

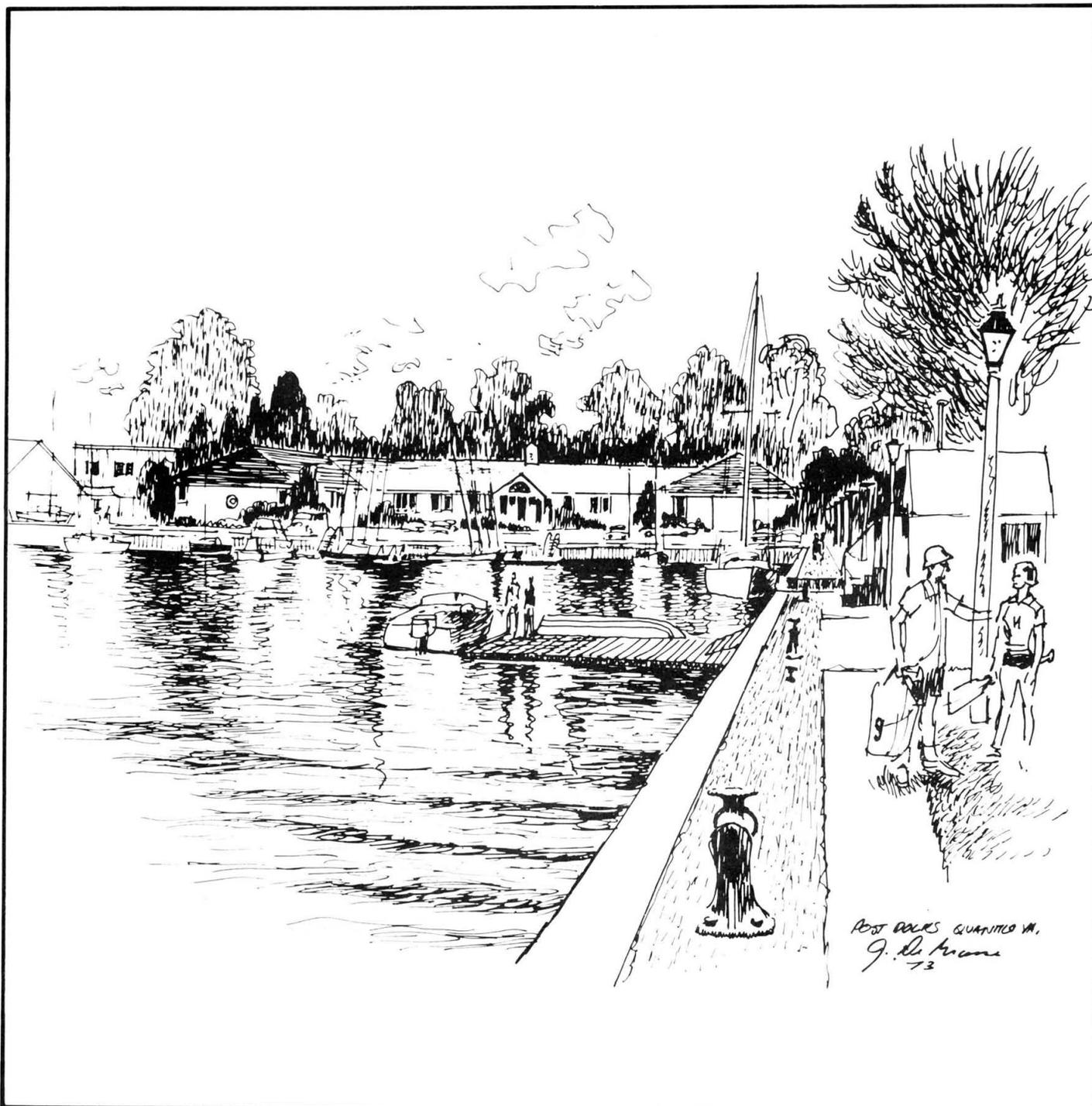
FORTITUDINE

BULLETIN OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

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ARTIST JOHN DEGRASSE'S LEGACY TO THE CORPS . . . THE PERSEVERING PERFORMANCE OF LTGEN 'HOWLIN' MAD' SMITH . . . MUSEUM MANAGERS VIEW EFFORTS OF EUROPEAN COUNTERPARTS . . . CORPS' SHORT-LIVED REISING GUN . . . A CHRONOLOGY OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM . . . PRESERVING MEMORIES OF THE 'GREAT WAR'

