

the reference sources available with-
in Headquarters Marine Corps.

Shortly after the new year, Mr. Shaw set up visits and seminar discussions at the Army's Center of Military History on research support available through Army and Air Force agencies and at the Naval Historical Center on the Navy's library, ar-

chives, photographic, and reference resources.

John Groth, dean of American combat artists, after opening a show of his paintings and receiving a Certificate of Commendation from the Commandant, spoke for over an hour to members of the division on his experiences as a combat artist in five wars.

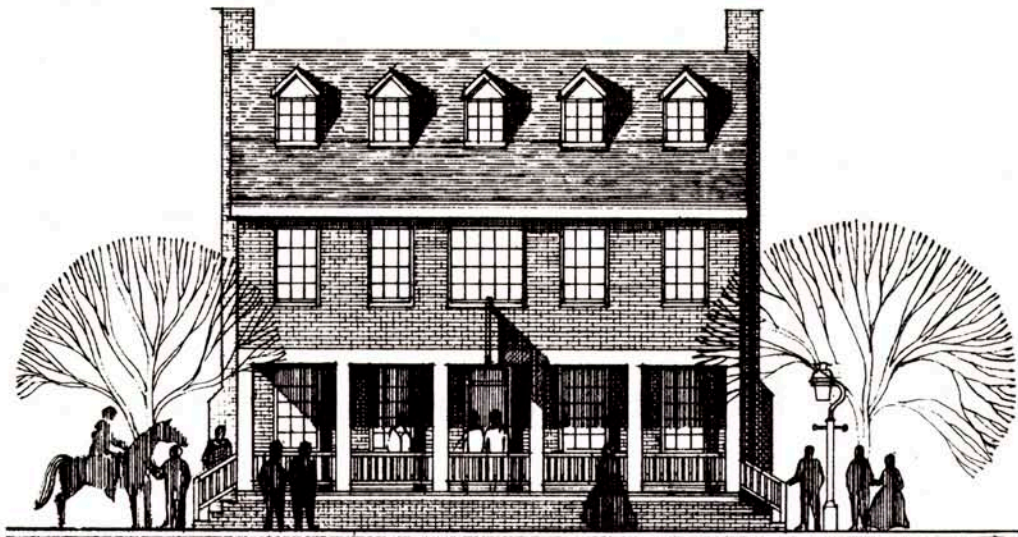
Tun Tavern Reconstruction

Tun Tavern, the traditional birthplace of the Corps, will be reconstructed in the new park on the shore side of Penn's Landing in Philadelphia's historic Olde City. Close to the original site, which will be covered by the Delaware Expressway, the setting will provide the Tavern with handsome landscaped surroundings.

John Adams' Naval Committee of the Continental Congress is believed to have met in upper rooms of the Tun, and following discussions which led to the establishment of the Continental Navy, recommended the raising of two battalions of Marines, which recommendation was adopted by the Congress on 10 November 1775. Tradition holds that the first recruiting for the new Corps was done at the Tavern.

An architect's rendering of the planned reconstruction is shown here. It is based on an early 19th Century woodcut of the tavern as it was during that time. The reconstructed tavern will be designed following careful attention to the architectural style and details of the 18th Century when the tavern was built. The major exterior materials will be brick with wood trim, typical of the period. The first floor will be designed as a tavern with appropriate interior details and furnishings. These rooms are to contain exhibits portraying Marine Corps history. Second floor rooms will be offices and meeting rooms. Garden areas around the tavern will contain paved areas for receptions, a walkway at the north side of the building representing Tun Alley, and a reconstruction of the pump which supplied the original tavern with what was reputed to be the best water in Philadelphia. Planting will be handsomely arranged and selected from species used in 18th Century Philadelphia gardens.

The reconstruction was conceived by the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association and is being executed by the Marine Corps Memorial Foundation with donations from Marines and friends of the Corps. Construction is expected to begin early in 1975 with a hoped for dedication ceremony on the 200th Anniversary of the Corps. Those interested in the project may contact the Marine Corps War Memorial Foundation, 888 17th Street, NW, Washington, D. C. 20006.



