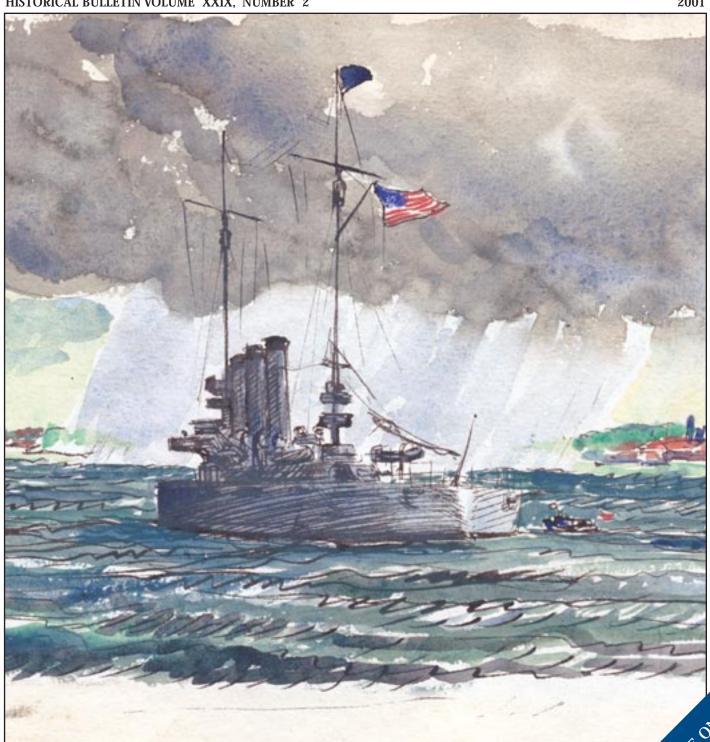
FORTITUDINE

BULLETIN OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

HISTORICAL BULLETIN VOLUME XXIX. NUMBER 2



HERITAGE CENTER MILESTONES... CULTURAL LOSSES AT THE PENTAGON... MARINES IN THE 1920S AND 1930s... McClellan's History... Illustrator Manookian... Protecting the Mail DE HAVILLAND DH-4... SMEDLEY BUTLER COLLECTION... METCALF'S MARINES... 1999 CHRONOLOGY



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FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Vol. XXIX, No.2

Memorandum from the Director: Today and Yesterday

2001

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

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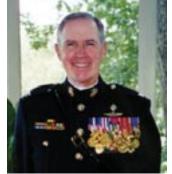
ABOUT THE COVER

The armored cruiser USS *Rochester* began life in 1893 as the *New York* and served as the flagship of Rear Admiral William T. Sampson's squadron for the naval battle off Santiago, Cuba, during the Spanish-American War. Following her re-christening as *Saratoga* in 1911 (to allow a new battleship to become *New York*), she was the flagship of the Asiatic Fleet. The ship took on its third name in 1917 so that *Saratoga* could go to a new battle cruiser (which was finished off as an aircraft carrier in 1922 under the terms of the Washington Naval Treaty).

In 1925, *Rochester* was serving as the flagship of the Special Service Squadron off Central America when thirty-two-year-old Capt John W. Thomason, Jr., reported on board to take command of the 2 officers and 103 enlisted men in the Marine detachment. The acclaimed Marine artist rendered this 7x10-inch pen, ink, and watercolor illustration soon after and remained with the ship until she went into drydock at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in December 1925.

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Today and Yesterday



Col John W. Ripley, USMC (Ret)

Between the publication of the last issue of *Fortitudine* and this one the radical changes that have come about, and continue to come about. beg the question "has there ever been a time in history like this?" Much comparison has been made with Pearl and these cataclysmic changes. There are comparisons to be sure, but there are also differences. For one thing the American population is not as homogeneous, has significant ethnic groups within the total fabric, and the same can be said of religious groups. A great diversity of Christian and non-Christian religions abound and flourish in this country; a manifestation of the religious freedom guaranteed by our forefathers, and written into our Constitution. But what has that done for us, to us, and how does it apply to the current extraordinary times?

Both ethnicity and religion (they are quite different) contribute to what we are, how we view things, our sense of values and standards, and they all fall under the umbrella term "American." The point is that we are a great country, made perhaps even greater because of our tolerance and understanding of those around us, and our ability to step out of narrow definitions of our past while reveling in the fact that our country will always come first. This has been one of the great lessons demonstrated many times over as Americans of every definition, background, ethnicity, and religion have come together to lock arms against an enemy heretofore not taken seriously. We have all seen this and heard the stories, and it is a testament to our inner strength that no enemy of America can ever fully understand. We stand as one. We put our differences aside. We roll up our sleeves and pick up a shovel or a

rifle, or give blood. And in the end it makes no difference whatsoever who benefits, only that they are American. It is our defining trait—the concern and care for others-and the entire world knows it. In this way we compare favorably with the heroes and great Americans of Pearl Harbor, both military and civilian. They set the tone that led to victory four years later. Those that sacrificed their lives in the 11 September horrific abomination of civilized conduct, and those who have struggled to save them, have done likewise. Our patriotism, latent at times and occasionally ridiculed, now burns with an intensity and brightness that can be seen around the world. And to our enemies, you cannot hide from it.

The legacy of these great Marines was a war-winning strategy, the equipment to do the job (if not initially), and battle-tested leadership in conditions not unlike what we would face in the South Pacific.

This issue of Fortitudine will include stories of the Marines in the 1920s and 1930s, the so-called "between the wars" period. Little known by most Americans, Marines were fighting throughout this entire period, as late as 1934 in Haiti alone. More importantly, they were formulating, testing, and perfecting doctrine. This would be the same doctrine that would take us into and through the Pacific War, without which, one wonders just how successful and how long the Pacific War

would have been. The lieutenants, captains, and majors of that era would also become the great commanders and innovators in the Pacific. It was as if the Marine Corps had its own exclusive test bed-a never-ending CAX—in which to perfect our fighting methods, equipment, and weapons. The legacy of these great Marines was a war-winning strategy, the equipment to do the job (if not initially), and battle-tested leadership in conditions not unlike what we would face in the South Pacific. The question comes to mind "how could we be so lucky," and the answer is what every coach knowsluck goes with the winning team.

You will also read of the near-amazing progress of the Heritage Center in a relative short period of time. From my position I watch both our Marine Corps and Heritage Foundation working in concert to bring this complex, demanding but exciting project to reality. Just last month I traveled to England and France with the design team from the architectural and exhibit firms, along with Foundation and Marine Corps Project Office representatives. We visited a number of museums, then went to France where we toured the Belleau Wood battlefield over two days. Never having worked with Marines before, I can report to you that these professionals very quickly began to relate to our ethos, our history and what should be celebrated in the new National Museum of the Marine Corps. Using the mildest of terms, it is inspiring to be associated with this great project, especially when—as all of us know—it will result in a statement about our Corps that most Americans cannot contemplate. □ *1775*□

A Month of Major Milestones

by LtCol Jon T. Hoffman, USMCR Deputy Director

Ceptember proved to be a water-Shed month in the ongoing project to build a new museum for the Marine Corps. Many strands of effort by a wide range of parties culminated in a number of key events that constituted dramatic progress. What was once a mere dream has now gone beyond the concept stage and is marching steadily closer to reality.

One of the critical actions took place on 18 September when Mr. Duncan Holaday (the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Facilities) signed off the Environmental **Impact** Statement (EIS) for the project. The study consumed considerable time and effort, but ensured that construction of the Heritage Center would not harm the local ecology. The analysis had evaluated four different locations and determined that the Marine Corps' preferred site, adjacent to Locust Shade Park, also was the best alternative from an environmental point of view. Approval of the EIS paved the way for another key event, the transfer of the preferred site from Prince William County to the Marine Corps. The 135-acre parcel was once a part of Marine Corps Base Quantico, but it was given to the county when the construction of Interstate 95 left a strip of orphaned forest between the new interstate and U.S. Route 1. The county developed the southern part of that parcel into Locust Shade Park, but the northern portion had not been used. In addition to being environmentally benign, the location is ideal for attracting visitors to the Heritage Center, since it is immediately adjacent to an exit from the most heavily traveled interstate highway in the eastern United States.

n 20 September, Marine Corps Base Quantico hosted a ceremony during which county officials formally conveyed the land to the Marine Corps. Mr. Sean Connaughton, Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, and Mr. James Johnson. Chairman of the County Park Authority, signed the documents in conjunction with Gen James L. Jones, the Commandant of the Marine Corps. The event took place in the Regimental Room at Harry Lee Hall on board the base. With the land formally in hand, the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation are in position to move ahead with concrete steps to build on the site.

The land-transfer ceremony also marked the first public unveiling of the visionary model for the Heritage Center. That mock-up was the result of an intensive selection process con-

ducted throughout the summer. With the assistance of Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake (EFAChes), the Marine Corps and the Foundation whittled a large field of architects down to four finalists. Based on detailed requirements established for the facility, those four firms developed comprehensive proposals for the site and the first building. Each company had a half day to present their ideas to a board consisting of representatives from the Marine Corps History and Museums Division, the Foundation, the Heritage Center Project Office, EFAChes, and a jury of nationally recognized architects. The finalists presented models of both the site and the building and discussed the rationale behind their designs. All four architectural groups came up with exciting ideas. The board presented its recommendation to the Commandant on 9 July and he approved the selection that day.

