who said, "It is considered incumbent on the officers of the Marine Corps to have a faithful and impartial history written of the services of that portion of the corps which has been on active duty with the Army and the Navy during the existing war with Mexico. Justice alone to the corps, particularly to that part engaged in this arduous service, would require a record of this nature." Gen Henderson's aspiration is as meaningful today as it was nearly 150 years ago. The Marine Corps did not really have a formal historical program until September 1919, when Maj Edwin N. McClellan—who might be considered the first Director of Marine Corps History—was designated the Officer-in-Charge of the newly established Historical Section of the Adjutant and Inspector's Department. Since that time, the name of the organization in charge of a Marine Corps historical program has gone through many changes and has had 26 different Directors ranging from Maj McClellan to BGen Edwin H. Simmons. Despite all these changes in name and directors, Marine Corps history has continued to be made by Marines, and it will be the mission of the History and Museums Division to capture and preserve it for future generations of Marines as it predecessors have in the past. □1775□

World War I Marine Celebrates His 100th Birthday

Charles M. Whited is one of a scant handful—possibly five—living former Marines who served in Europe in World War I. On 5 February he celebrated his 100th birthday in ceremonies marked by the reading of special greetings from President Clinton, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge, and Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Charles C. Krulak, and congratulatory remarks from officials of both state and county and representatives of national veterans organizations.

The former private first class served with Company C of the 1st Battalion, 13th Regiment, commanded by then-Col Smedley D. Butler. The regiment arrived in France in September 1918, formed part of the 5th Brigade of Marines, and participated in port duties at Brest.

Whited, all his life a Pennsylvanian, was born in 1897 near Rural Valley and raised near Rimersburg. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on 24 June 1918 at Parris Island, South Carolina, and was honorably discharged at Hampton Roads Naval Base, Virginia, on 13 August 1919, after nearly a year of guarding German prisoners of war.

Young Jay Whited, son of Maj Mark Whited, USMC (Ret), standing left, and grandson of Gene Whited, standing right, visited his great-grandfather, Charles Whited, on the day named in honor of the 100-year-old World War I Marine veteran in Pennsylvania.



Returning to Rimersburg he resumed his trade as a logger and built a home for himself and his wife, the former Bertha Yates. He eventually owned his own timber and trucking business and also worked as a construction carpenter until his retirement in 1965.

Maj Mark Whited, USMC (Ret), who attended the birthday celebration, said that his grandfather Charles has always delighted in poetry and was himself once called the "Wildcat Poet," after the region of Pennsylvania about which he wrote.

The Whiteds are an especially long-lived family. Charles' father, Jacob, lived to age 95, and his mother, May, to the great age of 109. Brothers and sisters of his mother lived to the ages of 101, 97, 95, and 92. Charles Whited's own brother lived to age 95. Charles' son, Gene, told a local reporter that "I tell people that I've often thought of going to look for that magical spring near Rural Valley"

As a part of the birthday observance, a proclamation was read in Whited's honor in the Pennsylvania

state legislature, and in his home Clarion County the day was proclaimed Charles M. Whited Day. Capt Joseph Spampinato, USMC, represented the Commandant and read his congratulatory letter to the veteran Marine and his guests at the birthday party.

□1775□

Letter From the Commandant

Dear Private First Class Whited,

On the occasion of your 100th birthday, I wish to extend to you my personal congratulations and best wishes and those of the Corps to you and your family. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARINE!

We present-day Marines are heirs to a proud tradition of honor, courage, and commitment which you, and other members of "C" Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Marine Regiment, exemplified for us during World War I. With admiration, we remember the sacrifice and stellar performance of you and all Marines assigned to the American Expeditionary Forces in France. I assure you that the Marines of today continue to uphold these core values of our Corps and gratefully acknowledge the part our predecessors have played in establishing our reputation for warfighting efficiency and soldierly virtue.

I am honored to share in the many tributes and well-deserved recognition which you will undoubtedly receive on 5 February 1997. On behalf of all Marines, I salute you, Sir, and we thank you for the part which you and your fellow Marines played in the Great War. Happy Birthday and Semper Fidelis. Sincerely,

C. C. KRULAK
General, U.S. Marine Corps

Remembering Talented Marines: Twining and Condon

PRIVILEGE AND HONOR

It was with great interest and nostalgia that I read the Memorandum from the Chief Historian, "An Eagle Is Downed: Major General John P. Condon" (*Fortitudine*, Winter 1996-1997). It was my pleasure, privilege, and honor to have served with then-LtCol John P. Condon during the Bougainville operation when he was C.O. Fighter Command Northern Solomons, ComAirNorSols. I was "Johnny's" operations officer and it is an experience that I truly cherish. I will never forget and always value his reciprocal and tenacious loyalty, support, and confidence. I commend Benis M. Frank, the chief historian, for his outstanding article.

I also commend Charles R. Smith, historian, for his fine article, "Awards Cite Veteran Pilot Condon and Author Moskin." [Gen Condon] was indeed a fine gentleman and Marine. [He] would appreciate both articles.

BGen Byron V. Leary, USMC (Ret)
Marshfield, Massachusetts

'HOMEMADE' HISTORIES

Your recent (Winter 1996-1997) *Fortitudine* article about "'Homemade' Histories" of small units of the World War II Marine Corps prompts me to send you the enclosure. Many members of the Reunion Group of the WWII 2d Amphibian Tractor Battalion assisted and encouraged me as I wrote this unit history. It was finally printed as submitted to the membership last fall. I hope you can add it to the Historical Center Library Your article was interesting and I have been privileged to read some of the ones you mentioned. You are certainly correct when you say that these historical accounts help to fill the gap in Marine Corps history.

Otha L. Grisham
Seguin, Texas

A GRADE OF 'F'

As a former Marine, 1952-1960, and a school teacher for over 30 years (history), I would like to give your proof-reader a grade of "F." I would like to give [Chief Historian Benis M. Frank] an "A" for [his] article in the Winter 1996-1997 *Fortitudine*, "An Eagle Is Downed: Major General John P. Condon." Unless I am wrong, someone missed the boat with "26 December 1996" [it reads 1966]. As we always tell our children, please check your final draft, give it more time.

Gerald W. Waliack
Meriden, Connecticut

MY DAD'S TANK

[In a picture on page 17 of *The Final Campaign: Marines in the Victory on Okinawa* by Col Joseph H. Alexander, USMC (Ret), in the History and Museums Division series of Marines in World War II commemorative pamphlets], an M-4 Sherman Tank (I think misidentified as a self-propelled howitzer) is rolling on a road with a group of Marines on top. My dad is one of those Marines, facing the camera. At the time, he was a corporal assigned to Company B, 6th Tank Battalion. Later, the tank in the picture was destroyed by a mine, killing the entire crew. The gunner in the tank (a guy named Woodall) was my dad's good friend—as a matter of fact, my father still carries a blanket in the trunk of his car that is stencilled with his name. The tank is easy to identify because of the square with a "2" inside of it painted on the hull. It IDs the "square platoon" of the company and was also their radio call sign. Although initially assigned as a member of an infantry liaison team, my father ended up as the gunner in "Square 3," another tank in the same platoon. He participated

in the Battle of Sugar Loaf Hill and the assault on Naha in that tank.

Col Jack C. Cuddy, USMC
Quantico, Virginia

A REMARKABLE MARINE

Congratulations on your splendid story about Bill Twining ("A Giant Passes: General Merrill B. Twining, 1902-1996," *Fortitudine*, Summer 1996). I think you did full justice to this remarkable man.

One final vignette: You will recall that I joined Twining's Co D as a very green second lieutenant. [When he was interviewed for his oral history], he told you that as a law instructor at the Basic School, he also volunteered to be a weapons instructor. He said he "knew something about machine guns," a typical Twining understatement. As I was to learn, he apparently knew *everything* about machine guns. At least far more than I knew or will ever know.

Our weapon was the watercooled M1917 .30-cal from World War I. In our barracks, we had a 1,000-inch range in the basement. We frequently fired there on days of inclement weather. We tried to fire bursts of five rounds. The gun would invariably drop the first round about two inches low. The other four were alright (if you had the correct sighting). This low round, of course, played hell with our score. This did not seem to annoy anyone but me. As a graduate in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M, I was convinced that I could fix it. I told Capt Twining and his only response was, "Go ahead."

At the time I was unmarried, broke, with lots of time on my hands on weekends and in the evenings. I made friends with the people in MT [Motor Transport] because they had a good machine shop. I worked for months on this project, making shims

of brass, steel, or whatever. Every so often, Twining would ask how it was going—just enough to keep me going back to work. After endless trials and test firings, the gun still dropped the first round (called “stitching”).

I finally had to give up and confess to Twining that I could not fix this problem. His reply was, “No, you can’t. And neither can anyone else. It’s a basic fault in the design.” Obviously he knew all along that I couldn’t do it. I was more than a bit upset and said, “You knew all along. You could have told me.” He said, “Sure, I could have told you and you would have stopped. But, while you didn’t, and couldn’t, fix anything about the stitching, you sure learned a lot about machine guns”

LtGen Ormond R. Simpson,
USMC (Ret)
Bryan, Texas

A MARINE OLYMPIAN

Received my copy of *Fortitudine* and the first thing I noticed was your interesting “Historical Quiz” [“Marines in the Olympics,” Summer 1996]. With all due respect, how could you leave William McMillan [rapid-fire pistol marksman LtCol William W. McMillan, USMC (Ret)] off the list? Six-time Olympian! If we had gone to Moscow, he would surely have been a seven-time Olympian. And if his pistol hadn’t given him trouble in 1956 he would probably have been an eight-time Olympian I’m not picking on you, but I had to point out to you that you left out one of the greatest Marine Olympians in history.

Roger J. Sullivan
San Diego, California

MARINES QUELL RIOT

I am a retired newspaperman as well as a former Marine (‘45 and ‘46). My hobby is collecting original issues of American magazines. The attached issue of *Harper’s Weekly* [of 13 June 1857] has an interesting story about Marines in Washington, D.C., breaking up a riot and, I believe, the then-Commandant was personally involved. I have a duplicate issue, so

I’d like to give this to the USMC. The story appears on page 374 [see reproduction on this page].

Morton Breyer
Norwalk, Connecticut

ELECTION RIOT AT WASHINGTON.

A bloody riot took place at the municipal election at Washington on 1st Inst. It appears that a number of Baltimore “Plug-Uglies” (Know Nothings) went to Washington purposely to create a riot. After some skirmishing they supplied themselves with revolvers, stones, bills, brickbats, and they made a concerted onslaught upon the voters. A terrible scene ensued, in which the entire crowd participated. Stones and pistols were rapidly discharged, and men were trampled to the earth, beaten, stamped on, and severely wounded. Among those injured was R. E. Owens, Fourth Ward Commissioner, who had his wrist badly shattered by a pistol ball. A Klosser received a spent ball in his forehead, which stunned him, but inflicted no serious injury. Captain Goddard was, with several officers, on the ground, and the captain did good service with his long arms and heavy blows in quelling the affray. He was severely struck several times, but got off without any serious damage.

The Mayor called upon the President for the assistance of the marines, who were immediately called out.

The marines formed in line and marched toward the City Hall, the crowd of rioters hooting and yelling, threatening and insulting them at every step. They were passed on their way up by a crowd of Plug-Uglies and others, who were hauling a brass swivel, and threatening that not a marine should return to the Navy Yard alive. Arrived at the City Hall, Captain Tyler reported service to the Mayor.

The Marines were addressed by General Henderson, who said, “Men, you have always done your duty in the service of your country; I expect you now to do your duty bravely, if necessary, in the protection of the laws and the rights of citizens.”

CANNON BROUGHT OUT BY THE RIOTERS.

The files then moved to the scene of action. Some sixty or seventy yards above them, and opposite the market-house, a cannon was hauled out, and a large crowd of rioters surrounded it, while a delegation of their number was sent to inform the commanding officer that, unless the marines were instantly withdrawn, the piece would be discharged into their ranks. Captain Tyler, on receiving this threatening message, immediately gave the order to move toward the gun, and when the right of the line was nearly opposite it, General Henderson deliberately went up to the piece and placed his body against the muzzle, thereby preventing it from being aimed at the marines, just at the moment when it was about to be discharged. The General was dressed in citizen’s dress, and armed with nothing more deadly than a cotton umbrella. He addressed the rioters, saying, “Men, you had best think twice before you fire this piece at the marines.” He informed the crowd that the guns were loaded with ball-cartridge, and warned them repeatedly to desist. All the officers repeatedly warned the citizens to go away from the spot.

The General, finding that the piece would be fired unless captured, instantly crossed over to Captain Tyler and gave the order for ten or fifteen of the marines to take it. During this time a number of pistol-shots were fired at General Henderson, some of the parties standing within a few feet of him when firing. One platoon of the marines brought their arms to the trail without cocking, and charged the piece on a run. Those in charge of the piece instantly retreated, and a dozen or more revolvers were discharged at the platoon who laid hold of the gun and were taking it away. A scuffle was made by the mob to recover the piece, when General Henderson ran up and hauled it across the street to the rear of the marines.

FIRE!

A man ran up to the General, within two feet of his person, and was about to discharge his revolver, when a marine, with his musket, struck his arm, causing the weapon to fall, and at the same time the General seized the villain and marched him off to the Mayor, into whose hands he placed him. The pistol-shots now rattled around like hailstones, and the officers had great difficulty in restraining their men from returning the fire. General Henderson and all the officers were constantly admonishing the men not to fire until the command was given; but a shot coming from the crowd, struck a marine in the cheek, inflicting a dreadful wound, and several more being hit with balls and brickbats, the soldiers could stand it no longer. They poured in an answering fire, which was stopped as soon as possible by the officers.

The two companies now formed in hollow square, where they remained standing for some time. Several shots were fired from a distance, by one of which a marine was wounded in the shoulder. The battalion made a movement as if to pour in another volley, which the rioters seeing, took to their heels and fled. The force was finally drawn off to the City Hall, where they remained for some time, and then proceeded to the railroad depot to intercept, if necessary, any more of the murderous gang arriving from Baltimore. They remained there until half past eight o’clock, when the captain received notice from the Mayor that their services were no longer required, and they accordingly proceeded to their barracks.

Some six men were killed on the spot, and about fifteen wounded, some fatally. The verdict of the jury on the corpses was: “Came to his death by a musket ball shot by the United States marines under order of the Mayor.” Mayor Magruder’s conduct is universally extolled.

Readers Always Ask

How Do You Say That?

by Danny J. Crauford
Head, Reference Section

Fortitudine, the Bulletin of the Marine Corps Historical Program, dates back to 1971 when it was created to report on the mission and activities of the newly organized and expanded Marine Corps Historical Program. Pronounced “For-teh-tude-in-ay,” the bulletin replaced and built upon the newsletter “Harumfrodite,” which had been the newsletter of the U.S. Marine Corps Museum for several years before the History and Museums Branches were combined into the new History and Museums Division.

The title “Fortitudine” was chosen because of its use as the earliest motto of the Marine Corps. While “Semper Fidelis” has been the official motto of the Corps for more than a century, before that there were several other mottoes, all traditional rather than official.

The first motto was “Fortitudine,” meaning “with fortitude,” dating back to the War of 1812. Later, “By Sea and By Land,” a translation of the Royal Marines’ “Per Mare, Per Terram,” was also used. Until 1848, the third of the Marine Corps mottoes was “To the Shores of Tripoli,” commemorating the capture of Derna in 1805. After the return of the Marine battalion which fought at Mexico City, this motto became “From the Halls of the Montezumas to the Shores of Tripoli.”

From 1971 to 1974, *Fortitudine* used as its logo a reproduction of the 1812-era hat plate depicting an eagle bearing in its beak a ribbon with the motto “Fortitudine” on it. Beginning in 1975 the History and Museums Division adopted a new logotype which incorporated the 1804 Marine button design still used on Marine buttons. The logo was selected for its historical significance as the oldest American military insignia in continuous use. □1775□

Banquet Honors WWII Series Authors and Producers

by Charles R. Smith
Historian

The team of writers, researchers, and display artists who created the series of pamphlets and exhibits about the Marines in World War II "belong to a heritage that reaches back to Homer and Thucydides." So said noted author and historian, J. Robert Moskin, at the Marine Corps Historical Foundation's 18 April dinner at the Bolling Air Force Base Officers Club recognizing those who participated in the History and Museums Division's efforts for the 50th anniversary commemoration of World War II.

"Everyone who took part in this unique effort can take pride in it. From my good friend, Ed Simmons, who began it, to all those who gave it life." The authors: Capt John C. Chapin, USMCR (Ret); Robert J. Cressman; Col James A. Donovan, USMC (Ret); LtCol Harry W. Edwards, USMC (Ret); BGen Gordon D. Gayle, USMC (Ret); Richard Harwood; LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR; Capt Wilbur D. Jones, Jr., USNR (Ret); Maj Charles D. Melson, USMC (Ret); Cdr Peter B. Mersky, USNR (Ret); J. Michael Miller; Bernard C. Nalty; Cyril J. O'Brien; Henry I. Shaw, Jr.; Charles R. Smith;

Historian and author Moskin in his talk lauded those involved in making the World War II 50th anniversary commemorative pamphlets.

(Photo by Benis M. Frank)



(Photo by Benis M. Frank)

From left, Guest speaker J. Robert Moskin joins in conversation with BGen James F. Lawrence, founder and former counsel of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, and Director Emeritus of Marine Corps History and Museums BGen Edwin H. Simmons.

Col Mary V. StremLOW; USMCR (Ret); J. Michael Wenger; and Col Joseph H. Alexander, USMC (Ret). The editorial and research staff: Amy C. Cohen; John T. Dyer, Jr.; Evelyn A. Englander; Benis M. Frank; W. Stephen Hill; Lena M. Kaljot; Catherine A. Kerns; Richard A. Long; George C. MacGillivray; and Robert E. Struder. The museum and exhibits staff: Ronnie D. Alexander; Jennifer L. Castro; James A. Fairfax; Gordon H. Heim; Ronald J. Perkins; Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas; and Charles A. Wood.

Each received a framed certificate recognizing his or her specific contribution. Col Alexander was singled out for a special award for his pamphlet and subsequent book on Tarawa by the 2d Amphibian Tractor Battalion Association, which presented him a replica of the plaque the association erected in 1991 at the former site of Camp Henry C. Drewes, at Hapuna Bay, Hawaii.

The individuals honored, Moskin continued, who "created an important piece of the lasting memory of World War II...can be especially proud that it

is not a dry record, but often a human accounting that tells what this war was actually like." The pamphlets and exhibits do not celebrate war, but celebrate the men and women who fought a war—their service and their courage.

They also form a "part of the continuing effort by each of us," he said, "to understand the times we live in." It was history's largest and most global war; it was not a great war. There is nothing great, he noted, about killing 60 million people, including more than 400,000 Americans who had their lives cut off in this conflict and have not shared in the post-war world, a world that has witnessed many dramatic changes. In the political arena European imperialism ended, power shifted from the center to the periphery, the United Nations was created to handle international disputes, and the United States was shoved onto the world stage—irreversibly. At home, the changes were titanic; the lives of African-Americans were revolutionized and women flooded into the workforce,



(Photo by Mary Beth King)

Authors of the World War II pamphlets, from left, Shaw, Chapin, Melson, Miller, Alexander, Edwards, O'Brien, and Nalty, Smith, Cressman, Simmons, Jones, Gayle, Hoffman, Mersky.

setting off enormous social and family changes. And, out of the war grew any number of scientific and technical advances: jet propulsion made worldwide air travel possible and space exploration feasible; the computer

allowed new access to information; atomic energy assured us of an endless supply of energy; and antibiotics, the electron microscope, CAT-scan, and sonogram have extended life. Those who fought the battles

described in the division's series of pamphlets and exhibits, "made it possible to have this kind of celebration half a century later and to enjoy, in our homes and our work, the freedoms that we treasure." □/775□

Editorial, research, and museum support was provided by, Kaljot, Fairfax, Castro, Heim, Frank, Perkins, and from left, MacGillivray, Dyer, Hill, Coben, Smith-Christmas, Alexander.

(Photo by Mary Beth King)



Iwo Jima Flag-Raiser's Family Visits Historical Center

By Danny J. Crawford
Head, Reference Section

More than a decade ago, in the fall of 1985, the Marine Corps Historical Center was visited by the last survivor of the first group of Marines to raise the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi in World War II. Charles W. Lindberg and his wife spent two days with us and their visit was reported in the Spring 1986 issue of *Fortitudine*.

At the time of the Lindberg visit, there was only one surviving member of each of the two historic flag raisings on Iwo Jima. The second flag raising on Mt. Suribachi, photographed by Joe Rosenthal and depicted in Felix de Weldon's Marine Corps War Memorial, included five Marines and one Navy Corpsman. The last of the surviving Marines, Corporal Rene Gagnon, had died on 12 October 1979, leaving only Pharmacist's Mate Second Class John Henry Bradley to represent the second group of flag raisers.

John Bradley was a devoted family man who avoided the spotlight as much as possible. He was the father of eight children who once responded when asked why he didn't seem interested in promoting the heroic image of the Iwo flag raisers, "I have more important things to do, like earning a living and raising a family."

It is not surprising, therefore, that before his death in January 1994, John Bradley never quite found the time or the inclination to visit our Center to look at the flag he helped raise so many years ago. We were, therefore, pleasantly surprised when in early December we received a call from one of his sons, James J. Bradley. He told us that members of the Bradley family were planning a trip to Washington, D.C., and wished to visit the Marine Corps War Memorial and the Marine Corps Historical Center during their stay.

The Bradley family arrived in Washington on the weekend of 14-15 December and among their first stops was a visit to the John H. Bradley



Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley and her son James visit the display in the Marine Corps Museum which includes the famous photograph of her husband, Pharmacist's Mate John H. Bradley, and the other flag-raisers, as well as the flag itself that they planted atop Mount Suribachi.

Clinic at Quantico, Virginia. The dedication ceremony for the clinic had been held just 15 months earlier on 22 September 1995, with one of the other Bradley sons, Steven Bradley, who served as a Marine during the Vietnam War, as the guest of honor. The Bradleys then visited the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, where more than four decades earlier John Bradley and his wife Elizabeth had been honored guests at the official dedication of the monument.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley and her son James arrived at the Marine Corps Historical Center on Tuesday, 17 December, after visiting the Marine Barracks at 8th and I. They were

greeted by the Acting Director, Col Michael F. Monigan, and the Chief Historian, Benis M. Frank, and toured the Museum briefly before being joined by Danny J. Crawford, head of the Reference Section, at the 50th anniversary of World War II display in the Special Exhibits Gallery. That display includes the flag that the late Pharmacist's Mate John Bradley helped raise atop Mt. Suribachi on 23 February 1945.

As the Bradleys viewed the historic flag and the famous Rosenthal photograph, they told us of their husband and father and of the great number of people who attempted to contact John Bradley over the past half-century for interviews, photos, autographs, and

guest appearances due to his participation in the famous flag raising. He would, they said, go to great lengths to avoid the media and the publicity, with his favorite "escape" being fishing or hunting trips to Canada—trips that he actually rarely took.

John Bradley never felt that he deserved to be singled out for his participation in the flag raising on Iwo Jima. In 1985, in the only interview he gave since the end of World War II, Bradley said:

People refer to us as heroes...I personally don't look at it that way. I just think that I just happened to be at a certain place at a certain time and anybody on that island could have been in there—and we certainly weren't heroes—and I speak for the rest of them as well. That's the way they thought of themselves also.

In the same interview Bradley told how he came to be involved in the flag raising that day:

I was going around checking on the other corpsmen that were in the group to make sure that they had enough supplies—there was a little lull at that time—and I just

happened to come along and see these fellows struggling with this long piece of pipe with the flag attached to it and I just jumped in and gave them a hand. It's as simple as that.

What many people who remember John Bradley for his role in the flag raising don't know, however, is that Bradley was recognized for the heroism he displayed on Iwo Jima in actions before and after the now-famous flag raising. He landed with the 28th Marines on 19 February and just two days later earned the nation's second highest award, the Navy Cross. Rushing to the aid of a wounded Marine, Bradley bandaged his wounds while under intense fire, and then pulled the Marine 30 yards through heavy enemy fire to safety. Bradley continued to come to the aid of wounded Marines during the next three weeks of intense fighting until wounded himself in both legs on 12 March by an enemy mortar shell. Even then, he refused evacuation until rendering aid to two other wounded Marines.

Thus, the man who shunned publicity for his role in the flag raising atop

Mt. Suribachi was truly a hero in every sense of the word. Perhaps, in light of what Bradley saw and experienced in the savagery and human suffering on Iwo Jima, it is more understandable that he felt it inappropriate to attach so much importance to the flag raisings.

After Mrs. Bradley and her son finished their tour of the Museum, they spent the rest of the afternoon reviewing the Reference Section's files and photographs on John Bradley, the battle for Iwo Jima, and the historic flag raisings. The Bradleys not only went away from their visit with lots of new material that they had not seen before, but they also were kind enough to give us some fine additions to our files. Among these were an article that John Bradley wrote on the Iwo Jima battle for the *Medical Technicians Bulletin* in 1954 entitled "The Action Was Terrific;" a copy of the program from the dedication ceremony of the John H. Bradley Clinic in 1995; and the transcript of the only interview John Bradley gave after World War II, the 1985 interview with Arnold Shapiro for the PBS documentary "Return to Iwo Jima." □/775□

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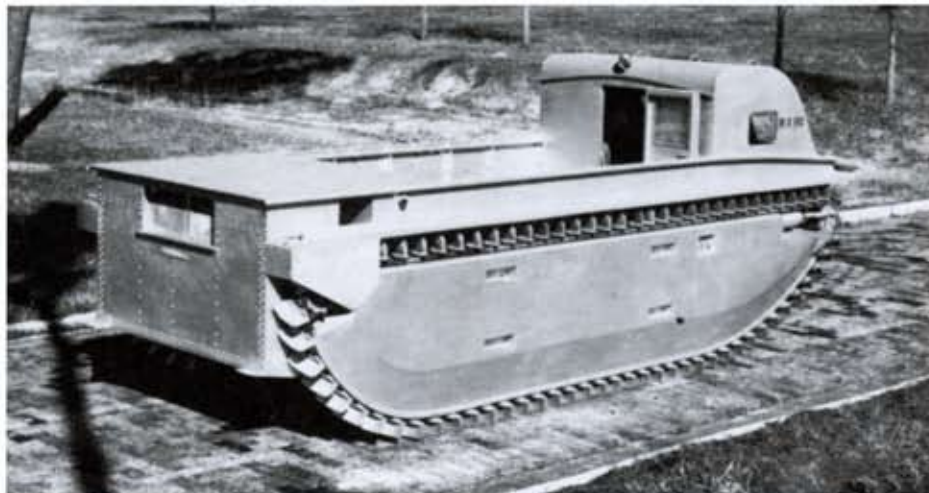
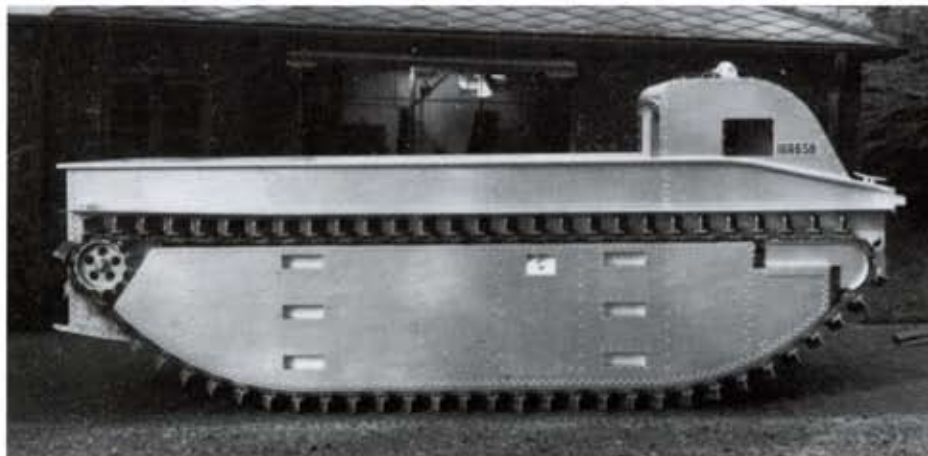
Discerning Marine Kept Amtrac Documents from Loss

By Sgt Dieter Stenger
Material History Section

Potentially seen as the most significant combat development in Marine Corps history, the amphibian tractor would catapult the Marine Corps head-long into amphibious warfare with astounding success. In November 1996, many questions concerning Donald Roebling and his amphibious *Alligator* and *Crocodile* were answered when CWO-3 Ernest E. Green, USMC (Ret), donated a substantial collection of records and photographs that document the development of the amphibian prototypes in Clearwater, Florida, in the 1930s.

As early as 29 March 1944, at a time when Marines using the new amphibians had successfully eliminated or isolated the Japanese garrisons in the Solomons, Gilberts, and Marshall Islands, the Historical Division, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, contacted Mr. Roebling and asked him to assemble the documented history of the machines. The letter to him identified the importance of the amphibious tractor, regarded by the Marine Corps "... as something peculiarly its own, devised to serve in situations that it foresaw, and extremely successful under those conditions." In order to absolve "Alli" (Roebling's pet name for his invention) of many a write's-

The Crocodile, No. 18R658, photographed by Roebling employees in Clearwater, Florida, in December 1940, has a straight side and track mounting and a three-step side entry. CWO-3 Green saved these photos from careless destruction in 1959, while he was stationed at a Reserve Facility in Florida.



This Alligator, No. 18-O-392, was photographed in December 1940 at Clearwater, Florida. Its differences from the Crocodile are visible in the track and bull design with its sloping sides and track mounting, and a two-step entry.

colored imagination instead of truth, Roebling suggested an interview in his own home, and assembled a small collection of past correspondence, publicity, and other pertinent information that would tell the true story. It would be fair to assume that this meeting never took place.

After Donald Roebling's death in 1959, Mrs. Roebling brought the collection to the local Gandy Marine Corps Reserve Facility, Tampa, Florida. In the late 1960s, Green was

stationed at Gandy where, as part of a working party in preparation for an inspection, he stumbled across the Roebling collection that was being "thrown out." Fortunately, he sensed the collection's worth. Considering his early childhood, living in Clearwater close to Roebling, he assumed responsibility for the collection. Several of his friends and relatives had worked for Donald Roebling on this and other projects.

In the early 1970s, Mrs. Roebling was contacted by the then-Curator of Personal Papers, Mr. Charles A. Wood, now Chief Curator of the Museums Branch. After soliciting the documents, Mr. Wood received a collection from Mrs. Roebling in May 1972, and established the nucleus of the Roebling Collection, devoid, however, of the best photographs and documents from this crucial developmental period. So until now, the Marine Corps History and Museums Division was largely unaware that Donald Roebling had been in contact with its predecessor, the old Historical Division, as early as 1944.

In November 1996, after expressing reservations about donating the material, Green brought the collection

he had been safeguarding for the last 30 years to the Marine Corps Museums Branch Facility at Quantico. After being reassured by the staff that they were fully aware of its significance, Green agreed to donate the collection to the History and Museums Division. The collection includes dozens of photographs taken during the testing of the Alligator and Crocodile between 1937 and 1940, and a "skull-hat" (a lightweight fiberglass helmet with the Alligator logo) that was worn during these tests. The newspaper coverage was also preserved, as were the original contracts between the Navy and Mr. Roebling. Of particular interest is the 18 July 1941, Order for Supplies or

Services, that indicates a special order of one amphibious tractor, one trailer for transportation, and one truck for towing the trailer at the cost of one U.S. dollar.

Additionally, the often-debated issue concerning the name, Crocodile, has been resolved. The records indicate that there were three different vehicles, of which the last was modified extensively. This last version, the Alligator, was modified twice resulting in what became known as the Crocodile, albeit for a short time. The vehicle on display at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum at Quantico is the final version, the orig-

inal Crocodile. Later, however, it was redesignated back to the Alligator.

The addition of the new collection has greatly enhanced the efforts to uncover the history of the Amphibians. The collection will join the others in the Personal Papers Collection, and the skull-hat will be sent to the new WWII – Korea LVT Museum at Camp Pendleton, California, for display. Several photos will also be used for the upcoming ceremony in which the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will recognize Roebling's tractor for its unequalled achievements. □1775□

Historical Quiz

Women in the Marine Corps

by Annette D. Amerman, Shenandoah University
Reference Section Intern

1. Who is the highest ranking woman in the Marine Corps today?
2. Legend claims she served as a Marine on board the USS *Constitution* throughout the War of 1812, disguised as a man.
3. She was the Director of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, from the time it was activated, 13 February 1943, to 7 December 1945, when she resigned her commission.
4. She became the first woman Marine selected as a Naval Aviator.
5. Considered the first woman Marine, she was sworn into the Marine Corps Reserve on 13 August 1918, for clerical duty at Headquarters Marine Corps.
6. Exactly one month after the official announcement of the formation of the Women's Reserve on 13 February 1943, the first group of 71 Women Marine officer candidates arrived at what school to begin their training?
7. Who was the first woman Marine to serve in Vietnam?
8. She was appointed the first Sergeant Major of Women Marines in January 1960.
9. She served as the second Director of the Women's Reserve, from December 1945 to June 1946, and later returned to active duty in 1948, when she was assigned as the first Director of Women Marines.
10. This is the nickname for the statue of a woman Marine, the first to honor women who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, which was dedicated in New Orleans on 10 November 1943, the first year that the Corps accepted women in World War II.

(Answers on page 20)

Errors Found in WWII Pamphlets

Readers have pointed out errors in the series of History and Museums Division publications commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. In *Bloody Beaches: The Marines at Peleliu*, within the sidebar on page 5 the first line of the second paragraph should read: "This strategic concept was not synchronized" On page 13 of the same pamphlet, in the right-hand column the first line of the third paragraph should read: "Major Gordon D. Gayle, in 2/5's" [It was this action for which Maj Gayle received the Navy Cross].

In *The Final Campaign: Marines in the Victory on Okinawa*, within the sidebar on page 8, the officer shown in the photograph conducting a briefing at the map board is 4th Marines Commander Col Alan Shapley. In the same pamphlet, the caption for the photograph on page 17 should read: "Grinning troops of the 29th Marines hitch a ride on board a Sherman tank mounting a 75mm howitzer heading for Chuta in the drive towards Motobu Peninsula."—BMF

Air-Ground Museum Opens for Nineteenth Season

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas
Curator of Material History

The Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum at Quantico opened its doors to the public for its nineteenth season on 1 April. Among the many improvements made in the areas of security and exhibitry during the winter months is a new exhibit on the mechanization of the Marine Corps during World War II. This exhibit is on display near the section of the museum which discusses the history of the Marine Defense Battalions and uses a series of scale models to show the scope and variety of the vehicles which the Marine Corps used during the war. This technique allows the museum to illustrate a broad theme in a compact area.

The majority of the plastic models in this exhibit were modified extensively from commercially available models, while some of the models were "scratch-built" from available parts. The modeler, Gregory Serbe of Chicago, had worked on this "long-distance" volunteer project in the late 1970s with the assistance and close cooperation of the then-Chief Curator, Jack B. Hilliard. In this process, Mr. Hilliard would select a vehicle which he felt would eventually be needed for an exhibit, locate original photographs of the vehicle in the Pacific campaigns, and loan copies of the photographs to Mr. Serbe. In turn, Mr. Serbe would carefully construct the model, paint it exactly as it appeared in one of the photographs, and send it to the museum. The Serbe collection grew to about twenty models by 1980 and many of them were shown together in an exhibit in the lobby of Headquarters, Marine Corps, in the early 1980s.

Subsequently, several models were included in the exhibit "From Dawn to Setting Sun" at the Marine Corps Museum in the Marine Corps Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard. This extensive exhibit was the Museum's tribute to the 40th anniversary of World War II. In 1987, these models,

mostly amphibian tractors, were then transferred along with the rest of the exhibit to form the core of the World War II gallery in the Parris Island Command Museum. The remaining models were placed in storage, in anticipation of use in future exhibits.

Unfortunately, the glues used on the to-scale vehicles did not hold up well over the years and repeated movement took a toll on the fragile models. Many of them were in pieces, and although all of the pieces were carefully kept together, none of the staff had the expertise or time to reassemble them to professional standards. Luckily, a local professional

modeler and former Marine, Pat O'Neil, came to the rescue. Mr. O'Neil has been on good terms with some of the museum staff members for many years and is well-known in modeling circles throughout the country for his award-winning models of military figures and equipment. Mr. O'Neil offered to rebuild the models at his home, as time permitted. Over a period of months, he painstakingly put each of the models back together, exactly as Mr. Serbe had originally built them. Several of the rebuilt models were then used in the 50th Anniversary of World War II special exhibit in the Marine Corps Museum at the Washington Navy Yard.

Exhibits Specialist Ronnie D. Alexander puts the finishing touches on a display of some of the scale models created by volunteer Gregory Serbe of Chicago, used here to support a case devoted to World War II mechanization of the Corps.



Coincidentally, a new volunteer offered his talents to the museum staff at the Air-Ground Museum in 1996. Alex. J. Daverede, a former naval officer and Naval Academy graduate, had recently left the service and was searching for a position in the military history profession. While "job-hunting," he came to the museum's offices and reorganized our photographs of weapons and vehicles. Due to his extensive background in

the identification of military vehicles (he had already published a guide to Iraqi armored vehicles), he was able to meld several files together and regularize the photographs. In this process, the staff decided to use his talents to draft a main label on the mechanization of military vehicles in World War II and use the models to illustrate the story.

The exhibit features jeeps, weapons carriers, scout cars, light trucks, and a

heavy 6x6 cargo truck hauling a 155mm gun. Each vehicle is also highlighted with photographs of it in use on one of the Pacific island campaigns and an explanatory label. Ronnie Alexander drew upon his skills and talents as an exhibits specialist when he designed and constructed the exhibit, under the direction of the Air-Ground Museum's Exhibits Chief, Ron Perkins. □1775□

Zimri-Lim Had It Right, But the Times Are Changing

*by Frederick J. Graboske
Head, Archives Section*

Last summer I spent three weeks on vacation in Jordan and Syria. The history and archaeology of these nations would seem to have little relevance to the work of the Archives Section of the Marine Corps Historical Center. However, in the interim I have had an opportunity to reflect on what I saw, and some connections have become very clear.

Few people reading this article will have heard of Zimri-Lim of Mari, in what is now northern Syria. He was king of that small state approximately 4,500 years ago. Historians know of him only because inscriptions about him survive. I visited the remains of his mud-brick palace. Not far from Mari are the ruins of Ebla, an equally ancient city, and also a part of Zimri-Lim's kingdom. In 1974, archaeologists there discovered more than 15,000 inscribed, baked tablets. From these tablets historians have learned much about the commercial and religious life of people who lived nearly 200 generations ago. I saw the room in the Ebla palace where the vast majority of the tablets were found.

We remember Zimri-Lim and his accomplishments only because he ordered people to record this information. The inscriptions survived the ravages of conquerors, thieves, and the weather, and thereby secured Zimri-Lim's memory for posterity. We know something about daily life in ancient Ebla because the king must also have ordered people to store and

safeguard the tablets, presumably in the belief that information about the past would be of continuing value to him and his government. The fact that the vast majority of the Ebla tablets had been gathered in one spot in the king's palace there tells us that a central repository of information was considered necessary for the successful administration of the city.

In some respects there has been little change over the millennia. The Commandant of the Marine Corps, following the example of Zimri-Lim, has ordered the Marine Corps to create records of its operations, through MCO 5750, which the History and Museums Division of Headquarters, Marine Corps, administers. As did the servants of the king in Ebla, we in HD gather and maintain that information, until its final transfer to the National Archives. The purpose of the effort is to permit data about past operations of the Marine Corps to be exploited by the present-day, active-duty components of the Corps and by other government agencies, as well as by veterans and historians.

The difference between us and our predecessors in the ancient world is that no longer do we have to maintain information in physical form in one location. As we plan the Marine Corps Archives' programs for the 21st century, we look forward to using computer technology to disseminate information more rapidly and widely than Zimri-Lim ever could have imagined. It is a true paradigm shift: instead of

controlling information and compelling "customers" to come to it, we will be trying to get the information to these customers on demand.

In order for us to accomplish this mission we need raw material in the form of historical records. The command chronology series provides the best operational reporting in all of the military services, but the completeness and usefulness of these records is dependent upon the interest of the commanding officers and command historians who create them. These officers must ensure that information is complete and that important items are included as supporting documents. Logstats, sitreps, messages, after-action reports, photos, press releases, and newspaper articles can provide valuable additional and illuminating information on a unit's activities. Our historians want more, rather than less, data when they prepare their monographs and official histories. We in the History and Museums Division have the knowledge and experience to winnow out the unimportant materials; please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us with any questions as you prepare your command chronologies or make plans to purge your vaults of older classified documents. The payoff for our historians and for other Headquarters activities is immediate and we hope that the Marine Corps story, as Zimri-Lim's, is still being told 45 centuries from now. □1775□

New Books

A Marine Analyzes 20th Century Amphibious Assaults

by Evelyn A. Englander
Historical Center Librarian

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.

At the Water's Edge: Defending Against the Modern Amphibious Assault. Theodore Gatchel. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1997. 304 pp.

Conventional wisdom holds that amphibious assault against a defended beach is the most difficult of military operations—yet most modern amphibious landings have been successful. Col Gatchel examines this apparent contradiction in his book which looks at twentieth century amphibious warfare from the point of view of the defender. He reviews such battles as Normandy, Iwo Jima, Tarawa, and Inchon while studying amphibious operations from Gallipoli to the Falkland Islands. \$36.95

Grown Gray in War: The Len Maffioli Story. Bruce Norton and Len Maffioli. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1997. 284 pp.

Traces the 34-year Marine Corps career of MGySgt Leonard J. Maffioli, USMC (Ret). He saw combat in World

War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He was one of 18 Marines who participated in the only organized escape from a Chinese Communist POW camp during the Korean War. His career chronicles the evolution of the Corps from an amphibious landing force to a multi-dimensional integrated warfighting force. \$27.95

Quarterdeck and Bridge: Two Centuries of American Naval Leaders. James C. Bradford, ed. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1996. 512 pp.

A collection of biographical essays telling the story of the U.S. Navy through the lives of the officers who forged its traditions from the Continental Navy of the American Revolution to the nuclear Navy of the Cold War, from Esek Hopkins and John Paul Jones to Arleigh Burke, Hyman Rickover, and Elmo Zumwalt. Hardcover: \$42.50 and paperback: \$22.95.

Soldier's Tale: Bearing Witness to Modern War. Samuel Hynes. New York: Allen Lane/Penguin Press, 1997. 318 pp.

Hynes, professor of literature Emeritus at Princeton, Marine Corps combat pilot in World War II and

Korea, and author of *Flights of Passage*, has written a survey of the writing—memoirs, diaries, reports, journals, letters, and novels—by those who fought in World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War. He also writes on the nature of war and its effects on those who do the fighting. \$24.95

Also of interest, two recent books from Naval Institute Press acknowledge assistance from the History and Museum's staff and collections: *At the Water's Edge: Defending Against the Modern Amphibious Assault*, by Col Theodore Gatchel (reviewed above) and *Pete Ellis: An Amphibious Warfare Prophet*, by Dirk Ballendorf and LtCol Merrill Bartlett (reviewed earlier in *Fortitudine*.)

Two forthcoming books from the same press will have introductions by Division staff: *Phase Line Green: The Battle for Hue*, by Nicholas War, will have an introduction by Dr. Jack Shulimson (Head, History Writing Unit) and *Son Thang: An American War Crime*, by LtCol Gary D. Solis, USMC (Ret), will have a foreword by Director Emeritus BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret).

Answers to the Historical Quiz

Women in the Marine Corps

(Questions on Page 17)

1. LtGen Carol A. Mutter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps holds the distinction of being the highest ranking woman in the Marine Corps. LtGen Mutter was promoted to her current rank on 23 July 1996.

2. Lucy Brewer.

3. Col Ruth Cheney Streeter, USMCWR. Col Streeter died on 30 September

1990 at the age of 94.

4. On 23 July 1993, 2dLt Sarah Deal was selected for Naval aviation training, received her wings on 21 April 1995, and is now serving as a CH-53E pilot.

5. Pvt Opha Mae Johnson.

6. U.S. Midshipman School at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts.

7. On 18 March 1967, MSgt Barbara J. Dulinsky arrived in Saigon for assignment to the MACV combat operations center.

8. SgtMaj Bertha L. Peters, USMC (Ret).

9. Col Katherine A. Towle, USMC (Ret).

10. "Molly Marine."

Foundation Honors 42 Volunteers at Luncheon

by Charles R. Smith
Historian

Forty-two volunteers and Marine Corps Historical Center and Air-Ground Museum staff members gathered on Saturday, 3 May, at The Clubs at Quantico for the Marine Corps Historical Foundation-sponsored annual volunteer appreciation luncheon.

Volunteers have been an integral part of the History and Museums Division family for more than two decades. They have devoted time and talents to diverse, and sometimes tedious, tasks such as cataloging personal papers collections, restoring Museum artifacts, or manning the two Foundation-run gift shops. They have also proved to be a vital source of historical and technical expertise on the Marine Corps and its equipment.

Among the 55 volunteers honored were Col Alfred J. Croft, Alex J. Daverede, Col and Mrs. Harold A. Hayes, and Mrs. Millie White. A 32-year veteran of the Marine Corps who saw service during the Korean War and three tours in Vietnam and worked for Westwood One as facilities manager following his retirement, Col Croft became a volunteer at the Historical Center in 1996. During the past year, he has worked on the personal papers collection of former Commandant, Gen Carl E. Mundy, Jr., and begun the daunting and sometimes highly tedious task, as the division's former director, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, noted, "of entombing the contents of my red notebooks in those little gray Hollinger caskets."

Following a tour as a Navy supply officer and before beginning a new career with the National Archives, Alex J. Daverede volunteered at the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico. Drawing on his supply expertise, Daverede spent several months regularizing the museum's curatorial photographic collection of weapons and vehicles. In addition, he found time to script the museum's new exhibit on model vehicles of World War II.



From left, volunteers Gary Steinbaus, William Lightel, Frank Haas, and Frank Gardner chat at the luncheon held in May at The Clubs at Quantico.

Over the past several years, Col and Mrs. Harold A. Hayes and Mrs. Millie White have become familiar faces standing behind the sales counter at the museum's gift shop. They have handled tour groups or the rainy day with few visitors cheerfully,

compiling an envious record of nearly 1,400 hours.

To these four and the other 51 volunteers who have given and continue to give of their time and talents, the History and Museums Division again expressed its appreciation. □/775□

Volunteers With Time and Talents Needed

The History and Museums Division is looking for volunteers to assist with a number of projects. If you have a desire to devote a portion of your time and talents, the division needs you.

The Restoration Section of the Museums Branch at Quantico is currently restoring an Ontos armored vehicle and has several other smaller "hands-on" projects for volunteers willing to work on Saturdays. Contact the head of the Restoration Section, Mitch Garringer, at (703) 784-3111 for details.

The Curatorial Section at the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico is in the process of regularizing the collections and volunteers are needed to assist staff members in cataloging, cleaning, and storing artifacts, as well as checking records and keying-in data during regular working hours. Contact the Curator of Material History, Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas, at (703) 784-2606 for details.

At the Marine Corps Historical Center in the Washington Navy Yard, volunteers are needed in the Center's Personal Papers Unit to assist with a number of tasks: cataloging personal papers collections; creating a finding aid to the Center's more than 10,000-item map collection; and entering a collection of 5,000 Korean War photographs and captions into a database. For details, contact Amy Cohen at (202) 433-3396.

The Center's library needs volunteers to assist in cataloging books and the preparation or updating of bibliographies for the Spanish American War, Boxer Rebellion, Korean War, World War I, and World War II. Contact the Center's librarian, Evelyn A. Englander, at (202) 433-3447 for details.

January - June 1949

*by Robert V. Aquilina
Assistant Head, Reference Section*

Fortitudine's Chronology feature continues with a selection of events in the Marine Corps from January-June 1949, including a Presidential inauguration, events in China, and continuing developments towards the desegregation of the U.S. Armed Forces.

3 Jan - In Palestine, a Marine guard was organized for the American Consulate General in Jerusalem.

10 Jan - In New York City, the Honorable Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations, praised the work of BGen William E. Riley, USMC, who was assigned to the U.N. Mediation Commission in Palestine.

20 Jan - The Marine Band, a battalion landing team of the 22d Marines, and a band from Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, along with a company of Women Marines from Headquarters, Marine Corps, took part in the inaugural parade for President Harry S. Truman.

Women of the First Platoon, 3d Recruit Battalion, pose amid the clover at Parris Island Recruit Depot in March 1949.

31 Jan - The American Heritage Foundation commended the Marine detachment that served on board the "Freedom Train."

28 Feb - The Hoover Commission on the Organization of the Executive Branch of the government recommended that U.S. military forces be brought under the undisputed control of the Secretary of Defense in order to end interservice rivalries, and to better effect unification of the armed forces.

28 Feb - Women Marine recruits began arriving at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, to form the first platoon of 50 Women Marine regulars to undertake a six-week training course.

Mar - The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade and Marine Aircraft Group 24 departed Guam and proceeded to the United States, where they were disbanded and their personnel incorporated into the 1st Marine Division and the 1st

Women began arriving at the depot in February, the first to undergo six weeks of recruit training.





By June, Commandant Gen Clifton B. Cates, above, presided over a Corps of almost 86,000. BGen William E. Riley, top right, in January was bailed for work on the Palestine Mediation Commission. In April, Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson, bottom right, ordered an end to racial discrimination in the Services.



Marine Aircraft Wing. The remaining Fleet Marine Forces on Guam were placed under the newly established command, Fleet Marine Force, Guam.

18 Mar-24 Apr - A battalion landing team from the 3d Marines arrived off the coast of Shanghai, China, prepared to land if necessary to help evacuate U.S. citizens.

20 Apr - The Secretary of Defense, Louis A. Johnson, ordered the Armed Services to end racial discrimination, in line with President Harry S. Truman's directive of 26 July 1948.

16 May - The 9th Marines arrived at Morehead City, North Carolina, following duty on Guam and in China.

27 May - The U.S. Navy announced the withdrawal of all American fleet and shore units from Tsingtao, in North China.

3 Jun - Fifty-five graduates from a class of 790 at the U.S. Naval Academy accepted commissions in the U.S. Marine Corps.

7 Jun - The Secretary of Defense, Louis A. Johnson, accepted a Navy plan for securing racial equality for all Navy and Marine Corps personnel.

30 Jun - Marine Corps strength was 85,965. □1775□



OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Mroczkowski Passes Baton to Cureton in Field History

by Maj Patrick J. O'Connor, USMCR
Historian, Field History Branch

A change-of-command ceremony at the Marine Corps Historical Center on 15 February was the opportunity for members of the Field Operations Branch of the History and Museums Division to bid farewell to Officer-in-Charge Col Dennis P. Mroczkowski, USMCR, and to congratulate the organization's new commander, LtCol Charles H. Cureton, USMCR.

Col Mroczkowski served as the officer-in-charge of the branch since its reorganization a little more than two years ago, but his involvement with it goes back to the Persian Gulf War, when he was the field historian assigned to the 2d Marine Division. After the war he wrote *With the 2d Marine Division in Desert Shield and Desert Storm*, based upon his research, document collection, interviews, and his own impressions of the war. The volume was published by the History and Museums Division. Subsequently, Col Mroczkowski served as the historian of U.S. Marine, joint, and international commands in Somalia, Haiti, and Bosnia.

In addition to his field work, Col Mroczkowski has been instrumental in the organizational improvement and

restructuring of the Field Operations Branch. The branch has grown to include 16 officer members, supporting a myriad of historical projects and *Combat artist LtCol Donna J. Neary, USMCR (Ret), produced this finished portrait sketch of Col Dennis P. Mroczkowski, outgoing commander of the Field History Branch.*



contingencies. The changes implemented by Col Mroczkowski, often derived from the lessons he learned in recent real-world operations, have provided the Marine Corps a cadre of trained, professional, deployable field historians and combat artists. After the change of command, Col Mroczkowski transferred to the History and Museums Division MTU-DC7, where he currently is working on a monograph dealing with the Marine commitment to Somalia.

LtCol Cureton, the new Officer-in-Charge of the Field Operations Branch, is another longtime member of the branch. He also served as a field historian in the Gulf War and he is the author of the History and Museums Division publication, *With the 1st Marine Division in Desert Shield and Desert Storm*.

The official change of command ceremony at the Historical Center was followed by a reception for Col Mroczkowski. The well attended event included friends, family, former members of the branch, and military historians from throughout the Washington, D.C. area. □1775□