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

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THE COVER

"Post Docks, Quantico, Virginia" by John DeGrasse, serves both to illustrate pleasant pursuits of the last fine days of autumn and to provide a delightful example of the work of the recently deceased artist, a longtime colleague and friend of members of the Marine Corps historical community and an avid recreational boater. A Marine NCO, DeGrasse followed his active military service with continued involvement with the Corps as one of the most-published illustrators of its personalities, locales, and missions. In the course of a long career he produced more than 100 covers for *Leatherneck* and *Marine Corps Gazette*. Curator of Art John T. Dyer, Jr., offers an appreciation, with more illustrations, on page 18.

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Alabama's Holland M. Smith



BGen Simmons

ON 25 AUGUST 1989, Gen Holland M. Smith—the legendary “Howlin’ Mad” Smith—was inducted into Alabama’s Military Hall of Honor, a long overdue honor.

The warrior ethic is strong in Alabama and it is also a state wherein the populace is unabashedly patriotic. The Military Hall of Honor is at the Marion Military Institute, one of the oldest military academies in the country, but Marion is not close to anything, so the induction ceremonies were held in Birmingham.

It was a black-tie affair, held at The Club up on Red Mountain overlooking the city. The Club is a glittering kind of place more suited, I would think, to Palm

Springs or Las Vegas than to Birmingham. The 4th Marine Aircraft Wing Band was there to provide music, which they did, and exceedingly well. MajGen Donald R. Gardner, CG MCB Camp Lejeune, was the Commandant’s representative and I was there to give the dedicatory remarks on Gen Smith.

Holland M. Smith was just one of four persons being inducted.

THE LATE Cpl Sidney E. Manning, USA, called by Pershing one of the ten immortals of the American Expeditionary Forces, received the Medal of Honor for his remarkable performance as the erstwhile commander of a rifle platoon

of the Rainbow Division on 28 July 1918.

RAdm James S. Freeman, Sr., also deceased, beached his cargo ship, USS *Alchiba*, at Guadalcanal on 28 November 1942 and unloaded supplies and ammunition under fire, an action that gained him the Navy Cross.

Col William R. Lawley, Jr., USAF, the fourth inductee, is still alive and was present at the ceremony. As a lieutenant he had brought home to England his crippled B-17 bomber. Badly wounded himself, his co-pilot dead, the other eight members of his crew wounded, and with a full bomb load frozen in the racks and his engines either out or burning, he still managed a successful crash landing. Recovering from his wounds, Bill Lawley received the Medal of Honor and went on to a full career in the Air Force.

Gen Smith’s accomplishments were of a different sort.

About 175 to 200 persons were present, including about 20 flag officers, most of them active or retired Army generals, regular, National Guard, or Reserve. I was given to understand that there are still residual sensitivities over the Smith vs. Smith controversy at Saipan and that these feelings had possibly delayed Howlin’ Mad Smith’s juried acceptance into the Hall of Honor.

THE SMITHS WERE an old Georgian family who had come to Alabama after the Civil War. Holland McIyeire Smith was born on 20 April 1882 in Russell County in the heart of the Cotton Belt. His father was a young school teacher who had read the law and had been admitted to the bar a year before Holland’s birth. Holland’s mother was of staunchly Methodist Scotch-Irish extraction, hence his middle name, McIyeire. When he was three the family moved into Seale, the county seat, which then had something less than 300 persons. His elementary education was in Seale’s one-room, one-teacher schoolhouse.

Holland’s father, John V. Smith, ac-

Smith family portrait includes young Holland, top left, and his mother, at center, and father, at center right. The Smiths had moved to Russell County, Alabama, from Georgia after the Civil War. His father, John V., originally a schoolteacher, later admitted to the bar, was reputed to be one of the best criminal lawyers in the state.



quired the reputation of being one of the best criminal lawyers in the state. Father and son were not particularly close, but it was taken for granted that Holland would follow his father into law. In 1898 he entered Alabama Polytechnical Institute, which later became Auburn University. Polytech was run as a military school. Holland did not like the uniforms or the drill and he barely managed to graduate. History was his favorite subject and Napoleon was his favorite general. He graduated in 1901 and at his father's insistence enrolled in a two-year law course at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. He was a good short-distance runner and in his senior year at the University was captain of the track team. He graduated in 1903 and returned to Seale to work in his father's law office. He did not do well.

After a year of this he went to Washington to see about getting a commission in the Army. There were no vacancies in the Army, but his congressman asked him if he would be interested in the Marines. He had never heard of the Marine Corps, but he jumped at the chance. He went to a cram school and in February 1905 passed the examinations for a commission. A month later he was appointed a second lieutenant.

HE LEARNED THE RUDIMENTS of being a Marine Corps officer at the School of Application at Marine Barracks, Annapolis, much as today's new lieutenants go to The Basic School at Quantico, Virginia. While at Annapolis he was much taken by Miss Ada Wilkinson of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

On finishing the course he was ordered to the 1st Brigade of Marines, then serving in the Philippines. It was garrison duty at the tag end of the Philippine Insurrection. There was no fighting to be done but there was hard training in jungle warfare.

On his return to the States in 1909 he married Miss Wilkinson. That year also saw him going, as a first lieutenant, on expeditionary duty to Nicaragua. After Nicaragua he was assigned to Marine Barracks, Annapolis, and then transferred to Marine Barracks, Bremerton, Washington. In 1912 he went once again to the Philippines to serve as a company commander in the 1st Regiment. Then he went to sea as Marine detachment commander in the cruiser *Galveston* which gave him 15 months in Asiatic waters. The war in Eu-



Maj Smith was the subject of a snapshot in France during the First World War.

rope had begun. In 1915 he returned to the States for duty at Marine Barracks, New Orleans. From here, as a captain and commander of the 8th Company, he went with the 4th Marine Regiment to active operations in Santo Domingo.

He was military commander of Puerto Plata on Santo Domingo's north coast when the United States entered the First World War in April 1917. Within a month he and his company were ordered to Philadelphia where the 5th Regiment was being formed for service in France.

HE SAILED WITH THE first convoy of American troops in mid-June 1917 in command of the 8th Machine Gun Company. Early in 1918 he became, as a major, brigade adjutant of the 4th Marine Brigade. The brigade saw action in a quiet section of trenches near Verdun and then was plunged into the battle for Belleau Wood. Major Smith's role in all this was not dramatic. He had moved from being brigade adjutant to brigade liaison officer. As such he was next assigned to the staff of I Corps, First Army. From this perspective he saw Soissons, St. Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne.

In an article, "Liaison," which appeared in the September 1919 *Marine Corps Gazette*, he called liaison "the nerve center of command." Much of what he called "liaison" we would now call "fire support coordination." ("The artillery cannot act efficaciously unless it is in intimate Liaison with the infantry which it is supporting.")

After being briefly with the Army of Occupation in Germany he came home in March 1919 to duty at Marine Barracks, Norfolk, Virginia. The following year he was sent to the Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island. He found it "bogged down in obsolescence," particularly in the area of amphibious warfare.

FOLLOWING HIS GRADUATION he was named to the Joint Army-Navy Planning Committee, a kind of forerunner of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, headed by the Chief of Staff of the Army and the Chief of Naval Operations. The planners were already quite certain that Japan was the most likely opponent and were devoting thought to a war in the Pacific. He was the first Marine to be so assigned.

Smith argued, without success, for the development of special amphibious landing craft. In 1924 the Navy and Marines held a large-scale landing exercise in the Caribbean. Smith, acting as an umpire, thought the results were appalling, most particularly in the ship-to-shore movement.

Smith's next assignment was as brigade adjutant of the Marine Brigade in Haiti, which the Marines had been policing since 1915. Two years passed uneventfully and then he went to Quantico where he wangled a slot in the Marine Corps Field Officers Course. The tactics being taught were too rooted in First World War experience and too defensive in nature to suit Smith. He was also one of those, along with Lejeune and Holcomb, who saw the future of the Marine Corps as being elsewhere than as a reinforcement to the Army in a land war in Europe.

THE YEARS WERE PASSING. He now went to the humdrum job of post quartermaster at Marine Barracks, Philadelphia Navy Yard. In 1930 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and in 1932 was detailed to the USS *California* as the Battle Force Marine Officer. There was a large-scale landing exercise on Oahu



MajGen Smith, expeditionary troops commander, points out American bombers headed for Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands for V Amphibious Corps Chief of Staff BGen Graves B. Erskine, without helmet, in February 1944. Next up was Eniwetok.

that did not impress him. The following year he served briefly as Commanding Officer, Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., and then, in 1935, became Chief of Staff, Department of the Pacific, in San Francisco.