The winning firm was Fentress Bradburn Architects of Denver, Colorado. Their previous work includes the Denver Airport; the National Museum of Wildlife Art and an addition to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, both in Wyoming; an expansion of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma; and the Museum of Western Art and the Black American West Museum, both in Colorado.

Their entry was the most visually striking of the proposals. Its primary feature consists of a tilted central column rising high into the sky, with a glass curtain descending to the ground. This unique atrium is representative of the Iwo Jima flag raising and will serve as a highly visible landmark from its site along Interstate 95. The atrium surmounts an open rotunda built below grade. This dramatic, airy space will serve as the focal point of the rest of the facility, which radiates outward underground. Exhibit

A view of the north face of the architect's vision of the National Museum of the



Marine Corps.



(Fentress Bradburn Architects)

A detailed rendering of the entrance to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

galleries, a restaurant and gift shop, and office and work spaces take up the majority of the 120,000 square feet. Building much of the facility under a cover of sod will greatly enhance energy efficiency and reduce the cost of exterior features.

hroughout the latter part of the L summer, the History and Museums Division worked with EFAChes and the Foundation to select an exhibit designer. We completed that process in early September. The winning firm was Christopher Chadbourne and Associates of Boston, Massachusetts. Among their premier projects, they have designed the historic displays at the Great Platte River Road Museum in Nebraska, the Altoona Railroaders Memorial Museum in Pennsylvania, the National Museum of the Pacific War (formerly the Nimitz Museum) in and the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C. For their work on the Great Platte River Road project, they received the 2001 Thea Award for Outstanding Attraction—the first time a museum facility has earned this honor.

Although the competition was close, Chadbourne brought a number of strong features to the table. Perhaps the most prominent was their record of emphasizing the stories of people in their previous projects. While the backbone of any museum is its artifacts—the tangible items in its collection—the Marine Corps and the

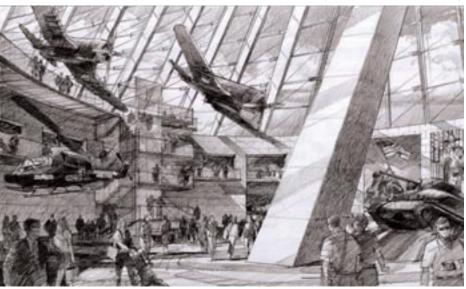
Foundation want to place more stress on the role of Marines—rather than weapons, equipment, and uniforms—in conveying the essence of the Corps to the American public. The Heritage Center will contain thousands of important artifacts from the history of the Corps, but their purpose will be to help tell the story of the Marines who won the battles and built one of the finest fighting forces in the history of the world.

The design phase of the project is **I** now underway in earnest. Although the broad outlines of the site plan and the building are established, Fentress Bradburn will now refine the particulars based on input from the ultimate users and the exhibit designers. Chadbourne will work closely with the History and Museums Division to develop the existing master exhibit plan into a final product that details every display in the museum. A key player in this process is Col Joseph H. Alexander, the historian hired by the contractors to assist them in developing the content that will fill the Heritage Center. Col Alexander is a veteran of Vietnam and a noted historian of the Marine Corps.

The architectural and exhibit designs should be completed near the end of 2002. Ground breaking is scheduled for April 2003 and the Heritage Center is due to open on 10 November 2005. $\square 1775\square$

A mock up of the central rotunda of the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

(Fentress Bradburn Architects)



The Genesis of Marine Corps Official History

by Charles R. Smith Head, History Writing Unit

The following notice appeared the November 1919 issue of *Marine* Recruiter's Bulletin: "Major Edwin N. McClellan has charge of the historical section of the Marine Corps, with headquarters in the Adjutant and Inspector's Department Washington, D.C. This department is active in collecting data concerning the participation of the Corps in the World War.... Marines who are in possession of any facts which they believe would aid in the historical branch are advised to forward such information to Major McClellan."

Maj McClellan, a veteran of the "Horse Marines" in China, had been ordered to France in February 1919 for duty with the Historical Branch, General Staff, U. S. Army. Working under Maj Robert Matteson Johnston, the eminent American military historian from Harvard, he was specifically charged with "collecting historical data regarding activities of Marines during operations in Europe." Returning to the United States six months later he

The
United States Marine Corps
in the
World War

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joined Headquarters Marine Corps, where he assumed charge of the Historical Section, Adjutant and Inspectors Department, established on 8 September by Marine Corps Order Number 53, the original charter of the History and Museums Division.

In addition to creating a writing section and historical archives, the order also directed the preparation of a history of the Corps in World War I, with the expressed purpose of "acquainting both the personnel of the service and the public with the general facts concerning the United States Marine Corps in the World War." Within three months McClellan produced a "preliminary" history, which was approved and published in 1920.

The 108-page history not only included copies of official correspondence and citations relating to major engagements, but also several tables showing the number of officers and men who served, the stations and duty to which they were assigned, casualties, decorations, and recruiting statistics. It was not to be a "final and detailed" history, as Maj McClellan noted: "It is yet too early for any Historical Division to place its stamp of approval on a composition purporting to be a close analysis of an event occurring during the war, a criticism from a professional viewpoint of any particular major or local operation, or one that asserts opinions or draws conclusions of an important nature." The detailed history would have to wait until "all available information" had been gathered together and carefully studied "without prejudice in favor of one's own organization or any particular individual" by the division's writers.

The 50,000-copy first edition of *The United States Marine Corps in the World War* was soon exhausted with its distribution throughout the naval service, and a second edition of



After completing the history of the Corps in World War I, Maj Edwin N. McClellan embarked upon an unparalleled career of writing on the history of the Marine Corps, which resulted in more than 100 published articles and books.

100,000 was authorized. Of continuing use, the history was reissued in a facsimile edition in 1968, 50 years after the battle of Belleau Wood. At the time of its re-publication, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., traveled to the Philadelphia Navy Yard and, in a formal ceremony on 10 December, presented an autographed copy to 87-year-old McClellan. In speaking of the history, Gen Chapman said it "is still the essential starting point for any meaningful research into our past."

□*1775*□

Archives/Combat Art

A.T. Manookian, Illustrator of Marine Corps History

by Frederick J. Graboske Head, Archives Section

▼ hile the Marine Corps is known for its prowess as a fighting force, relatively few artists have been associated with "The First To Fight." The History and Museums Division is fortunate to have two such individuals currently on our civilian staff: Jack Dyer, our curator of art; and James Fairfax, our exhibits designer. Both are former Marines. Col Donna Neary, USMCR, is another such artist-she is part of our Mobilization Training Unit.

This tradition of using art to explicate the history of the Marine Corps began with the very first historian of the Marine Corps, Maj Edwin North McClellan. In a memorandum of 30 October 1924 he requested "that Private First Class Arman Manookian, USMC, 20th Company, 5th Regiment, Marine Barracks, Quantico, Virginia, be transferred to



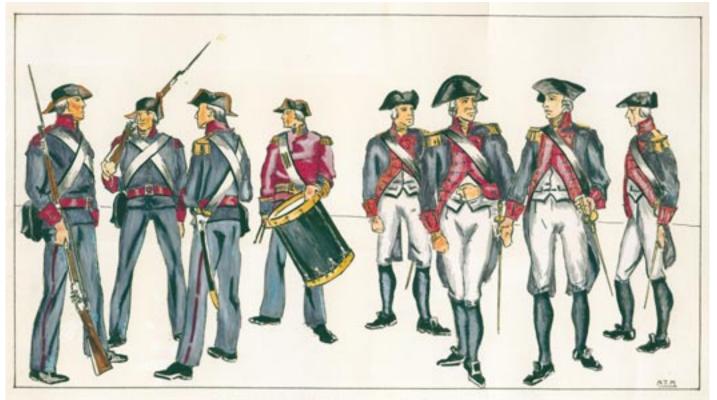
Pvt Arman T. Manookian

Adjutant Inspector's and Department, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, for duty with the Historical Section. The services of this man are urgently needed for the purpose of planning, making and retouching illustrations of the History of the Marine Corps. I have examined his work in this line and find it satisfactory and I am badly in need of the services of a man of his caliber to assist in illustrating the forthcoming history." On 3 November Commandant approved Manookian's detail as "clerk, specialist 3d class."

rman Theodore Manookian, as he signed his enlistment papers, joined the Marine Corps on 8 October 1923. His real name, according to Adrine, his sister, was Arshag Tateos Manookian, and he was born in

Arman Manookian's illustrations of Marine Corps uniforms are considered historically inaccurate by presentday military uniform historians; however, the artist did the

best he could with limited research sources available at the time.



AMERICAN MARINES OF JULY 11.1798

Constantinople on 15 May 1904. This was a time of ferment in the Ottoman Empire. Armenians in Turkey were subject to the equivalent of pogroms by the Turks, which later took the form of the disaster of 1915-1916, in which hundreds of thousands of Armenians died. Presumably the family fled Turkey soon after his birth. In a letter, his sister notes that, during World War I. he was a student at the Armenian Catholic School of St. Gregory the Illuminator in Venice, Italy. After immigrating to the United States he received training at the Art Students League in New York and at the prestigious Rhode Island Institute School of Design in Providence.

