

FORTITUDINE

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COLOR PRINTS RECALL MARINES IN THE ERA OF THE 'FRIGATE NAVY' . . . NEW BATTLE HONORS FOR THE MARINE CORPS WAR MEMORIAL AND A STATUE TO MEMORIALIZE MILITARY LEADERSHIP . . . CHAPLAINS' ROLE IN VIETNAM RECORDED IN NEW OFFICIAL HISTORY . . . FLIGHT LINES: CONSOLIDATED-VULTEE OY-2 SENTINEL

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HISTORY AND MUSEUMS DIVISION

Marine Corps Historical Center
Building 58, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374-0580
Telephone: (202) 433-3838, 433-3840, 433-3841

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Editor, *Fortitudine*
Mr. Robert E. Struder

FORTITUDINE

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

Volume XV

Winter 1985-1986

No. 3

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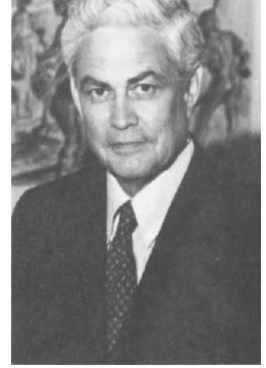


THE COVER

Col Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR, History and Museums Division's artist-in-residence, produced this sketch preliminary to his painting, "Swamp Ambush" (above), one of the *Marines in the Frigate Navy* suite, which has been translated into a set of 14 full-color prints for Marine Corps distribution (see article in this issue). The results of a Seminole Indian raid on a Marine patrol in the cypress bogs near St. Augustine, Florida, in 1812, is the subject of the painting. The print sets aid understanding of the Corps' events, arms, and dress during 1798 to 1835.

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 or 24-point Garamond. The newsletter is printed on 70-pound, matte-coated paper by offset lithography.

Director's Page



BGen Simmons

Marines in Bronze

Some things, even seemingly simple things, move slowly. Back in April 1984 it was suggested to the Commandant that "Lebanon" be added as a battle honor to the Marine Corps War Memorial at Arlington. It was also suggested that if it were desired to dedicate the new battle honor on the Marine Corps Birthday, 10 November 1984, the time to begin action was then. Gen Kelley promptly approved both recommendations, but raised the question, "But what about Grenada?"

The original battle honors form a frieze at the top of the polished black granite

base. They are incised into the stone in classic gold-leafed four-inch Roman letters. Whoever compiled that original list, sometime in the early 1950s, obviously intended the honors to be evocative and representative, not all-inclusive. Originally there were 37 "honors." Some are wars (as in the case of "Korea"), some are campaigns (for example, "Marianas Islands"), and some are individual battles (such as, "Peleliu").

The only addition to these original honors was more than ten years ago and that came as the indirect result of a

presidential request. Late in the day on 25 March 1974 we learned that President Nixon wanted to observe Vietnam Veterans Day, 29 March, at the Marine Corps War Memorial by unveiling something tangible. That gave us 72 hours to get the job done. When it comes to chiseling things in stone not even the President of the United States can move bureaucratic Washington that fast. This answer, however, was not well received by the anonymous action officer in the White House who told us that there would be a battle honor ready for the President even

The new "second frieze" on the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington begins with "Lebanon 1958" and continues through

"Grenada 1983." The dates for Marine Corps involvement and assistance in the Vietnam War are established as 1962-1975.

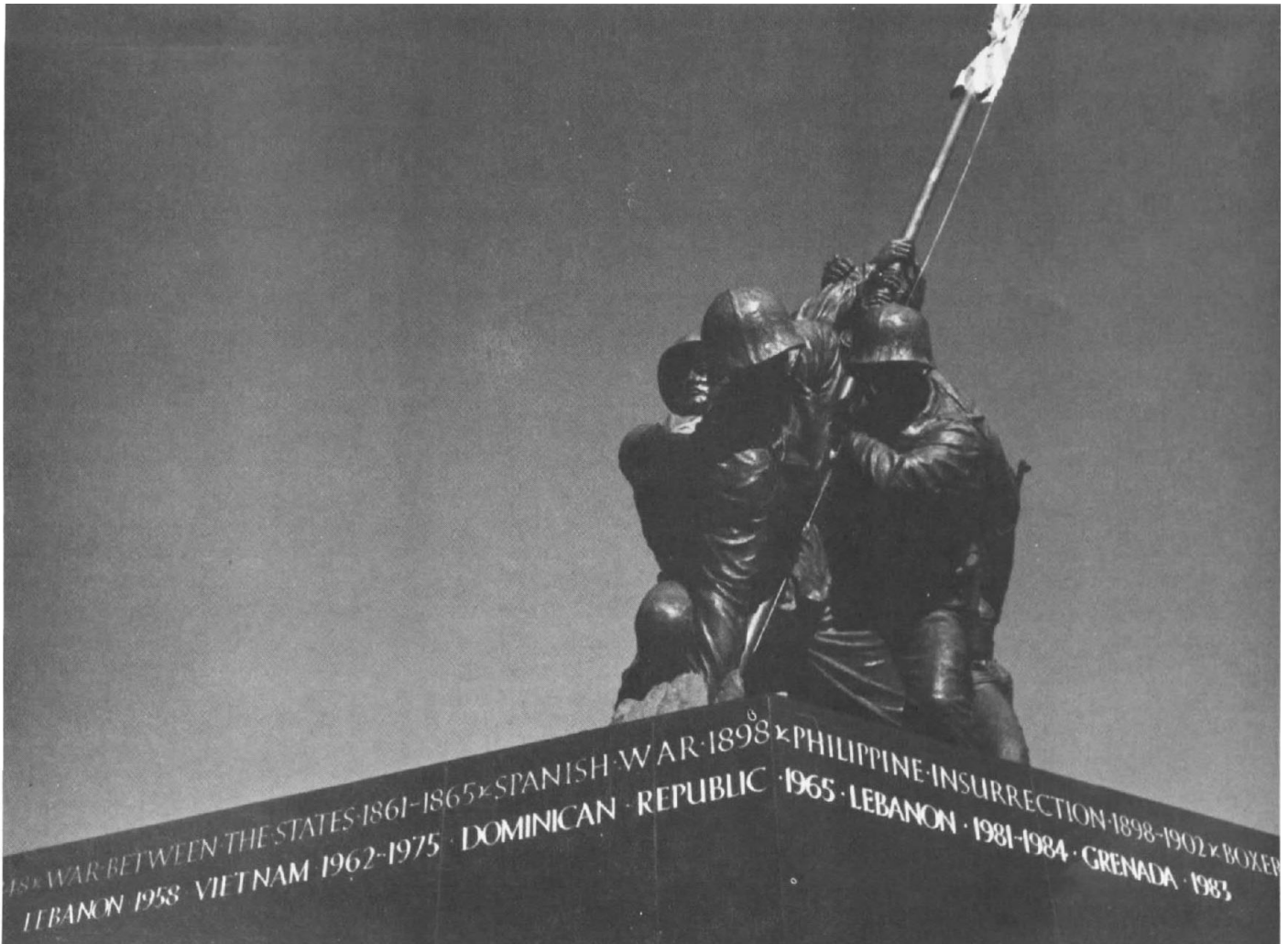


Photo by V. Keith Fleming

if it had to be a paper one taped to the granite. Before we were reduced to that extremity, President Nixon (or the anonymous person who was speaking in his name) changed his mind and the requirement was lifted.

But wheels had been set rolling and everyone involved at HQMC agreed that "Vietnam" should be added to the monument. There were, however, certain problems to be resolved as to how and where.

First, the Marine Corps War Memorial does not "belong" to the Marine Corps; it belongs to the National Park Service. The unofficial, non-profit Marine Corps War Memorial Foundation, which raised the funds (\$850,000) to create the monument, turned it over to the Department of the Interior for perpetual care. Anything the Marine Corps now does with respect to the memorial, including holding parades and ceremonies there, is with National Park Service forbearance and approval.

Second, federal funds can be used to maintain a monument, but ordinarily not to create or embellish one. Fortunately, the cost of adding "Vietnam" was not very much. Harold C. Vogel, an architectural sculptor who specializes in cutting inscriptions in stone, came in with a bid of \$475 and this amount was underwritten by the Marine Corps War Memorial Foundation, which was still in existence. Just the word "Vietnam," not the inclusive dates, was to be incised. At that point in time we weren't certain that the Vietnam War was over—and, as it turned out, it wasn't.

There remained the problem of where on the base the new battle honor should go. The first frieze had closed on itself as part of the original design. Should a second frieze be started?

Dr. Felix de Weldon, the sculptor who created the monument, was called in for consultation. To start another frieze, he said, would throw things out of balance. He recommended that a vertical panel be started at the head of the monument.

There was another nicety to be resolved: Should we use "Viet Nam," which is the correct Vietnamese spelling, or should we use "Vietnam," which had come to be the most common American usage. This problem was fortuitously solved when it was found that the chosen location of the battle honor straddled two slabs of stone

Battle Honors Inscribed On the Marine Corps War Memorial

Revolutionary War 1775-1783
 French Naval War 1798-1801
 Tripoli 1801-1805
 War of 1812-1815
 Florida Indian Wars 1835-1842
 Mexico 1846-1848
 War Between the States 1861-1865
 Spanish War 1898
 Philippine Insurrection 1898-1902
 Boxer Rebellion 1900
 Nicaragua 1912
 Vera Cruz 1914
 Haiti 1915-1934
 Santo Domingo 1916-1924
 World War I 1917-1918
 Belleau Woods
 Soissons
 St. Mihiel
 Blanc Mont
 Meuse-Argonne
 Nicaragua 1926-1933
 World War II
 1941 Pearl Harbor
 Wake Island
 Bataan & Corregidor
 1942 Midway
 Guadalcanal
 1943 New Georgia
 Bougainville
 Tarawa
 New Britain
 1944 Marshall Islands
 Marianas Islands
 Peleliu
 1945 Iwo Jima
 Okinawa
 Korea 1950
 Lebanon 1958
 Vietnam 1962-1975
 Dominican Republic 1965
 Lebanon 1981-1984
 Grenada 1983

so that it could be read as either "VIETNAM" or "VIETNAM."

Getting permission to cut the seven letters into the monument was then run through the bureaucratic wickets and the job was done in time for dedication at the 1974 Marine Corps Birthday observance.

Adding "Lebanon" would not prove to be so simple. First, there was the

matter of costs including ten years of inflation. Mr. Vogel, who had done "Vietnam" for \$475, said that "Lebanon" would be \$730. The Marine Corps War Memorial Foundation was now moribund, but the Marine Corps Historical Foundation agreed to underwrite the costs on the basis of Mr. Vogel's preliminary bid.

The request for permission to add just "Lebanon" to the monument went to the Director of the National Capital Region of the National Park Service in June 1984. The acting regional director gave his approval, but advanced two suggestions: one, that "Lebanon" be placed in extension of "Vietnam" as the beginning of a second frieze, and two, that the inclusive dates for both Vietnam and Lebanon be added.