He was sure that war with Japan would come. He wrote to the Commandant urging that planning and training for amphibious operations be stepped up. In March 1937, and now a colonel, he was transferred to the staff of the Commandant, now MajGen Thomas Holcomb, a long-time confidant and friend of President Roosevelt.

Smith continued to have a special interest in the development of landing craft. He was promoted to brigadier general in August 1939, and a month later, at about the same time that Hitler's armies marched into Poland, was transferred to Quantico to take command of the 1st Marine Brigade, Fleet Marine Force. In January 1940 he took his brigade to the Caribbean for amphibious training and landing exercises.

IN THE SUMMER OF 1940 the brigade moved to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and began building a tent camp. BGen Smith was demanding of his subordinates and he was having problems with the Navy, particularly with respect to landing craft.

It was about this time that these subor-

dinates began calling him "Howlin' Mad," although he did not learn of this nickname until much later when it appeared in a *Time* magazine article.

Actually, he was ordinarily a quiet-spoken man and very considerate of the officers and men around him. His contemporaries called him by the nickname "Hoke." Those who knew him best say that Smith never really lost his temper. "The greatest weapon that one can have," he told one subordinate, "is controlled anger, and the greatest defect that one can have is uncontrolled anger."

The joint commander of all U.S. land forces in the Marshall Islands campaign, MajGen Smith, confers on the battle situation in February 1944 with Army MajGen Charles H. Corlett. Smith's relationships with Army commanders would soon become controversial.



On the 1st of February 1941 the 1st Marine Brigade became the 1st Marine Division. There were more landing exercises. VAdm Ernest J. King, then commanding the Atlantic Fleet, was one of those with whom Smith frequently clashed.

IN JUNE 1941, I Corps (Provisional), U.S. Atlantic Fleet, was activated as an expeditionary force to consist of the 1st Marine Division and the 1st Infantry Division. Adm King insisted that Smith command the corps which in turn became the Amphibious Corps, Atlantic Fleet, essentially a training command.

When war did come on 7 December 1941, 59-year-old MajGen Holland M. Smith was in the prime of his professional life. He was of medium height, perhaps five feet nine or ten inches, and somewhat paunchy. His once-black hair had turned gray. His once-close-trimmed mustache was somewhat scraggly. He wore steel-rimmed glasses and he smoked cigars incessantly.

Except for the cigars, this was the man I saw when I received my diploma on graduating from the 9th Reserve Officers Course and 8th Candidates Class at Quantico on a Saturday morning, 22 August 1942. I knew only vaguely that this man commanded all the Marines assigned to the Atlantic Fleet.

A COPY OF HIS REMARKS has survived. What he had to say was not particularly profound, but there were kernels of wisdom in what he said about the art of command.

"You must develop the iron energy necessary to surmount every exigency which battle may bring forth," he said, "and you must develop an inflexible will to execute that which has been planned."

He spoke of the virtues of discipline and loyalty:

"In order for a leader to enjoy the loyalty of his subordinates, he must in turn be loyal to them Our Marines expect to be led. They expect their officers to share their hardships and their hazards and I say to you solemnly that you must never, under any circumstances, expect or call upon your men to show greater spirit or courage than that which you manifest yourself Let no man in your command have a better knowledge than you, of your weapons, their capabilities and their employment."

And then, in a few words, he sketched in what really was his own leadership credo:

"Avoid, as you would the plague, an uncontrolled temper. Shun favoritism. Treat every man with a similar firm kindness, and you will have mastered the rudiments in the art of command."

What I didn't know as a young second lieutenant was that there were great pressures from as high a level as President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill to either chop up the Marine Corps into commando-size pieces or to send its divisions to the European theater. It took men such as Gen Smith and the Commandant, Gen Holcomb, to resist these pressures, and to keep the Fleet Marine Force orient-

Major players in the Pacific War, from left, LtGen Holland M. Smith, VAdm Richmond K. Turner, and RAdm Harry W. Hill, off Iwo Jima in February 1945. Although Smith was in command of expeditionary troops he did not join the fighting ashore.