At the time of his enlistment, he was a commercial artist resident in New York and an American citizen. He named Edward Burns of Providence, a friend, as the person to

be notified in case of an emergency. Apparently, at that time the remainder of his family (consisting at least of his mother, sister, and brother Vahe) were living in France, where they still resided in the 1970s. He went through basic training at Parris Island. From January to March 1924 he apparently served in the Canal Zone.

There is no record to indicate how Manookian came to the attention of McClellan. After his assignment to the Historical Section, the artist researched Marine Corps uniforms through history and produced sketches of them. He also drew famous actions and the accomplishments of individual Marines. On 30 April 1925, he requested a transfer to the Marine Barracks at Pearl Harbor so that he could continue to work with McClellan, who apparently had been posted there. McClellan's endorsement of the request reads: "Manookian is an artist who is at present illustrating the Marine Corps history. Under my supervision at Pearl Harbor he will be able to continue this work. However, he understands that he will go for straight duty and not specially for this illustrating work." A memo to the Assistant to the Commandant stated that the transfer should be approved. "Otherwise, it is believed that there would be considerable difficulty in replacing this man." He reported for duty at Pearl Harbor on 9 June 1925.

L is service there was not unevent-**■** Iful. Manookian was charged with quitting his post before being properly relieved at 7:30 PM on 28 April 1926. On 7 May he was tried by summary courts martial and convicted. He was sentenced to loss of \$10 per month of pay for a period of two months. Notwithstanding this blot on his record, he was promoted to corporal on 12 October 1926. On January 8 McClellan recommended him for promotion to sergeant. He noted that Manookian had been "promoted to Corporal, with a technical warrant, for duty as Illustrator of Marine Corps History" subsequent to his offense. "By virtue of his superior ability as an Illustrator, and of his extensive experience in illustrating Marine Corps events and other facts, and the satisfactory manner in which he has performed his duty, it would appear that Manookian is entitled to this promotion." McClellan continued: "If this recommendation is approved it will not only serve as an appreciation of an unusual type of duty well performed but may prove an inducement for Manookian to either reenlist or to continue his interest in the work of illustrating Marine Corps historical incidents after he leaves the Corps. The results of Manookian's pen, brush and pencil, so far, could not be bought for a considerable sum of money. It is accurate (so unusual for illustrations) and pleasing. It is invaluable. Both as an artist and a man Manookian is a credit to the Corps." For reasons having nothing to do with his personal or professional qualifications Manookian was not promoted. He was deemed "a capable illustrator, and a deserving Non-Commissioned Officer" but "not

Capt Daniel Carmick's Marines from USS Constitution landing at Santo Domingo, 18 May 1800.

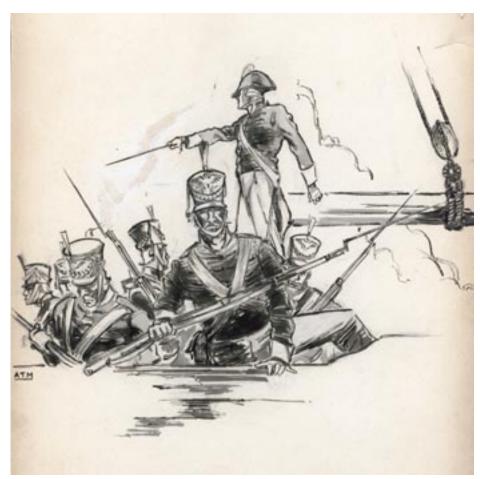


qualified for line duty. Any promotion should be technical."

n 11 June 1927, Manookian requested that he be discharged in Honolulu rather than returning to the mainland, for which courtesy he was willing to waive his travel allowance. He gave as the reason for the request "that I intend to make Honolulu my residence after being discharged, and have been offered a lucrative position with the *Honolulu* Star-Bulletin as an illustrator. It would be more convenient for me to be discharged at this post than for me to return here after being discharged on the mainland." He was discharged there on 5 September.

Contemporary newspaper articles provide some information on his artistic activities over the next few years. He was particularly attracted by the exotic locale in which he was living; in this, of course, he resembles Paul Gaugin. The articles consistently note his interest in Hawaiian themes. One review of his work states that Manookian said of his work that he used natural forms "with the purpose of imparting a subjective significance, their representative quality being subordinated to an abstract organization of esthetic forms." Another article quotes him as saying that "certain arrangements of abstract forms and colors quite independent of objective nature, are capable of producing a sensation much more pleasing, satisfying, lasting and profound than any representative painting will ever achieve." The reproductions that we have of his art of the period are representational, not abstract.

e committed suicide in 1931. HUpon being informed Manookian's death. McClellan commented: "He was an unusual and a unique man. While I thought him to be rather temperamental and sensitive I never realized until now that there must have been times when he suffered acutely under my rigid discipline. When I say that, I mean that I always insisted upon him making his art, as far as history was concerned, more than mere art, so that it would express not only the truth of art, but



Lt William Bush on the USS Constitution, an instant before he is killed in action with Guerriere, 1812.

the truth of fact. As far as Marine Corps History is concerned, his name and fame are intertwined in it."

In commenting on Manookian's Ldeath, Clifford Gessler of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin stated: "He was probably Hawaii's most scientific painter. He believed that certain colors, certain forms, certain combinations of color and form, induced specific emotional reactions, and that if the artist were able to discover and chart accurately these relations between psychology and paint, he could produce emotional effects in his audience at will. His aim was, by constant experiment, to work out these values in color and form—an effort which, if he could have pursued it untrammeled by material considerations, might have resulted in an important contribution to science as well as to art." About the artist himself Gessler wrote: "A lonely and somber soul, sensitive and defiant, he resembled the artist 'type' often portrayed in fiction. Fretting under the confinement of commercial employment, he had the courage to leave that employment and strike out for himself on the hard road of an independent artist. To some extent, undoubtedly, new difficulties arose, for his nature was not amenable to compromise with his artistic convictions. Just what part these difficulties may have had in influencing him to give up the struggle, or how much may have been traceable to his moody temperament, may never be known. It is clear that he made a gallant fight. In the death of Arman Manookian, Hawaii loses one of its most striking artists, one who put art first-perhaps even before life itself."

The information above is taken from the Manookian collection in our Special Collections. We have numerous illustrations of Marine Corps subjects by Manookian, the most interesting of which are his conjectural drawings of Marine parachutists.

□*1775*□

The Cultural Losses

by LtCol Robert J. Sullivan, USMC Head Museums Branch

The images of the destruction caused by the aircraft crashing into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on 11 September are seared into everyone's mind. Thousands of people lost their lives, and the lives of thousands more will be changed forever. Fortunately for the Marine Corps, neither active duty Marines nor civil servants employed by the Marine Corps were killed in the Pentagon attack. However, from a cultural aspect, the Marine Corps suffered heavy losses.

One little-known aspect of the clean up phase at the Pentagon was the recovery efforts by the historians and museum specialists from all branches of the Armed Services to find and to retrieve the historical objects and original art on exhibit in the damaged spaces. These professionals had a common purpose and their team efforts without a doubt saved many cultural objects from loss. Beyond the immediate destruction from the initial explosion, subsequent fires, and collapsing structures, many pieces of art suffered damage from the fire suppression efforts and subsequent exposure to the environment.

Two members of the Museums Branch, Mrs. Jennifer Castro and Mr. Neil Abelsma, participated in the recov-



The recovery team, consisting of museum specialists from all the Services, removed damaged historical objects by stretcher. Mr. Abelsma is on the left.

ery efforts at the Pentagon. One examples of the nine pieces of damaged original art currently at an art conservator's studio is Chenoweth's "MOPP-4 (See bottom right photo)". Seven other works including "Penobscott" by Waterhouse and "Machine Gunner" by Dermott are among the pieces damaged beyond repair.

The recovery work at the Pentagon

provided valuable "lessons learned" and hands-on experience. A number of recommendations and insights have been included in the ongoing effort to finish a branch Disaster Recovery/Emergency Preparedness Plan.

"MOPP-4" by Col Avery Chenoweth





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The "Golden Age" of Marine Aviation

by Fred H. Allison Oral Historian

I I e were there and they used us, and they used us to their advantage, and consequently we became an useful and integral part of the Marine Corps." This statement made by pioneer Marine aviator MajGen Ford O. "Tex" Rogers in 1966 reflects how important the decades of the 1920s and 1930s were to Marine aviation. Although Marines had flown since 1912, and had even participated in World War I, they had not flown in direct support of Marine ground forces, the very mission on which hung their viability. Marine ground officers were not entirely convinced that the Marine Corps needed an air arm, especially when severe military cutbacks were taking place. During these decades however, Marine aviators recalled that Marine aviation was able to support ground Marines and in turn win the support of ground officers. Gen Ford recalled them as "The Golden Age of Marine aviation," and that "Santo Domingo and Haiti saved it, and then Nicaragua, and that was the peak. Then Marine aviation was on its feet for good."

