



HARUMFRODITE

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

"'E isn't one o' the reg'lar Line, nor 'e isn't one of the crew.
'E's a kind of a giddy HARUMFRODITE – soldier an' sailor too."

Kipling: "Soldier and Sailor Too"

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of the Navy Publication and Printing Regulations, NAVEXOS P-35."

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NO. 3



World War I Sketches by Colonel John W. Thomason, USMC

Head Quarters of the Marine Corps,

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

Washington, April 6th, 1848.

To the

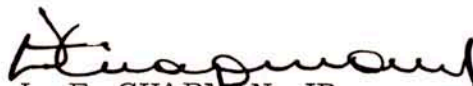
*Commissioned and non-commissioned Officers of
the Corps of Marines, and others interested.*

It is considered incumbent on the officers of the U. S. 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 Navy during the existing war with Mexico. Justice alone to the corps, particularly to that part of it engaged in this arduous service, would require a record of this nature. It is therefore requested that each member of it will contribute, without delay, such notes and documents as may in his opinion tend in the least to its promotion, addressing the same to Brigadier General Henderson, commandant of the corps: provided that such notes or documents be not incompatible with existing regulations upon the subject of officers corresponding while on service with the Army or Navy.

By order of the Brevet Brigadier General Commandant :



During the past several years the Marine Corps Museum has been actively collecting the personal papers of active and retired Marines. The program has been most successful and has grown to include over two hundred separate collections. The subjects covered span the full scope of American military history, and form an important source of valuable research material. I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to those who have so generously added to the Museum manuscript collections; and I encourage all others who may have personal papers relating to their service in the Marine Corps, to seriously consider donating these documents to the U. S. Marine Corps Museum.


L. F. CHAPMAN, JR.

General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

The two letters published above are separated by one hundred twenty-two years but reflect a continuing concern with the preservation of one of the most valuable sources of Marine Corps history, the personal reminiscences of its members. The earlier of the two emanated from the office of Brevet Brigadier General Commandant Archibald Henderson, while the present Commandant, General Leonard F. Chapman, Jr. generously provided the more recent.

Consistent with the Commandant's memorandum, the Museum has increased

its already energetic efforts toward locating and acquiring personal papers relating to the Marine Corps. During early fall of 1970, the Director and the Curator of Manuscripts conducted an intensive survey and acquisition campaign in the San Diego, California vicinity. San Diego is at the heart of the area most densely populated by retired Marines and during a two week period over sixty interviews were conducted. At this writing, eleven collections have been acquired, and twenty-two have been promised for future accession.



Korean A-Frame Recently Donated by Colonel J. B. Ord.

NEW ACCESSIONS

Registrar, Doris S. Davis

One of the more interesting new

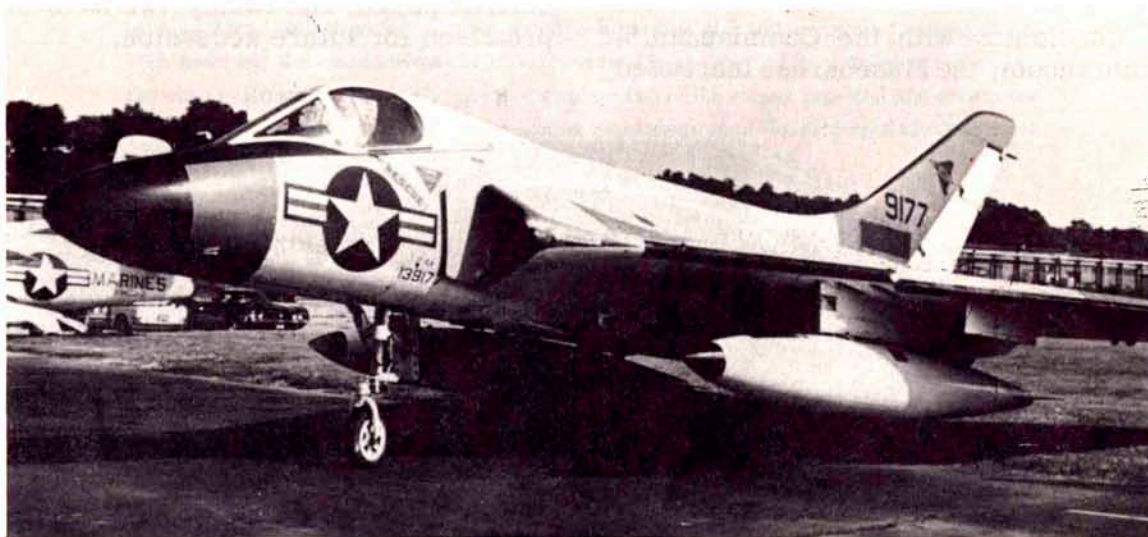
additions to the Museum's material collections is the field desk generously donated by Lieutenant General Julian Smith and used by him throughout World

War II. The desk will be used in an exhibit currently being planned which will take advantage of the Museum's holdings of personally oriented documents and artifacts.