In February 1945, LtGen Smith and Chief of Staff Col Dudley S. Brown look over the beaches of Iwo Jima which Marines of the V Amphibious Corps had just won. Landing vehicles, bogged down in soft sand, had received concentrated enemy fire.

ed to the war against the Japanese, the war for which it had prepared.

GEN SMITH'S REMARKS to my graduating class were also, in effect, his farewell to Quantico. In that same month, August 1942, at least in partial recognition that the Marine Corps' war was in the Pacific, he turned over command of Amphibious Corps, Atlantic Fleet, to an Army general and prepared to take command of its West Coast counterpart, Amphibious Corps, Pacific Fleet.

When he left Quantico for San Diego

in September he took with him a hand-picked staff.

His chief of staff was the tough and capable Col (now General, deceased) Graves B. Erskine. Wounded at Belleau Wood and again at St. Mihiel and holder of the Silver Star, Erskine, after the First World War, had served in Haiti, Santo Domingo, Cuba, Nicaragua, and China. Already known as "the Big E," he had been Smith's chief of staff in both the 1st Marine Brigade and 1st Marine Division.

Erskine said later that he could usually see when Smith was getting ready to explode: "He drew himself up, and usually when he was real mad he would start breathing very heavily, and I could see it coming."

Another star performer was LtCol (now General, retired) Robert E. Hogaboom, a 1925 graduate of the Naval Academy who had seen service in Nicaragua and China and who at Quantico had won the reputation of being a brilliant instructor.

Mercurial LtCol (now Major General, deceased) Donald M. Weller was also a member of the team that Smith took with him to San Diego in September 1942. Weller had specialized in naval gunfire support on the staff of Amphibious Corps, Atlantic Fleet, and he would continue that specialty in the Pacific.

Weller, who remembered Smith as being extremely kind and considerate of his own staff, later pointed out how impor-

tant an influence the relationship established in 1941 between Adm King and Gen Smith was on subsequent Marine Corps operations in the Pacific.

THE CRUX OF THE PROBLEMS with Adm King had been the penchant of Navy admirals to get down into the tactical details of operations of the landing force once it was ashore.

“Adm King was a hard-nosed, irascible type; there’s no question about it,” remembered Weller. “King was very demanding, very arbitrary, autocratic, but competent. The relationship between Holland Smith and Adm King grew to be one of mutual respect, but it grew to be one of mutual respect because Holland Smith refused to lay over and play dead and let King run over him.”

Capt (now Lieutenant General, retired) Victor H. Krulak had been under Smith in both the brigade and division and in the new command he served as his aide (Smith found his facile pen most useful) and as assistant logistics officer. In his book, *First to Fight*, Gen Krulak has this to say about Smith:

He took the Marines of the East Coast Fleet Marine Force—about three thousand of them, air and ground—to the Caribbean in the autumn of 1940 and drove them mercilessly in landing exercises at Culebra, grinding the rough edges off their performance. . . . He made few friends in the Navy with his critical assessment that the landing craft and troop transport available for the 1940 exercises were wholly inadequate.

SMITH HAD FOUND the BuShips-designed landing craft to be “without merit.” He had sighted in on a boat developed by Andrew Higgins of New Orleans. Erskine remembered that “Higgins had been building boats for the rum runners, which were pretty fast; they could run up into the beaches where the Coast Guard couldn’t follow, and get away from them.”

Smith considered the Higgins boat, of which they had a dozen or so for testing, to be the only satisfactory type of landing craft.

“If we had 300 of those boats and the ships to carry them,” he said, “we’d be in business.”

This was the time also of the development of Donald Roebbling’s “Alligator” into the amphibian tractor or “Landing Vehicle, Tracked” (LVT). Capt Krulak was put in charge of its testing. During the Culebra maneuvers Smith arranged for Krulak to give Adm King a demonstration of the LVT’s reef-crossing capabilities. Unfortunately the tractor got hung up a hundred yards off the beach and an enraged Adm King, in a starched white uniform, had to wade ashore.

IN SAN DIEGO Smith took over the supervision of the amphibious training of both Marine Corps and U.S. Army divisions destined for the Pacific.

LtCol John C. McQueen (now Lieutenant General, deceased), Naval Academy, 1921, joined Smith’s staff at San Diego in October 1942, initially serving as an intelligence officer on temporary duty with RAdm Francis W. Rockwell’s Ninth Amphibious Force. Later he would become Smith’s G-3.