What Gen Ford was referring to was the participation of Marine aviation units alongside Marine ground units in the "Banana Wars" that occurred in the Caribbean and Central America. He detailed the role Marine air played in supporting operations: "We picked up sick people, enlisted men, officers, and moved them back and forth. We'd run the mail." Without radios, the aviators developed alternative methods to communicate with the ground Marines. Ford recalled they had a message pick-up and drop system in which a contraption composed of "two poles and a rod," allowed pilots to "come down with a hook and pick up" the message.

Another 'Founding Father' of Marine aviation, Gen Christian F. Schilt, recalled another function of Marine aviation, supply: "there were no railroads there at that time, and the only way to get the stuff up in the hills was by ox cart, which was very slow transportation. And we hauled lots and lots of food and ammunition and personnel, and hauled out the sick from places up in the hills to a Managua hospital." Schilt earned the Medal of Honor for his daring recovery of wounded Marines from the besieged outpost at Qualili Nicaragua in 1928. The flights had a dramatic impact, he recalled: "You don't often see a Marine detachment down at the mouth, but they were down at the mouth. They didn't see any way of getting the injured out of there. They would go themselves, they could fight their way out, but they couldn't take the injured with them. After a few days and 10 trips (medevacs) they were ready to go again."

Schilt also described the all-important role of aircraft as a supporting arm. "We supported ground forces when they got mixed up in an attack down there. Sometimes they'd call in, we'd know overnight where they were going to make an attack and what they were going to do, and we supported them if attacked."

MajGen Ross E. Rowell described an air strike on Nicaraguan rebels attacking the Marine outpost at Ocotal in 1927. He believed this was the "first organized dive-bombing/low altitude attack to support ground troops." Rowell commented: "I led off the attack and dived out of column from 1500 feet, pulling out at about 600. Since the enemy had not been subjected to any form of bombing attack . . . they had no fear of us. They exposed themselves in such a manner that we were able to inflict damages way out of proportion to what they might have suffered had they taken cover." Rowell's account of a later attack also describes the ordnance of the day:

In this attack we made the

approach from down wind over a layer of overcast clouds and delivered the assault from almost vertical dives. This attack was also successful in inflicting losses and resulted in a wide dispersal of the main body of the enemy. That was the first time we used 50-pound demolition bombs. Previously we had used 17pound fragmentation bombs and had experimented with 25pound cast-iron bombs which proved useless because they disintegrated into dust, instead of fragmenting into large enough pieces to inflict damage.

The 1920s and 1930s were pivotal decades in convincing many ground Marines that aviation could provide useful, and indeed, a critical function for ground operations. When it came time to write the "bible" for amphibious warfare in 1933, *The Tentative Manual for Landing Operations*, aviation played an important role, a role that had been proven during the Banana Wars of the 1920s and 1930s.

□*1775*□

An unidentified Marine aviator poses in front of a O2B-1 of the Second Aviation Group in San Diego, ca.1925. If any of our readers can identify this aviator, please fill us in.



Protecting the Mail in 1921 and 1926

by Dieter Stenger Curator of Ordnance

The Marine Corps had won fame in WWI in part for its outstanding marksmanship. By 1921, domestic crime in the United States was a rising concern. Unprecedented numbers of bank and mail robberies forced the Postmaster to call on President Harding to take urgent measures. The reputation of the Marines made them a handy solution.

On 7 November 1921, Harding directed the Secretary of the Navy " to detail as guards for the United States mails a sufficient number of officers and men of the United States Marine Corps to protect the mails from depredations by robbers and bandits." Approximately 53 officers and 2,200 men would make up the first group of Marines that were distributed throughout the United States and on board mail trains to form a nation-wide mail protection system. Operating in small groups of no more than three men, the Marines developed a noteworthy record of safeguarding the mail. Almost overnight, mail-robberies virtually ceased and the Marines were no longer needed. In 1926, however, another 2,500 Marines were called back to duty for guarding the mail. When the Marines were needed as an expeditionary force in Nicaragua the following year, the Post Office Department took the appropriate measures to protect the mail themselves.

The value of a Marine Corps Museums artifact is greatest when some form of provenance is associated with the property. The Museum's collection has an abundance of representational artifacts that Marines used in the 1920s to guard the United States mail. However, no one weapon could specifically be tied to this less glorious mission in Marine Corps history. Currently, the Air-Ground Museum at Quantico depicts a Marine guarding the mail and carrying a Winchester M1897 "trench" shotgun.

On 20 December 2000, retired GySgt Frank D. Carriker, of Oklahoma City, donated two Colt revolvers to the Marine Corps Museum by way of the Reserve Inspector & Instructor (I&I) Staff, 2d Battalion, 14th Marines, in Oklahoma City: a rare M1909 USMC revolver, and a M1917 Army revolver with "USMC Property" stamped on the side of the frame. The Army revolver has exceptional provenance that now gives the Museum a "real" tie to the Marines' mail-guard



Photo Marine Corps Museum A Marine, armed with a 12-gauge Winchester M1897 "trench" shotgun, guarding the mail on a train. This exhibit can be seen at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum, Quantico,

mission. Approximately 150,000 Colt M1917 revolvers were produced from 1917 to 1918 to augment the production shortage of M1911 automatic pistols during World War I. After the war, the M1917 revolvers were returned to the war reserve stockpiles. According to the Serial Numbers of U.S. Martial Arms, Volume 4, 1995 Edition, complied by the Springfield Research Service, the majority of the M1917s subsequently were sent to the Postal Service in the 1920s and 1930s. More than likely, a Marine serving as a mail guard received the revolver from the U.S. Postal Service to carry out his duties. Afterwards, the revolver was then marked "USMC Property" after the mission was completed.

The M1917 Army revolver is earmarked for display in the planned Heritage Center exhibit that focuses on Marines in domestic law enforcement. Above all, it is very rare and a valuable addition to the Marine Corps small arms collection. $\Box 1775\Box$

The newly acquired caliber .45 Colt M1917 Army double-action revolver used by Marines to guard the U.S. mail during the 1920s. Close-up shows "USMC Property" stamp.

Photo: Marine Corps Museum



1999 Annual Chronology (Part II)

by Ann F. Ferrante Reference Section

(Continued from last issue)

The "Current Chronology of the Marine Corps" highlights significant events and dates in Marine Corps history. Since 1982, the Reference Section has compiled the yearly chronology by researching numerous primary and secondary sources each week. It is a valuable resource of information for researchers and staff alike. Selected entries from the 1999 Chronology are below:

10 Jun - The first wave of 2.200 Marines and sailors of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) came ashore in the northern Greek town of Litohoro bound for Macedonia as Kosovo peacekeepers. On this date, the NATO air war that began on 24 March against the Serb-led Yugoslavian government was suspended as a result of peace agreements signed by both NATO and the Yugoslavian government. NATO would send forces into Kosovo for peacekeeping duties as part of Operation Joint Guardian as the Serbian military moved out of the wartorn province.

15 Jun - An order to ground all AV-8B Harrier aircraft was issued by RAdm Craig Steidle, Vice Commander of Naval Air Systems Command, after the loss of Harriers on 4 and 14 June from Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Arizona, and Kadena Airbase, Japan. Both mishap aircraft were powered by the Rolls Royce 408A engine, which was the Harrier II Plus main engine and the same engine installed as part of the ongoing Harrier II Plus Remanufacture Program.

20 Jun - NATO officially ended its air war against Yugoslavia after Serbian forces completed their withdrawal from Kosovo. U.S. and NATO aircraft flew more than 34,000 sorties during the 79 days of Operation Allied Force.

23 Jun - Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, hosted the Marine Corps Amphibious Triad roll-out ceremony at the air facility. The ceremony presented the three elements of the amphibious triad—the advanced amphibious assault vehicle (AAAV), MV-22 Osprey, and the landing craft air cushioned (LCAC)—that the Marine Corps planned to use to ensure the success of its operational maneuver from the sea doctrine. The highlight of the ceremony was the official unveiling of the AAAV.

30 Jun - Gen James L. Jones became the 32d Commandant of the Marine Corps during a ceremony at Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, Washington, D.C. replacing Gen Charles C. Krulak.

2 Jul - The Marine Corps officially closed Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro and MCAS Tustin. Both California air stations were ordered closed by the 1991 and 1993 Base Closure and Realignment Commissions. As a result of the closures, MCAS Miramar, California, would house eight F/A-18 squadrons, one KC-130, four CH-53E squadrons, and four CH-46E squadrons.

11 Aug - The Naval Air Systems Command again ordered a precautionary flight restriction for all Marine AV-8B Harriers after a recent engineering investigation of a 408A engine revealed a mechanical problem. This suspension of flight operations came just as the majority of the Corps' Harrier fleet was returning to full flight status after being grounded in June following two mishaps.

19 Aug - Three U.S. Sixth Fleet ships of the Kearsarge Amphibious Readiness Group (ARG) and 2,100 embarked Marines of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) were ordered from Spanish ports to the vicinity of Istanbul, Turkey, following an earthquake two days earlier. Participation in Operation Avid Response included

Marine Corps F/A-18s from Marine Aircraft Group 41 fly over the Great Pyramids of Giza, Egypt, during Bright Star 1999/2000.