Another unique accession is a Korean A-frame donated by Colonel J. B. Ord, Jr. Packs of this nature were widely used by both sides during the Korean War to carry supplies over the

nearly impassable terrain on what was frequently the only possible conveyance, a human back.

A nickel plated caliber .30 revolver reportedly carried by the Nicaraguan revolutionary Augusto Sandino during his insurrectionist activities in the 1920's and 30's was graciously added to the ordnance collection by Mrs. Walter M. Brewer.



F4D Recently Added to the Aviation Collection.

AVIATION

Curator, Clyde Gillespie

In October the Museum's aviation branch took part in the annual awarding of the Alfred A. Cunningham Trophy to the Marine Aviator of the Year. The 1970 recipient, Captain John J. Barrett, was selected for his courage in the face of extreme danger in the medical evacuation of wounded Marines, emergency resupply, and the insertion/retractions of reconnaissance teams, actions which also earned him the Navy Cross, three Silver Stars and two Distinguished Flying Crosses. Captain Barrett is the ninth Marine Aviator to receive the Cunningham Trophy which is appropriately named for the Corps'

first aviator. The first to receive the award was Colonel John H. Glenn in 1962.

The award ceremony was held at the Sheraton Biltmore Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia during the 32d annual convention of the First Marine Aviation Force Veteran's Association, donor of the Trophy. The Cunningham Trophy is exhibited in the Museum's Aviation Hall during the period between presentations.

During the past quarter the Museum Aviation Branch also acquired an F2H1 McDonnell "Banshee" in fair condition which will be a useful addition to the growing collection when it has been suitably restored.

MARINE BAND

Historian, Warrant Officer Joan
Ambrose, USMC

A great deal of effort is being expended toward acquiring suitable quarters for the Band Collection. Space in the Washington D. C. area is needed, a number of possibilities have been studied and negotiations are in progress to resolve this longstanding and difficult problem.

Once the necessary housing is provided the Museum will also accession the American Bandmasters Collection which will be housed in the same facilities giving the student of bands and band music a unequalled opportunity for in-depth research.

HISTORIC SITES

Special Projects Officer, Richard A.
Long

The second phase of an archaeological survey of the Washington D. C. Marine Barracks was undertaken during the first week in December. Enlarging upon the exploration begun last Spring, three sizable test holes were opened and the foundation of the original Barracks of 1801 were exposed. A number of miscellaneous artifacts were unearthed including a knife handle, a ramrod tailpipe housing for a Tower Musket, and some assorted potsherds dating to the early 19th Century and contemporaneous with the original barracks. During the winter further soundings will be made, if possible, and with the information as to the location of the early foundation now available, it is hoped that the overall target of the search, the Armorer's trash pit will be found and subsequently excavated.