LtCol Hogaboom was put in charge of a training group sent to Fort Ord to ready the Army’s 7th Division (which had been training for desert warfare) for amphibious operations in the Aleutians. Hogaboom found the soldiers responsive and eager to learn. On the other hand, Er-

skine said that the Army was courteous, but that “There was no real warmth for any of us.” In any case, the 7th Division received no real cold weather training before being sent north against the Japanese-held Aleutians.

In April 1943 Smith, along with LtCols McQueen and Hogaboom, embarked as observers in the battleship *Pennsylvania*, RAdm Rockwell’s flagship, watched the muddled landing of the 7th Division at Attu. Later most of Smith’s staff would accompany him as observers of the Kiska landing. To the mortification of the task force, the Japanese had bailed out.

IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS Smith critiqued the operation for the benefit of Adm King, now the U.S. Chief of Naval Operations, and Adm Chester W. Nimitz, Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet. So impressed was Nimitz that he invited Smith to accompany him on a tour of the South Pacific. There were now three Marine divisions—the 1st, 2d, and 3d, all three trained by Smith—operating in the South Pacific.

On the return flight from his inspection trip, Adm Nimitz told Smith that he intended to give him command of all Marines in the Central Pacific. The time was coming when strategic emphasis on the drive toward Tokyo would shift from the

Retired Gen Smith, aged 70, visited Marines in Korea in April 1952. From left are commanders Col Russell E. Honsowetz, 7th Marines, and Col Frederick P. Henderson, 11th Marines, Gen Smith, and MajGen John T. Selden, 1st Division commanding general.



South Pacific to the Central Pacific in accordance with plans very close to those developed by the Navy and Marine Corps in the pre-war years.

Accordingly Smith's command was redesignated as V Amphibious Corps and his headquarters moved from San Diego to Pearl Harbor. The first objective for the drive west through the Central Pacific would be the Gilbert Islands. Smith was to be commander of expeditionary troops for this operation, code-named Galvanic. His immediate superior would be the Amphibious Force Commander, RAdm (later Adm) Richmond Kelly Turner, "Terrible Turner," whose temper was at least as legendary as Smith's. The two men struck sparks like flint against steel, but, as Smith said it in *Coral and Brass*, "... our partnership, though stormy, spelled hell in big red letters to the Japanese."

Turner, like many admirals of his generation, had a proclivity for playing general. Smith told him bluntly: "I don't try to run your ships and you'd better by a god-damn sight lay off of my troops."

THE MAJOR TARGET in the Gilberts was Tarawa. The flagship for Tarawa was again the old *Pennsylvania*. LtCol Hogaboom was loaned to Turner's staff and in his mind, "The greatness of Admiral Kelly Turner was in that Kelly Turner worked his plans out in minute detail himself, right down to the last position of every amphibious vessel; where they would be, when they should be there, what they were to do."

As to the relationship of Turner and Smith, as Hogaboom saw it, "At the social level the two seemed to get along quite well together and seemed to enjoy drinking together. At the professional level though there was this tremendous tension."

The landing was made on 20 November 1943 by the 2d Marine Division and in 76 terrible hours the battle against 5,000 Japanese defenders was won. There had not been enough amphibian tractors for the bloody move from the reef line to the beach, and naval gunfire preparation, to Smith's way of thinking, had been inadequate. Also, progress by the 165th Regimental Combat Team from the Army's 27th Division in the simultaneous attack against lightly-held Makin Island had been, in Smith's mind, "infuriatingly



Visiting the camp named for him in 1966, Gen Smith was escorted by former aide and longtime colleague LtGen Victor H. Krulak. Attentive to the Vietnam War and predicting a stalemate, Smith suffered a heart attack that same year and died in January 1967.

slow." Seeds for further problems between Smith and the Army were sown.

Next on the target list were the Marshall Islands.

HOGABOOM CONSIDERED RAdm Richard L. "Close-in" Conolly, the naval attack force commander, one of the finest amphibious commanders: "... he had all the great features of Kelly Turner and none of his faults."

Some of the lessons learned at Tarawa were successfully applied. There were more amphibian tractors. Naval gunfire support was better. American losses in the taking in February 1944 of Roi-Namur by the 4th Marine Division and Kwajalein by the Army's 7th Division, were light compared to Tarawa. But while the Marines took Roi-Namur in a little more than a single day, the Army required four days to take Kwajalein. Again Holland Smith was not pleased by Army performance.