(photo by Staff Sgt Jim Varhegyi, U.S. Air Force)

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the rescue of survivors, provision of medical care, and distribution of relief supplies. The ARG departed Turkey on 10 September after nearly three weeks of humanitarian assistance.

8 Sep - The world's first production tiltrotor aircraft landed at the Pentagon's River Entrance before a crowd of officials and guests. The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen James L. Jones, and several Members of Congress arrived on board the V-22 Osprey as its 38-foot-diameter rotor blades transitioned from horizontal flight mode to helicopter mode in less than 20 seconds.

15-16 Sep - Hurricane Floyd, a category three hurricane that passed through the Carolinas, sent thousands of military personnel as well as aircraft to higher ground. Some 7,000 recruits from Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, deployed on 14 September to Marine Corps Logistics Base. Albany. Georgia. to avoid the potential wrath of the hurricane. In the aftermath of the storm. Marine units provided humanitarian assistance to local communities in what was called one of the worst agricultural disasters in the history of that region. Hurricane Floyd caused more than \$9 million in damages to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, alone.

20 Sep - 12 Nov - More than 6,500 U.S. service members participated in Exercise Crocodile 99 held in Australia. The U.S./Australian combined joint, air, land, maritime, amphibious, and special operations exercise involved approximately 4,000 Marines from III Marine Expeditionary Force, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, 3d Force Service Support Group, 3d Marine Division, and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

30 Sep - Marines of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, based in Okinawa, Japan, deployed to the Timor Sea in order to provide heavy-lift support to the Australian-led International Forces in East Timor (InterFET). Violence erupted across the province of East Timor in early September when its population voted overwhelmingly for independence from Indonesia, and

militias opposed to the vote went on a rampage forcing over 250,000 inhabitants to flee the province. The Australian-named operation was called Operation Stabilise.

30 Sep - When the fiscal year ended, the Marine Corps was the only service that made its recruitment goals in bringing in 39,500 new Marines without lowering standards.

1 Oct - Marine Corps Forces South activated at Miami, Florida. It would be a fully staffed and operational component headquarters to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Southern Command.

15 Oct - 2 Nov - More than 2,000 Marines of the 22d Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) and Marine Aircraft Group 41 participated in Exercise Bright Star 99/00 held in Egypt. It was the largest U.S. Central Command exercise outside of the Persian Gulf and included more than 70,000 troops from 11 coalition nations. The main focus of the exercise was to improve readiness and interoperability, and to build professional relationships through realistic training.

23 Oct - A new Molly Marine monument was dedicated at Memorial Park, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina. The statue was the first of two bronze casts made from the original Molly Marine statue that stands at the corner of Elks Place and Canal Street in New Orleans. The statue, standing 20 feet tall from the ground to the top of her cover, was the first monument in the United States of a woman in military uniform and was dedicated in New Orleans in 1943.

22 Nov - The titles "Chiefs of Staff" were changed to "Deputy Commandants" for Marine generals in charge of various divisions at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

22 Nov - The last Marine infantry unit departed from Panama, closing another chapter in the 96-year history of U.S. military presence in the Central American country. The departure of Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, followed a gradual drawdown of U.S. forces that began more than four years ago.

23 Nov - The 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade stood up at Camp Pendleton, California. The unit was originally activated in 1901 and was active during various time periods, most recently deactivating in 1994. Its new commander was BGen James R. Battaglini.

3 Dec - Secretary of the Navy, Richard Danzig, announced the cessation of live fire training on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico. The decision would force training changes for naval battle groups including Marine expeditionary units. The announcement followed several months of discussions between the Clinton Administration and the Department of Defense.

7 Dec - The 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) departed East Timor for Southern California after completing its humanitarian mission in support of the Australian-led International Forces in East Timor. The 11th MEU took over the mission on 26 October from the 31st MEU.

9 Dec - A CH-46 "Sea Knight" helicopter from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 166 crashed 14 miles off the coast of Point Loma, California. It was attached to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit and was participating in a routine training mission. The Marines on board the aircraft were part of a force recon unit. Eleven Marines were rescued, but six Marines and one sailor were missing at the time of the accident and declared dead the following day.

17 Dec - The remains of nearly 20 Marines killed in action on Butaritari Island during World War II were repatriated at a ceremony at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. The Marines were from the 2d Raider Battalion that participated in the Makin Atoll Raid during August 1942. The remains were believed to include those of Sgt Clyde Thomason, the first enlisted Marine awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II. $\square 1775\square$

De Havilland DH-4

by Michael E. Starn Curator of Aeronautics

In the fall 1993 issue of *Fortitudine*, Lthe History and Museums Division reported the status of its de Havilland DH-4 (then in storage) and explained how it had become one of the aircraft held in the Marine Corps collection. (The DH-4, a two-seat bomber, was used by Marine aviation during World War I.) Well we are back with great news. In August 2000, the DH-4 was placed on loan and transported to the Crissy Field Aviation Museum Association in San Francisco. California. While the plane is there, the staff will completely restore all of the existing components and will build the balance of the aircraft. Crissy Field then will display the completed aircraft before returning it to Quantico for inclusion in the New Marine Corps Heritage Center as a DH-4B.

In October 1998, several individuals in the San Francisco Bay Area gathered together to discuss the possibility of reusing the old aviation hangars at Crissy Field and turning them into a museum. The new facility would tell the story of military aviation in the San Francisco area and, more specifically, of the Army Air Corps' role in early aviation. In February 1999, Mr. Don Gray, Executive Director of the Crissy Field Aviation Museum Association, contacted the Museums Branch to inquire about the availability for loan of the DH-4 in our historic aircraft col-



Photograph of Crissy Field in the early 1920s with Army Air Corps de Havillands waiting for action.

lection. Mr. Gray soon learned that the DH-4 was part original and part replica, and that other than the fuselage the aircraft had never been completely finished. He also discovered that the DH-4 was being written into the new Marine Corps Heritage Center to be built at Quantico, Virginia, and that any display time at his facility after its restoration would be limited. Mr. Gray understood and explained that what he hoped to accomplish was to borrow the aircraft, bring it to San Francisco, perform a complete restoration, and finish building the wings, while at the same time using the aircraft as a fullsize pattern to build a replica DH-4A for permanent display at Crissy Field.

The Museums Branch staff members had just been discussing the problems and costs of restoration of the major artifacts for the Heritage Center and viewed this as an opportunity that the Marine Corps could not afford to let pass. The decision was

made to lend the DH-4 to the Crissy Field Museum under the conditions that they fully restore and complete the plane and convert it to the DH-4B model, and return it to Quantico for display in the Heritage Center by 2005. In August 2000, Mr. Gray agreed to all of the conditions for the loan and the DH-4 was loaded on to a United Van Lines truck for the trip to San Francisco, California.

Cince the aircraft's arrival, Mr. Paul Hernandez has been working on the daunting task of inventorying and cataloging all of the individual components from flying wires to fuselage. Mr. Jim McKenzie has provided time, money, and tooling for the fabrication of the wooden wings. Mr. Barry Feldscher and Mr. Jay Miller have been busy sanding, refinishing, and building the new wings. Even the scouts of Troop 14 have become involved with the restoration of this early aircraft. Mr. Stephen Haller, of the National Park Service, has been instrumental with his support of the project by providing buildings for storage and restoration.

The end result of this public-private venture will be a top-notch artifact for the new Heritage Center at no cost to the Marine Corps. (Even the transportation to California was provided by a benefactor of the Crissy Field Museum.) The Museums Branch will continue to seek out similar effective and creative solutions to bring the new Heritage Center to reality.

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The DH-4 fuselage awaiting paint and fabric covering.



Reservists Conduct Staff Ride

by Maj Frank L. Kalesnik, USMCR Field Historian

In February 2001 the Reservists who Imake up the Division's Field History Branch traveled to Antietam, Maryland, for a weekend study of the Civil War battle. This was not simply a conventional staff ride, with routinized stops and briefings. Instead, it was a sophisticated training exercise to hone their skills as field historians. Relying heavily on official documents and contemporary accounts, unit members researched the actions of specific commanders prior to the trip, then walked the ground on Saturday. Their purpose was to get a feel for the situation that the commanders faced—and to answer the basic tasker, which was to explain not only what happened, but how the field historian would have collected information at the time of the battle. Where would he have placed himself? What documents would he have collected? Whom would he have interviewed? What artwork or photography would he have commissioned? What impressions would he have recorded?

Saturday's activities also included

an orientation by Park Service historian Paul Chiles, who provided an overview of the battle from the Visitor's Center and an introduction to the Center's attractions. Readers should note that "Antietam: A Documentary Film," narrated by James Earl Jones and featuring carefully staged reenactments as well as interviews with noted Civil War scholars. was of particular interest, as it explained the nuances of several of the events the field historians were to evaluate. Students of Antietam are strongly encouraged to watch this movie, shown daily at noon in the Visitor's Center, prior to touring the battlefield.

On Sunday, unit members briefed each other as if they had been contemporary historians who had been at Antietam during the battle. They began in the morning with Capt Chris Warnke's description of Joe Hooker's attack, Maj Ted McKeldin's analysis of Stonewall Jackson's defense, and Maj Nate Lowrey's evaluation of the rout of Sedgwick's division by McClaws. A

thorough discussion of the bloody fighting for the Sunken Road, led by LtCol Reed Bonadonna, followed. Standing on that ground, listening to the voices of the participants, was a moving experience. The unit then drove to Burnside's Bridge, where Col Nick Reynolds and LtCol Chris Gallagher led the study of what remains the most famous and controversial aspect of the battle. The highlight of the day was LtCol David Watter's rousing appraisal of A.P. Hill's dramatic last-minute arrival and decisive counterattack against the almost victorious Union forces which saved Lee's Army of Northern Virginia from destruction.

The briefings filled the day, giving the Marines an opportunity to display their interest in and enthusiasm for their mission as field historians. Their study of Antietam battlefield not only gave them a perspective on the past, but experience that will enhance their operational capabilities for the future. $\Box 1775\Box$

Historians from the Field Operations Branch of the Marine Corps Historical Division pause beside Burnside's Bridge during their pedestrian survey of the Antietam Battlefield in Sharpsburg, Maryland, on 25 Marck, 2001. Standing in the front row, left to right, are LtCol Reed Bonadonna, Maj Frank Kalesnik, Col Nick Reynolds, LtCol Ed Daniel, and Capt Brian McMorris. Standing in the back row, left to right, are Maj Nate Lowery, Maj Ted McKeldin, LtCol Chris Gallagher, Capt Chris Warnke, LtCol David Watters, and SSgt Mike Fay (Combat Artist). SSgt Dennis Shannon was unavailable.



LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr., Passes

by Robert V. Aquilina Assistant Head, Reference Section

LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr.

LtGen Herman Nickerson. Jr.. USMC (Ret), died suddenly on 26 December 2000 in Maine, at the age of 86. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Nickerson graduated from Boston University, where he was a member of the ROTC unit for four years. He resigned an Army Reserve commission to accept appointment as a Marine second lieutenant in July 1935. During World War II, he served with the 2d Defense Battalion on American Samoa, and after completing the Command and Staff School at Quantico, served with the 4th Marine Division. He also participated in occupation duty with the III Marine Amphibious Corps in Tientsin, China, following the war. Other post-war assignments included a three-year assignment at MCRD Parris Island, and later, temporary duty as a U.S. Military Observer with the United Nations Mission in Palestine and seven Arab

At the outbreak of the Korean War, he was serving as an advisor on Marine Corps matters at General Headquarters, Far East Command. As a colonel and liaison officer with the

LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr.



1st Marines in Korea, he was awarded a Silver Star Medal for conspicuous gallantry during the advance along the Inchon-Seoul highway and the Han River crossing. He later became commanding officer of the 7th Marines in Korea, and earned both the Legion of Merit with Combat 'V," and the Army Distinguished Service Cross, an unusual award for a Marine.

General Nickerson served in a variety of posts throughout the remainder of the 1950s and early 1960s, including a tour of duty as Fiscal Director of the Marine Corps, command of the 1st Marine Division, and later command of the Marine Corps Supply Center, Barstow, California. He was promoted to brigadier general in 1959 and to major general in 1962. During 1965-66, he was Commanding General, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

During the Vietnam War, Gen Nickerson once again commanded the 1st Marine Division, where he earned the Distinguished Service Medal. For service as Deputy Commander, III Marine Amphibious Force, he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Legion of Merit with combat "V." In 1968. he was appointed Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force. He was promoted to lieutenant general in 1968, and retired in 1970. After many years residence in Jacksonville, North Carolina, he and his wife Phyliss moved to Maine, a state whose craggy nature suited his personality

MajGen Robert E. Friedrich

MajGen Robert E. Friedrich, USMCR (Ret), died 8 December 2000 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the age of 78. A native of Philadelphia, he was an enlisted Marine at the start of World War II. Commissioned a Reserve second lieutenant in 1944, he saw service with the 4th Marine Division.

Recalled to active duty during the

Korean War, he was stationed first at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and later as a combat cargo officer aboard the USS *Oglethorpe* (AKA-100) until August 1951. Following this tour, he served in every assignment from platoon commander through battalion commander during the period October 1951 through September 1964.

Promoted to brigadier general in 1972, Gen Friedrich was assigned as Assistant Division Commander, 4th Marine Division. He was promoted to major general in 1975, and served during 1977-1980 as the Senior Marine Corps Representative to the Reserve Forces Policy Board. Gen Friedrich retired from the Marine Corps in May 1980. An attorney in civilian life, Gen Friedrich was the recipient of an A.B. degree in Political Science from Bucknell University, and an L.L.B. degree from Temple University. He joined the real estate division of F.W. Woolworth in 1951, and later became the Director of Real Estate for the company, with offices in New York City and Philadelphia.

BGen William A. Kurtis

BGen William A. Kurtis, USMC (Ret), died 14 February 2000 in Independence, Missouri, at the age of 86. A native of Hope, Kansas, Kurtis enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve after graduating in 1936 from Kansas State Teachers College. He attended Naval Flight School, and earned his wings in 1937.

During World War II, he served with VMSB-131, and later joined VMF-211. Later service followed with the Marine Corps Schools at Quantico, Virginia, and with the Provisional Air Support Command in Hawaii. While attached to that organization, he served as Operations Officer of Control Unit Two at Okinawa, for which service he was awarded a Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V."

He had a variety of post-war assignments, and graduated from the Air War College in 1952. He departed for Korea in March 1954, and served there as Commanding Officer of Marine Air Control Group 2, with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1956, and was advanced to the rank of brigadier general. General Kurtis was the father of Chicago television journalist Bill Kurtis.

Brigadier General Henderson Remembered

by Benis M. Frank

BGen Frederick P. Henderson

BGen Frederick P. "Toots" Henderson, USMC (Ret), 90, died at his home in Moorestown, New Jersey, on 15 April 2001, after a long illness. He was buried on 23 April in the Moorestown Trinity Church graveyard.

He was born 24 October 1911 in Lorain, Ohio, but grew up in Gary, Indiana. He graduated from Purdue University in 1934 with a degree in mechanical engineering. Because of the depression, Gen Henderson was forced to work his way through college, with some slight financial assistance from his sister and his brother, Marine aviator Loften R. Henderson (later killed in the Battle of Midway and for whom Henderson Field on Guadalcanal would be named). As a member of the Army ROTC at Purdue, Henderson was commissioned an Army second lieutenant at graduation, but due to the depression and lack of funds, the Army could not bring him on active duty. At that time, the Marine Corps took advantage of the situation and began commissioning the top Army ROTC graduates as Marine second lieutenants.

Gen Henderson was one of these, and he became a member of the famed Basic School Class of 1935, which was unique in a number of ways. With 124 students, it was the largest Basic School class to that date. Not only was this Basic School class to provide the Marine Corps with two Commandants (Chapman Cushman), it also produced from its ranks a total of 14 other general officers. It was when he was in Basic School that classmate Bruno Hochmuth gave BGen Henderson his nickname, "Toots," after the name of one of the characters in a popular comic strip of the time. It was to follow him throughout his life.

Ie was primarily an artillery officer Ithroughout his career. He attended the Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and then joined the 10th Marines. Gen Henderson participated in the pre-World War II fleet landing exercises, where he began formulating theories about naval gunfire support of amphibious operations. During this early period of his Marine Corps career, then-Capt Henderson was the Marine Corps Gazette's first prize essayist for the years 1939 and 1940. From that time on, he wrote many thought-provoking, professional, and challenging articles for the Gazette, the themes of which remain valid today. He subsequently commanded the Marine detachment in USS San Francisco and was present at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese sneak attack on 7 December 1942.

As one of the early exponents of naval gunfire support, Maj Henderson was sent to the 2d Marine Division in January1942 during the final stages of

Then-Col Frederick P. Henderson



the Guadalcanal campaign. The following year he was detached to I Marine Amphibious Corps, which became III Amphibious Corps, and later took part in the Bougainville, Guam, Peleliu, and Okinawa operations as assistant Corps Artillery Officer and later Corps Artillery Operations Officer. By the end of World War II, he was a lieutenant colonel and was detailed to become Director of the Artillery School and the Chief of the Artillery Section, Marine Corps Schools at Quantico.

After the war, many of the Basic School Class of 1935 were assigned to Quantico and the Marine Corps Schools. One afternoon, after work was over and Happy Hour began, some of these classmates were sitting around a table in the basement bar of Waller Hall. One of the crew figured that, given the date of their commissions and how they had progressed promotion-wise, their class would provide a Commandant in the future. It was suggested that each of them at the table should write on a piece of paper who they thought would get four stars. When the votes were talthree names appeared— Chapman, Cushman, and Henderson.

Col Henderson served after World War II as a member of the Marine Corps Schools Academic Board and was also on the Editorial Board of the *Gazette*. In 1948, he was sent to Camp Pendleton to join the 11th Marines as executive officer. Soon he was detached to the United Nations Palestine Truce Mission as operations officer to Dr. Ralph Bunche, chief of mission. He found this assignment to be one of the most interesting of his entire career, for it entailed helping write the terms of the armistice documents to end the Arab-Israeli War.

On his return to Camp Pendleton, he was detached from the 11th Marines to take command of the 2d Battalion, 5th Marines. When the Korean War began, Col Henderson was assigned to Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, where he served as Assistant G-3 and Artillery/Naval Gunfire Officer, and later as G-3. In 1952, he went to Korea to take command of the 11th Marines. After his combat tour

was over, he went to Fort Sill, where he served as an instructor and was also the Marine Corps Liaison Officer.

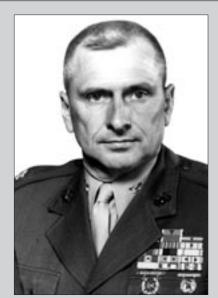
In 1955, Col Henderson became a member of the Advanced Research Group at Quantico and remained there to serve on the Fleet Marine Force Organization and Composition better known as Hogaboom Board. During the period 1957-1959, he served with the G-4 Division at Headquarters Marine Corps; as Deputy Chief of Staff, 2d Marine Division during the 1958 Lebanon Crisis; and finally, on the Joint Staff for the remainder of his active service. He retired in September 1959, and was advanced to the rank of brigadier general for having been decorated in combat.

In retirement, Gen Henderson remained close to Marine Corps affairs and published widely on Marine Corps themes. He was always a strong supporter of the Marine Corps historical program and served as a member of the Commandant of the Marine Corps' Advisory Committee on Marine Corps History. Later, Gen Henderson was interviewed for the Marine Corps

Oral History Program. The resultant transcript of more than 500 pages provides insight on events that occurred during his 25-year career, as well as the leading Marine personalities he served with in that time. This interview is just one more of Gen Henderson's meaningful contributions to the Corps he loved.

n a personal note, as a very junior second lieutenant who had not yet been through Basic School, I arrived at FMFPac in December 1950 to join the 1st Provisional Historical Platoon, which was set up in the G-3 Division office spaces. The G-3 was Col Victor H. Krulak and his assistant was LtCol Henderson. They both were very kind to this lost soul and Col Henderson served as a mentor. We became friends and began an association that was renewed when I joined the Historical Division in 1961. Whenever he was in town, he invariably visited the Historical Center to talk with Gen Simmons and me. I shall miss our conversations, which dealt with the Marine Corps, its battles and personalities, as well as the most recent Philadelphia Orchestra concert or Metropolitan Opera performance he attended. In many ways, Paul Henderson was a renaissance man.

□1775□



Col Verle E. Ludwig
The photograph of
Colonel Ludwig used in the
last issue was incorrect.
Please accept our apology.

Historical Quiz

Marines in the 1920s and 1930s

by Lena M. Kaljot Reference Historian

- 1. In the early 1920s, he produced the study entitled *Advanced Base Operations in Micronesia* that examined the requirements to seize advanced naval bases on Japanese mandates in the Pacific.
- 2. Following the resurrection of the modern Olympic Games in 1896, Marines achieved Olympic prominence in the 1920s through which sport?
- 3. Designated the first Marine aviator, this Marine officer later became the first Director of Marine Corps aviation, serving from November 1919 to December 1920.
- 4. Marines were assigned to guard the mails as a result of a rash of mail robberies during the early 1920s. Who was Commandant of the Marine Corps at this time?
- 5. In October 1922, the first bulldog to serve as Marine Corps mascot, Jiggs I, enlisted and served at Marine Barracks, Quantico, Virginia. What Medal of Honor recip-

- ient was the commanding officer of the Barracks and signed the enlistment papers?
- 6. Marine Corps Order No. 4 of what year designated gold and scarlet as the official colors of the Marine Corps?
- 7. On 23 September 1926, this former World War I Marine and famous boxer defeated Jack Dempsey in a 10-round bout to claim the world heavyweight championship.
- 8. In what year were Marines members of RAdm Richard E. Byrd's first Antarctic expedition?
- 9. In the mid-1930s, he invented the amphibious tractor, nicknamed the "Alligator," that would revolutionize amphibious warfare.
- 10. After more than 20 years of service, this special detachment of Marines in China disbanded in February 1938. (Answers on page 23)

The Smedley D. Butler Collection

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas Curator of Material History

ne of the elements of the future Marine Corps Heritage Center will be a "fast track" exhibit area. Designed to provide a quick but enlightening overview of the history of the Corps, it will consist of a chronological series of exhibits that feature both dramatic scenes highlighting the history of the Corps and individual "icon" artifacts. The latter are objects unique to the Marine Corps or having a special significance to Marines, such as the mameluke sword. In addition, each of these icons will have an association with a notable Marine from the past. The museum's collection has many significant artifacts from which the staff can select, and fortunately the donation of the material belonging to the late MajGen Smedley D. Butler, USMC, has added to that stock.

Gen Butler does not need a lengthy introduction to the readers of Fortitudine. Suffice to say that he is one of the most well known Marines. ever. From his service in the Spanish-American War at the age of 16, through his exploits in the Boxer Rebellion and during numerous small campaigns in the Caribbean, Central America, and China, to his dynamic leadership in the early days of the Quantico Marine Base, Butler was conspicuous both in personal courage and controversy. He is one of the most highly decorated Marines in history, with two Medals of Honor and the rare Brevet Medal for heroism in the Boxer Rebellion. Throughout his career, his forceful personality and forthright opinions often put MajGen Butler in tenuous situations, and this continued after his retirement from the Marine Corps in 1931.

Smedley Butler died in 1940, and his widow donated a small group of artifacts and some personal papers to the Marine Corps Museum in the mid-1950s. Several of these artifacts were displayed in the Quantico museum, and the service coat which the gener-

al had worn when chief of the Gendarmerie d'Haiti later moved to the current Marine Corps Museum in the Washington Navy Yard. His son, Thomas Richard (known to all as "Tom Dick") retained the bulk of the personal correspondence and artifacts and had worked closely over the years with two former curators on the museum staff, Mr. Richard A. Long and Mr. J. Michael Miller, to effect a donation of the papers. He indicated that he would leave the balance of the collection to the museum in his will. When Tom Dick Butler died in September 1998, his niece, Ms. Edith Wehle, contacted the museum to arrange for the donation.

While visiting the family home in early December, I was able to photograph the items to be donated and make a detailed inventory of them. This listing covered six pages, single-spaced!

Several months later Mr. Long and I arrived and started the process of collecting, re-inventorying, packing, and moving the items, which were literally in every corner of the house. We began with the paper materials and soon literally filled a government stretch van with 32 large boxes of papers, scrapbooks, photographs, and correspondence. Upon our return on Sunday morning, we carefully laid out

and rolled the tattered remnants of the silk Marine Corps colors carried by Butler's Panama Battalion in the pre-World War I period.

We continued to pack into the night. The general's sword (carried during the Boxer Rebellion), his mounted medals, uniform items, souvenir edged weapons, silver presentation cups and mementoes, and the field desk he used during the Civil War re-enactments in the early 1920s were all carefully wrapped, packed and staged for loading. Ably assisted by several members of the Marine Corps League detachment, we completed our task by mid-afternoon on Monday.

While MajGen Butler's sword and medals have been selected to be featured in a special exhibit in one of the Heritage Center's galleries, the field hat which he wore when he landed at Vera Cruz in 1914 and also when he stormed a Haitian Caco fort the following year, will be exhibited as an icon artifact in the envisioned museum's fast track. Not only will this hat symbolize the Marine Corps' long association with its familiar Montanapeak campaign hat, but it will also stand as arguably the most historically significant field hat in Marine Corps history, since it was worn in both of the actions that resulted in Medals of Honor for MajGen Butler. □1775□

Gen Smedley D. Butler, on the left, and an unidentified Marine, prepare for the march on the Wilderness manuvers.



Metcalf's Marines

by Charles D. Melson Chief Historian

Although the Marine Corps historical branch and writing program began in 1919, it was the publication of Col Clyde H. Metcalf's *A History of the United States Marines* (New York: Putnam's Sons, 1939) that gave Marines their story in a popular and accessible form. Like the short stories of Col John W. Thomason, it helped define the character and institution of the Corps' prior to the major sea change of World War II.

The author was born in 1886 in Greenville, Illinois and educated at the University of Arkansas with graduate work at the University of Chicago, George Washington University, and Naval War College. He entered the Marine Corps in 1912, serving on ship and shore, including duty in France and Nicaragua. Metcalf was named officer-in-charge of the Historical Section, Adjutant and Inspector's Department as a major in 1935 and assigned to write a history of the Marine Corps. Metcalf wanted to tell the story of the Corps in "one medium sized volume."

Metcalf spent three years with the project "taking the necessary notes, searching out all available sources,

weighing the evidence, deciding what to leave out and what to put in, arranging the material in a more or less logical manner." He felt that the only way future generations could benefit from the Marine experience was if they knew "about our shortcomings and failures as well as our fine qualities and successes." The final result was a 584-page volume with contents, index, 13 maps, and some 54 illustrations. The 18 chapters begin with the Continental Marines and end with the status of the Fleet Marine Force, Marine Corps Reserve, and aviation in 1938. Four chapters address the "Small Wars" in the Caribbean, followed by two on the "Great War" in Europe, with just a mention of the developing conflict in the Far East that would figure large a few years later.