Tun Tavern as it will be reconstructed.

New History and Museums Logotype

For the past several years the History and Museums Division has used as a logo on its publications a reproduction of the Marine Corps 1808-1820 cap plate. The eagle bore in its beak a riband with the motto, "FORTITUDE," from which this newsletter takes its name. The rectangular format of the cap plate posed some problems in use as it was not in all cases compatible with desired layouts. Moreover, its busy design tended to become incomprehensible when reduced in size beyond a certain point.

The History and Museums Division has adopted a new logotype, not to replace but to supplement the familiar 1808 cap plate logo. The new logo will incorporate the 1804 Marine button design which still is in use on Marine buttons.

The new logo is more open in design and lends itself to layouts

where a circular format is desirable. The 1804 button with its 13 stars, eagle, and anchor is still in use today after 170 years although the stars have been changed from six to five points and the design of eagle and anchor has been cleaned up somewhat. The button has particular significance as it is the oldest American military insignia in continuous use. A similar eagle and anchor appeared in later years on shoulder belt plates and cartridge box plates and, in 1868, was combined with the Western Hemisphere of the earth into the Marine Corps insignia as we know it today.



"I am going on patrol, who comes with me?"

One thing often leads to another when the Museums Branch accepts donations. Last year retired BGen Richard Malcolm Cutts, Jr., USMC, famed inventor with his Marine father of the Cutts Compensator for shotgun and machine gun muzzles, died on his farm at The Plains, Va. In due time his daughter, who was settling the estate, offered the museum his papers, which mostly concerned his ordnance inventions, and a quantity of experimental compensators. In the course of picking-up this collection we were shown scrapbooks belonging to MGen John Twiggs Myers. Myers had married the elder Cutts' sister and had died without issue so the scrapbooks had been retained by the Cutts' family. Needless to state the books were a treasure trove of Marine memorabilia dating from 1898 to Myers' retirement in 1935. We borrowed six books in order to reproduce some of the photographs for the Photograph Collection and to copy some of the more interesting documents. Some of the material relating to Myers' conduct during the Boxer's siege of Peking in 1900 was particularly interesting and its repetition here serves as an appropriate reason to review the career of this distinguished Marine. We conclude, as well, an oral history reminiscence of Myers by LtGen George F. Good, Jr.

John Twiggs Myers, whose distinguished career began as a second lieutenant when he took a 30-Marine landing party ashore on Guam on 21 June 1898 to disarm the Spanish garrison, is even better known for

his exploits just two years later in defense of the foreign legations at Peking.

With 48 Marines and three sailors from USS *Oregon* and USS *Brooklyn* and in company with detachments of Marines from British, Russian, German, French, Italian, and Japanese ships, he entrained at Tientsin for Peking where he arrived at 2300 on 31 May, just before the city was encircled by the rebellious Boxers.

From positions on the wall the small international force of Marines repulsed assault after assault. The frustrated Boxers then resorted to erecting a siege tower which, higher than the wall, would command it and the legation compound within. Capt Myers led a sortie beyond the wall to destroy the tower. At the head of 14 of his own Marines



Captain John T. Myers, USMC

plus 16 Russian and 25 British Royal Marines, Myers signaled the attack at 0300, 3 July. After vicious hand-to-hand fighting in which Myers was wounded by a spear the attack was successful. The British Minister, Sir Claude M. MacDonald, who coordinated the international defense, called the action "...one of the most successful operations of the siege, as it rendered our position on the wall, which had been precarious, comparatively strong." Largely because of the successful sortie, the disheartened Boxers agreed to an uneasy truce on 16 July.

For his bravery Myers was brevetted major and advanced four numbers in rank. President McKinley, in his message to Congress in February 1901, mentioned Myers by name. Myers wore the Brevet Medal after it was authorized in 1921.

A more lasting tribute was paid Myers' leadership when a few years later a monument to the Royal Marines was erected outside the Admiralty in London. One of the bronze bas-reliefs shows Myers leading the Royal Marines in his sortie against the Boxer tower.