The concluding objective in the Marshalls was Eniwetok, taken in mid-

February by the 22d Marine Regiment and the 106th Infantry.

In March, Smith received the third star of a lieutenant general. The next targets were in the Mariana Islands, three islands in succession — Saipan, Guam, and Tinian.

D-day for Saipan was 15 June 1944. The assault was by the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions. One of the concepts for the landing was not to debark from the amphibian tractors at the beach but to continue the tractors on inland. This was Erskine's idea.

THE ARMY'S 27TH DIVISION was in reserve. There was friction between Kelly Turner and Smith as to who should have command of the reserve and who should say when and where it was to be landed. On 20 June the 27th Division was put into the center of the line between the two Marine divisions. On the 23d the three divisions jumped off in a shoulder-to-shoulder attack that was to sweep to the north of the island. The 27th Division bogged down, the line bent in the middle, and LtGen Holland M. Smith, U.S. Marines,

relieved the commander of the 27th Infantry, MajGen Ralph C. Smith, U.S. Army. The press played up the relief and the repercussions would be felt for years. Col McQueen, Holland M. Smith's G-3, was one of those who thought that his boss' relief of Ralph Smith was a bit impulsive.

One immediate repercussion was that on 12 July, before either the Guam or Tinian landings could take place, Holland Smith was kicked upstairs to command of Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, an administrative command just created. He did not, however, leave the Marianas immediately for Pearl Harbor.

I remember getting a glimpse of him on the beach at Guam sometime after our landing on 21 July in company with MajGen Roy S. Geiger, then commanding III Amphibious Corps. On 24 July he was replaced as Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops, by MajGen Harry Schmidt, USMC.

By now, as Gen Hogaboom later put it, the staff "had a professionalism, a competence that—we knew how to solve the problems and we knew what they were and from there on . . . there was little doubt of success."

HOWEVER, THE FINE STAFF that had been assembled at Quantico was breaking up. LtCol Krulak had left early in 1943 for parachute training and a combat command. Erskine, who had been promoted to brigadier general in the summer of 1943, received a second star after Tinian and was given command of the 3d Marine Division. He took Hogaboom with him as his chief of staff.

About this time BGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.'s 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, which had landed at Guam along with the 3d Division, was expanded into the new 6th Marine Division. Newly promoted MajGen Shepherd asked for Col McQueen to be his Chief of Staff and Gen Smith obliged.

Smith was in command of Expeditionary Troops at Iwo Jima, but Harry Schmidt, as V Amphibious Corps commander, stood between him and the fighting ashore.

There were those who thought that Smith should have had command of the Tenth Army—the Army's XXIV Corps and the Marines' III Amphibious Corps—which was formed for the Okinawa campaign, but command was given to the Ar-

my's much-less-experienced LtGen Simon Bolivar Buckner. And so the war ended with Smith shelved in Hawaii.

In February 1946, on my return from the Pacific, I became, as a 24-year-old captain, managing editor of the *Marine Corps Gazette*. All the officers really qualified as editors were Reserves and they were taking their post-war discharges just as rapidly as they could get them. One of my first editorial tasks was the preparation for publication of an imposing manuscript entitled "The Development of Amphibious Tactics in the U.S. Navy" putatively written by LtGen Holland M. Smith.

The amanuensis was his junior aide, 1stLt William H. Lowe, Jr., a product of Harvard. By the time we were ready to begin publication Bill Lowe had been released from active duty and had gone to work for *World Report*, predecessor to *U.S. News and World Report*, and the manuscript was not yet complete. Lowe promised to finish it.

Part of my task of readying the manuscript for publication was to write a biographical profile of Gen Smith. Working with the manuscript and writing the biographical sketch caused me to wonder where the man, Holland M. Smith, ended and the persona, Howlin' Mad Smith, possibly created by his staff and the media, began. Frankly, now, 43 years later, I am still not certain.

THE FIRST INSTALLMENT of *The Development of Amphibious Tactics in the U.S. Navy* appeared in the June 1946 *Gazette*. The series, so far as it goes, is a very thorough piece of work. It is particularly strong in its coverage of the theoretical developments and landing exercises conducted between the two world wars. It is also good in that it covers both the Pacific and European theaters and includes all significant Army landings as well as Marine. The approach is analytical and the series is still well worth reading and study.

