

FORTITUDINE

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WINTER 1975-76

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HISTORY AND MUSEUMS DIVISION

FORTITUDINE

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

Volume V

Winter 1975-76

No. 3

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USMC (Ret)
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Mr. Jack B. Dyer, Mr. Carl M. DeVere.
Illustrators: SSgt Paul A. Lloyd, USMC,
and Sgt Eric A. Clark, USMC.

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CONTENTS

Director's Page	3
Vietnam Aftermath Thoroughly Recorded	5
Aviation Museum Gets A-2	7
'Marines in the Revolution' Reception Excellent	9
Research Grant Fund	11
Tarawa Painting Created By Research	12
Remove Guards From Ships?	
'Better To Join The Army'	14
Fake Recruiting Poster Credited To Maj Stevens	16
Oral History Interviews	17
<i>MajGen Frank C. Croft</i> <i>MajGen August Larson</i> <i>BGen Ronald D. Salmon</i> <i>SgtMaj Gilbert H. Johnson</i> <i>SgtMaj Edgar H. Huff</i> <i>Pvt Richard B. Millin</i>	
People and Places	20

THE COVER

Maj Charles Waterhouse, USMCR, the Division's artist-in-resident, helped record the final Marine involvement in Southeast Asia by sketching Operation NEW ARRIVALS and doing a series of 10 paintings on refugee operations at Camp Pendleton. The cover is a sketch of what later became one of the paintings. The story on the recordings of the events in the final days of Southeast Asia involvement starts on page 5.

Director's Page



BGen Simmons

The peculiarities of the calendar presented me with the opportunity of giving two Washington's Birthday luncheon talks, one on 16 February (Washington's Brithday by Federal edict) and one on 22 February (Washington's traditional birthdate). Both talks were before similar if separated audiences.

The 16 February talk was here in Washington at the Mayflower Hotel to a joint luncheon of the District of Columbia Societies of the Children of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Revolution, and Daughters of the American Revolution. The 22 February talk was in Burlington, Vermont, where there is more resistance to change. The audience again was a joint one with the luncheon sponsored by the Society of Colonial Wars in Vermont and the Vermont Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

For both talks, I thought it might be interesting to try to find out just how General Washington spent his birthday 200 years ago. I asked the question of our three resident experts on the period (Dr. Parkinson, Mr. Smith, and Dr. Gordon) and found that while we know a great deal about what Washington was doing in mid-February 1776, we didn't know much about his birthday, how he observed it, when he observed it, or even if he observed it.

For one thing, as was the case this year, he had a choice of two days on which to mark his birth. As you may remember, Washington was actually born on the 11th of February 1732. That was under the old style Julian calendar. Then in 1752 Great Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar correcting an error that had crept into the Julian calendar concerning leap years, and suddenly all dates were advanced ten days or more—in the case of Washington's Birthday, eleven days, from 11 February to 22 February.

In 1776, the colonists were still having a hard time thinking in terms of the new calendar. So, it is probable, that if Washington thought about his 44th birthday at all, he thought in terms of the 11th of February. There is no mention of his birthday in his journals or correspondence, but we

do know what Washington did have on his mind, 200 years ago, at his headquarters at Cambridge.

Intelligence had begun to reach him that the British were stirring in Boston, getting ready to move. As spring approached it would be time to begin active campaigning again and the siege of Boston could be expected to reach a critical stage.

Militia drafts were arriving, building up his strength, but they were arriving without adequate arms or equipment. Something would have to be done about that.

A series of orders went out that week to get the Army into fighting trim. To get the regiments up to strength, each incomplete company was to send out a recruiting officer, but expressly forbidden was the enlisting of any boys, old men, or slaves. Weekly strength returns were to be reviewed at the brigade level to improve accuracy. Each regiment was to have a set of colors bearing the number of the regiment and hopefully in colors that had some resemblance to the uniforms of the regiment. The colonels were told that too much time was being spent on the manual of arms and not enough on evolutions and maneuvers. Brigadier General John Sullivan was ordered to move out of his comfortable set of quarters and find a billet closer to the left wing of the Army which was his responsibility. And in the strongest of terms, General Washington urged his colonels to pay the strictest attention to discipline, with proper attention to the clothing of their officers and men so that they would present a soldierly appearance.

There was still another precaution to be taken. The Surgeon Director General was to examine all surgeons and surgeon's mates of the army and to give certificates to those who were found qualified to discharge the duties of their office. Recognizing that this requirement would hurt the professional feelings of some of the surgeons, the General Order goes on to say:

Gentlemen of candour, and knowledge, in their profession, will see the utility of this measure, and approve of it; none but those

who are conscious of their inability will decline the examination.

And in a letter to the President of the Congress, John Hancock, dated 18 February, General Washington put forth his plan for opening his attack against Boston:

Sir: The late freezing Weather having formed some pretty strong Ice from Dorchester point to Boston neck, and from Roxbury to the Common, thereby affording a more expanded and consequently less dangerous Approach to the Town, I could not help thinking, notwithstanding the Militia were not all come In, and we had little or no Powder to begin our Operation by a regular Cannonade and Bombardment, that a bold and resolute assault upon the Troops in Boston with such Men as we had (for it could not take many Men to guard our own Lines, at a time when the Enemy were attacked in all Quarters) might be crowned with success. . .

Colonel Henry Knox, Washington's chief of artillery, had gone off the previous November to fetch the cannon captured at Ticonderoga. He had gotten back to Cambridge on 24 January with 55 cannon and mortars, dragged on sledges 200 miles or more through the wilderness. The Continental Army now had plenty of heavy siege guns, which once in place on Dorchester Heights would dominate Boston, but power—that was the missing ingredient. By one set of returns they were down to four rounds per man.

These were the things Washington had on his mind 200 years ago, but if there was a birthday cake on either the 11th or 22d of February or if the officers of his mess toasted his 44th year with a glass of madeira, we are left with no record of it.

Now being a Marine I somehow had to bring the Continental Marines into the story. Certain events that took place in Philadelphia early in November 1775 are familiar to most Marines but not necessarily to the rest of the population, not even to members of patriotic Societies whose forbears fought in the Revolution.

Late in October, as I told both groups, the Continental Congress received a petition from the citizens of Passamaquoddy, Nova Scotia, asking that they "be admitted into the association of the North Americans, for the preservation of their rights and liberties."

On 2 November Congress named a five-man committee to consider the matter. The committee saw an opportunity not only to secure the blessings of liberty for the Nova Scotians but also to capture badly needed military stores from the British base at Halifax. Accordingly, they proposed a naval expedition to Nova Scotia. The expeditionary troops would be two battalions of American

Marines to be drawn from the forces of General Washington.

Once raised, the two battalions would march overland from Cambridge to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where on 1 December they would rendezvous with sufficient ships to take them to Nova Scotia with provisions for a three month's expedition. Armed with flintlocks, long-handled hatchets, and spears, and with 32 rounds of ammunition per man, they were to land on the western shore of the peninsular and then march 40 miles against Halifax.

The scheme was debated for several days by the Congress. It was finally agreed that, even if the plan proved impractical, the two battalions of Marines would be of "Utmost service, being capable of serving either by sea or Land." On 10 November 1775, the Congress voted to accept all major items in the report and the resolves were sent to General Washington for comment.

By the 27th of November, General Washington's reply, dated 19 November, was back before the Congress. He was lukewarm (to put it mildly) about the whole proposition. He did agree to send two men to Nova Scotia to gather intelligence but thought the decision to raise the two battalions of Marines from within his army completely impractical. To have the officers and men who were acquainted with maritime affairs "picked out of the whole army, one from this Corps, one from another" would be damaging to the whole system. He recommended that the two battalions be raised in New York and Philadelphia, where, in his words, "there must now be numbers of Sailors unemployed."

Congress abandoned the scheme to invade Nova Scotia, but went ahead with plans to raise the two battalions of Marines. On 28 November, the first Continental Marine officer, Samuel Nicholas, was commissioned and recruiting in Philadelphia was begun. While Nicholas was assembling his Marines, the Continental Navy was putting together its first squadron in Philadelphia. A number of merchant ships had been purchased for conversion into men-of-war.

Esek Hopkins came down from Rhode Island to be commodore. He took his makeshift squadron down the Delaware into the Bay on 7 January. Here he waited for a month, until he had collected eight ships. They put to sea on 17 February. Altogether there were about 1,500 men in the eight ships including 300 Marines under Captain Nicholas.

Hopkins had been given an ambitious set of sailing orders by the Congress, but his own plan was for a raid into the Bahamas to get gunpowder for Washington's army. Captain Nicholas landed at Nassau on

More On Page 24

Vietnam Aftermath Thoroughly Recorded

Advanced planning and the efforts of many agencies and individual Marines have brought order to the recording of the confused, hectic, final days of the Cambodian and South Vietnamese republics.

When it appeared that the inevitable solution to the Cambodia and South Vietnam problems was to be a reality, steps were taken to ensure the complete documentation of the Marine role in the evacuation of U.S. nationals and in the operations that followed the collapse of the two countries.

As a result of the advance contingency planning, the division has received extensive documentation on Marine actions from March-April 1975, as well as the Marine involvement in the rescue of the seamen of the SS *Mayaguez* and the recovery of the vessel.

To achieve this historical collection, the assistance of MajGen Carl W. Hoffman, then Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force, and MajGen Kenneth J. Houghton, then Commanding General 3d Marine Division, was requested and received.

Over 100 interviews with key Marines involved in the planning and execution of Operations EAGLE PULL (evacuation of U.S. nationals from Cambodia) and FREQUENT WIND (evacuation from Saigon), as well as with those Marines who participated in the boarding of the *Mayaguez* and the fighting on Koh Tang Island were conducted under the direction of LtCol Joseph M. Gratto of the Camp Smedley D. Butler Joint Public Affairs Office on Okinawa.

In addition, the Marine Corps Oral History Collection has a number of related interviews and the FMFPac debriefings of key persons involved in the operations. Also, with the help of the Marine Security Guard Battalion, the Oral History Unit



CH-53s land Marines during the evacuation of Phnom Penh.

was able to conduct separate interviews of MSG personnel who had been evacuated from South Vietnam.

The History and Museums Division has good photographic coverage of the shipboard activities during Operations EAGLE PULL and FREQUENT WIND, but there is a notable shortage of photographs showing Marine activities ashore during the execution phases of rescue operations. Likewise, there are only a few photographs covering the *Mayaguez* recovery and the assault on Koh Tang.

Several Marines who were ashore during these operations did take pictures with personal cameras. These may be the only photographic records of activities ashore. The History and Museums Division would like to see these photographs for the purpose of selecting some for reproduction and retention in historical archives. Accreditation or anonymity, as desired, is guaranteed. Anyone having photographs of this nature and willing to have copies become part of Marine Corps history should contact the History and Museums Division (Code HDA-P).

The extensive documentation has resulted in the decision to add another monograph (the 9th) to the series of operational histories, *Marines in Vietnam*. Much of the information in the new monograph, which covers 1973-1975, will be summarized in a series of seven articles appearing in the *Marine Corps Gazette* beginning with the February issue.

Maj David A. Quinlan, who is writing the Southeast Asia portion of the 1973-1975 monograph, is co-authoring the articles for the *Gazette* with the

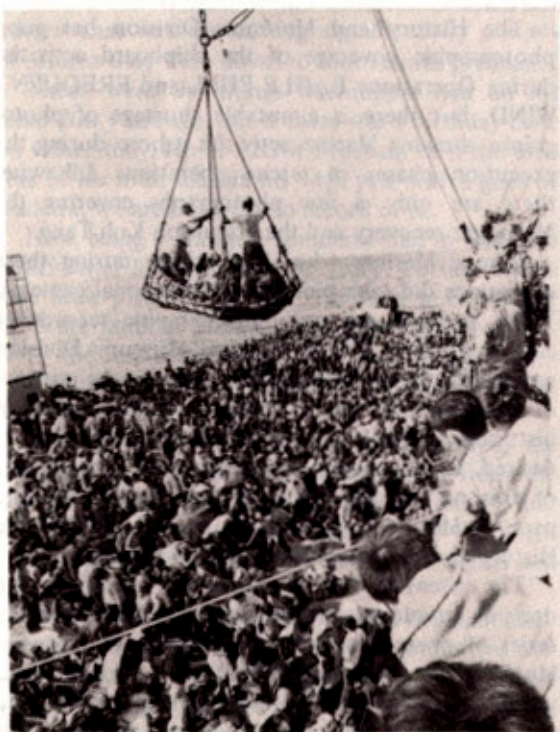
aid of the senior Marine commanders involved.

Marine Corps command chronologies provided the basic source documentation for the monograph, and extensive use was made of FMFPac debriefings of key persons involved, as well as oral history interviews.

Separate interviews conducted by the Oral History Unit include those with SSgt Walter W. Sparks, former NCOIC of the security detachment at the Da Nang consulate; MSgt Juan J. Valdez, former NCOIC of the security detachment at the embassy in Saigon; GySgt Vasco D. Martin, Jr., who, at the time of the evacuation from Saigon, was in charge of the Marine security detachment at the defense attache compound near Tan Son Nhut airport; SSgt Boyette S. Hasty, former NCOIC of the security detachment at Can Tho; and LtGen Le Nguyen Khang, former Commandant of the Republic of Vietnam Marine Corps. This last interview provides insight into not only the beginnings of the RVNMC and its subsequent operations, but also the events occurring at the time of the fall of South Vietnam and the actions of leading personalities, notably President Thieu.

The seven articles for the *Marine Corps Gazette* are:

- Three articles cover the background, planning, and execution of Operation FREQUENT WIND as



Southeast Asian refugees are loaded on board merchant ships for resettlement to Guam prior to reaching a final destination.

seen by BGen Richard E. Carey, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade Commander.

- Operation EAGLE PULL, the evacuation of Phnom Penh, as observed by Col Sidney H. Batchelder, Jr., the Commander of the Ground Security Force.

- Afloat refugee operations from the coast of South Vietnam to Guam as related by BGen Carey, LtCol Charles E. Hester (former Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, whose men were responsible for the initial involvement with refugees on board merchant ships) and Maj Quinlan, who commanded the Amphibious Evacuation Security Force which took over the battalion's task.

- Marine involvement in the Koh Tang/*Mayaguez* recovery operations as described by Col John M. Johnston, Jr., the senior Marine commander, and LtCol Randall W. Austin, former Commanding Officer, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, the assault troops on Koh Tang.

- The final article reflects on lessons reconfirmed and discusses observations covering the period of April-May 1975.

With respect to the Marine Corps' role in receiving and processing Vietnamese refugees, the division has a mass of good material and the refugee-related items which will be used by Dr. Martin K. Gordon for his part of the 1973-1975 monograph, tentatively entitled "Refugee Operations—In the Cause of Humanity." This section will relate the Marine Corps' role from the inception of relief operations to the closing of Camp Pendleton as a refugee center 31 October 1975.

Materials gathered to support this section include after action reports from Camp Pendleton and Marine Barracks, Guam, as well as a fully documented story of Operation NEW ARRIVALS, as the refugee program at Camp Pendleton was called.

From the oral history angle, BGen Simmons interviewed BGen Paul G. Graham, who was the Special Assistant to the Commanding General Camp Pendleton for Refugee Matters. Gen Graham outlined the problems, pitfalls, and solutions involved in setting up the refugee center on the base.

Another media was used to capture the refugee story as Maj Charles Waterhouse, the division's artist-in-residence, was sent to Camp Pendleton. One of his many sketches is used on the cover of this issue of *Fortitudine*. In addition, Maj Waterhouse has completed 10 paintings of Marine Corps refugee operations which will be displayed at Headquarters, Marine Corps in March.

The overall efforts of all involved shows the value of real-time documentation, rather than after-the-fact. The lessons of pre-planned documentation learned here can be applied to all future contingency operations.

Aviation Museum Gets Curtiss A-2

A replica of the Curtiss Pusher A-2 has been added to the Museums Branch's growing collection of historical aircraft.

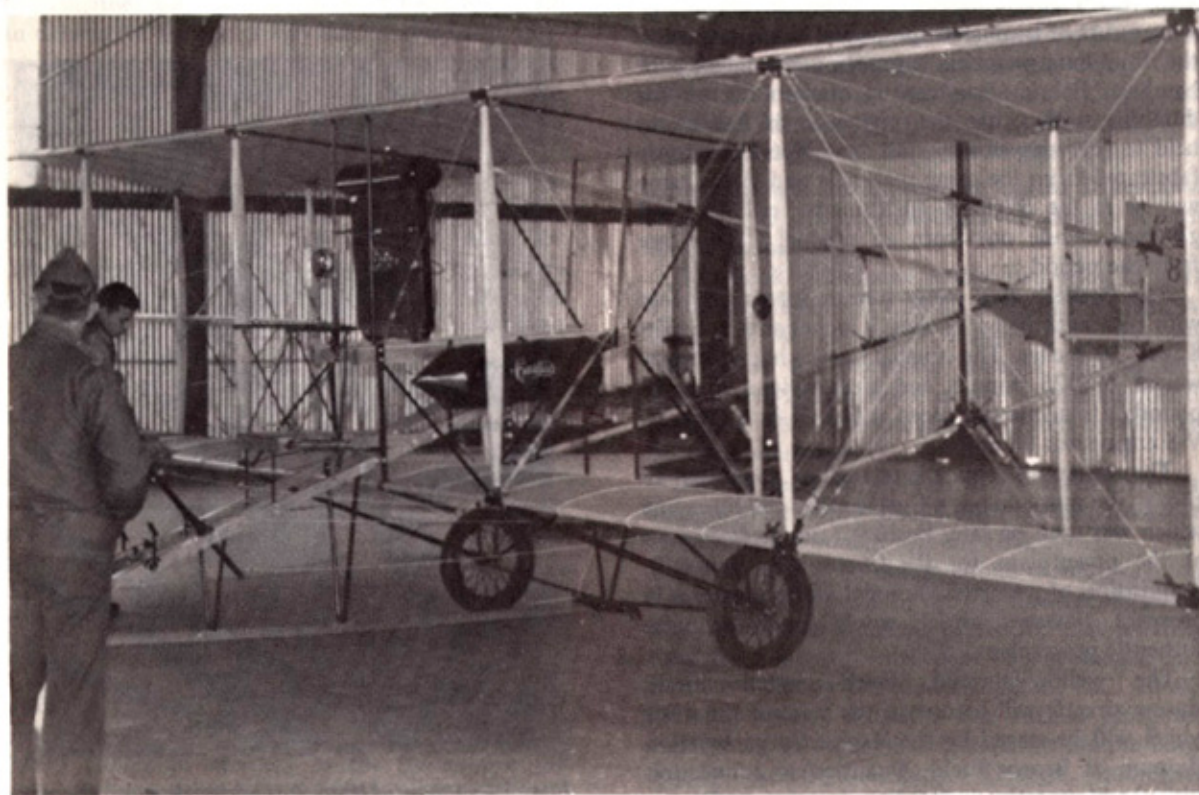
The new A-2 is a full-sized, professionally built copy of the first airplane used by the Navy and represents the one on which 1stLt Alfred A. Cunningham and other early Marine aviators earned their wings.

The Pusher acquired its name from the propeller facing the rear and "pushing" the airplane rather than facing front and "pulling" it as in most prop airplanes. Aviation pioneer, Glenn Curtiss, and his Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Co. Inc. of Hammondsport, N.Y. began producing his Pusher in 1909 and by 1910 had further developed it into a seaplane by the addition of a float.

Curtiss pilot Eugene Ely flew a land version of the Pusher off a platform on the cruiser USS *Birmingham* in Hampton Roads on 14 November 1910

and landed and took off from a similar platform on the battleship USS *Pennsylvania* in San Francisco Bay on 18 January 1911. This led to the Navy's purchase of the seaplane version in July 1911, which it designated A-1. The A-2 was delivered to the Navy on 13 July 1911 in landplane configuration. It was on a number of these A and AH model Curtiss Pushers that most Navy and Marine pilots prior to World War I learned to fly. These included Marine aviator number one and Naval aviator number five, Cunningham, followed by Lts Bernard L. Smith, William M. McIlvain, and Francis T. Evans.

The replica Curtiss Pusher A-2 was built for the museum by Cole Palen, antique aircraft restorer and operator of Rhinebeck N. Y. Construction by Palen and his staff of craftsmen was largely authentic. The main frame holding landing gear, engine, and pilot's seat was made of oak and lightweight steel tubing. Main wing spars are of aircraft grade spruce and



The museum's replica Curtiss pusher in Hanger 3, Brown Field, Quantico immediately after its assembly. It represents the aircraft on which early Marine aviators earned their wings.



Early Curtiss pusher takes off. From the terrain and comparison with other photographs this is probably Eugene Ely demonstrating the Curtiss to the Navy on the West Coast in early 1911.

wing struts of laminated spruce and oak. Longerons, the four long members supporting the tail, are of bamboo. Fabric, however, is modern dacron for durability rather than the original linen. Fabric was held to the wing ribs by split reed. Metal parts were fabricated from the same materials and in the same way as in the originals. Instruments, radiator, and gas tank, while not from an original Curtiss, are from the period.

The Pusher's two wings have a span of 37 feet with its length being 28 feet, 7 inches and its height 8 feet, 10 inches. The original Curtiss had an empty weight of 925 pounds and gross weight of 1,575 pounds. Its maximum speed with a 75-hp Curtiss V-V-8 engine was 60 mph.

The museum's replica is unengined at present although the museum has a Curtiss OX-5 80-hp engine which was used on later Pushers, (and made famous as the powerplant for the Curtiss JN "Jennie"). Acquisition of a Curtiss O-model 75-hp engine is in prospect, however, which would provide a more authentic powerplant.

The yellow-fabriced, black-trimmed "first" Marine aircraft will be one of the stars of the show which will be staged by the Marine Corps Aviation Museum at Brown Field, Quantico in connection with the Marine Corps Aviation Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, 1 May 1976.



First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham at the controls of a Curtiss pusher seaplane in 1912.

'Marines in the Revolution'

Reception Excellent

Publication of *Marines in the Revolution*, the Marine Corps' major Bicentennial historical effort, has brought responses of "outstanding", "cause for rejoicing," and "historical delight" from military leaders and book reviewers alike.

Excerpts from letters received by the division include:

"What a magnificent volume you have produced in *Marines in the Revolution* that sails forth grandly with the customary Marine quality and proud style . . . Maj Waterhouse's spectacular painting . . . and the useful appendices, makes this an outstanding volume," wrote RAdm Ernest M. Eller, USN (Ret), former Director of Naval History. ". . . an outstanding work, both literary and artistic, as well as historical," said Gen Robert E. Cushman, Jr., USMC (Ret) 25th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

"Together you have recorded in a single volume an exhaustive history of the U.S. Marine Corps during its early days which will be of great interest to current and future generations of Marines," wrote Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., USMC (Ret), 20th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Reviewers have also extended their praise: "Unlike so many scholarly books, . . . *Marines in the Revolution* is eminently readable . . . This talent for facile and clear expression is so rare among scholars that it is a cause for rejoicing when it is encountered . . . *Marines in the Revolution* is scholarship without tears," stated the *USNI Proceedings*.

"It is a fitting tribute to the Marines, an artistic and historical delight, and a valuable reference on the strivings of our forefathers for independence," wrote the *Armed Forces Journal*.

"U.S. Marine Corps history has not been neglected, but the beginning of our Corps and the courage and determination of those early Leathernecks (and, they were not all Saints) has never been and probably never will be as thoroughly related . . ." said the *Camp Lejeune Globe*.

To increase distribution and gain wide public exposure, the Headquarters Divisions of Personnel Procurement and Information were allocated over 5,000 copies of *Marines in the Revolution* for presentation to public libraries and high schools throughout the nation.

In addition, the Commandant has provided



On behalf of the CMC, foreign Marine Corps Commandants were presented with copies of *Marines in the Revolution*. VAdm Yves Murillo Cajaty Gonçalves, Commandant, Brazilian Marine Corps, was presented his copy by LtCol J. D. Mattingly, U.S. Marine Advisor to the Brazilian Marine Corps.

copies, through the appropriate United States naval attaches, to the commandants of various foreign Marine Corps.

The book culminated nearly two-years of work by division members Charles R. Smith, Richard A. Long, and Maj Charles H. Waterhouse. It has been featured in the December issue of *Selected U.S. Government Publications*, as well as in a number of state and local Bicentennial oriented newsletters and announcements.

The demand for *Marines in the Revolution* has been so great that a second printing has been ordered by the Government Printing Office.

Those wishing to obtain copies of *Marines in the Revolution: A History of the Continental Marines in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* may purchase them from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (008-055-00083; \$20.30). For official purposes, copies may be requisitioned from the Marine Corps Supply Activity, Albany, Georgia, submitted through the History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. 20380.



Col Glen T. Beauchamp, Senior Marine Advisor, MAAG, ROC, receives compliments on Marines in the Revolution from LtGen Kung Ling-Shang, Commandant of the Chinese Marine Corps. The book has been well-received by foreign military leaders, as well as by members of the academic community.



Commenting on the high quality of the art work in Marines in the Revolution are Col John B. Harris, Senior Marine Advisor to the Royal Thai Marine Corps, and VAdm Sobhon Suyarnestakorn, Thai Marine Commandant.



Indonesian Marine Corps Commandant, MajGen M. K. Anwar, receives a copy of Marines in the Revolution from Col Robert G. Haggard.

Research Grant Program

Now Accepting Applications

Applications are now being accepted for grants from the Marine Corps Historical Program Research Grant Fund.

Grants are designed to encourage graduate-level and advanced study in subjects with direct relationship to Marine Corps activities of historical significance. Grants are made in amounts from \$300 to \$1,500 and cover periods from two to ten weeks.

There is no application deadline but the number of grants is limited. While the grants are usually made to graduate-level students, they may go to other persons, who by virtue of significant accomplishments in military historical and museum fields, have demonstrated a capacity to execute successfully advanced study projects.

It should be emphasized that any research project accepted must envision a finite product of direct benefit to the Marine Corps Historical Program (i.e. research notes, a work of art, a publishable monograph or essay, a diorama, etc.).

In general, the project must be accomplished in the Washington area, using the facilities and collections of the History and Museums Division and other area archival centers.

The Director of Marine Corps History and Museums administers the fund and decides not only who shall receive a grant but also if the completed research project is acceptable as completing the stated purpose of the individual research grant.

The Marine Corps Historical Program Research Grant Fund, started in 1967 with initial contributions from the Marine Corps Association and the U.S. Naval Institute, provides a means for donations to be used in conducting Marine Corps-related historical research projects.

The latest grant recipient is Mr. Martin Russ, an Associate Professor of English and Drama at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

Mr. Russ is a Marine veteran of the fighting in Korea, whose first book, *The Last Parallel*, described his experiences. It was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection in 1957. His latest book, *Line of Departure: Tarawa*, published in 1975, was a Military History Book Club selection.

He has written other books, both fiction and non-fiction, as well as television and film documentaries and scripts, including two for the *National Geographic* series on the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Russ plans to use the grant to support research in Marine Corps records and archives for a new book which will focus on the operations of the Marine Combined Action Program in Vietnam.

Mr. Russ' grant is for the maximum of 10 weeks of research. At the conclusion of his work, he will provide the division with copies of his notes and research.

At this time, he has not decided whether the end result of his work will be a historical work, or a historical novel dealing with the Combined Action Program.

Individuals who are interested in learning more about the scope of the program and the procedures for applying are invited to write to Commandant of the Marine Corps (HD), Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., 20380, and ask for the brochure "Information on the Marine Corps Historical Program Research Grant Fund."

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Tarawa Painting Created By Research



*There's more to a historical painting than an artist mixing paint and imagination and spreading the result on canvas. As the division's artist-in-residence, Maj Charles H. Waterhouse, has learned from years of experience, a depiction of a historical event must be based on research and be able to withstand the critical review, of both the historian and the art expert. His 14-scene series *Marines in the Revolution* was his first product for the division and has stood the critical tests well. His next assignment was to paint the *Battle of Tarawa*, shown here. The following, is Waterhouse's story of how he did it.*

The assignment to paint the *Battle of Tarawa* was my first large project since completion of the 14 *Marines in the Revolution* panels, and I looked forward to it with anticipation. The painting would be the Marine Corps' commissioning gift to the USS *Tarawa* (LHA-1), first of an important new class of large amphibious assault ships.

For the moment the flintlocks, powder horns, and cocked hats would be traded for M1s, grenades, and camouflaged helmets—a move forward 168 years to 20 November 1943 to portray the 2d Marine Division's assault on Betio—Tarawa Atoll.

My usual approach is to instigate a crash program of research on the subject to absorb and immerse myself in all available facts concerning the situation I expect to depict.

The History and Museums Division's libraries as well as personal sources were consulted and every book, documented histories as well as novels, that mentioned Tarawa was read and in some cases re-read during the evenings of preparation. This

research even included several unit diaries and oral history transcripts.

The days were spent trying to view all existing still photographs and motion picture footage. It was distressing to discover that the name "Tarawa," was meaningless to a lot of people encountered in this process. The years have taken their toll, not only of the Marines who managed to survive Tarawa and the rest of the Pacific War, but even of the visual recordings of the battle. Many feet of film has been "deep-sixed" because of faulty or improper storage and in some cases destroyed because of poor technical quality as a motion picture film, regardless of the fact that even the individual frames have historic and pictorial value, and some Marine had to stick his head up to take them.

During this time, sketch books began to fill up with gesture and character drawings attempting to group action and figures together to create patterns and movements that would fit into a long horizontal shape designed to capture as many phases of the landing as possible.

We have been taught to read from left to right—hence any movement from the opposite direction will move more slowly and best exemplifies the plodding surge of action from the tropical blue sky and clear water beyond the reef to the wading Marines moving slowly through the shallow water past floating bodies, disabled amtracs, and wounded, to the crowded beach to the sea wall culminating in the first few Marines moving over the wall to vanish in the smoke and flame.

Much time and effort is spent grouping the proper gestures to convey this feeling—extensive



use was made of the Lieutenant General Julian C. Smith's personal photograph albums and other photographs from the Museums Branch's collections.

With so many photographs of the actual Marines at Tarawa available, a difficult decision had to be made—to resist the temptation to utilize and incorporate them into the painting as recognized images from well known photographs. After all, a number of photos could become the factual basis for a painting and even allowing for liberties in composition and addition of color and mood for improvement, it would still be just another 'artist's copy' of well-known photographs. By using this material, however, as a basis of departure for gestures and detail, an attempt can be made to portray the character and events truthfully and impart the epic quality befitting this action that sets it apart from all others.

A painted photograph would not do—the sought-for imagery must say, "Tarawa," to all viewers, but especially evoke memories to the Marines who were there. This is a most difficult target but a most worthy one—even if missed.

When all areas of the composition united into the proper statement, the completed sketch was presented to the Director of History and Museums and his staff for comments. Fortunately, a number of the Tarawa veterans were due to hold their annual meeting at Center House, 8th and I and it was arranged for me to attend with the sketch for criticism by men who 'were there.'

Many questions were answered with personal reminiscences, comments, and sea stories. General consensus was: Pier not needed, the sketch said "Tarawa," but it needed a spotter plane amid the

smoke and a destroyer in the lagoon. Of the adverse comments, the most important was that there were too many people involved and too much going on, however, both still photographs and movies and the written reports confirmed my interpretation. With comments digested and corrections made, it was now time to paint.

The largest canvas in my studio measured 10½ feet and was painted with several coats of gesso to prime and give texture. Then the color, mood, and value were established. In this case a huge cloud of flame and smoke is the dominant color feature and determined the color and value of all other elements. This color was not just washed in, but an almost finished landscape of smoke, sky, beach, and water was rendered before the human element was introduced. The sketch was then projected and enlarged onto the fire and smoke of the canvas.

The figures of the officer and his radio man and the seawall and pillbox were laid in and developed as a unit, then came some wounded and miscellaneous detail. Attention was given to the foreground areas with each little group or movement completed in turn gradually uniting with each other to create the bigger movements of the composition. The middle distance received the same treatment, then last of all the background.

After a few minor problems concerning mounting and display were solved, the painting was documented and shown at Headquarters Marine Corps—resulting in at least one comment, passed on to me, "It looks like the artist was there," which is high praise indeed and can only be exceeded by some old 2d Division Marine saying—it looks like 'You are there.'

Remove Guards From Ships?

'Better To Join The Army'

In 1897, Theodore Roosevelt, then Assistant Secretary of the Navy, headed a personnel board set up for the purpose of reorganizing the Navy Department. The board examined the possibility of amalgamating the Marine Corps with the Navy line. One proposal that received strong support within the board was the removal of Marine guards from Navy ships. On 11 November 1897, Col Comdt Charles Heywood, alarmed about the implications of these recommendations for the future of the Corps, sent a circular letter to his officers seeking their opinions and advice. One of the replies to this circular was from 55-year old Civil War veteran Capt Henry Clay Cochrane, Officer-in-Charge of the Marine Detachment at the U.S. Naval Training Station, Newport, Rhode Island. Cochrane's letter, reprinted below, reflects in an erudite and humorous manner the special love/hate relationship that existed and perhaps by necessity must exist between the Marine Corps and the Navy.

Although the proposals resulted in a flurry of letters, the board's deliberations were interrupted by the general buildup of the Navy for the war with Spain. As a matter of interest, Cochrane served as second-in-command of LtCol Robert W. Huntington's battalion which seized Guantanamo in Cuba during the Spanish American War. By the end of the war, the Marine Corps was held in such high public and Congressional esteem that the entire amalgamation effort was shelved.

U.S. Naval Training Station
Newport, R.I., November 19, 1897

Sir:-

1. In reply to your request of the 11th instant for my opinion of the proposition relative (1) to the transfer of the Marine Corps to the line of the Navy, and (2) to its non-embarkation as part of the complement of sea-going ships, or the alternative that if embarked, the officers should perform duty as watch and division officers, I beg to say that I have given the subject much consideration and have to write as follows.

2. In the absence of any details or conditions appertaining to the proposed transfer, it is extremely difficult for an officer of my age and one not a graduate of the Naval Academy, to give an opinion



Capt Henry Clay Cochrane

bearing upon the probable effect upon his personal interests. For those officers who are graduates of the Academy I should say it would be highly advan-

tageous, and I know that our non-commissioned officers and musicians would benefit immediately by having their pay in most cases doubled, their rations improved, their enlistments shortened, their duties lightened and their opportunities multiplied by ten if not by twenty. This would also apply in great measure to the privates. Since manning and cleaning the battery, shovelling coal, scrubbing decks, etc. have been added to our duties it is but a very short step to whatever work may be left and to a consequent share of the grand benefits which are now denied by a regulation of our own devising.

3. Speaking frankly, and from an experience approaching the longest, the Marine Corps has not much to fear from a transfer to either Navy or Army, as a little reflection will show. Having been fascinated by the Navy when a boy, and identified with it for a lifetime, I should personally be very sorry to leave it at this late day, but we are more soldier than sailor and if transfer to the Navy means loss of military status and identity and the absolute effacement of a Corps older than it is, I should prefer to answer the loud call now being made by the Army for additional Artillery regiments to man the new batteries and seacoast fortifications. This is provided for by a law passed in the last century and could begin at once.

4. The most marked tendency of the age is to the consolidation of minor interests, and it has been apparent to every one of moderate sense for years back that until the divided naval and military interests were respectively conjoined the personnel of either had little to expect. The Navy is taking the initiative and those who resist union with something or other will fare badly. To be part of an Artillery Corps of eight regiments with a major general, a brigadier, the field officers for twenty-four battalions, and the usual organization below that, would be a gain in strength for us. Fortunately, the great advance in general training made by the Marine Corps in the last five years permits its transfer to either of the great services with a day's notice. As part of the Army it might retain some of its character under the title of Marine Artillery.

5. As to the first part of the second proposition, it is possible to speak more definitely, and my opinion is emphatic that it would be a gain to the Marine Corps and a loss to the Navy to disembark the guards. So much has been said of late years by the junior officers of the Navy upon this subject that I should be thankful if the older officers, who are responsible for the command, training and efficiency of our heavy ships and squadrons would consent to the simple experiment of landing two guards (say those of the Iowa and the Brooklyn) for a period of three months and report without prejudice either way the result in comparison with the condition now existing or that continuing in the

other ships of the same squadron retaining their guards. The Greatest Navy of Earth glories in its Marine Corps, applauds, encourages and increases it; ours of late years has availed of about every opportunity to disparage, belittle, and discourage its Marines. In my judgement, common justice and fairness demand that our existence as part of the Navy should either be encouraged or terminated. I should look to the proposed experiment to furnish evidence enough for an intelligent conclusion by the Government.

6. The chief value of the Marine to the Navy is due to the differences of thought, habit, training, action and purpose which characterize him, and which have caused him to survive the fads of centuries. Deprive him of this distinctiveness, and he would promptly become a blue-jacket in a button-up coat, who could no more be expected to represent authority and enforce law and order than the average of his new comrades. It may not be generally known to naval officers and to Department officials that the best and most successful Marine officers have for generations back considered it imperative to discourage intimacies between the marines and the sailors, and to cultivate for efficiency's sake a mild antagonism. We find it necessary even among themselves to draw a sharp line between the privates and the non-commissioned officers for when they chum together conspicuously discipline decays. Naval officers have times and again during the last thirty-six years candidly lamented in my hearing that they could not secure the same habit of command and reliability in their petty officers that we do, though great efforts have been made to attain it. They know to-day that we get as much from our \$20 men as they do from theirs who receive \$60 per month.

7. As to the second part of the second proposition, I can only answer that if embarked it would be proper for the Marine officer to perform watch and division duties the same as the line officer *provided* that the same authority, promotion, honors and ultimate rewards are extended to the one that attend the other. At present, it would be eminently unfair to ask it. During the three years that the navy officers are on shore many continually wear plain clothes and generally have all night in; not so the marine officer who then finds himself doing duty day on and day off at most of our stations, with many important extra duties awaiting the so-called "day off." It is a perpetual grind for all, with no special duty outside of Washington, a curtailment of leave to the minimum, and no promotion to speak of. A captain, for instance, older than the senior line officer of the Committee on Reorganization is alternating as officer of the day with a lieutenant at Norfolk who was unborn for years after the captain was commissioned officer. That captain is eligible for

embarkation, and to pace the deck at fifty-five if the proposed plan is adopted. Strange as it may appear to many, the marine officer gets his only rest from a fatiguing routine when he is aboard ship and gets that rest without food, as he is the only one of God's creatures in the ship who is not entitled to a ration.

8. Viewing the present occasion as one of more than ordinary moment, perhaps revolutionary to the naval service, I have tried to consider the questions submitted carefully and dispassionately and with an earnest effort to promote that wise and equitable conclusion which the Committee no doubt contemplates. False steps are awkward and costly to retrace yet those of us whose hairs are frosted can recall so many that we incline to make haste slowly when radical departures are suggested. It is not a trifling matter to abolish a military body about as old as the nation itself. I could quote the uniform and generous testimony of the heroic figures of the Navy, from Hull down through the decades to Farragut and Porter, in favor of Marines, but it does not seem necessary. You have it and we are proud of it. If one of them ever thought that the presence of a marine degraded a respectable blue jacket he kept it to himself.

9. The strides of the Navy for the last twenty years have been so steadily away from the reefing jacket and in a military direction that it may prove, when all is revealed and properly stated, that it

virtually wants to transfer to us and organize sea battalions. When the officers buttoned up their coats in the seventies it entered our roadway and when the naval bands donned red tunics and black helmets the half way post was well past. However, no matter what action results, it can not yield great success if distinctive organization of some kind are not preserved. Rivalry is essential to great proficiency.

10. I understand that the President of the Board before which you are to appear seeks the truth and likes candor. Being a civilian, he may well be presumed to be without those service prejudices which become imperceptibly a part of ourselves, and should you do me the honor to quote any part of this letter in your remarks I beg you to say that it is submitted with the greatest desire for accuracy, justice to all, and the good of the service.

Very respectfully,

/s/

Henry C. Cochrane
Captain U.S.M.C.
Commanding Marines

The Colonel Commandant,
U.S. Marine Corps,
Headquarters,
Washington, D.C.

Fake Recruiting Poster Credited To Maj Stevens

Chapter II in the saga of the fake recruiting poster has come to light. Since the publication of Chapter I in the fall 1975 *Fortitudine*, the division has obtained a file copy of a 1967 memorandum that details the history of the pseudo poster. Signed by reference historian D. M. O'Quinlivan, now deceased, the memo follows:

"Subj: Authorship of recruiting poster allegedly used by Continental Marines

"1. Following a lead from Major Grant Dunagan, Division of Information, I contacted Major Glenn Stevens by phone on 15 April on this subject and learned the following. In 1950 Major Stevens was involved in the setting up of a replica of Tun Tavern in Fairmont Park, Philadelphia. A recruiting rendezvous was to be included in the tavern and an antique "A" sign was desired for setting up in front. Major Stevens accordingly made up a poster model-

ed on a Royal Marine poster illustrated in the *Marine Corps Gazette* for January 1950 (p. no. 43). By altering the wording he converted this poster into one purported to have been used in recruiting American Marines in the Revolution. He took this poster to the Publicity Bureau where Lieutenant Colonel Capolino had some copies run by offset. These were used on the "A" frame in front of Tun Tavern.

"2. Sometime later he learned that a number of these posters had been run on a parchment-like paper which was given the appearance of antiquity by the use of artificial aging solutions such as coffee, nicotine, etc. When he asked Colonel Capolino for a copy he was told they were reserved for general officers and other high dignitaries. Many times subsequently, Major Stevens had difficulty convincing the gullible that the poster was a fake."

Oral History Interviews

The oral memoirs of two black sergeants major and a World War I private are among six new interviews accessioned into the Marine Corps Oral History Collection.

The two sergeants major are Gilbert H. Johnson and Edgar R. Huff. The memoirs of former Pvt Richard B. Millin are unusual in that he related his World War I experiences in a do-it-yourself session with a tape recorder.

The remaining three accessions are the oral history interviews, in depth, of MajGens Frank C. Croft and August Larson, and BGen Ronald D. Salmon.

The interviews with SgtsMaj Huff and Johnson were obtained by Mr. Shaw as part of his research effort prior to co-authoring *Blacks in the Marine Corps*, which will be available in late spring.

MAJOR GENERAL FRANK C. CROFT

A Naval Academy graduate, Class of '28, and a naval aviator since 1930, Gen Croft spent the greater portion of his 29-year career in Marine Corps aviation. In the pre-World War II period, he participated in numerous exercises and maneuvers during which the air support aspect of amphibious warfare doctrine was being developed and tested. He served in the Pacific in World War II as III Amphibious Corps Staff Air Officer for the Guam and Peleliu operations before returning to Cherry Point, where he filled senior billets on the air station staff. Following a number of staff and command assignments both at home and overseas, his last tour of duty was as Commanding General, Marine Air Reserve Training at Glenview, Ill.

MAJOR GENERAL AUGUST LARSON

A native of Minnesota, Gen Larson attended the University of Minnesota for three years before enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1928. He was commis-



Croft

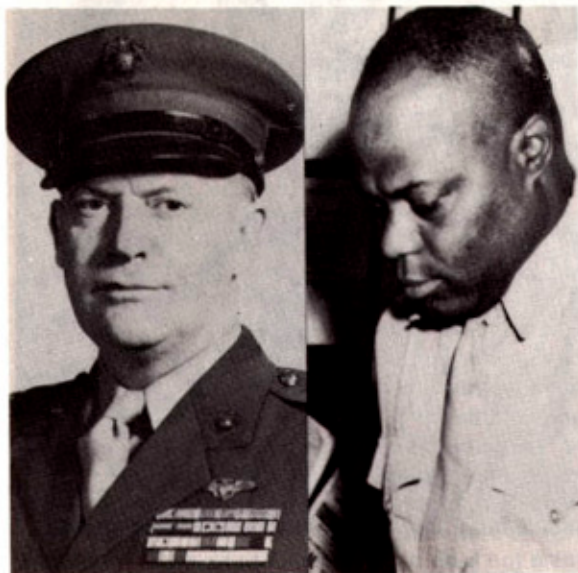
Larson

sioned in 1931, attended The Basic School, served in China with the 4th Marines, and was a Russian language student in Shanghai before returning to the States and subsequent duty with the 5th Marines.

An outstanding marksman, he was a member of the Marine Corps Rifle and Pistol teams of 1931, '32, '36, and '37, and coached the 1938 and '39 teams. He commanded the Marine Detachment, USS *Wasp* when World War II broke out, and returned to Quantico in 1942, where he served as an instructor and student until 1944. Then he joined the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade as G-4 for the Guam operation, and served in the same billet in the 6th Marine Division for the Okinawa landing. In this operation, he also served as executive officer and later commanded the 22d Marines. At the year's end he participated in the occupation of North China at Tsingtao.

Postwar assignments included service as G-4 of Troop Training Unit, Atlantic at Little Creek, Va., and as a student at the Naval War College in 1950. Following graduation, he was assigned first as Marine Corps Liaison Officer in the office of CNO and then in the same position with the Secretariat of the JCS.

While serving as Deputy Commander, Camp Pendleton, he was promoted to brigadier general and detached to become ADC of the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa. He returned to the U.S. and HQMC in 1958, when he was first Deputy Chief of Staff (Research and Development) and then Director of Personnel, from which billet he retired in 1963.



Salmon

Johnson

BRIGADIER GENERAL RONALD D. SALMON

Like Gen Croft, Gen Salmon was a Naval Academy graduate of the Class of 1930, and, similarly, soon thereafter entered flight training. He received his wings in 1933, and in the prewar years served in a number of aviation staff and command billets.

After the U.S. entered World War II, Gen Salmon was one of two Marine officers in the Marine contingent of a joint military-civilian group that traversed the length of Canada and, with the approval of the Canadian government, retrieved from various Canadian military units American citizens, enlisting or commissioning them in one of the American armed forces. Gen Salmon was also deeply involved in the Marine Corps glider program until it was cancelled.

He served at HQMC until 1943 when he took command of the Corps' first medium bomber squadron, the newly organized VMB-413 at Cherry Point, trained it, and took it overseas in January 1944. Shortly thereafter, he was transferred to 2d Marine Aircraft Wing headquarters where he was operations officer and sometimes acting chief of staff and commander. He was awarded an Air Medal for the missions he flew as a fighter pilot during the Peleliu operation.

In the postwar period, Gen Salmon again was assigned to various staff, command, and school billets. Following a tour in the Strategic Plans Division in the CNO's office, he went to London to become the Special Weapons Planning Officer on the CinC-

NELM staff. He left for Korea in November 1953 and assignment as the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing G-3 and later commander of Marine Wing Service Group 17. On his return to HQMC in 1954, he was successively Special Assistant to the Director of Aviation and Assistant Director. Promoted to brigadier general in 1956, he was transferred to Quantico to become Director of the Development Center; and two years later he travelled west to command MCAS, El Toro, and concurrently wear a second hat as Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases, West Coast. Gen Salmon retired in 1960 and died on 26 August 1974; he was buried with military honors at Arlington Cemetery.

SERGEANT MAJOR GILBERT H. "HASHMARK" JOHNSON

Born in Alabama in 1905, SgtMaj Johnson was a theology student for two years at Stillman Institute in Tuscaloosa, and in 1923 enlisted in the U.S. Army, which assigned him to the 25th Infantry, then serving on the Mexican border. After two three-year hitches, he was discharged and worked in civilian life for five years before enlisting in the U.S. Naval Reserve as a mess attendant, serving on active duty in Houston and Corpus Christi.

In May 1941 he transferred to the regular Navy as an Officer's Steward 2d Class, and in June 1942, when enlistment of blacks in the Marine Corps was first permitted in modern times, he applied for and was given a discharge from the Navy to enlist in the Marine Corps as a private. He reported to Montford Point Camp, Marine Barracks, New River (later Camp Lejeune) on 14 November 1942 for recruit training; and while undergoing that training he was made an assistant to his drill instructor, ending up supervising the training of his own boot platoon.

When black drill instructors took over recruit training from white NCO's at Montford Point in April 1943, SgtMaj Johnson was made field sergeant major of the Recruit Training Battalion and placed in charge of all the DIs. The following year, as a gunnery sergeant, he was appointed sergeant major of the Recruit Depot Battalion.

Successively more responsible assignments were given him, and in January 1945 he became sergeant major of Montford Point Camp. Johnson joined the 52d Defense Battalion on Guam in June 1945, serving as the battalion sergeant major until February 1946, when he returned to Montford Point, remaining there until 1949. At this time he was transferred to Marine Barracks, Naval Ammunition Depot, Earle, N.J., and in November 1951 to Korea where he as a first sergeant in the 1st Shore Party Battalion and then personnel sergeant major of the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, and still later administra-

tive chief of the Marine advisory group serving with the Korean Marine Corps.

After his return to the U.S. and assignment as a senior NCO in various units in the States and later in Japan, he retired in 1956, following 27½ years of active service in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps.

One of the founders of the Montford Point Marine Association and a regional vice president, he died following a heart attack on 5 August 1972 while delivering a speech on the history of black Marines to the Jacksonville chapter of the association. He was given a military funeral at Arlington National Cemetery. On 19 April 1974, the Marine Corps renamed Montford Point Camp in his honor as Camp Gilbert H. Johnson.

SERGEANT MAJOR EDGAR R. HUFF

The first black Marine to retire as a sergeant major with 30 years of regular Marine Corps service, SgtMaj Huff enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 1942 and received his recruit training with the 51st Composite Defense Battalion at Montford Point. Following boot camp, he remained at Montford Point as a drill instructor until his promotion to first sergeant and deployment overseas in November 1944 with the 5th Depot Company. He saw service on Saipan and Okinawa and in North China. Following his return to the United States and various postwar assignments, he returned to combat with the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines in Korea, where he served as an infantry company gunnery sergeant.

Returning once more Stateside, in 1952, SgtMaj Huff was assigned to the 2d Marine Division, subsequently becoming sergeant major of the 2d Battalion, 8th Marines. From Camp Lejeune, he was assigned in 1955 as guard chief of the Marine Barracks, Naval Air Station, Port Lyautey, French Morocco. On 30 December of that year, he was promoted to first sergeant in the new rank structure, and the next day to sergeant major.

From that time until his retirement in September 1972, he served as sergeant major of a number of major Marine Corps commands. He served two tours in Vietnam, and during part of the first and all of the second was sergeant major of the III Marine Amphibious Force. His last tour of duty was as sergeant major of the Marine Corps Air Station, New River, N.C.

PRIVATE RICHARD B. MILLIN

Mr. Millin graduated from the University of Illinois in 1916 with a major in agriculture, and soon thereafter began work as a scientific assistant in the Department of Agriculture. In May 1917 he took an Army preflight physical as he wanted to become a



Huff

Millin

pilot, was called to active duty in December as a Flying Cadet/PFC, and sent to the Missouri Aeronautical Balloon School near San Antonio, Texas.

In late May 1918, the Army commissioned him and his classmates who had successfully completed balloon training, but revoked all of these commissions three days later for no apparent reason. Millin was then able to secure his discharge from the Army, enlisted in the Marine Corps, and was immediately ordered to Quantico.

In less than a month thereafter, at his own request, he was on his way overseas, arriving in France in early July. By 3 August, he was a member of the 45th Company, 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, and remained with this unit throughout the rest of the war and the postwar occupation of Germany. In August 1919, the 45th Company returned with its parent 4th Marine Brigade to the United States and participated in two parades—one up Fifth Avenue in New York City, and the second in Washington, where President Wilson reviewed the brigade before its disbandment.

Shortly thereafter, in company with the rest of the Marines who had enlisted only for the duration of the war, Millin was discharged at Quantico and returned to civilian life. In subsequent years, he amassed a considerable amount of material relating to the record of the 4th Marine Brigade in France, and, more directly, to the record of his old company. He then recorded on tape an oral memoir of his experiences as a Marine and of the campaigns in which he fought.

He sent these tape cassettes to the Commandant with the hope that they might prove to be of some historical value. With the photographs he sent later, which were incorporated in the bound transcript accessioned into the Marine Corps Oral History Collection, his memoirs provide a perceptive individual's chronicle which might well represent the experiences of any number of other 4th Brigade Marines in World War I.

People And Places

The speaking schedule continues to be interesting for BGen Simmons, Director of the Marine Corps History and Museums. In addition to the Washington's Birthday talks reported on the "Director's Page," he spoke twice on the subject of "Marines in Washington," on 9 March to the Washington Club and on 16 March to the Columbia Historical Society. Both are Washington, D.C., organizations.

Back in December he was a guest on the Barry Farber Show (WOR, New York City), a two-and-one half hour-long talk show. The subject was Marine Corps history and the Bicentennial. Other panel members were Robert Moskin, who is writing a history of the Marine Corps for McGraw-Hill; Vincent Sardi, owner of Sardi's Restaurant and former USMCR officer; and Herbert Saltzman, vice-president and general manger, WOR, and former USMCR officer. The program, initially aired on 19 December, is syndicated and reportedly was heard in 38 states.



New members of the Historical Branch are Miss Marguerite Kukoy, who joined the Oral History Unit from the Division of Aviation, and Mr. Paul Douglas Johnston, former managing editor of the *Northern Virginia Sun*, who will head a new Publications Production Section. An old hand, LtCol Gene Arnold, has returned from retirement for six-months active duty to complete the monograph on Marine activities in Vietnam 1971-1973.



Mr. Ralph W. Donnelly, the division's long-time assistant head of the Reference Section and the knowledgeable and kindly question answerer for a decade of Marines, retired at the end of the year to his new home in Washington, North Carolina. There he plans to continue to pursue his myriad historical interests and complete his history of the Confederate Marine Corps. Promoted to Mr. Donnelly's position was Miss Gabrielle Neufeld, who for the past several years had headed the Unit History Unit.

Retiring also at the year's end was CWO-3 Joseph R. Fitzgerald who for the past three years was the division's administrative officer. In recognition of his excellent work during this final tour in 20 years



Retirements. CWO Fitzgerald (above right) and Mr. Donnelly (below) retired during December. During retirement ceremonies, CWO Fitzgerald was presented the Navy Achievement Medal by BGen Simmons.

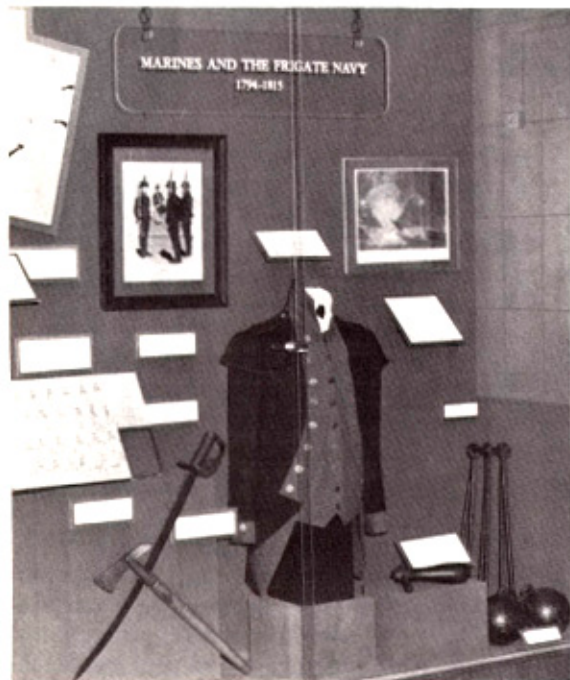


of active duty, he was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal. "Gunner" Fitzgerald, promoted to first lieutenant on retirement, also recently received his Associate in Arts degree and is continuing his studies toward a baccalaureate degree in management at George Mason University.

Leaving the branch for the University of Virginia and graduate study in social service was Miss Deborah Radcliffe, a young blind woman of unfailing cheerfulness who had worked as a transcriber in the Oral History Unit. Also departing on the transfer of her husband to Paris was reference historian Dale Shedd.



During the past few months, the division's officers, historians, and curators have given a number of lectures and attended several professional conferences. On 16 January, Mr. Shaw talked to the Bangor Historical Society on the University of Maine campus about the military aspects of the disastrous Penobscot Expedition of 1779. While in Bangor, he also talked to several school groups and was interviewed on the local network television stations. Later in the month, on 24 January, Mr. Smith travelled to the University of Alabama to speak at the Wilbert S. Brown Military History Symposium on the conditions of service life for Continental enlisted Marines and officers.



The winter historical exhibit at Headquarters featured artifacts from 1794-1815. The Museums Branch maintains the display case and rotates the exhibit on a regular basis.



Dr. John E. Wickman (left), Director of the Eisenhower Library and past president of the Oral History Association, spoke at the division's professional seminar in January on "The Perils and Problems of Oral History." Here he discusses the Marine Corps Oral History program with Mr. Frank.



On 24 February, Mr. Frank, together with Mr. Shulimson and Dr. Cosmas, visited the Military History Research Collection at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Mr. Frank investigated the workings of the collection's oral history program and its use of students at the Army War College as interviewers of prominent senior officers in order to determine the feasibility of introducing such a program to the Marine Corps. Mr. Shulimson and Dr. Cosmas made a preliminary survey of the MHRC's records, oral history transcripts, and personal papers collections for any content which would support the Vietnam writing effort.



Col Hart, Deputy Director for History, represented the division at the Society for Historical Archeology annual meeting in Philadelphia 8-9 January and was the banquet speaker on 10 January for the Ft. Delaware Society's annual meeting in Wilmington, Del. From 9-11 February he and Mr. Richard A. Long, curator of special projects, represented the division at the Historic Preservation Planning Conference for Public Agencies, sponsored by the National Park Service in Alexandria, Va. An exhibit on the historic sites of the Marine Corps was highlighted at the meeting.

Mr. Frank attended the Tenth National Colloquium of the Oral History Association at Asheville, North Carolina, 24-26 October. There he met former Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who mentioned his high regard for the Marine Corps and especially those Marines assigned to State Department security duty. In another context, Mr. Frank recently wrote an entry on shipbuilder Andrew Jackson Higgins for a new supplement of *Dictionary of American Biography* to be published in late 1976.

Off-duty writing has resulted in several division

members appearing in print. BGen Simmons' book, the *United States Marines, The First Two Hundred Years 1775-1975*, has been published by Viking Press, New York, and is the April selection of the Military History Book Club. Mr. Jack Shulimson is the author of a 13-page article, "The First to Fight: Marine Corps Expansion, 1914-18," in the spring 1976 *Prologue*, the journal of the National Archives. Col Hart is the author of a 16-page article, "The Forts of Seth Eastman," regarding this Army artist's paintings for the U. S. Capitol after the Civil War. Fourteen of the paintings are reproduced in the spring issue of *Periodical*, the journal of the Council on Abandoned Military Posts and the article also is being printed as a separate booklet.



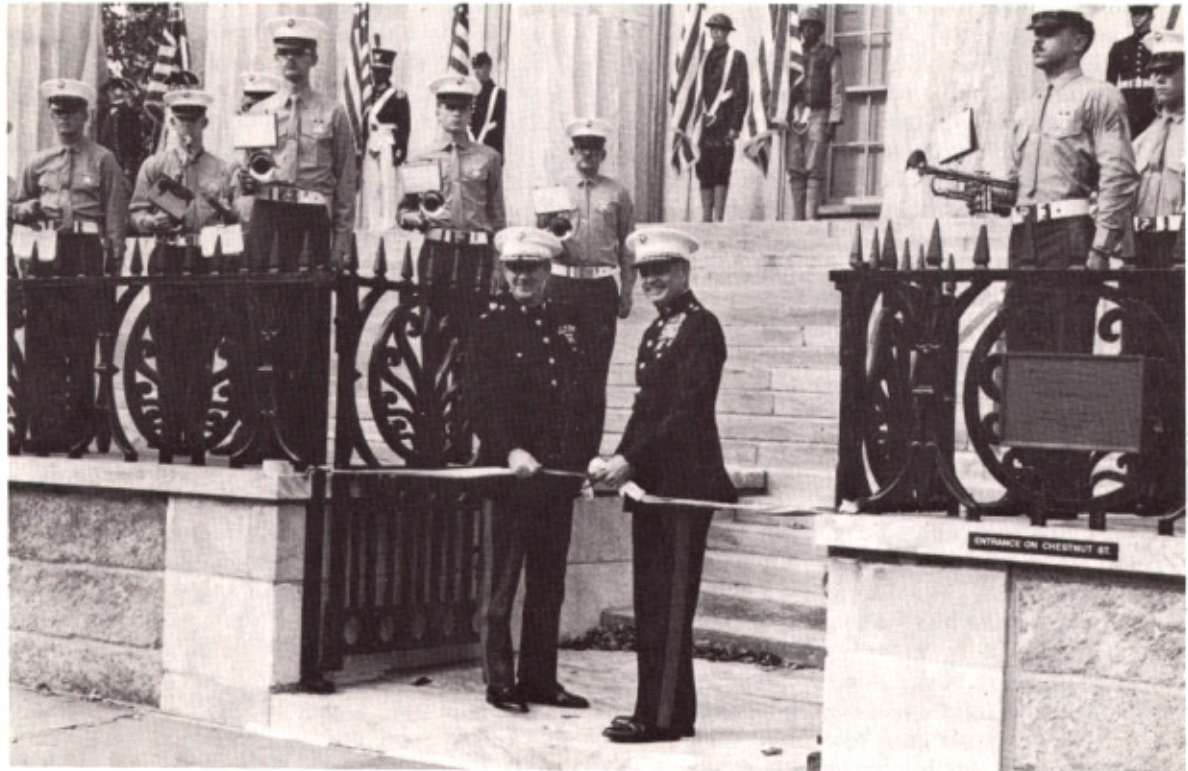
Dickson Watercolors Missing

Twenty years ago these paintings hung in the Commandant's office. Later they were turned over to the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico. Four years ago they were hung in the Commandant's House. Somewhere in the process two of a series of nine have been lost. The Museums Branch urgently seeks their return. The watercolors by Donald L. Dickson were painted in 1936 to illustrate Marine uniforms 1805-1925. The nine were reproduced in black and white in 1939 in Maj Clyde H. Metcalf's *A History of the United States Marine Corps* (pp. 18-21, Winter 1973-74 *Fortitudine*).

The missing two are illustrated here. The pictures are approximately 12" x 15". Matted and framed they are 18" x 24". They are Marine Corps property and form part of the Marine Corps heritage portrayed through the Art Collection. We hope whoever has them now will return them to their rightful place in the Art Collection where they can be enjoyed by a wider circle of Marines. If you have them or know where they are please send them to or contact the Marine Corps Museums Branch, Building 198, Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20374 or (202) 433-4585, Autovon 288-4585.



BGen Simmons cut the ribbon to open the National Park Service Philadelphia exhibit of the Waterhouse paintings used to illustrate Marines in the Revolution. With the general is Maj Charles Waterhouse. The general also traveled to Baltimore where he was the CMC's representative at the dedication of a plaque to the memory of the Marines who served on board the frigate Constellation.



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THIRD CLASS MAIL

Director's Page

From Page 4

3 March with 200 Marines and 50 seamen and quickly captured the two forts that defended the town. In so doing he also captured a great pile of military stores and ordnance. I wish I could report that the Marines had also found the gunpowder needed by Washington, but this would be tampering with the facts of history.

The English governor, after Nicholas had captured the first fort, had used the nighttime hours to spirit the gunpowder, some 150 kegs of it, off the island through an unguarded channel. So much for good intentions. Meanwhile, Washington's need for powder had been partially met. On the 2d of February the sloop *Macaroni* had arrived at New London, Conn. Most of Europe had put an embargo on the sale of munitions to the Colonies, but the *Macaroni* had been cruising the West Indies buying powder and guns wherever they could be found. It had been a rough voyage home through the icy North Atlantic and she had lost her boom and bowsprit, and the mate and one hand, but she had on board a reported eight thousand pounds of powder.

There was an exchange of letters between Governor Jonathan Trumbull of Connecticut and General Washington and Washington got the powder, less a reserve held out for the Connecticut militia. When they weighed it, Washington's inspectors found out that there were only 3,000 not 8,000 pounds of powder. Even so, Washington felt safe in giving orders that cartridges be made up and issued on the basis of 24 rounds per man. Also entrenching tools were to be gotten together and put into good order.

Then on 26 February, Washington wrote to his friend Joseph Reed in the Congress: "... I am preparing to take post on Dorchester, to try if the

enemy will be so kind as to come out to us. ..." On 2 March, Washington began his bombardment of the British positions from his batteries in East Cambridge and at Roxbury. On the night of 4 March, under cover of darkness and the noise of the cannonade, 2,000 American troops moved out toward Dorchester Heights, moving with timbers and fortifications materials and a siege train of heavy guns from Ticonderoga.

When morning came and the fog had lifted, the British were startled to see the raw scars of the new fortifications. With Americans on Dorchester Heights, the British Army could not remain in Boston and the British fleet could not stay in Boston harbor. General William Howe had the choice of either driving the Americans off the Heights or withdrawing from Boston. He started to attack on the night of 5 March but was interrupted by a blizzard. He then called a council of war and it was decided to leave Boston and move to Halifax.

Being a sensible man, General Howe made it known to the Americans that if he were allowed to depart unmolested he would leave the town intact, but if he were fired upon he would lay the town in ashes. Washington, also a sensible man, gave his tacit agreement.

Howe crammed his 8,000 troops along with perhaps 1,000 loyalists into his 78 ships. He had to leave behind a great number of cannon—American sources claim 200, British sources admit to 100—along with 100 wagons, 80 horses, a great quantity of muskets and military stores, and "ten times more powder and ball" than Washington's army had ever seen before.

They sailed on the 17th of March; the date gives the Boston Irish of today a double reason for celebration and delight; St. Patrick's Day and Evacuation Day, the day the British left Boston forever.