Myers received more recent and popular recognition in a highly fictionalized movie version of his exploits, *Fifty-Five days at Peking*, released by Allied Artists in May 1963. In it actor Charlton Heston played the Marine captain around whom the defense of the legations centered.

The most poignant tribute to Myers' leadership at Peking is contained in the day book of a German soldier, Gefreiter Koch, and quoted in the Minister's report, a translation of which is inserted in one

of the Myers' family scrapbooks.

Evidently Koch and his men had been transferred from Myers' command and he commented in his day book as follows: "We can no longer put a sentinel on the American barricades. Tis a pity that we have not the opportunity of fighting under Captain Myers anymore. Very seldom indeed have soldiers ever taken a liking so quickly to a foreign officer, as we have to Captain Myers. He never leaves the barricade day or night, and in the most critical moments, he is as calm as others are after a good dinner. The other day, one of our American comrades was slightly unwell; we were lying on the ground without anything beneath us and with stones for pillows. Captain Myers alone had a skin rug, which he at once gave up to this ill soldier when he saw his suffering face and he himself lay down in the same discomfort as ourselves. He shares conscientiously with us--who had black bread with lard--his little rool with horse meat, and that little piece which we all got from him tasted better, by God, and satisfied us more than many a delicate dish would have done from other hands. Usually the order is given, 'Patrol forward.' With him it is 'I am going on patrol, who comes with me?' the result being that he never need look far for volunteers. "

Retired General Good recalled serving as an aide to Myers in 1925 when Myers commanded the brigade in Haiti. In an oral history interview Good describes Myers as a "gentleman of the 'old school' who was greatly admired by his whole command." Good continued, he was "always braced, always shined to the nth degree. I never saw him do or say anything that could be considered to be in-

appropriate for a senior officer to say or do. He was the quintessence of dignity, and everybody that worked with him and for him admired him. He had known me for a good many years, and to emphasize the point I made about how dignified he was, when he came down to the brigade headquarters in the morning I would always be down in front of the building to greet him when he got out of his car, and he would say, 'Good morning, Franklin', (always the whole name, he'd never chop it off to Frank), and I was Franklin until we got up to his office door and from the time he went through that door in the morning until the end of the day, I was 'Lieutenant'."

Myers served in the Philippines, Hawaii, and Haiti: at Mare Island, San Diego, Parris Island, and Quantico; went to school - Naval War Col-

lege, School of the Line at Leavenworth, Army War College, and Field Officers School at Quantico; and pulled five tours of sea duty culminating in his assignment as Fleet Marine Officer of the Atlantic Fleet on the flagship USS Pennsylvania in European waters during World War I. Before World War I he commanded battalions in Santo Domingo and Cuba and off the West Coast of Mexico and after the war commanded the brigade in Haiti. As a brigadier general from 1929 to 1933 he was Assistant to the Commandant and upon promotion to major general commanded the Department of Pacific, San Francisco. He retired in 1935 and was advanced to lieutenant general on the retired list in 1942 when a law was passed authorizing such promotions for officers who had been specially commended in combat. He died in 1952.

F.B.N.



Bas relief on Royal Marine Memorial in London. Capt Myers is the extreme right hand figure in field hat with sword raised.

People and Places

BGen E. H. Simmons, who holds an MA degree from Ohio State University's School of Journalism, returned to the University on 12-13 December to address in pre-graduation ceremonies the newly commissioned officers of the three ROTC programs. The director earlier had represented the History and Museums Division of the U. S. Air Force Academy's Military History Symposium on 9-10 October. Appropriately enough, as the theme of this year's meeting was the American Revolution, this was the first public occasion when copies of Maj Waterhouse's paintings of Continental Marines were displayed.

BGen E. H. Simmons, Col Brooke Nihart, and Mr. Henry Shaw, Jr. attended the Governor's meeting of the Company of Military Historians at Charleston, S.C., last October.

Four Marine Corps artists were present at the Norfolk, Va. opening of an 84-piece show of their works from the Marine Corps Art Collection sponsored by FMFLant. The artists, Reserves, Col Peter Gish, Maj John Dyer, and Capt Leonard Dermott, and retired MSgt John DeGrasse, had covered various FMFLant training exercises in Norway, Greece, Turkey, Panama, Puerto Rico, Twenty-nine Palms, Camp Drum, N.Y., and Reid State Park, Maine, during the years 1971-1974. The show continued through the month of November at the Virginia National Bank in Norfolk and the opening was featured on a local television program.

Several promotions were received recently by members of the division. 1stLt Babs Meairs, Project Inspector for the Armed Forces Bicentennial Exhibit Van Project, was both integrated into the Regular Marine Corps and advanced to her present rank. The Historical Branch's Administrative Officer, J. Robert Fitzgerald, became a CWO-3 on 30 October and the following day Museums Branch's Administrative clerk, Richard Southerland received his corporal's stripes.

Two members of the division recently transferred to other government activities. Mr. James Santelli of the Histories Section became an editor-writer with Labor Department's Management Services Division and Mr. John DeGrasse, Exhibits Specialist, joined the staff of the Naval Memorial Museum.

New members of the division include LtCol Russell B. Tiffany, who joined the Historical Branch with a brand new MA in History from the University of Maine, and Maj William J. Sambito, also assigned to the Historical Branch, and a recent graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College. LtCol Tiffany, an infantry officer before his university tour, served most recently as G-3 of Camp Butler on Okinawa; Maj Sambito, a naval aviator, before his Norfolk schooling served as Executive Officer of HMM-262 at Kaneohe, Hawaii. SSgt Boyd Raybourn reported on board as Administrative Chief of the Museums Branch from Inspector/Instructor duty at Flint, Mi.

and PFC Lisa Krause joined the Museums Branch as clerk-typist from similar duties with the Officer Candidates School at Quantico. Mr. Eugene J. Beatty joined the staff of the Museums Branch at Quantico as an aircraft mechanic in the Aviation Unit. Mr. Carl DeVere, from the Training Support Center at Quantico, has taken Mr. DeGrasse's place as Exhibits Specialist.

Col Raymond Henri, USMCR (Ret) has been returning to active duty for brief periods recently as Marine Project Planning Officer for the Bicentennial Van Project. His major article, "Combat Art Since 1775," appeared in the November *Marine Corps Gazette*.

A round dozen division members plus colleagues from the Navy Memorial Museum and the Navy Exhibit Center were conducted on a tour of the Hall of Military and Naval History at the Smithsonian's Institution's Museum of History and Technology. The tour, arranged by the Museums Branch as part of the division's continuing series of professional development seminars and tours, was conducted by Mr. Craddock Goins, Curator of Military History, and Dr. Philip K. Lundeborg, Curator, Curator of Naval History and also a former member of the Commandant's Advisory Committee on Marine Corps History.

Col Herbert Hart, Deputy Director for History, represented the Corps at the Western History Association Conference on Western America in Rapid City, S.D., in October, where he organized an academic session on the "Military in the Black Hills." On 10 November he attended the ground breaking of Tun Tavern

Reconstruction, representing the division.

The Museums Branch Art Gallery in the Washington Navy Yard played host on Sunday, 19 January to the National Capital Military Collectors. Some 70 members and guests of the group, which specializes in painting and collecting military miniatures--toy soldiers -- in authentic historical uniforms, attended the afternoon affair. The main attraction was a viewing of photoreproductions of Maj Charles Waterhouse's series of paintings, *Marines in the Revolution*, which was followed by the monthly competition for best painted figures in various categories.

Capt Mary F. Edmonds, assigned as an historical writer in the Reference Section, completed a two-week tour of West Coast Marine Air Stations and facilities in October. She was a member of the Inspector General's team whose special inspection area was unit compliance with the Marine Corps Historical Program.

The Chief Historian. Mr. Henry Shaw, attended the 89th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago where there were a number of interesting sessions on various aspects of military history.

Col Brooke Nihart attended the conference of the Organization of Military Museums of Canada at Montreal last September

Messers Rowland Gill, Richard Long, and Charles Wood of the Museums Branch, received commendation certificates for accruing 1500, 1000, and 500 hours of sick leave credits.

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