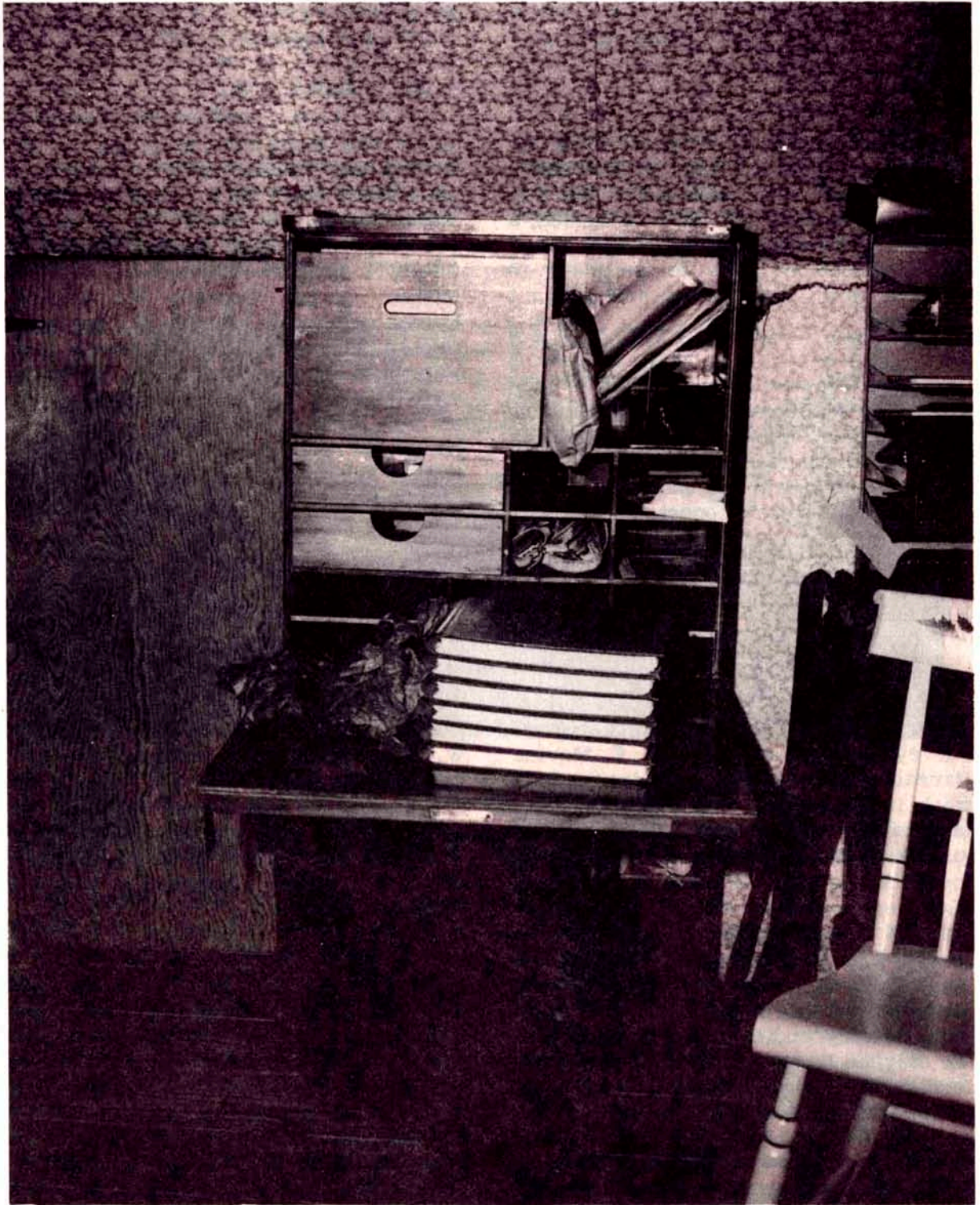
MANUSCRIPTS

Curator, Charles A. Wood

The West Coast survey mentioned above was most successful and at this writing has resulted in the accession of collections from Mrs. James G. Smith, Major Frank H. Fleer, Major L. W. Putnam, Lieutenant General Albert D. Cooley, Brigadier General Ivan W. Miller, Major General William W. Davies, General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Captain Angus Wilson (Deceased), Mrs. Natalia M. Pierce, Colonel E. W. Banker and Brigadier General William C. Lemly as well as the promise of many more. All these collections add significantly to the reservoir of historic source material at the Museum and each has a unique contribution.

The two Thomason sketches which appear in this issue are part of the substantial collection obtained from General Merwin H. Silverthorn. As far as is known they have never been publicly available. The late Colonel John W. Thomason was perhaps the best known Marine writer of yore and illustrated his numerous articles and books with many sketches of this nature. These two were given to General Silverthorn by Colonel Thomason in the late 1930's.

Other manuscript collections and additions acquired since the last issue include those of Brigadier General Robert W. Thomas, Brigadier General Presley M. Rixey, Milton D. Gilbert, Sr., Mrs. L. W. Burnham, General Robert E. Hogaboom (Addition), Mr. Thomas A. Mott, Lieutenant General Merwin H. Silverthorn, Mrs. John A. Daly, and Mrs. T. Nelson Sandifer (Addition).



Folding Field Desk Donated by Lieutenant General
Julian Smith, USMC (Retired).



Lieutenant General Julian Smith Surveying his Attic for Museum Specimens.

PUBLICATIONS

Curator/Senior Historian, Jack B. Hilliard

The Museum's summer graduate research program was very successful and will result in the publication of several useful items.

The program, mentioned in the last issue of HARUMFRODITE provided a modest stipend to encourage graduate level research in the Museum's collections resulting in usable publications. One of the students, Louis Gore, University of Maryland, completed a study on the Development of the Maxim Gun, which will appear in the near future as a Museum Technical Monograph, and a brief illustrated brochure to accompany the Museum's Automatic Weapons Exhibits. Gail Karish, University of Maryland, is in the final stages of completing an illustrated survey of Recruiting Posters by American Artists, 1917-1919.

The third project by Miss Mary E. Curry, American University, provided an excellent exhibit script dealing with the role of a Marine naval attache at the coronation of Nicholas II, Czar of Russia.

All parties concerned with the program have been enthusiastic in their support of it and in their encouragement of its future. The Museum will continue the research program next summer, and hopefully available funds will enable three more such projects to be undertaken.

It is with considerable pleasure that this issue of HARUMFRODITE goes to press. The reception of the first two issues received from all sides has been most encouraging and has led to the inclusion of part of the text of "Soldier and Sailor Too" as a permanent feature, since a number of letters commented on the lack of explanation in issue Number Two.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
MARINE CORPS MUSEUM
MARINE CORPS BASE
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS