

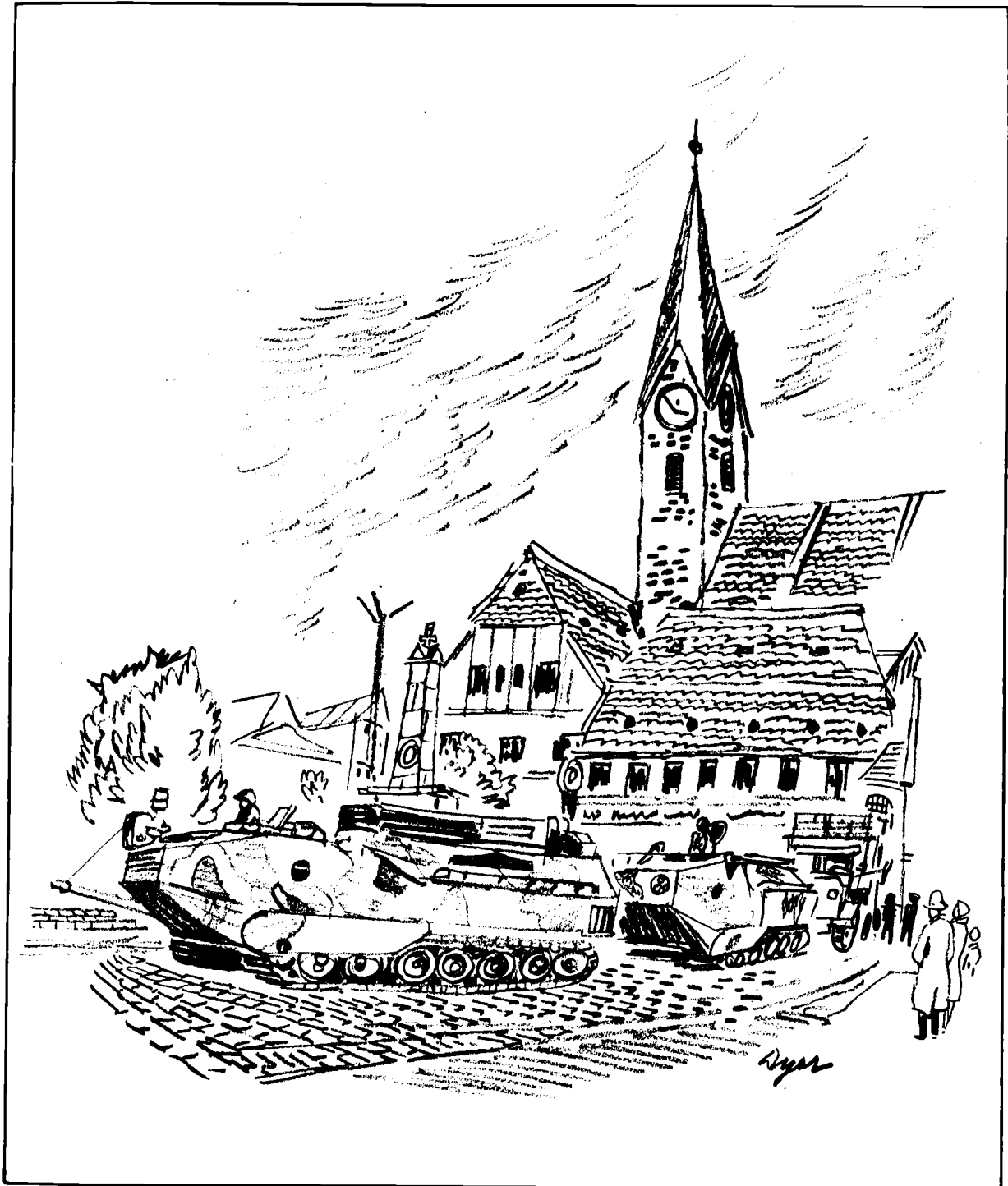
FORTITUDINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

VOLUME VIII

WINTER 1978-79

NUMBER 3



DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

PCN 10401220100



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FORTITUDINE

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

Volume VIII

Winter 1978-79

No. 3

This quarterly newsletter of the Marine Corps historical program is published for the Corps and for friends of Marine Corps history in accordance with Department of the Navy Publications and Printing Regulations NAVEXOS P-35. Individuals and institutions desiring *Fortitudine* on a complimentary regular basis are invited to apply to: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (Code HDS-1), Washington, D.C. 20380.

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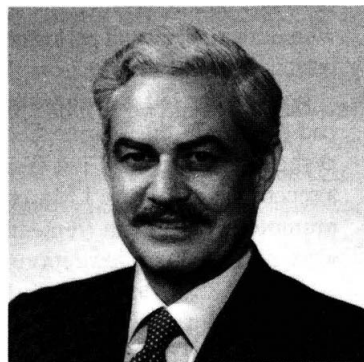
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The cover is the work of Maj John T. Dyer, Jr., in civilian life the curator of the Marine Corps Art Collection. As a Marine Reserve major he covered NATO Exercise Bold Guard 78 from 5 to 26 September 1978. The scene is one from Eutin, Germany showing LVTP-7s from the 4th MAB. Maj Dyer has covered several such NATO exercises in Turkey, Norway, Germany, and Greece in addition to serving as a Marine combat artist in Thailand and South Vietnam. See story on page 18.

It is good policy to acknowledge errors when they are made and detected. We had (that we know of) two big ones in the Fall issue. First, our cover artist's name was Miss Cheryl A. Stewart, not Stewart. Second, Gen Geiger was just that, of four star rank, not a "MajGen."

Fortitudine is produced in the Publications Production Section of the History and Museums Division. The text for *Fortitudine* is set in 10 point and 8 point Garamond typeface. Headlines are in 18 point, 24 point, or 30 point Garamond. The newsletter is printed on 100-pound, offset bond paper. Printing, by offset lithography, is by the Defense Printing Service.

Director's Page



BGen Simmons

One of the pleasures of working in the History and Museums Division is that new "old things" keep turning up. Recently and almost simultaneously, LtCol Allan R. Millett, USMCR (a professor of history at Ohio State University in his other life), who is writing an institutional history of the Marine Corps, and Mr. Jack Shulimson of the Histories Section, who is working on his doctoral dissertation on the professionalization of the Marine Corps, found in the National Archives an extensive report on foreign marine corps made by Bvt LtCol James Forney in 1873.

Forney, whose actual rank was captain, had been sent off to Europe in July 1872 by George M. Robeson, the Secretary of the Navy in President Grant's cabinet, to do a survey of the foreign marines. He came back to the United States in the late summer of 1873. His report consists of 421 pages of careful copperplate script plus a number of attachments. He also prepared a 37-page synopsis in his own handwriting. Some 335 pages of the basic report and much of the synopsis are devoted to Britain's Royal Marines about whom Forney found much to admire.

At the time of his visit, the Royal Marines were under the command of MajGen George A. Schomburg, C.B. There were 453 officers in the Royal Marines and 14,000 enlisted men. ("They are mainly English and Scotch; few enlistments are made in Ireland and these generally in Belfast.") Eight thousand Royal Marines were afloat and 6,000 ashore. Headquarters was at Eastney. The three "divisions" (base depots rather than tactical units) of Royal Marine Light Infantry were at Chatham, Portsmouth, and Plymouth. The Royal Marine Artillery was at Fort Cumberland, Portsmouth. In all cases the barracks were large and airy and British rations "much better than ours. fresh meat instead of pork being served daily."

Royal Marines "receive their pay weekly, a much nicer plan than paying them quarterly as with us." and they were "allowed to smoke in their quarters" and could "drink as much beer as they please at the Canteen."

"The Canteens . . . are nothing less than well equipped stores . . ." with profits therefrom going to the benefit of the men rather than into the pockets of a civilian sutler.

The arrangements for sea service appeared to Forney to be particularly just. "An officer who returns after one year's sea service goes to the bottom of the list for sea service of officers of his own grade. When he reaches the top, through other officers being sent to sea, his turn comes again and he is sent off." The same system applied to non-commissioned officers and men. Forney noted that the British called these periods of sea service "tours."

The British Navy report for 1871 listed 64 sailing ships and 174 steamers. "On board the flagships, there is a Captain who sometimes holds the rank of Brevet Major. He is on the staff of the Admiral and has command of the Marines of the Squadron. There is also one Lieutenant of Artillery and three Lieutenants of Infantry . . . The Marine artillerymen always have control of the forward pivot gun . . . The old feeling which used to exist between the Navy and Marine officers has apparently died out, and they get along very well together."

Forney is sensitive on the matter of brevet rank. Brevet rank was a coveted honor in the American service, but no pay came with it and little privilege other than the custom of being addressed informally by brevet rank and the right, in Forney's case, to sign his rank after his name as "Captain Bvt Lieut Colonel USMC." His reasons, therefore, are obvious for making the point that "There are several

officers holding brevet rank at this post (Chatham) who draw the pay and performed the duty of the same both in the field and garrison.”

Forney himself had three brevet promotions. He had come into the Marine Corps from Pennsylvania at the outbreak of the Civil War, being commissioned a second lieutenant on 1 March 1861. His first brevet promotion, to captain (remember, at this time there were no medals or decorations for officers), came on 24 April 1862. On that date Flag-Officer David G. Farragut, commanding the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron, had to run his ships past Forts Jackson and St. Philip to get on with the capture of New Orleans. Said Farragut of the resistance offered by the forts, “Such a fire, I imagine, the world has rarely seen.” 1stLt Forney was serving in the wooden screw sloop *Brooklyn* and according to her captain, “had two guns assigned him, and, with his men, fought most gallantly.”

The second brevet, to major, was for a landing in Formosa. In June 1867, two screw sloops, *Hartford* and *Wyoming*, from the Asiatic Squadron sortied from Shanghai to punish Formosan pirates for the murder of the crew of the American bark *Rover*. A landing party was put ashore on 13 June in the south of the island. Forney, with 43 Marines — 31 from the *Hartford*, 12 from the *Wyoming*—spent four days ashore chasing natives and burning their huts without taking any casualties himself except from the “intense, scorching heat.”

His third brevet, awarded in 1870, was retroactive for an action in the Civil War. In July 1864, Jubal Early, in a wide-swinging raid, threatened Washington from the north. The railroad between Baltimore and Havre de Grace was cut by the Confederates. Capt Forney came down from Philadelphia by rail with a “splendid battalion” of Marines and an 8-gun howitzer battery and took up a holding position at the railroad station in Havre de Grace. “In less than 8 hours time,” wrote the Army commander, MajGen William H. French, “3000 men had reported of all arms of the service.” Forney then went forward to Gunpowder Bridge to cover its reconstruction and to threaten the flank of the rebels. “The same day travel through to Baltimore was opened. Early, threatened in every direction, fell back.”

In much less detail than for Britain’s Royal Marines, Forney also reported on the marines or naval infantry of France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Turkey, and Italy. About the German Marines, he



James Forney as a colonel, probably taken in the late 1890s.

reported, “The German Marine Corps numbers 2000 men, commanded by a Colonel Commandant, their brigade consists of two regiments, armed with the needle gun. The uniform is of dark blue, greatly resembling ours.”

Forney also found the uniform of the Royal Marines “very fine” and he transmitted “herewith a series of water color photographs with a full description of the uniform of the officers and men.” (Unfortunately, the photographs and other listed attachments have long since disappeared from the basic report.)

He concludes his synopsis with a list of “suggestions” for the Secretary of the Navy, not all of them directly related to his observances in Europe.

Drawing obviously from the German Marine brigade organization, he recommends, “That the three thousand men of the United States Marine Corps be formed into a brigade with a Brigadier General, divided into three regiments . . .” (In

numbers, Forney permits himself a little inflation; the 1871 year-end strength of the U.S. Marine Corps was 92 officers and 2,498 enlisted.) The respective regiments and their companies would be given permanent numbers. In detailing men for duty on board ship, companies would be kept together as much as possible.

Forney was admiring of the selection and training of both the officers and men in the Royal Marines. He observed that "Immediately upon enlistment recruits are sent to the general recruiting station at Deal" where, on arrival, "they are met by a non-commissioned officer" who proceeded to take them in hand for instruction. From this observation came the suggestion "That a general recruiting station be established, under command of a Captain, where all men recruited for the Corps are to be sent and drilled"

Also, "Abroad, great attention is paid to instruction in musketry and continual exercise at target practice. This very important branch is almost totally neglected by us. Our men seldom understand the use of the weapon they carry, and are consequently nervous in using it at even the simple funeral ceremonies" He recommended improved instruction and firing at a target at least twice a month, citing that enclosed with his report were numerous "excellent books on musketry practice, bayonet exercise and sword exercise."

As for officers for the Corps, they should "be instructed at West Point . . . and . . . appointments be no longer made from civil life." Officers should also appear on both Army and Navy lists, as was the custom with the British, and they should be extended

more courtesy by the Navy when afloat. And, "At each barracks where officers live, a mess should be established."

For the benefit of the men, he recommended "That the position of Sutler at barracks be done away with and that a Committee of officers with the Commanding officer at their head have charge of all Canteen arrangements, purchasing of provisions, etc."

As to the respective merits of civilians and Marines as a security force at Navy yards, ". . . I would suggest that in our yards, where both watchmen and Marines are employed, we do away with the watchman."

He also suggested, while he still had pen in hand, "That the old Corps sword with the steel scabbard, be restored to the officers, as a distinctive badge of the Marine Corps" He was referring, of course, to the sword patterned on the Mameluke saber adopted in 1826 and then dropped in 1859 in favor of the heavier, more business-like U.S. Army's infantry officer's saber.

This was the first of Forney's "suggestions" to be put into effect. The sword came back in 1875 with the U.S. Army infantry officer's saber being retained as the noncommissioned officer's sword.

Forney had over 30 years more active service ahead of him. Real promotions with commensurate duty and pay came in due course: to major in 1884, to lieutenant colonel in 1891, and to colonel in 1892. He retired in 1904 in the grade of brigadier general and lived until 1921, time enough to see virtually all his "suggestions" incorporated into the warp and weft of the Marine Corps.

Col Nihart Selected to Return

Col F. B. Nihart, USMC (Ret), who returned to the retired list on 31 October 1978, has been selected by the Civil Service Commission and a HQMC screening board to continue as Deputy Director for Museums in a civilian status. During his absence, Col Thomas D'Andrea, Director of the Marine Corps Aviation Museum, has been Acting Deputy Director for Museums.

Col Nihart was commissioned in the Marine Corps in 1940 after having served in the California National Guard and the Marine Corps Reserve since 1935. His many tours of duty included

service on board the *Saratoga* during the battle of Midway, as XO of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines during the Okinawa operation, as CO of the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines in Korea where he won the Navy Cross, as U.S. Naval Attache to Burma, and as CO of the 7th Marines. After retiring in 1966, Col Nihart worked with several defense research and analysis corporations and was the managing editor of the *Armed Forces Journal*. He returned to active duty as Deputy Director for Marine Corps Museums in 1973. Upon his second retirement he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

The Readers Always Write

Dear Sir,

. . . The attached photograph covers a period which has an abundance of historical information, but which will never be fully told as the men involved still keep their "lips sealed." If you look carefully at the enclosed photo, you will notice a Marine. He is (then) Maj Hodd Fuller, who served with the O.S.S. as a Jedburg Team Leader in the Haute Pyrennes District, France. The team consisted of one American, a Britisher, and two Frenchmen. They were Maj Fuller, my father, Capt Guy de la Roche, Free French Army, Maj Hiram Crosby, 42d Highland Regt (the famous Black Watch), and another Free French Officer, who, to this date, remains nameless, although I'm sure he has one. The scene depicted in the photo was taken in September 1944, on the day that the team, at the head of a Maquisard group, liberated the town of Tarbes. This town is my family's "adopted" ancestral home, the real one, Le Ronzet, is 100 miles north-east of Tarbes.

Standing in front of the Foch Memorial in the

center of Tarbes, from the center (the man with the bandaged hand, who was the Maquisard district commander for this region) is Maj Fuller. Directly behind him in the garrison cap is the unknown team member and to Maj Fuller's right, one pace to the rear, is my father. Maj Crosby is not pictured as he was at the British GHQ that day.

The stories that I've heard about this team at times seemed quite unbelievable. There is the time in May 1944, when the team accepted a dinner invitation from my aunt and uncle living in Tarbes. The four team members decided to go to dinner "Formal," and that they did, in dress uniforms. Not only were the Germans surprised, so were my aunt and uncle, who quite rightly feared arrest and/or reprisals; neither of which happened. The team also was not above showing what a Scot wore under his kilt to the Maqui, who were intensely interested with the customs of Scotland.

Aside from the fun, the team did quite a bit of work. Their most notable achievement was the capture of a retreating German regiment, complete



Jeburg Team and Maqui in Tarbes - 1944.

with officers, men, and equipment. This resulted in the receipt of the Silver Star Medal for Maj Fuller and my father. They also were responsible for capturing an S.S. Totenkopff unit which had been responsible for the massacre of a small village. . . .

While going through the PLC Program at Quantico, I visited the museum and there I noticed the German war standard, which, according to the card giving its historical data, had been captured by a ship's detachment, the name of which I can't remember. I told this to my father, knowing it would interest him. He wrote back stating that it was most likely the one the team captured when they bagged the enemy regiment. Since I've not heard of any supporting evidence on this subject, I'll sit on it and let this one drift into the anonymity of time by itself.

Time has been exacting on the men involved in this particular story. Maj Fuller retired from the Marine Corps at, I believe, the rank of LtCol. (See editor's note.) He served with the C.I.A. at various posts in Europe until his second retirement in the early 1960's, whereupon he bought a boating concern in Athens, Greece, which specializes in Adriatic tours. I have attempted to contact him via the U.S. Embassy in Greece, to no avail. My father, at the end of the war, resigned his commission and ended up with a coffee plantation in Guatemala. After that he worked for various French companies in the U.S., represented various American companies in Europe, served with the French Diplomatic Corps, from which he retired in 1974, and on a "part time" basis worked for the French, S.D.E.C.E. Maj Crosby retired from the British Army as a colonel and got into the whiskey business as an exporter of spirits. Per my father, this is perfect for a man whose heritage includes the smuggling tradition of the Scots. He too, did part time work for the British S.I.S. As for the mysterious other member of the team, well, he is just that. Nobody knows what happened to him after the war. . . .

Semper Fidelis,
Francois de la Roche
Captain USMCR

Editor's note:

The Jedburgs received their name by the random selection of a word from a school textbook. As chance would have it, Jedburg, Scotland was chosen; it as easily could have been Kokomo, Indiana. The random selection of a name with no relationship to the unit's mission was employed to mislead German

intelligence—as was the case with the British raiding force in North Africa, the S.A.S. (Special Air Service).

Maj Horace W. Fuller, the leader of this Jedburg team, served in reserve and active status, first as an enlisted Marine, 1931-1936, and then as an officer from 1941 until his retirement as a brigadier general in 1958. He was wounded while with the 1st Marine Division on Guadalcanal and later assigned to the OSS. For his gallantry in action against the enemy in Europe, he was awarded the Silver Star Medal by the U.S., made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the French, and Mentioned in Dispatches by the British.

Any information our readers wish to add regarding Marines in the OSS or any other WWII clandestine organization is welcome.



Marine Corps friends and buddies,

Thanks, enjoyed the summer issue of *Fortitudine*. I'm 83 and I'll just have to comment on the Memoriam column. As I turned the pages I was faced with the photo of BGen Francis I Fenton, USMC. Well, I recollect when he appeared as a 2d Lieutenant at Mare Island, California in 1921. As a Drill Sergeant (permanent warrant) I sent men or made Marines that, I believe, touched the six continents of the world. Yes, I helped put men on various battleships, light and heavy cruisers, and sent some replacements on the USS *New Mexico* where Fenton was assigned. I also was there at the Mare Island Navy Yard when the USS *California* was commissioned; what a weapon she was. The Navy had put on 2,000 sailors (gobs, we called them); the band was playing; a maiden was stationed on the bow ready to break a bottle of champagne on signal; and then we had one more thing to do. That was, we marched on 175 Marines to take care of 2,200 sailors. Some of them were, I believe, my men (real Marines).

In those days we were instructed to teach them Knots and Space, along with certain other instructions aboard various ships that laid there in Rotton Row. . . . Also remember teaching my men 1st, Honor to God and Country, 2d, Honor to our Flag, and 3d, Honor to the Corps. . . .

Greetings to All and Yours.

Albert O. Olsen
Ex Drill Sgt, USMC
World War I days

Mess Night Origins

Not only was Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., 20th Commandant of the Marine Corps, a recent visitor to the Historical Center (*Fortitudine*, Fall 1978), he also is an occasional correspondent. Queried on many occasions about his role in establishing mess nights as a Marine Corps tradition, Gen Shepherd decided to write down the background of this practice as he knew it. He sent a copy of his account to BGen Simmons and asked if the History and Museums Division had record or knowledge of Marine Corps mess nights being held prior to 1928. We didn't. It is possible, however, that some of our faithful readers will know of such early happenings or of other early ceremonial occasions that contributed to the mess night tradition.

Here are Gen Shepherd's recollections:

So far as I am aware, the first Marine Corps Mess Night was conducted by the 4th Marines in 1928 when this regiment was on duty in Shanghai, China.

At the time, I was a Captain and serving as adjutant of the regiment commanded by Colonel Harry D. Davis. Due to my interest in swimming, I coached the Regimental Swimming Team. During several meets we had with British units stationed in Shanghai, I formed a close friendship with an officer of the 2d Battalion Scots Guards who coached their swimming team. Through this contact, Colonel Davis and several of the officers of the 4th Marines were invited to attend a Scots Guards Mess Night.

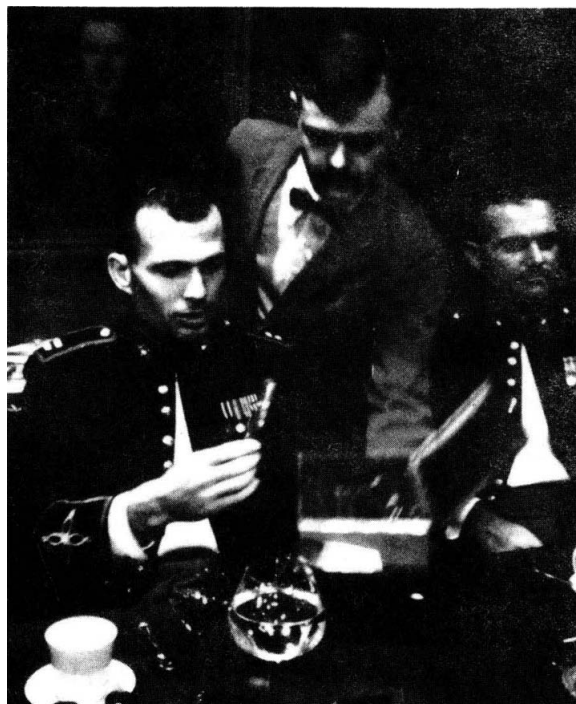
It was an impressive evening. The Battalion had brought out its beautiful Mess Silver to adorn the dinner table which was lighted with handsome candelabra. After dinner, the Pipe Major played Scottish ballads on his bagpipe and a Guardsman danced the Highland Fling and other Scottish dances.

What impressed me most were the time honored ceremonies of the occasion. An orchestra played the "Roast Beef of Old England" as we entered the dining room. There was no smoking during the meal. Toasts were drunk to His Majesty the King after the Port had been passed from the right to left following the dessert.

Upon the conclusion of the piping and dancing of the Scottish pipers, the Pipe Major was invited by the Battalion Commander to come forward to his side and was given a glass of Scotch whiskey, whereupon the officers rose and, together with the Pipe Major, drank a toast to His Majesty's Regiment of Scots Guards.

Colonel Davis and officers of the 4th Marines who were present were greatly impressed with the evening's ceremonies, and the congenial hospitality extended to their guests by the Officers of the 2d Battalion Scots Guards.

Several days later Colonel Davis instructed me to extend



After a pleasant meal, cigars are served.

an invitation to the Commanding Officer and officers of the 2d Battalion Scots Guards to dine with the officers of the 4th Marines.

Furthermore, the Colonel directed me to originate a Mess Night ceremony similar to the one we had observed when dining with the Scots Guards.

I did the best I could under the circumstances to comply with the Colonel's directive. I am afraid, however, the ceremony of our initial Mess Night fell short of the impressive one conducted by the Scots Guards. Nevertheless it was the beginning of the Marine Mess Night Ceremony which the officers of the 4th Marines subsequently conducted and improved upon at dinners given for other British Battalions on duty with the Shanghai Defence Force.

I do not know how long the 4th Marines Mess Nights were held after my departure from Shanghai in 1929, but I assume they were continued until the withdrawal of the Regiment to the Philippines in 1941.

During World War II, while I was in command of the Sixth Marine Division, I held several Mess Nights in my staff mess on Guadalcanal where the Division was encamped prior to landing on Okinawa. We had no Mess Silver nor the facilities to conduct a traditional Mess Night Ceremony, but there were candles on the table and we drank a toast to the President of the United States and to our Division.

On an official visit to England in 1946 I was invited to a Mess Night given by the Royal Marines at Eastney



Good food, companions, and conversation—all are ingredients of a successful mess night.

Barracks in Portsmouth. Here again was I impressed by the stirring ceremony of a British officers Mess Night.

It was during my appointment as Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1952 to 1956 that Marine Corps Mess Nights in their traditional form were initiated at the Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, in Washington.

The Commanding Officer of the Barracks at the time was Colonel Robert Williams who had recently returned from duty in England where he had attended a number of British Regimental Mess Nights. On his initiative, and with my encouragement, the Marine Corps Mess Night was officially established for the purpose of bringing the officers of the post together for an evening of pleasant social entertainment.

The success of these dinners influenced the Commanding Officer of the Marine Corps Schools in Quantico to establish a Mess Night at the Basic School for indoctrination of Student Officers. Due to its popularity, other Posts and Organizations also began holding Mess Nights on appropriate occasions.

In recent years the original stag Mess Night has been modified to include wives of the officers attending, and the name changed to "Dining In."

I have been told that the reason for discontinuing Marine Corps Mess Nights is due to the reduction of Mess Stewards provided for Marine Corps Messes. I will admit this is a serious handicap, especially with the lack of civilian domestic servants available today. Nevertheless, I believe a forceful and imaginative Commanding Officer of a Post could find a way to conduct a Mess Night without incurring great expense to his subordinates and thus reinstate this time honored traditional event, or have a "Dining In" if it is desired that ladies attend.

It is hoped that in future years the Marine Corps Mess Night in its traditional form will be reestablished in Messes throughout the Corps as it engenders esprit de corps and promotes good fellowship among officers serving on a post or in a combat organization.

Maj Merrill L. Bartlett, currently assigned to the

History Department faculty at the Naval Academy, is among those whose queries prompted Gen Shepherd to write the above account. Maj Bartlett has written a detailed account of mess nights covering not only their history but also such matters as proper menus, sequencing of events, music, toasts, general etiquette, and like details. The *Marine Corps Gazette* expects to publish a shortened version of his article within the next few months. The History and Museums Division is also considering publication of Bartlett's work in pamphlet form, perhaps with other related materials or checklist appended.

The mess night project, incidentally, is not Maj Bartlett's only involvement with the Marine Corps Historical Program. The Naval Academy Research Council recently approved a research project he suggested, arranged for him to have the coming summer free to undertake it, and awarded him a small grant to cover expenses. The project involves preparing a register of Major General Commandant George Barnett's papers, which are held in the Historical Center, and then editing Gen Barnett's unpublished, biographical manuscript entitled "Soldier and Sailor Too." This work with the papers of a former Commandant should be a most worthwhile contribution to the historical program.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to locate any photographs of 4th Marines mess nights held in Shanghai or to find out if the custom was continued after the departure of then-Capt Shepherd or Col Davis. Any help our readers can provide in these areas would be most appreciated.

JEG

Oral History Report

Since the last issue of *Fortitudine*, the Oral History Collection has been expanded by the addition of interviews in depth conducted with LtGen Frederick E. Leek and MajGen Lowell E. English, and by an interview concerning Vietnam-related matters with MajGen Wilbur F. Simlik.

A Marine aviator for most of his military career, Gen Leek spent his first 8 years of commissioned service as a ground officer. In this interview, he spoke of his early days as a Spanish language student and Assistant Naval Attache in Mexico City and of his subsequent assignment to flight training and aviation duty. One of the few Marine aviators ever to command a division, he noted with pride his assignment as Assistant Division Commander and

interviewed LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr. in depth about his career and has begun an interview series with BGen Gordon D. Gayle. In December, Dr. Graham A. Cosmas of the Histories Section interviewed a former division member, retired LtCol William R. Fails, about his tour in Vietnam as S-4 of MAG-16 and Facilities Officer at the Marble Mountain Air Facility in 1970-1971.

Also in December, retired Reserve Col John H. Rogers, former head of the Marine Corps Combat Art Program and current Dean of the College of Fine Arts, University of North Dakota, submitted an interview he had conducted with John H. Bakke for the Oral History Program. A resident of Grand Forks, North Dakota, Mr. Bakke recorded his



Gen Chapman

LtGen Nickerson

LtGen Leek

MajGen English

MajGen Simlik

BGen Bleasdale

BGen Gayle

then Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division during the period January 1961 to June 1963. Gen Leek discussed his tour as commander of the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, 1963-1966, and commented on the wing's contingency planning and readiness for operations in Vietnam, and Operation Shufly.

The initial portion of Gen English's interview deals with his tour of duty in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967, as Assistant Division Commander of the 3d Marine Division and commander of Task Force X-Ray. In this segment, he spoke about division operations, personalities, and command relations. During the rest of the interview, Gen English discussed his career in depth and his many interesting assignments.

The interview with Gen Simlik was devoted to his tour in Vietnam where he was assigned first as commander of the 3d Marines and then was transferred to the III MAF staff as G-4. He recorded his observations of 3d Marines' operations, logistical matters, and the planning for and conduct of the withdrawal of Marines from Vietnam in 1970.

In recent months, the Oral History Section has

memories of his Marine Corps service in North China in the early 1920s.

For a number of years, the Oral History Program has hoped to interview retired BGen Victor F. Bleasdale, a well-decorated and respected Marine veteran of World Wars I and II who now resides in London. Knowing of our interest, Assistant Naval Attache LtCol Richard H. Esau, stationed in London, offered to conduct this interview for the program. In November, LtCol and Mrs. Esau journeyed to France and Belleau Wood with Gen Bleasdale to record an on-the-site interview with the general as he narrated his memories of the battle for Belleau Wood and the part that he and his machinegun platoon played in it.

The new year for the Oral History Program began auspiciously when the 24th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., visited the Center to begin his interview sessions. The first session, devoted to Vietnam-related matters, was conducted by Mr. Benis M. Frank and the writers assigned to prepare the history of Marine Corps operations in Vietnam.

BMF

Folsom Reserve Center Honors “Old Gimlet Eye”

For the past 5 years we have reported on the historical efforts of various of the Corps' posts and stations. Articles on the command museums at Parris Island, Camp Pendleton, Treasure Island, and Barstow have appeared on the pages of *Fortitudine*. In this issue we recognize yet another field historical endeavor, that of the Naval and Marine Corps Training Center at Folsom, Pennsylvania.

Serving as the home of Company E, 2d Battalion, 25th Marines and reserve activities of the other Services, the Folsom Center is located in Delaware County, west of Philadelphia. In November 1976 it was formally dedicated to the memory of one of Delaware County's most distinguished citizens and the Corps' most highly decorated officer, the late MajGen Smedley D. Butler.

The dedication of the center came as the culmination of a year's work by Capt Ronald H. Morgan, USMC, the Company E Inspector-Instructor and LtCdr J.C. Crowley, Jr., USNR, the former commanding officer of the reserve center. During the nation's Bicentennial year, the two were deeply involved in Delaware County Historical activities and were named co-chairman for military affairs.

The center's gun room was turned into a Navy-Marine Corps museum with displays of items donated by local citizens; uniforms, flags, and other memorabilia. The focal point of the Marine Corps display was a large amount of material relating to Gen Butler which had been loaned by the Butler family. The items included all of the general's

The Butler Room. Displayed are several uniforms, photographs, and a writing desk. The general's medals are in the glass case in the center of the photograph.



GySgt L.M. Kester, of Co E's I&I staff, stands next to the USS Butler's bell. The bell mount, with its fancy wrought iron work, was fashioned and donated by the I&I staff's former corpsman, HMC Glenn Saphore, USN, and his family.

decorations, several complete uniforms, photographs, and an oil portrait.

The exhibit proved to be so popular that Capt Morgan wanted to retain the Butler material after the Bicentennial celebrations were over. To that end, he conceived the idea of a permanent exhibit and of a formal dedication of the center to the memory of Gen Butler. With the approval of the Butler family, a request to that effect was made through Navy and Marine Corps channels. The request was granted by CNO with CMC concurrence on 1 October 1976 and the center was officially dedicated on the 14th of the next month.

During planning for the permanent display, Capt Morgan discovered that the ship's bell from the USS *Butler* (DD 636), which was commissioned in 1942 and decommissioned in 1945, was on loan to an art club in New York City. After an exchange of correspondence, the club agreed to trade the *Butler's* bell for the one then in use in the reserve center.

Today, the memorabilia of "Old Gimlet Eye" are attractively displayed in the center's Butler Room while the USS *Butler's* bell is in use as the station bell.

DNB

Record Balloon Ascent Commemorated

Russell J. Parkinson, Ph.D.

On 29 November 1978, the Chesapeake Balloon Association held a reception at the Marine Corps Historical Center to celebrate the 195th anniversary of the first hot-air balloon flight (21 November 1783), and the 45th anniversary of the *A Century of Progress* stratosphere balloon flight (20 November 1933), by LCdr T. G. W. Settle, USN, and Maj Chester L. Fordney, USMCR. Now a retired vice admiral living in the Washington, D. C. area, "Tex" Settle was the guest of honor. Maj Fordney, who retired as a colonel and died in 1957, was represented by three of his children and one of his granddaughters at the special program.

Maj Fordney had retained a series of slides picturing the flight and the equipment carried in the gondola, as well as a phonograph record of the NBC program which had been broadcast the afternoon of 20 November as the balloon was climbing through an altitude of 55,000 feet. Several years ago his

daughter, Mary Fordney Diggs, donated a quantity of Fordney materials to the Center's personal papers collection, including the slides and recording.

Shortly after the record flight, in 1934, LCdr Settle was transferred to China. He never heard the transcription of the broadcast until his briefing for the 1978 anniversary program. Using the slides and recording, Adm Settle described some of the details of the flight and shared some anecdotes with the guests at the reception.

The *A Century of Progress* balloon flight was part of an early scientific effort to study the effects of cosmic radiation. On 18 August 1932, Auguste Piccard and Max Cosyns had reached an altitude of 53,152 feet over Switzerland. While in the United States on a speaking tour, Piccard had organized a new flight. His twin brother, Jean, a chemist working in Wilmington, Delaware, was to be the observer. The flight was planned to carry instruments for two experiments prepared by Dr.

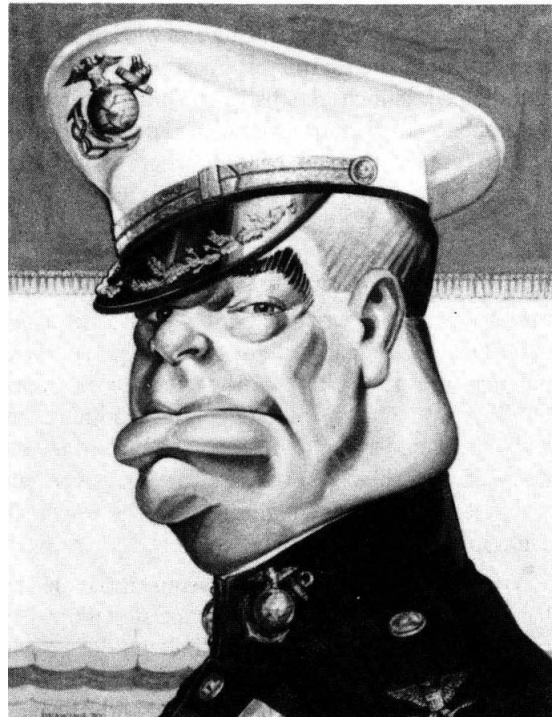


Fordneys and Settles at the Center reception. From left to right, Mr. Ben Fuller Fordney, Mrs. Mary Fordney Diggs, Mrs. Settle, VAdm Settle, Mrs. Catherine Fordney Ellis, and Miss Elizabeth Diggs.

Arthur H. Compton of the University of Chicago and another prepared by Dr. Robert Milliken of the California Institute of Technology. The gondola originally displayed the name "Piccard-Compton Flight." When Auguste Piccard had to return to Switzerland on business, LCdr Settle was selected as pilot for the flight. To save weight and to achieve a higher altitude, Jean Piccard withdrew. The name on the gondola was then changed to *A Century of Progress* to reflect the sponsorship of the Chicago *Daily News*, and to arouse publicity and interest by tying the flight to the Chicago World's Fair.

At the time of the 1933 flight, LCdr Settle was already a world champion balloonist. A 1919 Naval Academy graduate, he held aeronautical ratings in both airplanes and airships as well as balloons. In 1929 he set the world's distance record for his class of balloon while winning the National Balloon Race. In 1932 he won the Gordon Bennett International Balloon Race in Europe, thus insuring that the next Gordon Bennett Race would be held in the United States, the winner's country.

After a long period of preparation and delay for



Caricature of Fordney as a colonel in 1943. Drawing by Harry Hartt.



VAdm Settle, "the Commander" of the Century of Progress stratosphere balloon flight.

favorable winds, the first attempt to launch the altitude flight took place in Chicago on 4 August 1933. The balloon was inflated inside Soldiers Field while spectators waited throughout most of the afternoon and night for the takeoff. While still on the ground, however, Settle tested the gas valve at the top of the balloon and discovered that it was not functioning properly. Fearful of the consequences of releasing 125,000 cubic feet of highly explosive hydrogen inside a crowded stadium where people in the stands might be smoking, Settle decided to fly out of the stadium. At 0300 the morning of the 5th, Settle took off, and the balloon quickly climbed to 5,000 feet. Again testing the gas valve, Settle discovered a new problem; the valve had jammed open and, with a continuous loss of gas, the balloon began to descend. He began to throw off ballast, but instead of endangering persons below by dropping the 40-pound ballast bags like bombs, Settle (as Mrs. Settle will proudly explain since the admiral is too modest) untied each bag and spilled the fine particles of ballast over the side. He was able to work fast enough so that the balloon's rate of descent was reduced and the gondola did not smash into the

ground when it finally landed on the railroad tracks in south Chicago.

Maj Fordney, on duty in Chicago with the Marine detachment at the Century of Progress World's Fair, had helped launch the balloon. Jumping into an automobile with four Marines, Fordney quickly arrived at the downed balloon where a gathering crowd, some with lighted tobacco, was ignoring Settle's shouts to stay back from the pockets of hydrogen still trapped in the envelope. According to the *Chicago Daily News*, "in the ensuing three minutes, the mob was treated to a gala performance of language and action that have won reputations for potency from the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli. Neither lost any of its traditional effectiveness under the circumstances." Fordney and the Marines helped pack up the envelope and protected the equipment throughout the rest of the night until it could be moved.

While modifications were being made to the balloon system, Chicago became the site of the 1933 Gordon Bennett International Balloon Race, with Settle defending his title. No doubt Maj Fordney and the Marines were on the launch field with the usual security assistance expected of Marines while the balloons were being inflated. On this flight, although Settle set a duration record for balloon flight, flying 51 hours, the Polish team, flying almost as long, covered a few more miles and was declared the winner, great circle land distance being the only measurement for victory.

LCdr Settle returned to his regular duties at Akron, Ohio, as naval aircraft inspector at the Goodyear Airship Company. The next launch attempt of the altitude flight was scheduled to be made from Akron. Believing he needed to be free to concentrate on piloting the balloon, in view of the problems encountered during the first attempt, he decided to take Maj Fordney along as an observer. Fordney was to help with the scientific equipment and maintain radio communications. The Marine major, a graduate of the University of Michigan, was in charge of the mathematics exhibit in the Hall of Science at the Chicago World's Fair, part of the public duties one might expect of a versatile Marine on recruiting duty. He saw the publicity value to the Marine Corps in joining the flight, and had good relations with the radio and press people in Chicago. Foremost among these media contacts was Col Frank Knox, the publisher of the *Chicago Daily News*, who was to be Alf Landon's running mate for president in



After the record flight, a muddy landing in the New Jersey swamps. Maj Fordney (l) and LCdr Settle (center) present the balloon's barograph to the head of the National Aeronautical Association, Mr. W.R. Enyart.

1936, and later Secretary of the Navy in World War II.

The stratosphere balloon was inflated inside the airship hanger at Akron, and on the morning of 20 November 1933, with the U.S. Marine eagle, globe, and anchor painted on one side to match the Navy fouled anchor with wings on the other, the gondola was dollyed out and prepared for take off. As the wind began to pick up, the balloon cast off and remained at a low altitude, slowly moving southeast towards Pittsburgh. With the heat of the afternoon sun expanding the gas in the envelope, Settle began the climb to what would be a new official world's altitude record of 61,237 feet.

During the climb, NBC was able to connect Col Knox in Chicago, NBC Vice President Niles Trammel in the New York studios, and Maj Fordney in the balloon, in a three-way voice broadcast. Maj Fordney did most of the talking from the balloon as "the Commander," as Fordney referred to Settle, was busy jettisoning ballast.

At the Historical Center reception, after listening to the broadcast with the other balloon pilots and guests, Adm Settle described the descent and landing and how he and Maj Fordney spent the night with the balloon in the marshes near Bridgeton, New Jersey. The next morning Fordney waded out for help while Settle guarded the sealed instruments that would be used to verify the official world altitude record. Historians from NASA, the National Air and Space Museum, the Federal Aviation Agency, and the National Weather Bureau together with the local hot-air balloon pilots gave the admiral a standing ovation at the end of the narration.

Schilt Memorabilia Donated

Memorabilia of early Marine aviator Gen Christian F. Schilt were presented to the Marine Corps Museum on 3 November 1978 by his wife, Mrs. Betty Schilt of Norfolk, Virginia. The donation included all the general's decorations, his naval aviator's wings, a painting by Marine Reserve LtCol John J. Capolino, and all but three of a career's worth of flight logs. Aviation Museum Director, Col Thomas D'Andrea, accepted the donation on behalf of the Marine Corps.

When Col D'Andrea was developing the concept for the "Early Years" aviation exhibit (*Fortitudine*, fall 1978), he decided to include displays commemorating the Corps' three aviators who won the Medal of Honor before World War II. Such displays, naturally, would be enhanced by the inclusion of the medals themselves. The Aviation Museum already had the two medals awarded to 2dLt Ralph Talbot and Cpl Robert E. Robinson in World War I; the remaining medal had been awarded to then-1stLt Schilt for his daring flights in and out of the beleaguered Marine outpost of Quilali, Nicaragua in January 1928.

Hoping to secure the loan of this medal, Col D'Andrea asked MajGen Norman J. Anderson, USMC (Ret) to contact the Schilt family. Appropriately enough, Gen Anderson is the commander of the Marine Corps Aviation Association's Schilt Squadron in Norfolk. Through Gen Anderson, Gen Schilt graciously offered to donate, rather than loan, the medal and other memorabilia to the Marine Corps.



Mrs. Schilt presents her husband's medals to the Marine Corps. From left to right, MajGen Spanjer, MajGen Anderson, Mrs. Schilt, and Col D'Andrea.

While Gen Schilt was not able to be present due to ill health, the ceremony was attended by most of his family, by Gen Anderson, and by MajGen Ralph H. Spanjer, USMC (Ret), commander of the Marine Corps Aviation Association. Since November, arrangements have been made to receive the remainder of the general's memorabilia including uniforms and papers.

More Emblem Variations

The fall edition of *Fortitudine* had, as its cover, a collection of official and unofficial Marine Corps emblems and insignia. Since its publication, at least three additional insignia have come to mind; the patch worn by members of the 5th Marine Brigade during and briefly after WW I, the regimental insignia of the 20th Marines (engineer regiment of the 4th Marine Division from June 1943 to August 1944), and the logo of the Women Marines Association. Perhaps our readers know of more.



Japanese Sword Returned

Gen Robert H. Barrow, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, returned an ancient Japanese sword to its ancestral home in a simple ceremony at Yokosuka, Japan on 6 November 1978. The sword, believed to be over 600 years old, had been donated to the Marine Corps Museum at Quantico. It was not a battlefield trophy, but had been issued as a souvenir—a common practice in postwar occupied Japan—after being surrendered by its owners.

In 1977, the Japanese embassy's senior military attache, MajGen Tsuneo Azuma, Japanese Air Self Defense Force, was invited by Col Thomas D'Andrea to help with the markings of the Museum's Japanese aircraft (*Fortitudine*, Winter 77-78). Gen Azuma was accompanied on his trip to Quantico by Mr. Yoshihisa Komori, from the Mainichi newspaper chain's Washington bureau. When work was completed on the aircraft, the general asked if the Museum had any other Japanese artifacts and Col D'Andrea brought out several Japanese edged weapons for examination. One of them had a small wooden tag attached with Japanese characters inscribed. From this the general was able to identify both the name of the former owner and his address.

The two Japanese asked if it would be possible for them to try to find the owner or his descendants with an eye toward the sword's eventual return. Receiving tentative approval, the two men went to work and a photo and news story soon was published in Japan. Seven months went by but, on 1 March 1978, Col D'Andrea received the following letter from Mr. Yataro Takata, a resident of Fujisawa City, Kanagawa, Japan.

Dear Colonel D'Andrea:

This is one of the most exciting letters I have ever written because I am making a formal request to return to us the sword which was our family treasure for several hundred years.

I read in the Mainichi newspaper in August an article reporting that a Japanese sword believed to have been dedicated by a former Marine Corps soldier who fought in Okinawa battlefield has been retained in the USMC Museum at Quantico, Va.

The article also said the sword had a name tag of Takichi Takata. This description and a small photograph of the sword gave my mother and me great excitements. For, Takichi Takata was the name of my father who died in 1971.

As soon as I finished reading the newspaper report that

you are seeking an original owner of the sword or his bereaved family, I made up my mind to write to you to this effect.

Permit me to give you a brief account of my family background in the following lines, which, I believe, will contribute to your full understanding.

My father, Takichi Takata, was born in 1886 and died in 1971. His wife, Yoshi, was born in 1891 and is still in good shape at the age of 86, living in Kumamoto City.

I was born in 1931, as a son of Takichi and lived with my parents until my father died six years ago. Later, I moved to Fujisawa City because of my job, I sometimes make brief trips to Kumamoto to take care of my mother.

Please refer to my family register and certificate issued by Mayor of Kumamoto City (attached in a separate sheet).

I recall that my father kept telling me that the sword was made approximately six hundred years ago and was given to my ancestor as an award from feudal lord, Hosokawa.

In 1945 at the close of World War II, a measure was taken by government against possession of all weapons, such as a gun, pistol and sword. They were tendered to local government offices. The sword in question was also



Home after 33 years. Gen Barrow returns to Mr. Takata a 600-year-old ancestral sword.

forwarded to Minami Police Station of Kumamoto City. For a little while after the "disarmament", cultural assets such as antiques were returned to original owners upon individual request.

My father sent letters in English to the authorities several times to ask for return of the sword, but in vain. In efforts to trace the sword for myself lately, I got in touch with Minami Police Station. All I found, however, was that there was no records or documents showing its whereabouts.