We were not keen on either of the National Park Service's suggestions. Dr. De Weldon reaffirmed his 1974 recommendation that subsequent additions be in column rather than constituting a second band or frieze, and there were still ambiguities as to the beginning and end dates of the Vietnam War.

Among government agencies several sets of dates are used. The Veterans Administration brackets what it calls the "Vietnam Era" with the dates 5 August 1964, marking the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, and 7 May 1975, the date of the Presidential Proclamation officially ending U.S. involvement in Vietnam. The General Counsel of the Department of Defense uses the years 1964-1973, the ending date being the year of the Paris Peace Accords, the withdrawal of U. S. combat troops, and the ending of public funding of the war.

Supplying dates for Lebanon also presented problems. The dates "1958, 1981-84" would appear awkward, but the intervention of 15 July-18 October 1958 had seen four times as many Marines in Lebanon as we had in any of the Marine amphibious units ashore in 1981-1984.

While these matters were under discussion, the Commandant decided on 20 September 1984 that "Grenada" should indeed be one of the new honors. It immediately became apparent that if Grenada were added to the list, so then must be the Dominican Republic for the brigade-size intervention of 1965. The list that went forward to Mr. Manus J. Fish, regional director of the Na-



Vietnam War reconnaissance battalion commander LtCol William G. Leftwich, Jr., is the subject of the statue created by the sculptor of the Iwo Jima Memorial and dedicated on 18 November at the Headquarters of The Basic School at Quantico.

tional Park Service, on 25 September therefore asked for permission to add Dominican Republic, Lebanon, and Grenada in column and without dates. Mr. Vogel came in with a fresh bid of \$2,790 for these additions.

The answer came back from the National Park Service on 19 October, signed by the acting regional director, Mr. Lowell V. Sturgell. "Since the authorizing legislation for the memorial cited that the design of the memorial be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts," they had consulted with the Commission. The Commission concluded "that the sequential recordation of Marine Corps actions be continued in a second, new frieze, to the right of Vietnam" and "that the year(s) of each action should be determined and be engraved after each action." What had been suggestions had now become conditions for approval. If we wanted to add the honors, we would have to accede.

We came up with the dates 1962-1975 for Vietnam, marking the beginning of Marine Corps operational involvement (and first casualties) and the final evacuation (in which the Marines played a major role).

All of this, of course, raised the potential price tag. The Marine Corps

Historical Foundation had agreed to fund the first bid of \$730, but now the estimated cost was up to \$5,400. In December the U.S. Naval Institute came in with a check for \$1,000. The Marine Corps Historical Foundation matched it with a pledge of \$1,000. In February the Marine Corps Association informally promised to fund the balance.

With these funds more-or-less in hand, we went forward once again to National Capital Parks seeking a construction permit. The permit came back with a further recommendation that "Lebanon 1958" be split apart from "Lebanon 1981-1984." This brought the cost, after an on-site visit by Mr. Vogel, up to \$6,840.

Mr. Vogel executed the commission in October and the new honors were duly dedicated ("long overdue," said the Commandant in his remarks) at the Marine Corps Birthday ceremony on Friday, 8 November. It was a bright and beautiful day marred only by a stream of jet transports thundering off of National Airport. The new honors, incised in the stone and gold-leafed, read:

LEBANON 1958 ☆ VIETNAM 1962-1975
 ☆ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 1965 ☆
 LEBANON 1981-1984 ☆ GRENADA 1983

Ten days after the dedication of these

honors on the Marine Corps War Memorial there was a similar ceremony at Quantico. On Monday, 18 November, on another bright and beautiful autumn day, the Leftwich Statue was dedicated at The Basic School. The gestation period for the Leftwich Statue was even longer than that of the War Memorial battle honors.

It began in the late summer or early fall of 1978 with an informal agreement among Gen Wilson, who was then the Commandant; H. Ross Perot, the Texas industrialist and philanthropist; and Dr. De Weldon, the prospective sculptor. Mr. Perot, an intensely patriotic American, wished to memorialize Marine Corps leadership in the form of a suite of statues modeled on LtCol William G. Leftwich who had been killed in a helicopter crash in Vietnam on 18 November 1970 while serving as commanding officer of the 1st Marine Division's Reconnaissance Battalion. Bill had been at the Naval Academy with Ross Perot so his death had a special significance for the Texan.

Bill was one of the bona fide heroes of the Vietnam War. In his first tour, in 1965, as an advisor to the Vietnamese Marine Brigade he had been awarded the Navy Cross for carrying on after being badly wounded in the battle to relieve the ob-

scure village of Hoia An. Before his next Vietnamese tour he served as an instructor at The Basic School and as the Marine Corps aide to the Under Secretary of the Navy. He went back to Vietnam in 1970, first to command the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, and then to command the Reconnaissance Battalion. He was serving as senior extract officer at the time of his death, following the battalion tradition that the commanding officer be present at the emergency extraction of an endangered reconnaissance team.

Mr. Perot's formal offer came to Gen Wilson on 31 October 1978. There was to be a bronze outdoor statue, approximately eight feet tall and mounted on a four-foot granite base, and there were to be 25 miniature bronze copies of the statue, about 18 inches high. One of the statuettes was to be awarded each year to the captain judged to be the most outstanding ground officer in the Fleet Marine Force. More statuettes were to be cast at the end of the first 25 years so that the Leftwich Trophy could be continued.

W. Graham Claytor, then the Secretary of the Navy, authorized acceptance of the gift on 5 December 1978, saying that it would "be beneficial to the Marine Corps as a source of inspiration and motivation to young Marine officers in the future." Gen Wilson concurred in the recommendation of LtGen John H. Miller, then the commanding officer of the Marine Corps Development and Education Command, that the major statue be placed in front of Heywood Hall, the headquarters building at The Basic School.

About this time Gen Wilson directed me to assist Dr. De Weldon in all appropriate ways. (As a coincidence, Gen Wilson, as a major serving at Marine Barracks, Washington, at the end of World War II, had assisted Dr. De Weldon in a somewhat similar fashion during the sculpting of the Iwo Jima flag-raisers.) I had known Bill Leftwich well and, in fact, was the assistant division commander of the 1st Marine Division at the time of his death.

Bill's widow, Mrs. Jane Michael, supplied a number of photographs showing Bill in his Southeast Asia camouflage utilities. His medical records indicated that he had been 71 inches in height, of medium build, and weighed 180 pounds.

There was also a marked scar on his face from his wounds. I decided that GySgt William K. Judge, Jr., then serving with the History and Museums Division, would make an excellent model. Judge, himself a Vietnam veteran, was then 29 years old, 72 inches tall, and weighed 175 pounds. It was my responsibility to see to it that he was correctly uniformed and accoutered.

In May 1979 it was announced that Capt Clyde S. Brinkley, training officer of the 2d Marines, 2d Marine Division, would be the first recipient of the Leftwich Trophy. The award was to be made at the commissioning ceremony of the USS *Leftwich* in August at Pascagoula, Mississippi. The statuette had not yet been received. About this time I got a prodding from both Gen Wilson and Mr. Perot to hurry things along.

I visited Dr. De Weldon at his Washington studio on 19 June, viewed the clay model of the statuette, and gained his assurances that one of the small statues would be ready for presentation at the 25 August commissioning of the *Leftwich*, a *Spruance*-class destroyer.

The statuette was indeed completed in time for Capt Brinkley to receive it at the ceremony which was attended by Mr. Perot and Dr. De Weldon as well as members of the Leftwich family. By then Gen Barrow had succeeded Gen Wilson as Commandant. Gen Barrow was represented at the *Leftwich* commissioning by LtGen Edward J. Bronars, then the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower.

As yet there was no formal contract between Mr. Perot and Dr. De Weldon for the statuary. In September, Mr. Perot asked that the Marine Corps Historical Foundation act as the recipient of funds from the Perot Foundation and in turn make the disbursements to Dr. De Weldon. Several months of negotiation followed and on 3 January 1980, Dr. De Weldon and I, in my capacity as vice president of the Foundation, signed memorandums of agreement for the completion of both the Leftwich statue and the Leftwich trophies.

In June 1980, Dr. De Weldon delivered 12 more statuettes, leaving 12 more to be cast. One of these statuettes was exhibited in the Headquarters, Marine Corps, lobby. Three others were sent to Quanti-

co for display at the schools to dramatize the award. Another was placed in the Marine Corps Museum in Washington. The remaining 12 statuettes were delivered in May 1981. Those statuettes not yet awarded or not on display are held in stock at the Marine Corps Historical Center.

On a Monday in June 1981, Dr. De Weldon showed me the clay model of the full-sized statue at his Washington studio, a great red brick 19th Century barn of a place in Northeast Washington. At that point he was not quite satisfied with the modeling of the face.

It was hoped that the statue would be completed and in place in time for dedication during the Major General John Russell Leadership Conference which was scheduled for the first week of May 1982. During the winter of 1981-82 Dr. De Weldon was very much involved in the movement of the original plaster mold of the Marine Corps War Memorial "Iwo Jima" statue to the Marine Military Academy at Harlingen, Texas, and its conversion to a permanent statue. ("Dr. De Weldon's Iwo Jima Statues," *Fortitudine*, Fall 1981)

In February 1982 I again visited with Dr. De Weldon at his Washington studio. More work needed to be done to the pistol holster and pistol grip and to the M-16 rifle held in the figure's outstretched hand.

Dr. De Weldon came back from Texas again briefly in March specifically to work on the Leftwich statue which he considered his second highest priority, the highest priority being the completion of the Texas Iwo Jima Memorial. Fourteen other commissions trailed somewhere behind these two. He advised me that he would have the modelling completed shortly but that there was no way that the statue could be cast to his satisfaction in time for unveiling at the Russell Conference.

It was hoped that the statue could be in place for the Marine Corps Birthday on 10 November 1982. This did not come about nor was it ready in time for the 1983 Russell Conference. However, Dr. De Weldon in his courtly manner called on me in June 1983 to inform me that the full-size clay model was completed and ready for inspection. We went together to the studio and indeed the remaining detail had been accurately and carefully sculpt-



The Leftwich Statue memorializes Marine Corps leadership as exemplified by LtCol Leftwich's "tactical skill, bold fighting spirit, and unflinching devotion to duty."

ed. He also showed me the granite boulders that were intended for the base of the statue.

Not much happened for the next six months. Mr. Perot wanted to be certain that the statue met the approval of Bill's widow, Mrs. Jane Leftwich Michael, and his mother, Mrs. William G. Leftwich, Sr., of Memphis, Tennessee. Jane; Mrs. Leftwich; Jane's second husband, Col Richard L. Michael (who, sadly, has since died); myself; and some others met with Dr. De Weldon at his cold and drafty studio the morning of 2 January 1984. Jane and Mrs. Leftwich pronounced themselves well pleased with the statue. The remaining steps to be accomplished were largely mechanical and would involve making a plaster cast, then a mold, and then a bronze casting. Dr. De Weldon estimated that this could be done within six months.

It did not go quite that quickly. All, however, was accomplished, including the construction of the foundation and base at the location in front of Heywood Hall and the installation of the 1,800-pound statue itself, by late summer 1985.