A History of the United States Marine Corps had some problems and critics: both the author and publisher felt the inclusion of documentation in the form of notes or a bibliography would take up too much time and space. This omission has been bemoaned ever since. Despite this, the book has held up well and even Dr. Allan R. Millett notes Metcalf was

Marines in France during the World War. One of a series of nine uniform prints executed by artist then 2dLt Donald L. Dickson, USMCR, in 1936. These show the dress and field uniforms worn by Marines from 1810 to 1928. Dickson later went on to fame as a public affairs officer and as publisher of the Marine Corps Gazette.





Col Clyde H. Metcalf as he appeared in an official portrait.

characterized by "sound analysis, good style, and some original scholarship." Also, Metcalf wanted to illustrate the volume with color pictures by artists Arman T. Manookian, H. Charles McBarron III, John J. Capolino, and Donald L. Dickson but feared this would not occur "unless the project can be subsidized in some manner." The book in fact needed prepublication sales within the Marine Corps to make it viable to the publisher at a whopping \$4.50 a volume with only one tinted plate for a front piece. Major General Commandant Thomas Holcomb kept the original paintings of historical uniforms and hung them in his office suite.

Later Metcalf was promoted to colonel, was the first officer in charge of the Marine Corps Museum, editor of the Marine Corps Gazette, and returned to head the Historical Division, then part of the Personnel Department, from 1942 until 1944. He retired from active duty in 1946 and died in 1962. Metcalf's history served well until a suitable replacement was provided. But that is a story for another issue. □1775□

The Marine Corps during the 1920s and 1930s

by Canute Malcolm Historical Center Library Intern

This is a representative selection of books related to the Marine Corps in the 1920s and 1930s. Most of these books are available through local or online bookstores or through your local library (through interlibrary loan.)

Pete Ellis: An Amphibious Warfare Prophet 1880-1923. By Dirk A Ballendorf and Merrill L. Bartlett. Annapolis, Md: Naval Institute Press, 1997. Pp 200. Written by retired LtCol Merrill L. Bartlett and distinguished Professor of History and Micronesian studies at the University of Guam, Dirk A. Ballendorf, this book tells the personal and professional history of one of the Marine Corps' most enigmatic and gifted thinkers, Earl Hancock "Pete" Ellis. Ellis is best known for Operation Plan 712, titled Advanced Base Operations in Micronesia: this outlined and forecasted much of the Pacific War. He is also known as a foremost scholar and advocate of amphibious warfare. In his life and in his death Pete Ellis has been the subject of both acclaim and

Lejeune

A MARINE'S LIFE

Cunc

1867-1942

Merrill L. Bartlett

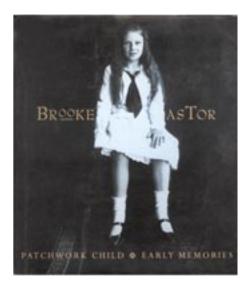
controversy. This biography provides answers, supported by empirical evidence, to some of the question surrounding his life. The cause of Ellis' death, which has remained a mystery for decades, is also examined.

A Marine's Life: Lejeune, 1867 - 1942. By Merrill L. Bartlett. Annapolis, Md: Naval Institute Press, 1996. Pp 214. The life of John Archer Leieune, the 13th Commandant, is chronicled in this biography. From Lejeune's birth, in early post civil war Louisiana, to his death, in Baltimore, Maryland in 1942, this biography captures the essence of the son, the student, the eager young officer, the leader, and the legend that is Lejeune. Lejeune's impact and his legacy on the Marine Corps are examined. He is credited with upgrading the Marine Corps, technically, professionally, and intellectually, and redefining the role which the Marines play in national and international affairs. Lejeune's impact on the evolution of the Marine Corps' roles from traditional duties, characteristic of the age of sail, to a modern professional Corps, which embraced the mission of amphibious assault toward the end of the 1920s, is examined. This biography gives a revealing and insightful account of Lejeune's life.

Reminiscences Of a Marine. By Maj Gen John A. Lejeune. Philadelphia: A. Dorrance and Company Publishers, 1930. Pp 488. This autobiography traces the personal and professional evolution of John Archer Lejeune, the 13th Commandant. Lejuene reminisces about his childhood, his adolescence and his early adult years. He recalls his romances, his heartache, and he tells about the ideologies and events, which shaped his psyche, and inspired his actions. This classic in Marine Corp literature has been republished by the Marine Corp Association in 1979 and 1990.

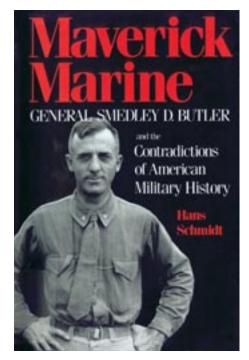
Patchwork Child: Early Memories. By Brooke Astor. New York: Random House, Inc., 1962. Pp 263. This autobiography describes the life of Brooke Astor, the daughter of the 16th Commandant John Henry Russell, Jr., (1934-1936). Brooke tells of her father's affection and how her father's assignments, which took her from the District of Colombia to Hawaii. Panama and other exotic locales, gave her a deep understanding and humanistic view of life. Today Brooke is a renowned philanthropist, the president of the Astor Foundation, and honorary chairman of the executive committee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Marines in China 1927-1928. By Gen David M. Shoup. Edited by Howard Jablon. Hamden, Ct.: Archon Books,1987. Pp155. This is Shoup's journal of the China Expedition, during a time when China was experiencing political instability due to an ever intensifying civil war. This journal shows the conflict between America's isolationistic and imperialistic tendencies and the racist attitude prevalent during that era. Shoup writes of his experiences in a country, a landscape and a civilization that is both unfamiliar and interesting to



him. The impact of the United States Marine Corps involvement in China is also shown through Shoup's entries in this "contemporaneous" journal.

Good-Bye To Old Peking: The Wartime Letters of U.S. Marine Captain John Seymour Letcher, 1937-1939. By Capt John Seymour Letcher. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1998. Pp 244. This book is a collection of letters written by United States Marine Capt John Seymour Letcher during his tour of duty in Peking, China, from 1937-1939. These letters describe a place and time alien to the ordinary American or Westerner. As a record of the daily life of a US Marine captain serving in a foreign country this collection is invaluable. Through his letters, Letcher tells about his military duties, the off-hour pastimes, and the intoxicating social schedules of foreign officials who served in Peking and moved in this circle. These letters are written with China, in a period of great transition, as their backdrop, Letcher writes about the trauma of the



outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war and makes observations on the coming to power of Hitler on the eve of World War II. Readers interested in the US Marines' experience in China during this era may obtain more information in the newsletters *The Peiping Marine* and *The American Legation Guard News.* The author later wrote his memoirs, which were published as *One Marine's Story* by McClure Press of Verona, Virginia in 1970.

Maverick Marine: General Smedley D. Butler and the Contradiction of American Military History. By Hans Schmidt. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1987. Pp 292. This is a biography about the life and times of one of the Marine Corps' most valiant and enigmatic leaders, Gen Smedley D. Butler. Butler's colorful life, filled with contrasting ideologies and great military involvement, is showcased. Maverick Marine provides insight into America's imperialism at the time. This biography traces Butler's life from his childhood, to his heroic military career winning two Medals of Honor, to his climb to the rank of Major General in the Marine Corps, to his compelling life in his post military career. □1775□

Answers to the Historical Quiz

Marines in the 1920s and 1930s

(Questions on page 19)

- 1. LtCol Earl H. "Pete" Ellis was considered a brilliant Marine officer whose superb skills as a planner helped forge the modern Marine Corps and the FMF.
- 2. Marksmanship. The U.S. rifle team that competed in the 1920 Olympic Games won nine gold medals. GySgt Morris Fisher won three gold medals in 1920 and two in 1924 with his rifle. In the 1924 Olympics, GySgt Henry Bailey became the first Marine to win a gold medal in a pistol event.
- 3. LtCol Alfred A. Cummingham
- 4. MajGen John A. Lejeune (1 July 1920 4 March 1929)
- 5. Then-BGen Smedley D. Butler perpetuated the idea of the bulldog being synonymous with "devil dog" following World War I. SgtMaj Jiggs was promoted to his final rank in July 1924 by the Secretary of the Navy.
- 6. 1925. The design for the official Marine Corps battle

- colors, incorporating these colors and essentially the design of today's Marine Corps battle colors, was not approved until 1939.
- 7. James J. "Gene" Tunney received a commission as a first lieutenant in the Volunteer Marine Corps Reserve the very next day.
- 8. In 1928, three Marines accompanied RAdm Byrd: Capt Alton N. Parker and GySgts Kennard F. Bubier and Victor H. Czegka.
- 9. In 1933, Mr. Donald Roebling designed and built an amphibious tractor, intended for rescue work in the Florida Everglades.
- 10. The Mounted (horse) Detachment of Marines at Peking had been reorganized as a permanent unit of the Legation Guard in 1912 to maintain a mounted patrol at night and conduct the weekly census of all Americans living in the city and its suburbs.

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