The news report noted that the sword found in a battlefield of Okinawa. But, no one in my family knows why it was found in Okinawa, because none of them went to Okinawa in those days.

Judging from the photo, the name tag was obviously written by my father, Takichi, himself. And exterior appearances of the sword still retain its original shape without any modifications weathered through battles which you could recognize.

In those days, there was a great confusion throughout this country, and, I believe perhaps the sword might have been disposed of as spoils of war. Anyway, I very much appreciate that the sword is retained in your museum, retaining the original shape for over 30 years. My mother is also very happy to hear this news.

I sincerely hope you will release the sword to us. Please advise me if any further documents or expenses are required to do that. I am looking forward to your response soon.

Sincerely yours,
Yataro Takata

Since the sword was in excess of the Museum's needs, was a family heirloom, and was not a battlefield trophy, it was determined that its return to Japan would be most appropriate. Consequently, Gen Barrow carried the sword with him on a

scheduled visit to Marine forces in the western Pacific during November. At the Yokosuka ceremony he said "the sword symbolizes the long history . . . of respect for those of us who serve our country," and that "Mr. Takata can be justly proud of his ancestors who passed this symbol of military tradition from one generation to another." Gen Barrow returned the sword to Mr. Takata "with the confidence that neither his country nor my country will ever draw a sword against the other."

Several weeks later this second letter arrived from Japan.

Dear Colonel Tom D'Andrea:

Thank you very much for your kind disposition for returning of the old ceremonial sword which I have received on November 6, 1978, with a great exciting under attendance of General Robert Barrow and Colonel Tullis J. Woodham at Yokosuka Marine barracks. It was nice indeed that General Robert H. Barrow said the sword would not be used for ever. I am convinced that the sword will never be used, and it remains symbol of friendly relationship between two nations, America and Japan.

In Japan, such weapons, sword and gun are prohibited to own by personal however, "the sword return" was introduced on the Japanese newspaper with picture, and Japanese official favorably approved retaining the sword in my home.

I would like you to know how grateful I am for your kind disposition; in the meantime, I send you my very personal regards and best wishes.

Yataro Takata
高田彌太郎

Fighting Hawk to Col D'Andrea

Marine Corps Aviation Museum Director Col Thomas M. D'Andrea and his NCOIC, MSgt Walter "Fritz" Gemeinhardt, attended the 1978 convention of the Marine Corps Aviation Association at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California from 6 to 9 October.

The agenda included a symposium arranged by LtGen Thomas H. Müller, Jr., (DC/S for Aviation) at which the four Marine aircraft wings presented a status report covering personnel, aircraft, and deployment. The symposium also included a report by Col D'Andrea on the progress of the Aviation Museum.

During the formal awards banquet, the Association presented two "Fighting Hawk" awards, one to Gen Louis H. Wilson, Jr., for his support of Marine Corps aviation while Commandant, and one to Col D'Andrea for his development of the Aviation Museum.



Col D'Andrea receives his Fighting Hawk award from MajGen Fontana.

Reflections on Bold Guard '78

Major John T. Dyer, USMCR

Before I arrived in the Bold Guard 78 exercise area on 5 September, the Marines had made an amphibious landing in the Shetland Islands that was lustily cheered by the inhabitants. From the Shetlands, 4th MAB moved first to Norway and then into Denmark where it operated with the famous Danish Jutland Division. Finishing the Scandinavian portion of the exercise, Marines and their tanks and LVTs were transported on railway flat cars to Eutin, Germany, in the center of Schleswig-Holstein. Quartered in Eutin are elements of the 6 *Panzer Grenadier Division*. The Marines immediately went into camp in a field about 3 kilometers east of the city and erected tents and shelter-halves during an annoying drizzle that soaked all equipment and muddied the ground.

The nearness of the East German border emphasized the seriousness of the maneuvers, and discussions with West German soldiers and civilians proved that the *Ledernacken* presence was a great morale booster.

Maneuver over the rolling hills and pine tree forests was not difficult except in some heavily trafficked areas that had been churned by our heavy vehicles to a thick, deep, mud paste after one of the longest-lasting rainfalls in years. When the sun pierced the overcast (which was infrequently) the country proved to be beautiful. One would hesitate to discard a cigarette butt or C-ration can carelessly because of the way the Germans care for their land.

Once, while watching Co G, 2d Battalion, 24th Marines, exercising with Marine tanks and amtracks on an old target range, we came across two American tanks, relics of WW II. They had been repainted with German Maltese Cross markings and had been used as targets for rifle grenades. My driver, with the exuberance of a young Marine, was able to rotate a turret by pushing on a gun tube.



Other units visited during the exercise included MAG-20; LSG-4, where I saw a LVTP-7 retriever drag a large 8th Engineer Battalion flatbed truck out of the mud; 3d Battalion, 2d Marines, where I hooked up with transportation; 2d Tank Battalion; 4th Battalion, 10th Marines; MACS-5; and the 4th MAB CP which had the muddiest bivouac area around.

Sketches were made when time permitted and 35mm slides taken for reference to serve as a basis for a series of 8 to 10 paintings that will be the Bold Guard 78 exhibit. Several of the preliminary sketches are displayed here. I will probably concentrate on tanks, self-propelled artillery, and LVTs, as Bold Guard 78 was primarily an exercise of armor.

One of the more interesting sights was the shower that Marines of LSG-4 set up in tents near a pond that provided water. There was a changing tent and a tent with shower heads. The only flaw in the system was that you had to slither down a 45 degree slope of above ankle deep mud to get to it and climb back up the same treacherous path when done. You were as dirty when you came back from the shower as when you went to it. 4th MAB did set up a system that allowed Marines to go to the German Barracks, Rettberg Kaserne, to take showers.

A few meals were taken in the German Officer's Mess, but it was rare that we had anything other than bread, cheese, and coldcuts. We had a break in the routine of the officer's mess when we ate in the troops' *kantina*. My favorite was *curry-wurst* and *pommes-frites* (a large, curried hotdog with French fries). The *kantina* was run by Rudy and his wife, a

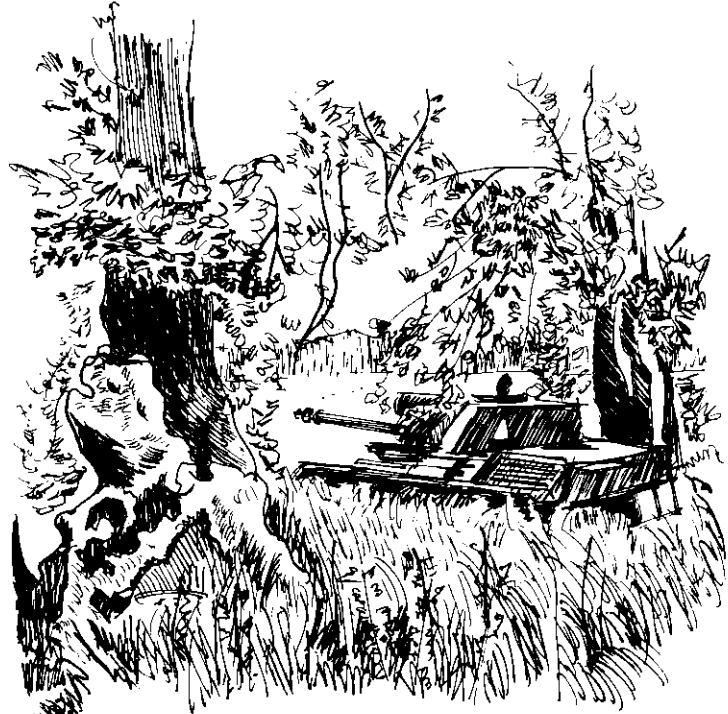
German couple who had lived in New York and Florida and had decided to return to Germany and made a go of it. Rudy drove a canteen truck and visited all the Marine units daily before the maneuver started.

One day during the exercise, my jeep wandered behind German aggressor lines and we spotted a *Luchs* (German reconnaissance vehicle). I wanted a photo of it and directed my driver to follow. The Germans must have thought that we were in pursuit for they really poured on the coals. We embarrassed them a bit when we cornered them in a barnyard, our jeep blocking their only exit. We moved out of their path and waved the red-faced aggressors on.

The "war" was held up for 3 hours on the 22d of September because the Marines had moved to their objectives too fast for the scenario and the aggressors did not get a chance to play. We waited until they were in position and then went back to war.

On liberty I visited the medieval city of Lubeck, south of Eutin. Almost everything of interest is within easy walking distance. During WW II the British made a retaliatory raid on the city and damaged, among other things, two large, old bells at St. Marien's church which now form a memorial. On the walls of the many churches are inscribed the names of German war dead from the Franco-Prussian War, WW I, and WW II.

While in Lubeck, a Marine Reserve captain and I had the good fortune to meet a German civilian who spent a whole



camouflaged Panzer tank - Boldwood '78 - Dyer

afternoon showing us the sights and even insisted on hosting us to coffee and some delicious German pastry. He had been a German soldier on the Russian front in WW II and had been captured. He thought he had not been shot because he spoke a little Russian. Somehow he either escaped or was exchanged just in time to be sent to Normandy to be captured by the Americans. He was sent to a POW camp in the United States, stayed on after the war, and retired after 30 years in Chicago as a printer. In all that time he had never become a US citizen since he would have then lost his German Government disability pension for wounds received in WW II. While retired in Germany he also collects US Social Security.

The seaport city of Hamburg, to the southwest of Eutin, was another liberty port that had its share of old buildings and other diversions. One of the more popular restaurants in Hamburg is a McDonald's. The food and decor is the same as in the US except Ronald McDonald speaks to you in German from the menu.

Marines on liberty wore civilian clothing but many stood out as Marines by virtue of their scarlet and gold warm-up jackets with "CLNC," "Marines," etc., sewn on the back. Many wore their field jackets if they did not have a civilian jacket. I will probably do a painting of the Marines on liberty, readily identifiable by their warm-up jackets, cameras, and liberty bags against the background of Lubeck.

We Reservists and the East Coast Motion Picture Team left Germany by aircraft on the 25th of September. During the trip we landed at Goose Bay, Labrador. We had a coffee break in the small air terminal and I noticed an information pamphlet that advertised the local points of interest. They included the grammar school, post office, and cemetery.



Marine Air Control Squadron - 5 at Darby near Lütjenburg the and their "castle" Dyer

In Memoriam



BGen Amor L. Sims, USMC (Ret) died 30 November 1978 in Norfolk, Virginia. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1917 and, while serving with the 5th Regiment in France, was appointed a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve in July the following year. Assigned to the 17th Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment, he was wounded in the Aisne-Marne Offensive (Soissons). For his actions during that engagement he was awarded the Silver Star Medal. He was promoted to first lieutenant in August 1919 and after the Armistice served with the headquarters of the 4th Marine Brigade and with the 66th Company, 5th Regiment. Gen Sims returned to the United States in August 1919 and was transferred to Quantico. The following month his temporary appointment to first lieutenant was revoked and he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the regular Marine Corps. That same month he sailed to Santo Domingo where he joined the 2d Provisional Brigade, Marines. In March 1921 he was promoted to first lieutenant and in February 1922 was transferred to Parris Island where he commanded the Naval Prison Detachment until mid-1925. His next tour was at Marine Barracks, Guantanamo where he served as post quartermaster and PX officer. Transferred to Quantico in August 1927, he attended the Company Officer's Course. After graduation he received orders to command the Marine Detachment, Receiving Station, Philadelphia Navy Yard and to act as assistant brig warden. Ordered to Nicaragua in February 1929, he served initially with the 50th Company, 2d Battalion, 11th Marines. In August he was detached to the Guardia Nacional where he served in the Department of Rivas and had command of the 9th Company at Bluefields. He was promoted to captain in October 1930 and in July the following year returned to the United States to his former post at Philadelphia. In June 1934, Gen Sims was transferred to Quantico for a 1-year tour as post athletic and amusement officer. He began a 3-year tour at Marine Barracks, Philadelphia in June 1935, serving as an instructor at the Basic School. While at Basic School he was promoted to major in 1936.

In May 1938 he was transferred to Pearl Harbor where he served as Division Marine Officer, Battleship Division 1, Battle Force, U.S. Fleet, first in the USS *Maryland* and then in the USS *Arizona*. In July 1940 Gen Sims reported to Parris Island as CO of Post Troops but was sent TAD to the 1st Marine Brigade at Guantanamo in October. In December he became XO of the 7th Marines and the next month the CO of the regiment's 1st Battalion. In April 1941 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and in October returned to his post as regimental XO.

Gen Sims sailed with the 7th Marines in May 1942 for service with the 3d Marine Brigade in Apia, Western Samoa. When the regiment landed on Guadalcanal and rejoined the 1st Marine Division in September, he was appointed regimental commander.

After the division went to Australia for refit and training he was appointed chief of staff, a billet he held during the Cape Gloucester campaign and until ordered to the Army and Navy Staff College in Washington, D.C. in February

1944. Graduating in March the following year, Gen Sims returned to the Pacific as CO of the 1st Field Service Group. At war's end he travelled to both China and Japan setting up supply procedures for the 6th and 2d Marine Divisions. In August 1946 he was appointed chief of staff of the Service Command and its CO in February 1947. In August 1948 Gen Sims was transferred to Norfolk as CO of the Marine Barracks. He retired on 30 June 1949. Following retirement he served as head of the city's police department.

In addition of his WW I decorations, Gen Sims was awarded a Silver Star Medal and the Legion of Merit Medal with Combat "V" and a Gold Star for the Guadalcanal and Cape Gloucester campaigns.



BGen James J. Keating, USMC (Ret) died 18 December 1978 in Bethesda, Maryland. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in May 1917 and, as a sergeant, was appointed a second lieutenant (provisional) in the Marine Corps Reserve in July 1918. In November of that year he sailed with the 1st Regiment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. In March 1919 he was promoted to first lieutenant, returned to the United States, and received an honorable discharge the following month. Eleven years later he applied for a Marine reserve commission and was appointed a first lieutenant. He joined the 1st Battalion, 21st Marines in September 1930 and served with that reserve unit for 10 years in a variety of billets including battery officer, S-2, S-3, XO, and CO. As a major he was ordered to active duty in November 1940 and transferred to Parris Island the next month. In January 1941 he was transferred to the 1st Marine Brigade in Guantanamo where he joined the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines. During the following year, as battalion XO, he participated in several maneuvers and landing exercises at New River, Parris Island, and Quantico. In January 1942 he assumed command of the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines, a unit he was to remain with for 2 years. Promoted to lieutenant colonel in May 1942, he sailed with his battalion in June for the Pacific. He participated in the Guadalcanal and Bougainville operations and, after his battalion was redesignated the 1st 155 Artillery Battalion, 3d Corps Artillery in April 1944, led it ashore at Guam.

In October 1944 then-Col Keating was detached to HQMC where he served first as XO and then OIC of the Intelligence Section, Division of Plans and Policies and then with the Division of Reserves. In July he was commissioned a colonel in the regular Marine Corps. After serving briefly as Director, 4th Reserve District, Gen Keating reported to Hawaii for a 2-year tour as CO, Camp Catlin and later additionally as assistant chief of staff, G-2, FMFPac and as force inspector. Detached to Quantico in June 1949, he served as post inspector, legal officer, and OIC of Post Schools. In September 1951 he was transferred to HQMC where he was serving as Director, Administrative Division when he retired on 30 June 1955.

Gen Keating's decorations included the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" and one Gold Star for service on Guadalcanal and Guam.



BGen James Snedeker, USMC (Ret) died 23 November 1978 in San Diego, California. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1925 after graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy and ordered to Parris Island. The following year he was transferred to Quantico for a 1-year tour before reporting as XO, Marine Barracks, Key West, Florida.

In March 1928 he joined the 2d Marine Brigade in Nicaragua, serving first with the 18th Company, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines and then with the 45th Company, 3d Battalion, 5th Marines. During his first year in Nicaragua he served at Jubo, Uluse, Muy Muy, Algovia, and commanded the detachment at San Rafael. In March 1929 he was assigned to brigade headquarters in Managua as assistant press relations officer. Returning to the field in July of that year he served again with the 45th Company and then with the 3d Battalion's 16th Company, commanding detachments at Guapotal and Algovia.

In June 1930 he was transferred to Parris Island and promoted to first lieutenant in October. Gen Snedeker's next assignment was at Marine Barracks, Charleston, South Carolina where he served until July 1933. A 1-year tour in Haiti with Company A, 2d Marines was followed with a third tour at Parris Island, this time as post adjutant and aide to the commanding general. In March 1935 he was detached for duty as CO, Marine Detachment, USS *Minneapolis*. While on sea duty he was promoted to captain. More service with the Navy followed in Washington, D.C. where he was assigned to the Navy Judge Advocate General's staff. Further legal work followed when he was transferred to Pearl Harbor in July 1940 as district legal officer. Then Maj Snedeker participated in the defense of Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. Promoted to lieutenant colonel in May 1942, he joined the 3d Marine Division in San Diego as D-3. In February 1943 he embarked the SS *Lurline* for the Pacific and participated in the Bougainville operation. In January of the next year he became XO of the 3d Marines when that unit returned to Guadalcanal for refit and training. Promoted to colonel in March, he participated in the recapture of Guam.

In October 1944 Gen Snedeker was transferred to Parris Island for a brief tour as post law officer and XO of the Recruit Depot. In January of the following year he was ordered to Navy Headquarters where he served as special assistant to the Undersecretary of the Navy. Eight months later he joined the office of the Navy Judge Advocate General where he served until retiring on 1 May 1948.

Gen Snedeker's decorations included the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for his participation in the Bougainville operation.



Former Marine Reserve LtCol Guy Richards died 3 January 1979 in New York City. Following graduation from Yale University in 1927, LtCol Richards joined the Whitney South Sea Expedition sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History and spent the next 2 years exploring in the British Solomon Islands and Bougainville. After

the expedition he became a feature writer for the *New York Daily News*. When WW II broke out the 37-year-old

Richards offered his services to the Marine Corps and was commissioned a captain in the Marine Corps Reserve in July 1942. In December he sailed for New Zealand and the following month joined the 2d Marine Division. Later that month he was transferred to the 1st Marine Division as Regimental Liaison Officer, 5th Marines at Camp Balcombe, Victoria, Australia. In August 1943 he was appointed assistant intelligence officer of the regiment. He was promoted to major in November and the next month participated in the Cape Gloucester operation. In March 1944 he also participated in the Talasea operation in New Britain. In June 1944 he returned to the United States and was stationed at Camp Lejeune's Schools Regiment as chief of the map and aerial photo committee of the Special OCS. In October he was released from active duty and assigned to the General Services Unit, 3d Reserve District. LtCol Richards requested reassignment to active duty in 1947 and in February was assigned to HQMC's Division of Reserve as a historical writer. During his tour he did basic research for *The Marine Corps Reserve—A History* which was published in 1966. He was again released from active duty in June 1948 and promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Reserve in January 1951.



BGen Joseph L. Tiago, Jr., ADC of the 4th Marine Division, died 24 February 1979 in Banta, California. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve via the PLC Program in 1953 and, after Basic School, joined Company C, 3d Amphibian Tractor Battalion in Camp Pendleton. In October 1954 he was transferred to Company A, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion in Korea. He served there as a platoon commander until the unit returned to Hawaii in March 1955, the month he was released from active duty.

From 1956 to 1962 he served as XO and CO of the 4th Supply Company, as CO of the 9th Truck Company, and as CO of Company E, 3d Battalion, 23d Marines, 4th Marine Division. All were Stockton, California reserve units. In 1963 then-Capt Tiago joined VTU (Staff) 12-55 in Stockton and was an associate member of the 1st Air Delivery Company in San Jose. That same year he attended Army Jump School at Ft. Benning, Georgia and was the first reserve commanding officer of an airborne class to be selected honor graduate and receive the Iron Mike award. In 1964 he became the CO of the air delivery company in San Jose and was a member of the Marine Corps Parachute Demonstration Team which performed along the entire west coast. Serving briefly as the CO of Support Company (-), 4th FSR in San Jose in 1966, he joined the 3d ANGLICO Company, USMCR in October of that year and became its CO in April 1970.

Involved throughout his career in civic functions, Gen Tiago was specially active during the Vietnam War sponsoring affairs which benefitted wounded, convalescing Marines. In 1972, he was the senior Marine umpire during the NATO exercise Strong Express in Norway. He became XO of the 3d Field Artillery Group in San Francisco in 1972 and its CO in 1974. Promoted to colonel in September of that year, he became CO of the 14th Staff Group in Alameda, a billet he held until selected for brigadier general in February 1978.

Gen Tiago's decorations included the Navy Achievement Medal.

People and Places

Researchers at the Center

Since the last issue of *Fortitudine*, 46 researchers have taken advantage of the many collections and holdings available at the Center. Their research has been conducted for a wide variety of reasons—personal, academic, military, commercial, and governmental.

Researchers have come from Command and Staff College, the 2d Marines, George Washington University, Mount Holyoke College, National Archives, the U.S. Naval Academy, the 1st Marine Division Association, The Basic School, the Office of the CNO, Eastman School of Music, Time-Life Books, MAG-32, Catholic University, and the Maritime Association.

Subjects researched have included USMC planning for the aborted 1941 Azores operation, the history of CMC policy regarding unit insignia, Marines and the OSS, Task Force Delta at Nam Phong, the 4th Marines on Bataan and Corregidor, the U.S. Navy in the Pacific (1912-1942), USMC activity in the Chinese civil war (1945-1948), history of MAG-32, enlisted Civil War Marine uniforms, LCIs and Okinawa, the Hungnam redeployment (December 1950), Marine air operations in Korea (1950-1953), 19th century American band music, and Marines in Panama and Nicaragua.



Responding to an appeal for Vietnam-related photographs, Col Billy E. Pafford, former communications and electronics officer with the 9th Marines in Vietnam and now at Headquarters, FMFPac, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, forwarded a number of excellent views documenting Operation Dewey Canyon, Cameron Falls, and the redeployment to Okinawa of the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Other wishing to do the same are asked to contact *Fortitudine*. As always, all photographs or

slides will be handled with care and returned after being copied. Unless specifically requested otherwise, all photographs will be credited to the donor, assigned a Marine Corps identification number, and added to the Marine Corps Still Photograph Archives.



On 11 January, the Director presented Certificates of Appreciation to six Museum docents in recognition of their more than 50 hours of volunteer work. They include, Mrs. Marlene Schumacher, Mrs. Marie Grace, Mrs. Margaret Shutler, Mrs. Fran Read, Mrs. Shirley Drake, and the Center's librarian, Miss Evelyn Englander.



The Center is fortunate in having the services of two college interns for the January-May semester. Both students are working for academic credit 2 days a week, one in the Reference Section and the other in the Collections Section. Coming from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia, is Miss Ann E. Hodgson, a senior and a political science and international affairs major who will be attending Officer Candidates School this summer at Quantico. Mr. Perry A. Flint is a junior and a history major at the American University in Washington. Miss Hodgson is currently processing the recently acquired personal papers of Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift, 18th Commandant of the Marine Corps, while Mr. Flint is gaining experience in the various tasks of a reference historian.



Acquisitions

At the instigation of the Center's librarian, Evelyn Englander, the United States Naval Academy's Museum and Nimitz Library recently donated several duplicate copies of rare books to the Center's library. They are:

James Barron, defendant. Proceedings of the general court martial convened for the trial of Commodore James Barron, Captain Charles Gordon, Mr. William Hook, and Captain John Hall, of the United States Ship Chesapeake in the month of January,

1808. Published by order of the Navy Department, printed by James Gideon, Jr., 1822.

A new general collection of voyages and travels: consisting of the most esteemed relations which have been hitherto published in any language: comprehending every thing remarkable in its kind, in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. . . Also the manner and customs of the several inhabitants, their religion and government, arts and sciences, trades and manufactures: so as to form a compleat system of modern geography and history, exhibiting the present state of all nations. . . published by His Majesty's authority. London, printed for Thomas Astley, 1745-1747. 4 vols.

Life of Washington. John Marshall, Philadelphia, C.P. Wayne, 1804-1807. 5 vols.

A history of the Royal Navy, from the earliest times to the wars of the French Revolution. Sir Nicholas Harris, London, Richard Bentley, 1847. 2 vols.

The naval history of Great Britain from the Declaration of War by France in 1793 to the accession of George IV. William James, London, Richard Bentley and Son, 1847 (1878 edition). 6 vols.



The first professional development seminar of 1979, on 10 January, featured Mr. Lawrence H. Suid, a recipient of a Marine Corps Historical Program research grant. His topic, "Marines on Film," was based in large part on his research project and his recent book, *Guts and Glory*, which tells of the relationship between Hollywood and the Services in the making of war films.



Of two recently published books, Mr. Benis M. Frank, head of the Oral History Section, is the author of one and a major contributor to the other. In November 1978, E.P. Dutton published Mr. Frank's *Okinawa: The Great Island Battle*, one of a group of six military histories which the publisher released at the same time. Also appearing in November was Simon and Schuster's *Encyclopedia of World War II* in which Mr. Frank has a number of signed and

unsigned articles dealing primarily with Marine Corps operations in the Pacific and other items of information relating to the Marine Corps in the war years.



Dr. Martin K. Gordon, a research historian in the Marine Corps Historical Program for the past 5 years, has accepted a position with the historical office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



Mr. Shaw attended the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in San Francisco from 27 to 30 December. He participated in a panel concerning the archives and collections of the various service historical centers in Washington, Carlisle, and Maxwell AFB. A copy of his paper, "The Marine Corps Historical Archives," is available without charge from Code HDS-1, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. 20380.



Mr. J. Robert Moskin, author of *The U. S. Marine Corps Story*, has received the Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association Distinguished Service Award for 1978. This award is presented to civilian practitioners of mass communications who have "contributed most significantly to serving the interests and welfare, and who helped to preserve the traditions, stature and achievements of the United States Marine Corps."

Oldest Marine

The 95th birthday of MajGen Bennet Puryear, Jr., on 9 January 1979, raised the question of who was the oldest general officer on the retired list. Our nominee for the title goes to MajGen Earl C. Long who was born 4 November 1883, just 2 months before Gen Puryear. Not far behind in the seniority poll is a warm friend of the Historical Program, BGen Robert L. Denig, who was born 29 September 1884. The oldest known living former Marine is Pvt Edward Morton Holmgren, born 1877, who related his experiences in the landing at Guantanamo Bay for the Oral History Program in 1974.

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Recent Books of Historical Interest

The following books of general interest to Marines have been recently published and are listed as a service to *Fortitudine* readers.

Wake Island Command, James P.S. Devereux, Major Books, paperback, 275pp, photographs, maps, 1978. A revised and enlarged version of *The Story of Wake Island*. \$2.50

Written in Blood: The Story of the Haitian People, 1492-1971, Robert Debs and Nancy Gordon Heinl, Houghton Mifflin Company, hardback, 785pp, photographs, 1978. The definitive work on the subject. \$21.95

Storm Over the Gilberts: War in the Central Pacific, 1943, Edwin P. Hoyt, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., hardback, 178pp, photographs, 1978. Journalistic account of the battle for Tarawa with emphasis on the command and control infighting during the planning stage. \$8.95

America in Vietnam, Guenter Lewy, Oxford University Press, hardback, 540pp, photographs, 1978. An analysis of the Vietnam War from the evolution of its strategy and tactics to the charges leveled against the way the American forces conducted it. \$19.95

American Caesar: General Douglas MacArthur, William Manchester, Little, Brown, hardback,

793pp, photographs, maps, 1978. Meticulously researched biography of America's greatest military paradox. \$15.00

A Short History of the Vietnam War, Allan R. Millett, editor, Indiana University Press, soft-back/hardback, 169pp, 1978. An anthology of essays from 1970, 1973, and 1975 *Washington Post* special supplements. \$3.95/\$12.50

Combined Operations in the Civil War, Rowena Reed, US Naval Institute Press, hardback, 468pp, photographs, maps, 1978. Comprehensive account of the war's combined operations and an examination of why the almost total Federal naval superiority never was exploited to its fullest. \$16.95

Wake Island: The Heroic, Gallant Fight, Duane P. Schultz, St. Martin's Press, hardback, 247pp, photographs, maps, 1978. An easy-to-read, yet detailed account of the defense of Wake Island. \$8.95

Guts and Glory: Great American War Movies, Lawrence H. Suid, Addison-Wesley, soft-back/hardback, 357pp, photographs, 1978. Fascinating account of the mechanics, motivations, and personalities involved in the production of war movies from pre-WW I to present. Examines the cooperation policies of the Armed Forces and their ability often to modify scripts and treatment. By a recipient of several Marine Corps Historical Program research grants. \$6.95/\$12.95