The dedication took place, as I said

earlier, on a bright and sunny Monday morning, 18 November -- the 15th anniversary of the date of Bill's death. The statue was flanked by a platoon of Basic School second lieutenants on one side and a platoon of enlisted Marine instructors on the other. They were in camouflage field uniform. The Quantico Marine Band played. LtGen David M. Twomey, Commanding General, Marine Corps Development and Education Command, presided.

There were remarks by Col Peter J. Rowe, Commanding Officer, The Basic School, and Mr. Perot, who said, "All of us who knew him, liked him. He was the kind of man we all wanted to be."

Then Jane and her two sons, Capt William G. Leftwich III, USMC, and Lt Scott F. Leftwich, USN, unveiled the bronze marker in front of the statue. It reads:

William Groom Leftwich, Jr.
 Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
 Born Memphis, Tennessee, 28 April 1931
 Graduated U.S. Naval Academy, 5 June 1953
 Killed in Action, Vietnam, 18 November 1970
 Remembered for his Leadership, Tactical Skill, Bold Fighting Spirit, and Unflinching Devotion to Duty . . .

□1775□

Historical Quiz:

Quotes By, About, and For Marines

by Reference Section, Marine Corps Historical Center

Identify the authors of the following quotes:

1. "Casualties many; Percentage of dead not known; Combat efficiency: we are winning."
2. "The bended knee is not a tradition of our Corps."
3. "If the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton, the Japanese bases in the Pacific were captured on the beaches of the Caribbean."
4. "You don't hurt 'em if you don't hit 'em."
5. "Being ready is not what matters. What matters is winning after you get there."
6. "The raising of that flag on Suribachi means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years."
7. "A ship without Marines is like a garment without buttons."
8. "Come on, you sons of bitches—do you want to live forever?"
9. "The Marine Corps is the Navy's police force and as long as I am President that is what it will remain. They have a propaganda machine that is almost equal to Stalin's."
10. "I have just returned from visiting the Marines at the front and there is not a finer fighting organization in the world."

Answers on page 23)

Readers Always Write

FORTITUDINE OR FISH HOUSE

I collect recipes for Fish House Punch and have them from all over the U.S. and other English-speaking countries. I collect these recipes (usually in print) *because* they are almost always *very* wrong—*Fortitudine* is no exception [*Fortitudine*, Fall 1985].

The Schuylkill Fishing Company (proper corporate name), commonly known as The Fish House, most certainly invented Fish House Punch.

Maj Samuel Nicholas was, indeed, a member of the Company—No. 102—[he] became a member in 1760 [and] Captain of Marines in 1776. I fear that something happened to instructions from the Captain (the addition of Champagne or even soda and gingerale is a travesty).

Perhaps you might wish to [try] "proper" Fish House Punch:

- 1 fifth golden rum
- 1 fifth brandy (any brand like Cognac)
- 1 dozen lemons (fresh)
- 1 dozen limes (fresh)
- 16 ounces melted sugar (12 ounces=tart; 16 ounces=sweet)
- 3 ounces apricot brandy (gilding the lily)

Pour contents into punch bowl over block of ice; pour over ice from time to time with ladle. *Add one quart of water if you are imbibing before steeping one hour.*

Cheers!

L. Rodman Page
Radnor, Pennsylvania

EDITOR'S NOTE: The originator of Fortitude Punch protests that he never claimed it was Fish House Punch, but a derivative of an old receipt for the same that included Champagne. This inclusion is indeed a travesty, but the club soda and gingerale are added for the same reason Adm "Old Grog" Vernon watered the rum—to prevent excessive drunkenness in the crew. The frozen lemonade is used as a "field expedient," while the brandy is omitted as an unnecessary expense and a dangerous mixing of spirits.

EMINENT HISTORIANS

On page 7 [*Fortitudine*, Fall 1985, "The Battles of Craney Island and Hampton"] you mention Charles Napier (whose biography I included in *Eminent Victorian Soldiers*), who did, as you say, go on to become a general, but not "a distinguished military historian." That was his brother William. There were so many Napiers who were soldiers and sailors in the last century that it is easy enough to confuse them.

Byron Farwell
Hillsboro, Virginia

EDITOR'S NOTE: The eminent historian and biographer of eminent Victorian soldiers has caught us up. Sir Charles J. Napier (1782-1853) and Sir William F. P. Napier (1785-1860) were the sons of Col George Napier (1751-1804) who saw service in the American Revolution and later headed up Woolwich laboratory. He wrote a treatise on gunpowder. There were two other distinguished sons: Sir George T. Napier (1784-1855), who also became a general and who published an account of his early life, and Henry E. Napier (1789-1853), who reached the rank of captain in the Royal Navy and who published a history of Florence. Sir Charles, who commanded the Light Brigade at Hampton, made his greatest mark as the conqueror of Sind and alleged maker of the famous Latin pun, Pecavi ("I have sinned"). He wrote extensively on military and political subjects, but the appellation "distinguished military historian" indisputably applies to Sir William if for no other reason than his great History of the Peninsular War. George, William, and Charles all served under Sir John Moore in Portugal and Spain. LtGen Sir Charles J. Napier is not, however, to be confused with cousin Adm Sir Charles Napier (1786-1860) who came to America, not in 1813, but in the following year as a captain in the Chesapeake naval campaign of 1814. All clear now?

LEADER OF THE ATTACK

I read "The Battles of Craney Island and Hampton" [*Fortitudine*, Fall 1985] with great interest and found it complementary to my own account in the biography of Adm Sir George Cockburn. The only discrepancy that I could find was that Capt Pechell of the *San Domingo* (Adm Warren's flagship), led the sea attack on Craney Island and not Cockburn. Warren had only just

arrived from Bermuda with the main fleet and the troops under Beckwith and made a bad mistake in denying Cockburn who had already carried out a detailed reconnaissance. My book contains the following comment: "Warren, in favouring his own captain with command, had erred badly on this, the first occasion when an expeditionary force might have made a real impact on the course of this unfortunate war." Warren tried to make amends by giving Cockburn command against Hampton and Cockburn played his part—as usual—with complete success. A court of enquiry held subsequently, investigated the disgraceful conduct of the French Chasseurs who were never employed again.

Capt A. J. Pack, RN (Rtd)
Wickham, Hampshire
United Kingdom

EDITOR'S NOTE: Capt Pack's biography of Adm Cockburn is scheduled to be published in Britain in spring 1986; hopefully there will be an American edition.

WORTH THE PRICE

I have just read your article . . . ["Four at Center Recall 1945 Landing in North China," *Fortitudine*, Fall 1985] and although it did not tell me much that was new . . . the pictures of the youthful Shaw, Simmons, and Frank were worth the price of admission.

Richard W. Leopold
Department of History
Northwestern University

ARRAY OF SOURCES

The Fall 1985 *Fortitudine* contains a mention that the MCHF has approved a fellowship grant to Mr. David MacGregor . . . in connection with a dissertation primarily focusing on the interwar developments in amphibious warfare. I am writing to call to the attention of the MCHF and of Mr. MacGregor the existence of a relevant M.A. thesis . . . by a former USMC junior officer, Mr. Frank J. Infusino, titled "The United States Marine Corps and War Planning, 1900-1941" (San Diego State University, 1973). We contributed a copy . . . to the Marine Corps Historical Center. It would be very helpful to Mr. MacGregor . . . and ought to be included in his array of sources.

Alvin D. Coox
Department of History
San Diego State University

Account of Chaplains' Service in Vietnam Off the Presses

by Henry I. Shaw, Jr.
Chief Historian

The first "functional" history in the History and Museums Division's series of official studies of the Vietnam War, *Chaplains with Marines in Vietnam, 1962-1971*, has just been printed by the Government Printing Office.

In the same format as volumes in the chronological, operational series, *U.S. Marines in Vietnam*, the new history has one appearance innovation—it is the first of the Division's publications ever to have a dust jacket on the hardbound edition. The handsome jacket is essentially a copy of the softbound edition cover, which features a photograph of Chaplain (LCdr) Frederick E. Whitaker, ChC, USN, conducting services for men of Company M, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines on a ridgeline north of the Rockpile, near the Demilitarized Zone.

The history is a joint venture of the Chaplain Corps and the Division. In 1977, the Director, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret), and the then-Chief of Chaplains, RAdm John J. O'Connor, ChC, USN, agreed that a history of the experiences of chaplains working with Marines in Vietnam was needed and that the Chaplain Corps would provide the author and the Division would provide the necessary editorial, administrative, and production support.

Chaplain (Cdr) Herbert L. Bergsma, ChC, USN, a Christian Reformed Church minister, reported on board with the Historical Branch in time to participate in the move from the Navy Annex to the Historical Center at the Washington Navy Yard. Chaplain Bergsma, a graduate of his church's Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan, who later obtained a master of theology degree at Princeton Theological Seminary, had served two tours in Vietnam with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 supporting the III Marine Amphibious Corps. Other subsequent tours of duty included two with Marines, at the Marine Corps Air Station at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, and at

the Marine Corps Development and Education Command at Quantico.

With his Seabee and Marine background, as well as Navy service at Mare Island shipyard and with destroyers, Chaplain Bergsma fitted in well as an active member of the Histories Section. He completed his assigned task, a polished first draft, on schedule and went on as Head, Chaplain Corps History Project in 1978-80 to be a co-author of another official Chaplain Corps history, *Chaplains with U.S. Naval Units in Vietnam*.

The Marine Corps history was extensively reviewed by chaplains who had served Marine units in Vietnam and Chaplain Bergsma considered and incorporated their comments where appropriate. Basically, however, the suggested corrections and additions were not extensive since the basic source material of the history was chaplains' end-of-tour reports and contemporary letters and accounts of chaplains' services. One of the appendices of the history is a roster of all Navy chaplains who served in Vietnam from 1962-1972, a listing of hundreds of names, dates, and units on which considerable effort was expended. Hopefully, few errors of omission or commission will be noted.

The book is most unusual for a Marine Corps history in that it does not provide an operational account of the fighting—nor was it ever intended to do so. Within the general chronological framework of events that took place in I Corps, Chaplain Bergsma has written about what it was like to be a chaplain in intense combat, in the field, at the aid stations and hospitals, and in base areas. He attempted, in his own words, "to show the texture of the chaplains' contributions to the Marines; their sense of fulfillment in their calling, the personal and often emotional investment in their people, and the broad fabric of the clergyman in uniform."

The Chaplain Corps has undertaken to place a copy of the book in the hands of

every active-duty chaplain in the Navy. The History and Museums Division will make a distribution to major Marine Corps commands, to all those who commented on the draft history, and to its standard list of civilian and service libraries and institutions for record purposes.

The history, which is written with considerable sensitivity and insight, should have a good reception from the religious press, and review copies will be provided to periodicals of denominations that provide chaplains to the Navy. Chaplain Bergsma, now a Navy captain, is back once again with Marines as brigade chaplain at Kaneohe Bay after a tour as base chaplain at Camp Pendleton.

Marine Corps activities may requisition copies of the softbound history through regular publication supply channels at MCSA, Albany, Georgia. Institutional libraries may obtain copies of the hardbound edition on request to the History and Museums Division. □1775□

Dust jacket on the first Division publication to have one features a photo of Chaplain (LCdr) Frederick E. Whitaker, USN, conducting services for men of the 4th Marines near the Demilitarized Zone.

CHAPLAINS WITH MARINES
IN VIETNAM
1962-1971



'We Looked Like Cowboys,' Flight Gear Donor Says

by John H. McGarry, III
Registrar

"It was just like cowboys and Indians." That is how Mr. Joseph Schwimmer described the early days of Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron-1 (VMCJ-1) at Da Nang airfield.

VMCJ-1 was described as the "eyes and ears" of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1st MAW). In April of 1965, the squadron, flying the camera-fitted RF-8 Crusader, was deployed to Da Nang airfield, in the Republic of South Vietnam. It was among the first Marine Corps air units to arrive "in country," and was responsible for flying photographic reconnaissance missions, many in the Red River Valley of North Vietnam.

Upon arrival in Da Nang they were supplied with material from the available 1st MAW mount-out supplies. Much of the material was World War II vintage, and badly deteriorated.

"When we opened the boxes, we found

Pistol-packin' Marine wore holster obtained from local sources when supplies failed.



Note: If you are a Vietnam-era Marine veteran, the items of uniform or equipment still in your possession which you used, carried, or were issued while in the Republic of South Vietnam are sought as donations to the Marine Corps Museum. Photographs and written memoirs of the period are also desired. Please contact the Museum Registrar for additional information.

most of the equipment was rotten," Mr. Schwimmer continues. "We were forced to scrounge around for our own." The Da Nang airfield was briefly overrun by Viet Cong "sappers" during an attack on 30 June 1965. As a result, the men of VMCJ-1 sought out locally made holsters to carry personal sidearms.

"We all wore wide leather belts with holsters, worn low on the hip. We looked like cowboys and Indians," he remembered. These critically necessary but obviously unofficial items of 782 gear would bring the wrath of then-LtGen Victor Krulak during an inspection. "Even after being chewed out after the inspection, we continued to wear them because it was all we had."

In 1965 Mr. Schwimmer was a captain with VMCJ-1 serving the first of two tours of duty in Vietnam. During a recent visit to the Museum, he donated a vast collection of equipment and material to the collection. Among the items presented was a complete outfit of flight equipment. Included were flight suit, pressure suit, helmet, and survival vest.

Many of the items donated by Mr. Schwimmer looked like regulation issue, but were made up by local tailors to fit the needs of resupply. These include a variety of headgear, including one utility cap made from a World War II camouflage poncho. Another interesting item is a vest he had made to carry shotgun shells. This was worn when Mr. Schwimmer was responsible for carrying out ground defense duty.

The survival vest worn by Mr. Schwimmer, now a resident of Reston, Virginia, still contains all the issue items. The shroud knife, flare gun, survival pouches, and his kabar knife are all attached just as he wore them during missions.

The materials donated by Mr. Schwimmer are welcome additions to the collection for important reasons: the pieces held from the Vietnam era are still few and those on hand often are unaccompanied by useful background information; donations such as Mr. Schwimmer's allow the curatorial staff to fully document items used by a particular unit at a specific time and place.

The documentation provided with the VMCJ-1 articles allows historians to study the intricate ways military men deal with unplanned-for situations—even to the point of appearing to be "a bunch of cowboys and Indians." □1775□

Complete outfit of Vietnam-era flight gear was a part of Mr. Schwimmer's donation.



Museum's Marine Artifacts 'Star' in New Video Series

by Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas
Curator of Material History

The Museum deck of the Historical Center resembled a Hollywood film studio during the second week of September, when a film production company, Cinemagraphics, Inc., set up its video cameras and lights. The company was contracted by the American Forces Information Service to produce a series of commercial "spots" for each branch of Service in the Department of Defense, featuring a panoply of historical art, artifacts, and photographs. The spots are aimed at promoting pride in enlisted men and women serving overseas through the recounting of U.S. military history.

Over 18 months ago, a meeting was held by AFIS to lay the groundwork for this

Cinemagraphics, Inc., production assistant Rebecca Crawford advises Curator Smith-Christmas on arranging an M1912 uniform.



project. All of the Services sent representatives who suggested topics for the spots and then provided research material for candidate production companies to use for their submissions. Once the production company was selected, final research materials were made available for the scripts and a suggested list of "visuals" was prepared.

The recently produced uniform plates, *U.S. Marine Corps Uniforms, 1983*, by Maj Donna J. Neary, USMCR, were selected as the basis for the Marine Corps' four spots. They centered on the green service uniform, the enlisted dress blue uniform, enlisted chevrons, and the development of the eagle, globe, and anchor emblem. A wide range of items were gathered from nearly all of the Historical Center's collections to support the scripts.

Many of the large portraits and oil studies for recruiting posters were dismantled from the walls in the upper decks of the Center, while other works of art were brought up from our art storage areas. The staff at Museums Branch Activities in Quantico assisted in the careful selection of more than 20 candidate uniforms and sent these, along with our entire chevron collection, to the Navy Yard. One after another, the exhibit cases in the Time Tunnel were opened and selected artifacts were removed for photographing. Marines currently assigned to the Center loaned articles of current uniforms, since these do not yet appear in the collections. The Marine Corps Exchange also loaned several chevrons that we needed to show all current enlisted insignia.

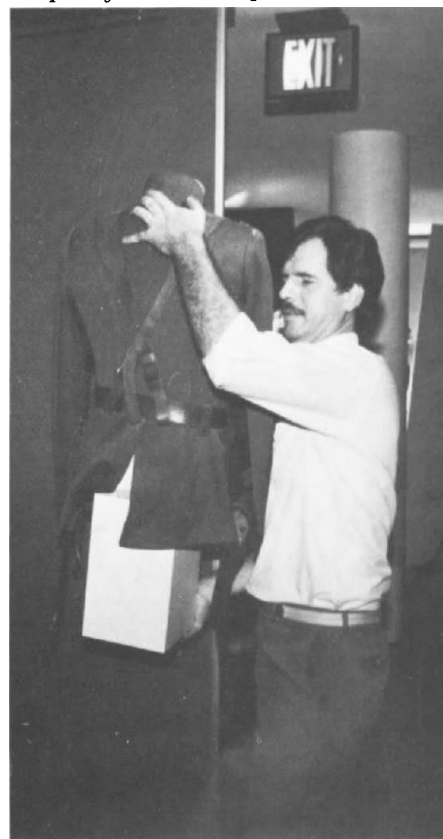
For three days, artifacts and art were lined up in the Museum, awaiting their turn under the bright lights set up in a temporary studio made from the Museum's mini-theater. Museum visitors had to wend their way through the cluster of production staff and museum staff to reach the beginning of the Time Tunnel. In addition to the dozen or more people in this area, was a maze of lights and

equipment crisscrossed throughout with cables and wires. Most visitors were not greatly inconvenienced, and were interested in the proceedings, often stopping to watch the filming of an artifact from a respectful distance.

After the Marine Corps items were photographed, we allowed the production company to use the studio to film some artifacts borrowed from a local militaria dealer for several of the U.S. Army's spots. When the company packed up its gear and the producer and director made their farewells, a total of 160-plus items had been filmed in color.

It is expected that more spots of this kind will be used on Armed Forces Television overseas, and that more of our extensive reserve artifact collection will be put to use to illustrate the scripts on future commercials. □1775□

A "half-mannequin" is removed from the temporary studio set up in the Museum.



Units to Get Prints of Marines' 'Frigate Navy' Exploits

by Charles R. Smith
Historical Writer

On the afternoon of 3 August 1804, a small American squadron of brigs and schooners led by the frigate *Constitution*, under the command of Navy Capt Edward Preble, launched the first of a series of five attacks against the North African port of Tripoli. On board the flagship, while seamen on the gun deck fired broadside after devastating broadside into the town, Marines under Capt John Hall and Lt Robert Greenleaf left their normal battle stations in the fighting tops to man the long 24-pounders on the spar deck. Stripped of coats and muskets, Marines readied the six long guns for another shot as the frigate tacked into position.

"Marines at the Great Guns" is the fourth in a set of 14 full-color prints, *Marines in the Frigate Navy*, soon to be made available by the History and Museums Division

for Corps-wide distribution. Reproduced from original paintings by noted Marine Corps artist, Col Charles H. Waterhouse, USMCR, the prints, accompanied by a booklet containing descriptive essays and maps, illustrate significant events in Marine Corps history from 1798 to 1835, a period of growth for the Corps and the nation.

Pushed into an undeclared war with France in 1798, America had little choice but to build a navy. As in 1775, Congress considered Marines on board ship an essential component of any such force and followed the legislation founding the Navy with an act organizing a Marine Corps. The United States Marine Corps, as we know it, was thus born on 11 July 1798. Within months of authorization, Marine detachments were organized and assigned to the various ships being readied for sea.

Study for Waterhouse's "The Repulse of the Highlanders" was made by piecing together sketches of individual Marines and soldiers and resulted in the print which deals with the defeat at New Orleans of British hopes for control of the Mississippi River valley. Each print in the set is described in the pages of an accompanying explanatory booklet.



The series of prints begins as "Captain Carmick Joins the *Constitution*" in early July 1799 at Boston. Alighting from the coach that had carried him from Newport, Rhode Island, the Marine captain arrives to take command of the frigate's poorly clothed and equipped Marine detachment. Within a week the frigate was at sea, and by the spring of the following year, after months of training on board ship, Carmick's Marines landed and captured the shore battery at Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo, after cutting out the French privateer *Sandwich* in the harbor, the subject of the second print.

No longer satisfied with temporary quarters, LtCol Comdt William Ward Burrows, in another print, rides with President Thomas Jefferson through a still bucolic Washington, D.C., to select a site for the permanent Marine Barracks. The site at "Eighth and I," near the Navy Yard and within easy marching distance of the Capitol, was eventually selected.

The renewal of the Barbary Wars in 1801 resulted in orders to the Mediterranean Squadron for many Marines, where they fought alongside sailors at ships' great guns. In 1805, near the war's end, Marine Lt Presley N. O'Bannon, with six privates, and a motley force of Arabs and Greeks, marched 500 miles across the Libyan desert from Alexandria, Egypt. In the print, "The Assault on Derna," the Marines, armed with cutlasses and rifles, led a charge through the town, eventually capturing its fort and raising the American flag for the first time over Old World territory.

From 1806 to 1811, Marines served with small detachments scattered throughout the world on board ship at naval yards, and landed on distant shores to defend American diplomatic missions and endangered citizens. The fall of 1812 witnessed the participation of a Marine detachment in the ill-fated expedition to annex Florida. The "Swamp Ambush" print recounts the loss of Capt John Williams and a number of Marines in a Seminole Indian raid among the cypress bogs and palmetto thickets near St. Augustine, which spelled an end to the expedition.

In the second war with England, priority

was given to providing Marines for ship's detachments of the blue-water Navy. These Marines fought gallantly alongside their Navy brethren in all major sea battles and shared in the heroic exploits of such ships as the *Essex* and her Pacific cruise, during which Marine Lt John M. Gamble was given command of the island of Nukuhiva. Marines were also provided for the equally critical Great Lakes squadrons, where they not only fought, but also assisted in the construction of ships and strategic military installations such as those at Sackets Harbor, New York. Company-size Marine units fought heroically, in a vain effort to forestall the British capture of the nation's capital, as shown in "The Final Stand at Bladensburg," and at New Orleans in "The Repulse of the Highlanders," where they joined troops under Army Gen Andrew Jackson on the fields of Chalmette to halt an attack on the city, and dashing British hopes of gaining control of the Mississippi Valley.

During the next 20 years, the Corps, under the able leadership of LtCol Comdt Archibald Henderson, established



Col Waterhouse, right, poses at the Flower Memorial Library in Watertown, New York, with Jeff Hall, in 1812 Marine uniform, of the Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Park. They participated in the opening of the "Marines in Frigate Navy" exhibit at the library in June, along with a color guard formed by local Marine recruiters.

its place within the American military system by "showing the flag" in a number of punitive actions against pirates and hostile governments, from the illustrated "Foray into Fajardo Bay, Puerto Rico," to "The Storming of Quallah Battoo, Sumatra." In 1835, a green-and-white uniform derived from the Continental Marines regimental uniform, worn during the Revolutionary War, was decreed. The change in uniform however did not signal a change in the Corps, for it continued to grow and demonstrate its efficiency, discipline, and usefulness on the ships and shore stations of the Navy.

Since the opening exhibit on 11 July 1983 at the Marine Corps Museum (see *Fortitudine*, Summer 1983), the original paintings have been shown at the United States Naval Academy, and at museums and galleries in Philadelphia, Boston, and Sackets Harbor. Soon available for wider distribution, the prints are intended to be made accessible for viewing by Marines in order that they gain a greater understanding of the events, arms, dress, and accoutrements of the Corps during this period. □1775□

Waterhouse Paint Brush Is Poised to Fill Gaps in Collection

*by Col Brooke Nihart
Deputy Director for Museums*

"What have you done for us lately?" is a refrain Col Charles Waterhouse hears after completing each historical art project. With "Marines in the Frigate Navy" acclaimed at five different East Coast showings and reproduced as a set of prints, this question was again posed to our artist-in-residence.

"Marines and Manifest Destiny" was proposed as a theme which would show the Marine Corps from 1835 to the Civil War. Included would be Mexican War events on the Gulf Coast, Marines with Perry in Japan, and the capture of John Brown at Harpers Ferry, as Marines helped support our national interests.

Higher authority intervened, however, mandating a Marine Corps passageway in the Pentagon's Secretary of the Navy's country. The history of the Corps was to be presented in the 7th Corridor, on the fourth deck,

making use of Commandants' portraits and historical art. Suitable reproductions of the portraits in the Commandant's House were easily made, but there were significant gaps in art illustrating historic events. The solution—draw up a list of the gapped events, research each, and have Col Waterhouse paint them.

The first year's list is in. Registrar John H. McGarry, an authority on the Civil War period, researched thoroughly the events, personalities, and graphic resources available on the Marines' capture of John Brown at Harpers Ferry. Col Waterhouse already is well along with his painting of the event.

The assault on Fort Fisher in 1864 will be next, with Material History Curator Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas' research complete. Following at two-month intervals will be Marines with Perry in Japan, the 1885 intervention in Panama, the seizure of an advanced base at Guantana-

mo Bay in 1898, and the defense of the Peking Legations in 1900.

This completes the first year's effort. In the second year, Col Waterhouse will paint Marines in the Philippines, 1899-1902; in Panama, 1903; with the Great White Fleet, 1907; in the Advance Base Force, Culebra, 1913; and at Veracruz, 1914.

If the project continues beyond a second year, the Mexican War will be completed, and the Banana Wars, China of the 'teens to thirties, and World War I illustrated.

Coupled with past works by Waterhouse on World War II and Vietnam, his past series, "Marines in the Revolution," "Marines in the Conquest of California," and "Marines in the Frigate Navy," the Corps would then possess a comprehensive and coherent history in art that would go beyond past short series by Marine artists John J. Capolino, Donald L. Dickson, John Clymer, and Tom Lovell.

Museum Reunites Okinawa Battle Flag with Survivors

by John H. McGarry, III
Registrar

The fortieth anniversary of the Battle for Okinawa was similar to many of the reunions held throughout the world in the past twelve months, bringing together veterans long since separated. The Okinawa plus 40 reunion was unusual however, in reuniting a Marine veteran and a flag.

In the early morning hours of 1 April 1945, VAdm Richard K. Turner, USN, sent the message to "Land the landing force." These words set in motion the commitment of more than one-half million men. Before the campaign was over and the island secure, some of the most bitter combat of the war would be experienced. Fierce cave fighting, Kamikaze attacks, and an unrelenting philosophy of defense would cost the American forces 50,000 casualties, including 12,500 killed.

One of the units to land on that Easter morning was the 2d Battalion of the 22d Marines, 6th Marine Division. The unit carried with it a 48-star American flag which had been given to the men of the unit just hours before the invasion by the battalion commander, LtCol Horatio C. Woodhouse, USMC. He instructed the men to raise the flag as a symbol "be-

Cpl (now MajGen) James L. Day wears the Bronze Star and Purple Heart he received from Okinawa combat during April 1945.



tokening the advance of freedom." One of the men of the battalion's weapons company was newly promoted Cpl James L. Day.

Landing ashore with little resistance, the 6th Marine Division quickly moved inland and captured the Yontan airfield by midday. It continued moving unaware of the Japanese plan to allow the invasion forces to be lured into the center of the island before counterattacking. Swinging to the north, the 2d Battalion moved on. On 19 April, the unit had reached the northernmost tip of the island, and proudly raised its flag. Japanese resistance in the south quickly created the need for LtCol Woodhouse and his men to wheel and move to provide support for the advance in that direction.

By 14 May the 2d Battalion had driven south to face a rectangular hill that would be nicknamed "Sugarloaf." A dense system of interlocking Japanese defenses temporarily halted the American drive. The fierce fighting would cause mounting casualties for the 2d Battalion. Typical of the hardhitting Marine offense, and the rising number of wounded, was Cpl Day. Wounded by white phosphorous, he would receive the Bronze Star for "meritorious action." Eventually the unit pushed past the troublesome hill, and by 30 May had reached Naha City. It was here that a sniper's bullet would kill LtCol Woodhouse. Advancing against unremitting opposition, the unit reached the southernmost tip of the island by 21 June, and again raised its flag.

Mourning the loss of LtCol Woodhouse, the unit requested that its new commander send the now-famous flag to Woodhouse's mother. Years later the flag, now the property of the Virginia Military Institute, would be placed on indefinite loan to the Marine Corps Museum.

As the fortieth anniversary of the battle approached, Cpl, now MajGen, James L. Day, began preparations for an appropriate ceremony. MajGen Day is commanding general of Marine Corps Base, Camp S. D. Butler, Okinawa. A private or-

ganization, Okinawa plus 40, was formed to contact veterans and provide travel arrangements.

MajGen Day became aware of the Woodhouse flag, and made a formal request to the Museum for the temporary loan of the flag for the ceremonies. Thus, 40 years later, there occurred the reunion of the Marine and the flag.

Just as the flag had been raised twice during the war, there were two ceremonies for the flag during the reunion. On 1 April, in commemoration of the beginning of the invasion of the main island, the flag was raised at Building 1, over Camp Butler. The majority of the 6th Marine Division Association's members participating in the Okinawa plus 40 reunion arrived later in the month and took part in the second flag raising on 21 June. Featured among the activities of the reunion were personally led tours of the Sugarloaf battlefield by MajGen Day.

Museum artifacts are traditionally held for exhibition and study. But there are occasions, as just seen, where artifacts can be recalled to duty to serve alongside the Marines who made them famous. □1775□

The "Woodhouse flag," with 48 stars, loaned by the Museum, is raised at morning colors at Camp Butler, Okinawa, on 1 April 1985.



Oral History Report: Bleasdale and Taxis Interviews

by Benis M. Frank
Head, Oral History Section

Interviews with BGen Samuel G. Taxis and BGen Victor F. Bleasdale are among the latest accessions into the Marine Corps Oral History Collection. Since the last appearance of this column in *Fortitudine*, the Oral History Section has conducted a number of other interviews and accessioned additional materials. Gen Taxis was able to read and correct his interview transcript before he died, but Gen Bleasdale was unable to do so.

Gen Bleasdale died in February 1984 in London, where he had been living almost from the time he retired in 1946. During his career he was decorated with two Navy Crosses, a Distinguished Service Cross, and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm for bravery and heroism in World War I and Nicaragua. Gen Bleasdale enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1915 and experienced combat in Haiti before he went to France in 1917 with the 5th Marines. He was given a battlefield commission and command of a machine gun section, which saw considerable action before the war was over. In the between-the-war years, Gen Bleasdale achieved a significant reputation as a leader and a teacher. In World War II, he commanded the 29th Marines during the battle for Okinawa.

A Naval Academy graduate and a member of the Class of 1931, Gen Taxis died in November 1984. He was one of the lucky Basic School students who received orders to join the 4th Marines in Shanghai following graduation. He was an artilleryman early in his career and in the immediate prewar years, became involved with the Corps' base defense program. His interview is especially valuable for his reminiscences of the development of defense battalions, their training, and especially the development of antiaircraft artillery techniques and tactics. A large part of his interview is concerned with his 1951-1953 tour in the Mideast as Senior U.S. Military Observer, Palestine, while he was attached to the United Nations and is particularly pertinent to current international affairs in the mideast.

Two other major interviews recently accessioned are those with LtGen Ormond R. Simpson and MajGen Norman J. Anderson. We had interviewed Gen Simpson for our Vietnam writing program before he retired to Texas. In this interview session, he responded to questions prepared by those Marine historians who were working in the period when Gen Simpson commanded the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam. We had intended to interview him about his career in depth, but there never was an opportunity to get down to Texas A&M University at College Station, where Gen Simpson had retired to take a position with the university. Fortunately, Texas A&M had a program of its own which is headed by Dr. Terry Anderson, who was involved in interviewing graduates of the university who had prominent military careers. We provided Dr. Anderson with an outline of Gen Simpson's Marine Corps career and other materials, including some questions to which we wanted Gen Simpson to address himself. When he was finished with the interview, Dr. Anderson sent us the interview tapes and we transcribed them and otherwise processed the interview, which consumes two volumes. Because of his interesting and demanding assignments throughout his career—assistant G-4 on General Douglas MacArthur's staff, military secretary to Gen Pate during the Ribbon Creek affair, 3d MEB commander in Thailand during the Laotian crisis—and the fact that he discusses each fully in turn, Gen Simpson's interview is especially an important addition to the collection. He also speaks of Texas A&M when he was a student and the many changes it has undergone from that time until the present.

Gen Anderson is a veteran Marine aviator, who early on had to choose between becoming a Marine flyer or flying for a commercial airline. The Marine Corps won out, and, although his heart was set on becoming a fighter pilot when he was a young junior officer, he was assigned to transports instead, which he flew throughout World War II. As his memoirs

indicate, he was able to get into the fighter program later in his career. A large section of Gen Anderson's interview concerns the Vietnam War and more importantly the role he played in the single management of air resources issue. Gen Anderson has been closely involved with the Marine Corps Historical Program ever since he was a member of the first Commandant's Advisory Committee on Marine Corps History and a charter member of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation. That he is sensitive to what is important to Marine Corps history is evident in the contents of this interview.

In supporting Marine Corps history, Gen Anderson has acted as a volunteer interviewer for the Oral History Program. Earlier, he had interviewed MajGens Arthur H. Adams and Paul J. Fontana for us, and recently he interviewed MajGen Victor A. Armstrong and BGen Austin W. Brunelli. All four Marines had full and meaningful careers.

Elsewhere in this issue, the death of LtGen Richard C. Mangrum is noted. With his death, we have accessioned the transcript of the only interview session in which he participated. Instead of beginning the interview by speaking of his early Marine Corps career, Gen Mangrum wanted to talk about his Guadalcanal experiences, when he led the first dive bomber squadron to land there. It is regrettable that we were unable to get him to relate on tape more of his rich career which led to his appointment as Assistant Commandant.

The oral histories conducted by the Chaplain Corps' historian with Navy chaplains who have served with Marines continue to be accessioned into our collection. Since our last report, we have received the oral histories of Chaplains Richard O. Hutcheson, Withers Moore, Francis L. Garrett, and Robert M. Schurghart. What these dedicated men have said about their Marine Corps assignments make for very interesting and moving reading. ➔

Meanwhile, on the west coast, LtGen Alpha L. Bowser was another volunteer interviewer who interviewed MajGen Carl W. Hoffman for the program. As Gen Bowser was not able to complete the interview, Gen Hoffman completed it in a "do-it-yourself" fashion, using as his guide "A Do-It-Yourself Oral History Primer," copies of which are available from the Oral History Section.

At the same time, the Oral History section was doing some interviewing also. We continued on with our Marine Security Guard Battalion interviews in support of the writing of a history of State Department Marines to be completed and published at some time in the future. The Marines interviewed had just returned from Beirut, so their observations will be added to the information derived from earlier Beirut-oriented interviews. In the

same area, the former Chaplain of the Marine Corps, Capt Eli Takesian, ChC, USN, was interviewed about his trips to Lebanon when the Marines were committed there and about the role he played as Marine Corps Chaplain following the 23 October 1963 terrorist bombing of the BLT building at Beirut airport.

The most recent in-depth interview conducted by the Oral History Section was with Marine Corps super-marksman Col Walter R. Walsh, USMC (Ret). He had an exciting and rewarding career as an FBI agent before he came into the Corps, and he played an important role in upgrading the quality of Marine Corps team shooting during his years of active service.

Similarly, another unusual interview was with Mr. Frederick D. Hunt, a former foreign service officer, who was in

the United States Consulate in Shanghai at the time the 4th Marines left in November 1941. He clearly recalled the events leading up to the departure of the Marines and the scene at the bund when the Marines boarded lighters to take them to their transport anchored midstream in the Whangpo River.

A final interview conducted during this period was with Maj Earl J. Wilson, USMCR (Ret), who was a Marine Corps public affairs officer in World War II. Maj Wilson came into Gen Denig's Combat Correspondents program early on and, like most of the other CCs and PAOs, saw a considerable amount of field duty and combat. In his several interview sessions, Maj Wilson commented on the operations of a PAO in combat and donated a number of pictures which shall be put in his transcript when it is bound. □1775□

Combined Action Program Vets Meet in Washington, Visit Museum

by Jack Shulimson
Head, Histories Section

"In small wars, tolerance, sympathy, and kindness should be the keynote of our relationship with the mass of the population . . . The purpose should always be to restore normal government . . . and to establish peace, order, and security."

— *United States Marine Corps
Small Wars Manual*, 1940 edition

These words had special meaning to the some 60 Vietnam veterans, all members of the Combined Action Veterans Association which held its second annual convention in Washington, D.C., from 9-12 November. Coming from all over the country, they met at the Capital Holiday Inn to renew acquaintances, share experiences, and attempt to preserve the history of their unique organization. For four days in a series of panels, meetings, tours of the Marine Corps Historical Center, and a visit to the Vietnam Memorial, these veterans relived and elaborated on their attempt to bring "peace, order, and security" to Vietnam.

The Combined Action Program had its inception in the summer of 1965 in Vietnam as an expedient to improve base security. The concept involved the assigning of a Marine squad to a South Vietnamese Popular Force (local military responsible to

the district chief) platoon. The Marines received rudimentary training in Vietnamese language, history, customs, and military and governmental organization. Initially, organized into five combined action platoons, these Marines entered into the life of their assigned village and were integrated into its defense. They offered military training to the Popular Force troops, while at the same time participating in civic action.

The program expanded rapidly. By the end of 1966 there were 57 combined action platoons with 760 Marines and 1,490 Popular Force troops. At the height of the program in the spring of 1970 there were 114 combined action platoons involving some 2,000 Marines and Navy Corpsmen and 3,000 South Vietnamese. These units were divided into four Combined Action Groups at the province level.

As the program expanded, the mission also grew from base security to the attainment of village-level pacification. Called by some an armed "Peace Corps," the combined action Marines attempted to train the local Popular Force militia and villagers to sustain and defend themselves. From a historical perspective, it is still impossible to determine the effectiveness of the Combined Action Program in precise terms. The

Marines, however, believed in what they were doing and that in some way they made life safer for their villagers and provided a protective screen for Marine units.

It is, however, this historical perspective that James G. Duguid, founder and executive director of the organization, hopes to capture. He arranged to record all of the historical presentations at the convention and donated copies of these tapes to the Historical Center. Mr. Duguid has recently received a research grant from the Marine Corps Historical Center for the transcription of interviews with combined action Marines and the development of a data base relative to combined action Marines.

The Combined Action Veterans Association has had a close relationship with the Marine Corps Historical Center. This writer attended the association's first convention last year in San Francisco and conducted several oral history interviews, and was made an honorary member of the organization. Carl M. DeVere, Sr., head of the Exhibits Section, created a special combined action display, which was much remarked upon by the veterans. At this convention, the organization formalized its structure and plans to meet on the West Coast next year. □1775□

In Memoriam

LtGen Mangrum, Pearl Harbor Vet, Past ACMC Dies

*by Benis M. Frank
Head, Oral History Section*

Former Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps and veteran Marine aviator LtGen Richard C. Mangrum, USMC (Ret), died on 28 September in Southern Pines, North Carolina, at the age of 79. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery in a graveside service with simple military honors on 4 October.

A veteran of two wars, Gen Mangrum was decorated with the Navy Cross and the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary heroism while commanding VMSB-232, the first Marine dive bomber squadron to fly onto Guadalcanal and operate in the Solomons following the landing of the 1st Marine Division there in August 1942.

Gen Mangrum enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in September 1928, completed primary flight training in Seattle the following December, and advanced flight training at Pensacola in February the next year. He was commissioned a Reserve second lieutenant in April and placed on inactive duty for a brief period. He returned to active duty as a Reservist in June and remained on active duty until his retirement nearly 40 years later. He became a Regular in February 1941.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked, Capt Mangrum was stationed at Ewa Field on Oahu as a member of VMSB-232 and was given command of the squadron in January 1942. He flew to Guadalcanal, arriving there 20 August 1942. Eight days later he led a flight of SBDs in a dive-bombing attack on a Japanese surface force of four destroyers. One destroyer was sunk, one severely damaged, and another received a direct hit. For his courageous leadership and utter disregard for personal safety in this attack, Maj Mangrum was given the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In October, LtCol Mangrum was decorated with the Navy Cross for:

... extraordinary heroism and distinguished service in the line of his profession as leader of Marine Scout-Bombing Squadron 232 in the Solomon Islands Area against enemy forces from August 20 to September 15, 1942. Commanding a Navy and Marine

Corps striking force of sixteen planes, Lieutenant Colonel Mangrum intercepted and attacked an enemy task force of surface craft which was planning to attack our beachhead on Guadalcanal. Striking with lightning-like precision, his planes dropped all their bombs before the enemy surface craft could initiate evasive tactics, making a direct hit on the largest transport, blasting men and debris into the water, and setting the ship afire. After a cruiser was also hit and left burning, later to disappear, the Japanese were forced to withdraw and abandon their mission. Lieutenant Colonel Mangrum's high quality of leadership and the aggressive spirit of his command in action contributed in large measure to the success achieved by our forces and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Following his first tour in the Pacific, Col Mangrum returned to the States in January 1943 for several assignments before once again heading for the Pacific, this time to become chief of staff of the 3d MAW and then commander of MAG-45, 4th MAW. His last assignment in the war zone was as air defense commander at Ulithi. At the end of the war, Col Mangrum was assigned to the Division of Aviation at Headquarters, Marine Corps, and

then to the Naval War College where he was first a student and then an instructor. In July 1951, he flew to Korea to take command of MAG-12, and later was 1st MAW liaison officer to 5th Air Force Headquarters in Seoul.

On his return to the United States in June 1952, Col Mangrum became chief of staff of the Education Center at Quantico, and two years later he took command of the Marine Corps Air Station at Miami, Florida. In June 1956 he arrived at Headquarters, Marine Corps, to become deputy assistant chief of staff, G-3, and the following month he was promoted to brigadier general. After a three-year tour at Headquarters, Gen Mangrum was transferred to Iwakuni to become, successively, assistant wing commander of the 1st MAW and then, with his promotion to major general, commanding general of the wing. Several other major assignments followed his tour in Japan, and in July 1965, he was promoted to lieutenant general and assumed the duties of the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. Gen Mangrum retired on 30 June 1967.

LtGen Richard C. Mangrum in official photograph as Assistant Commandant in 1965.



LTGEN RICHARD G. WEEDE, USMC (RET), who earned the Distinguished Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious service in Vietnam as chief of staff of the U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, and a Gold Star in lieu of a second DSM for service as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, died 22 October at the age of 74 in Portsmouth Naval Hospital after a long bout with cancer. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on 25 October with full military honors.

A native of Sterling, Kansas, he attended Kansas State Teachers College for two years before entering the Naval Academy and graduating in the Class of 1935. Gen Weede was a member of the famous Basic School class of 1935, which provided the Marine Corps with two Commandants and more general officers than any other Basic School class. He was an artilleryman in the early part of his career and commanded the 5-Inch Artillery Group which landed on Tarawa shortly after the invasion. He was later given command of 2d Battalion, 10th Marines, which participated in the landing on Iheya Shima during the final stages of the Okinawa campaign.

During the interwar years, he was assigned successively to the Navy Department's Bureau of Ordnance and Marine Corps Schools in Quantico. He then was assigned to the 1st Marine Division in Korea, where he commanded the 5th Marines and was later division chief of staff.

After selection to the rank of brigadier general in 1958, Gen Weede was named Commanding General, Recruit Training Command, Marine Corps Recruit Depot,

LtGen Richard G. Weede



San Diego. He left San Diego in November 1959 to assume command of the 1st Marine Brigade at Kaneohe and was promoted to major general in August 1961.

Gen Weede left Hawaii for Saigon in February 1962 to become chief of staff of the newly activated U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. Upon his return to HQMC in June 1964, he was assigned as G-3 and in July 1965 he became Director of Personnel. Gen Weede was nominated for three-star rank in May 1967 to become CG, FMFLant/II Marine Expeditionary Force. He retired on 31 August 1969, after 34 years of active service.

MAJGEN EDWIN B. WHEELER, USMC (RET), 67, suffered a fatal heart attack at his home in Dallas on 14 October. His ashes were laid to rest in a private graveside service with simple military honors on 18 October at Arlington National Cemetery.

He was born in Port Chester, New York, in March 1918, was schooled there, and graduated from Williams College in 1939. It was in March 1941, while he was attending New York University Law School, that he enlisted in the Marine Corps. Three months later he was commissioned.

His initial assignment was as a rifle platoon leader in the 1st Raider Battalion—Edson's Raiders. Lt Wheeler participated in the Tulagi and Guadalcanal operations and later led a Raider company in the battle for New Georgia. In the postwar period, Maj Wheeler served at various posts and stations at home and abroad. In the Korean War, he commanded the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion and then the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, and before leaving Korea he served as 5th Marines regimental executive officer.

Following his promotion to colonel in July 1959, he was Marine Corps aide to three Secretaries of the Navy—W. B. Franke, John B. Connally, and Fred Korth. He next commanded Marine Barracks, 8th and I, Washington, D.C., before leaving for Vietnam, where he commanded the 3d Marines. Upon his return to the states, Col Wheeler was commander of The Basic School. At his promotion to general officer rank in 1966, he left for Camp Lejeune to become assistant division commander, 2d Marine Division, and later took command of the division as a brigadier general.

He was promoted to major general in 1968, and two years later, he left Camp

Lejeune for his last duty assignment as G-1 at Headquarters, Marine Corps, where he remained until his retirement in 1972.

BGEN AMERICO A. SARDO, USMC (RET), died of a heart attack at the age of 55 on 1 September at Salisbury, Maryland. He was born in Murtosa, Portugal, in 1930 and came to the United States with his family four years later, settling in North Tarrytown, New York. He graduated from Wesleyan University in 1952, and in the following two years, he attended the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, where he received a master's degree in public affairs.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps in November 1954, attended officer candidate school at Quantico, and was commissioned in February 1955. He served on active duty for three years and returned to civilian life to work for W. R. Grace and Company as an economic analyst. Lt Sarido returned to active duty in March 1959 and was initially assigned to the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton.

After a tour with the 1st MAW on Okinawa, Capt Sarido returned to the United States for a three-year stint at West Point, where he was an assistant professor in the Department of Social Studies and an instructor in Latin American studies. Maj Sarido served two years as Senior Marine Advisor to the Venezuelan Marine Corps.

In 1967 he was posted to Vietnam where he was executive officer of the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines. A year later he returned to the States and to Headquarters

MajGen Edwin B. Wheeler





BGen Americo A. Sardo

ers, Marine Corps, where he was a member of the Joint Planning Group in the Plans and Programs Division. LtCol Sardo was assigned as Marine Corps Aide to Vice President Ford in June 1973, and remained his aide when Mr. Ford became President.

Col Sardo attended the National War College, 1975-1976, and was then transferred to the 2d Marine Division, where he served successively as division inspector; Commanding Officer, 8th Marines; and division G-3. He was promoted to general officer rank in June 1979, when he became director of the Training Division, Headquarters, Marine Corps. Two years later he was forced to retire because of a heart condition. Gen Sardo was buried with full military honors at Arlington Cemetery.

COL NICHOLAS A. CANZONA, USMCR (RET), a former Marine Corps historian who was the co-author of Volumes I, II, and III of *U.S. Marine Corps Operations in Korea*, died in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on 23 August at the age of 60, shortly after he was discovered to be suffering from leukemia.

A native Chicagoan, Col Canzona was a student at St. Mary's College in Minnesota when he enlisted in the Marine Corps in January 1943 for assignment to the V-12 College Training Program. He was sent to Notre Dame and Cornell Universities, and in 1945 went to Parris Island for recruit training and then to Quantico for officer candidate school. He was commissioned a regular after graduation from the first postwar Basic School class.

During the interwar period, he served at Midway, Pearl Harbor, and Camp Lejeune, and had just graduated from the Engineer Officers' School at Fort Belvoir when the Korean War erupted. He was then assigned to the 1st Marine Brigade at Camp Pendleton as an engineer platoon leader. He fought with the brigade in the Pusan Perimeter and participated in the Inchon landing and the liberation of Seoul with the 1st Marine Division. For his actions during the fighting at Chosin Reservoir and later, he was decorated with the Silver Star Medal. In 1951, he participated in Operation Killer, the first United Nations counteroffensive against Chinese Communist forces in the war.

Lt Canzona returned from Korea in April 1951, when he served briefly in Philadelphia before being assigned as inspector-instructor in Baltimore. He was promoted to captain in 1952 and the following year was transferred to the Historical Branch at Headquarters, Marine Corps, for duty as a historical writer. Between 1953 and 1956, with Lynn Montross, he wrote the first three volumes of the official Marine Corps history of operations in Korea. During this same period, he completed studies at Johns Hopkins University, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in chemistry in 1954.

With the end of his writing assignment in 1957, Capt Canzona transferred to the Marine Corps Reserve to begin a business career. At the same time, he joined the history faculty of the Naval Academy. He remained active in the Marine Corps Reserve, was promoted to major in 1957, and four years later he became executive officer of the 1st Engineer Battalion, USMCR, in Baltimore.

Three years later, as a lieutenant colonel, he took command of the battalion, now redesignated the 4th Engineer Battalion, FMF, USMCR. LtCol Canzona returned to active service in 1966 to become division engineer officer of the re-



Col Nicholas A. Canzona

cently activated 4th Marine Division Headquarters. He served successively as assistant G-3 and then G-3 of the division, and was promoted to the rank of colonel in 1968. Less than a year later, in March 1969, Col Canzona went to Vietnam, where he commanded the 1st Marine Division Headquarters Battalion. In October, he was reassigned as division G-4, and returned to the States in March 1970.

For his service in Vietnam, he was decorated with the Legion of Merit with combat "V" and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star. His next stateside assignment was command of the 25th Marines, USMCR, in Worcester, Massachusetts in April, and three years later, Col Canzona was assigned as deputy director, Division of Reserve, Headquarters, Marine Corps. He assumed the directorship in December 1973. He retired to Winston-Salem in 1974, to begin a career as a real estate broker. In 1980, he mounted an unsuccessful campaign for a North Carolina state senate seat. Col Canzona was buried with full honors in Arlington Cemetery on 28 August. □1775□

Academy Monthly Seeks Marine Grads

Marine officer graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy are sought to participate in the monthly periodical *Marine Outlook*, which chronicles the promotions, duty assignments, and career highlights of graduates from general officers to second lieutenants, to provide midshipmen information on Corps opportunities. Alumni are asked to mail current photographs, brief biographical sketches, and updates on activities to: Capt Keith Oliver, Editor; *Marine Outlook*; Division of English & History; U.S. Naval Academy; Annapolis, Maryland 21402. Information is also accepted by telephone at (301) 267-3377/2819.

FLIGHT LINES

Consolidated-Vultee OY-2 Sentinel

*by Maj Frank M. Batha, Jr., USMC
Aviation Historian*

The Sentinel design evolved from the Stinson Voyager, a light three-seat airplane built for private flying. Acquired by the Army in 1942 as the L-5 and the Marine Corps in 1943 as the OY-1, construction of the Sentinel differed from the original Voyager design in order to conserve alloy materials and improve its military qualities. The fabric-covered, high-wing monoplane used a welded steel-tube fuselage structure joined to all-wood

wing and tail sections. It was powered by a six-cylinder, horizontally opposed, air-cooled Lycoming engine. The enclosed cabin was rearranged to seat two in tandem. Crew visibility was improved by reducing the height of the rear fuselage, using transparent panels in the roof, and inclining the sides of the cabin slightly outward.

The Sentinel was obtained by the Marine Corps in order to have a "direct sup-

port" artillery spotting capability. Noting the Army's success with the direct assignment of light observation aircraft to field artillery battalions, the Marine Corps determined to develop a similar capability. A new "breed" of Marine observation squadron (VMO) was established, and the Sentinel was selected as the airplane to be used in carrying out the VMO mission.

Marine Corps combat experience with the "direct support" observation squadron concept actually occurred under somewhat irregular circumstances while the first of the new OY-1 equipped VMOs were being formed. During the Cape Gloucester operation of 1943-44, MajGen William H. Rupertus established an Air Liaison Unit to support his 1st Marine Division. Using Piper Cub airplanes borrowed from the Army, and officers and enlisted men assigned to the division, the Air Liaison Unit flew more than 1,000 artillery spotting, reconnaissance, transport, and general utility missions during the operation. It was a pattern often repeated throughout the remainder of the war by VMOs at Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.

The aircraft model designation OY-2 was established to allay confusion resulting from the use of two entirely different electrical systems in the OY-1. Originally the OY-1 used a 12-volt system, but follow-on productions were equipped with a 24-volt system. In December 1948, all OY-1s with 24-volt electrical systems were redesignated as OY-2s.

During the Korean War the Sentinel saw a final period of combat service when it was used by VMO-6 from August 1950 until April 1952.

The Sentinel on display at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum was originally an OY-1 (Bureau No. 120454) which was redesignated an OY-2 after undergoing the 24-volt electrical system retrofit. It saw service with VMOs-1 and -6. □1775□



In addition to its use as an artillery spotting platform, the OY-2 Sentinel was also valuable to Marine combat troops for the medical evacuation capabilities it provided.

Technical Data

As depicted for a reconnaissance mission in the OY-2 airplane characteristics and performance chart issued 1 December 1954.

Manufacturer: Consolidated-Vultee Aircraft Corporation, Stinson Aircraft Division, Wayne, Michigan.

Type: Short-range observation and liaison.

Accommodation: Pilot and one passenger.

Power Plant: One 190-h.p. Lycoming O-435-11.

Dimensions: Span, 34 ft.; Length, 24 ft., 1 in.; Height, 7 ft., 1 in.

Weights: Empty, 1,600 lbs.; Gross, 2,265 lbs.

Performance: Max. speed, 110 kn.p.h. at sea level; Service ceiling, 15,600 ft.; Range, 310 n. mi.; Climb at sea level, 900 ft. per min.

Features: One litter or 200 lbs. of cargo, five message containers, type A-1 message pick-up system, and provisions for a K-20 camera.

Korean War Chronology

September 1950

by Robert V. Aquilina
Assistant Head, Reference Section

Throughout August 1950, while the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade slammed the door on repeated North Korean thrusts during the defense of the Pusan Perimeter, plans were underway for a major American amphibious operation on South Korea's western coast. The target city was Inchon, barely 25 miles from the occupied South Korean capital city of Seoul, and its adjacent Kimpo airfield.

The numerous obstacles confronting the planners of the operation were formidable indeed. After navigating a narrow channel up from the Yellow Sea, the attacking force at Inchon would confront tidal fluctuations of 31 feet, which flooded over 6,000 yards of vast mud flats. This factor necessitated a landing date of 15 September, unless the United Nations Command wished to postpone the landing until mid-October. Undaunted by the enormous personnel, logistical, and hydrographic odds facing his command, Gen Douglas MacArthur determined to press ahead with Operation Chromite—the September landing at Inchon.

On 5 September, the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade was disengaged from active combat with North Korean forces and moved to Pusan. The brigade was disbanded on 13 September, and its components absorbed into their old designations in the 1st Marine Division. The commanding general of the division

U.S. Navy ships that brought the 1st Marine Division invasion force to Korea appear stranded in mud flats in Inchon harbor, which has a 31-foot tide, in this photograph from 16 September 1950.



was 57-year-old MajGen Oliver P. Smith, whose Marines were assembled in the Inchon target area on the eve of D-day as the landing force of X Corps, commanded by MajGen Edward M. Almond, USA. The specific operation plan called for a battalion of the 5th Marines to land on Wolmi-do Island in Inchon harbor in the early morning tide and secure that commanding position prior to the main landings by the remaining two battalions of the 5th Marines and the 1st Marines later in the day.

Following preliminary air and naval bombardments by Joint Task Force 7, Battalion Landing Team 3/5 seized Wolmi-do Island in the morning hours of 15 September, followed by early evening landings of the remaining 5th Marines and 1st Marines battalions on the “beaches” of Inchon harbor. The North Koreans were caught completely by surprise, and barely one day after the landings, the 1st Marine Division was on the road towards Seoul.

On 17 September, LtCol Raymond L. Murray's 5th Marines took Kimpo Airfield, crossed the Han River, and captured enemy positions less than 10 miles southwest of Seoul. The 1st Marines, under the command of Col Lewis B. “Chesty” Puller, had meanwhile

The day before, 15 September 1950, 1st Division Marines aboard landing craft readied scaling ladders for their assault on the Inchon seawall in General MacArthur's Operation Chromite.



advanced directly toward the Seoul suburb of Yongdungpo. Close air support was effectively provided by squadrons of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, flying from carriers during the amphibious assault, and subsequently based at Kimpo. By 20 September, Marines had crossed the Han River along a six-mile beachhead. Marine columns cut the road to Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, and approached the outskirts of Seoul. The South Korean capital itself was reached on 25 September by the 1st and 5th Marines. In two days of house-to-house fighting, the 1st Marine Division liberated Seoul from its captors to pave the way for South Korean President Syngman Rhee's triumphal reentry to his capital city.

The U.S. Eighth Army was conducting a combined offensive to the south, and on 26 September advance units made contact just south of Seoul with an Army regiment of X Corps. An early end to the war appeared in sight as Col Homer L. Litzenberg's 7th Marines, after landing on the 21st, pushed rapidly north of Seoul to seize Uijongbu, and the main road to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

Planned in a record time of approximately 20 days, the Inchon-Seoul operation dealt a stunning blow to the North Korean People's Army. The capability and readiness of Marines in executing a major amphibious assault under the most difficult conditions of weather and geography earned the glowing admiration of Gen MacArthur and the American public. With the North Korean Army on the run, rumors abounded that the war would soon be over, and the "boys home by Christmas." Few observers could foresee that in little more than one month the 1st Marine Division would be fighting for its survival. □1775□

After their capture of Wolmi-do Island on 15 September, members of Battalion Landing Team 315 secure prisoners for transport to the mainland at Inchon for questioning and medical care.



In a much reprinted photograph, men of the 1st Marine Division mount scaling ladders and storm over the seawall to consolidate the Inchon beachhead on 15 September, swiftly completing one of "the fastest operations on record" and taking few casualties.

Men on their way to reinforce 1st Division front lines northeast of Inchon on 17 September pause to look over a knocked-out and still-smoldering North Korean T-34 tank in their path.



Reserve Historical Unit Report: 'VMFA-323' Nears Printing

by LtCol Cyril V. Moyber, USMCR

Col Gerald R. Pitzl, USMCR, reported to the Historical Center for one week's active duty on 19 August. During that time, he incorporated comments in the working draft for the upcoming publication of "A History of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323." The history will become a part of the History and Museums Division's air squadron history series.

The squadron history program, overseen by aviation writer Maj Frank M. Batha, USMC, provides concise operational narratives of squadrons. To date, six histories of such units have been published, and five others, including VMFA-323, are in various stages of completion. The histories not only contribute to the troop information and public affairs programs of the Marine Corps, but are also used by unit commanders to give their officers and men an enhanced sense of *esprit* for their organizations, and a deeper sense of responsibility and identity with them.

This project was initiated in 1980 by Capt William H. Bowers, USMCR, the squadron's unit historian. When Capt Bowers left active service, Col Pitzl, then a new member of the MTU, was assigned to the project during the summer of 1981.

Col Pitzl joined the Marine Corps in December 1952 and was commissioned in May 1956. He has served overseas tours in Japan, the Philippines, Korea, and Vietnam. In his civilian career, Dr. Pitzl is an associate professor of geography at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, where, for the last 13 years, he has taught courses in geography, cartography, and computer science.

He is currently writing a preface, appendix, and captions for the photos; the history will then be sent to the Government Printing Office for publication. □1775□

LtGen George C. Axtell, USMC (Ret), a World War II ace on Okinawa and the first commanding officer of VMFA-323, reviewed the comment edition of the squadron's history with Col Pitzl in August.



Foundation Annual Meeting

(continued from page 24)

Col James A. Bracken, USMC (Ret)
 Capt Marshall K. Snyder, USMC
 Col Harold A. Hayes, Jr., USMC (Ret)
 LtCol Joseph A. Como, USMC (Ret)
 Mr. Robert E. Millett
 SgtMaj Frank Turse, USMC (Ret)
 China Post 1 (In Exile)
 Mr. Frederick D. Hunt
 Col Sheldon C. Downes, USMCR
 "RAM" Detachment, MCL No. 571
 Mr. James E. Sullivan
 5th ROC
 Mr. David H. Hugel
 Mr. Christopher S. Donner
 Col Harvey C. Barnum, USMC
 Col Cleon E. Hammond, USMCR (Ret)
 Capt J. Gene Hochfelder, USMCR (Ret)
 Cadet Phillip J. Ridderhof
 Col S. N. Collins, Jr., USMCR
 Col Richard S. Johnson, USMC (Ret)
 Mr. Eric H. Archer
 Maj Richard C. Kennard, USMCR (Ret)
 Maj Robert C. Sevilian, USMC (Ret)
 Mr. V. Hollingsworth

Inquiries about the Foundation's activities may be sent to the office at the Historical Center or calls can be made to (202) 433-3914 or 433-2945.

Historical Quiz: Quotes By, About, and For Marines

(Answers to questions on page 7)

1. Radio message to MajGen Julian C. Smith, CG, 2d Marine Division, aboard USS *Maryland* (BB 46), from Col David M. Shoup ashore at Betio (Tarawa), 21 November 1943.
2. LtGen Alexander A. Vandegrift to the Senate Naval Affairs Committee, 5 May 1946 (regarding U.S. Army proposals for abolition of the Marine Corps).
3. LtGen Holland M. Smith, *Coral and Brass*, page 19, 1949.
4. LtGen Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, *Marine*, 1962.
5. LtGen Victor H. Krulak, to Marines leaving for Vietnam, April 1965.
6. James Forrestal to LtGen Holland M. Smith, as Marines raised the colors on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, 23 February 1945.
7. Adm David D. Porter, USN.
8. GySgt Daniel Daly, to his platoon at Belleau Wood, 6 June 1918.
9. President Harry S. Truman in a 29 August 1950 letter to Congressman Gordon L. McDonough, replying to the Congressman's 21 August 1950 suggestion that the Marine Corps be entitled to full recognition as a major branch of the Armed Forces.
10. Gen Douglas MacArthur, on the outskirts of Seoul, Korea, 21 September 1950.

Annual Meeting Introduces New Foundation Officers

The Annual Meeting of the membership of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation was held on 4 November. Almost 100 members attended, some from as far away as California and Maine. Foundation outgoing President, LtGen Donn J. Robertson, USMC (Ret), reported on the state of the organization under his stewardship. BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC (Ret), reported on the status of the Marine Corps Historical Program.

The outgoing Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Col William P. McCahill, USMCR (Ret), gave the results of the recent election for members of the Board of Directors. They are:

For a term of three years: LtGen William K. Jones, USMC (Ret); LtGen George C. Axtell, USMC (Ret); MajGen Norman J. Anderson, USMC (Ret); LtGen Donn J. Robertson, USMC (Ret); Gen Robert E. Hogaboom, USMC (Ret); Col Margaret M. Henderson, USMC (Ret); and Col Leslie A. Gilson, USMC (Ret).

For a term of two years: Col Warren P. Baker, USMC (Ret), and BGen Jacob E. Glick, USMC (Ret).

For a term of one year: LtCol Lily H. Gridley, USMCR (Ret).

In our continuing commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the ending of World War II, MajGen Fred E. Haynes, USMC (Ret), reminisced on the occupation of Japan and BGen J. Donald Hittle, USMC (Ret), did the same for the occupation of China.

Following the traditional members' luncheon, the Board of Directors retired to their semi-annual meeting. Chief order of business was the election of officers and a chairman for the Board.

The new officers and chairman are: MajGen John P. Condon, USMC (Ret), president; LtGen William K. Jones, USMC (Ret), vice president; LtCol Cyril V. Moyher, USMCR, secretary; Mr. Gordon F. Heim, treasurer; and LtGen Donn J. Robertson, USMC (Ret), chairman of the Board of Directors.

As of 12 November, the Foundation has 1,051 members. Those who have joined since the listing in the summer issue of *Fortitudine* are:

MajGen John J. Salesses, USMCR
Maj William D. Schleier, USMCR
Dr. Eugene B. Sledge
ICdr John P. Dooley, USN
Capt Chase Small, USMCR (Ret)
Mr. Irwin T. Hyatt, Jr.
LtCol Charles D. Perriguet, Jr., USMCR
Mr. Earl W. James
Mr. Richard P. Baylor
ICdr Mitchell N. Weber, USN
WO-1 James H. Edwards, USMCR
Mr. Michael H. Allen
Col John A. Gunn, USMCR (Ret)
MajGen Roy E. Moss, USMC (Ret)
MajGen Rathvon McC. Tompkins, USMC (Ret)
Col Fred A. Smith, USMCR (Ret)
Col David J. Leighton, USMCR
Col William L. Golemon, USMCR (Ret)
The 6th ROC Association
Mr. Howard C. Westwood
Mr. Robert C. Sterling
Maj William I. Landauer, USMC (Ret)
LtCol James A. Michener, USMC (Ret)
MGySgt George R. Polk, USMCR
Capt Donald K. Willingham, USMCR
Miss Maria G. Fraker
Capt Robert I. Katz, USNR (Ret)
Mr. Frederick L. Donnelly
Mr. James D. Hay, Jr.
Mr. Fred N. Ropkey

(continued on page 23)