With the October issue and the fifth installment, the byline changed from "LtGen Holland M. Smith" to "Gen Holland M. Smith (Ret'd)." The series ends abruptly with the March 1947 issue of the *Gazette*. That last installment deals with Salerno and the last line is "To be continued."

But it never was. Bill Lowe went to Lon-

don and Paris as bureau chief for *U.S. News and World Report*.

Gen Smith himself had retired in April 1946 with an honorary promotion to four-star general. He had no staff upon whom to depend for the completion of the series. He turned instead to the Australian journalist, Percy Finch, and the writing of his "autobiography," *Coral and Brass*.

FINCH MUST BEAR much of the blame for sensationalizing the autobiography. It is a quarrelsome, bitter book that must be considered against the background of the rampant postwar interservice rivalries which culminated in the enactment of the National Security Act of 1947. Smith was concerned not only over the future of the Marine Corps but also his own place in history.

Saturday Evening Post, then a tremendously influential publication, published much of *Coral and Brass* as a series of articles under such titles as "Tarawa Was a Mistake," "My Troubles With the Army on Saipan," and "Iwo Jima Cost Too Much." The book was an embarrassment to the Marine Corps and it did not serve Holland Smith well. He could have better spent his time tending his roses in La Jolla.

QUITE POSSIBLY Gen Smith later regretted the book's publication because he made no further public comment on the conduct of the war. In 1950 he hosted a series, "Uncommon Valor," on that new and burgeoning medium known as television. In 1952, at age 70, he visited the Marines then fighting in Korea. In 1965 he predicted that all that could come out of Vietnam was a stalemate. In November 1966 he suffered a heart attack and in January 1967 he died.

In 1987 the Marine Corps Association published *A Fighting General* by Norman V. Cooper. Although imperfectly edited, it is a much better biography of Smith than *Coral and Brass*. The book had its origins as Cooper's doctoral dissertation at the University of Alabama. Dr. Cooper, himself an Alabamian, sums up Gen Smith's career and contributions very well:

" . . . the aggressiveness and *esprit de corps* which . . . he fostered, demanded, and embodied was preserved and transmitted to future generations of Marines. That was his legacy to the Corps he had served so long and which he loved so well."

□1775□

Volumes Map Battles from Civil War to Vietnam

by Evelyn A. Englander
Historical Center Librarian

FROM THE LIBRARY of the Marine Corps Historical Center, recently published books of professional interest to Marines. Except where noted, these books are available from local bookstores or libraries.

Civil War Books

Fighting for the Confederacy: The Personal Recollections of General Edward Porter Alexander. Gary W. Gallagher, ed. University of North Carolina Press, 664 pp., 1989. A previously unpublished personal memoir, completed several years before Gen Alexander's classic *Military Memoirs of a Confederate*. The manuscript was virtually unknown until Gary Gallagher identified its various segments and reconstructed its original form. Gen Alexander was involved in nearly all the great battles of the East from First Manassas through Appomattox. \$34.95.

Bloody Roads South: The Wilderness to Cold Harbor, May-June 1864. Noah Andre Trudeau. Little, Brown, and Co., 354 pp., 1989. An account of the 1864 Virginia Campaign which pitted Lee against Grant. In recreating the 40 days of battle, the author has combined his narrative with a rich selection of reminiscences, letters, and diaries. \$19.95.

World War II

Wartime: Understanding and Behavior in the Second World War. Paul Fussell. Oxford University Press, 330 pp., 1989. Fussell, author of *The Great War and Modern Memory*, examines the impact of World War II on common soldiers and civilians. He analyzes the psychological and emotional atmosphere of the war and the damage the war did to such characteristics as intellect, discrimination, honesty, individuality, and wit. As in his book on World War I, there is also a discussion of the literature of the time and how it was influenced by the events of the war. \$19.95.

Into the Valley: A Skirmish of Marines. John Hersey. Schocken Books, 111 pp., 1989. *Into the Valley* originally published in 1943, has now been reissued as part of the "Witness to War" series, being pub-

lished by Schocken Books to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of World War II. \$15.95.

Korean War

Disaster in Korea: The Chinese Confront MacArthur. LtCol Roy E. Appleman, USA (Ret). Texas A & M University Press, 456 pp., 1989. Continues the narrative of the Korean War begun in *South to the Naktong, North to the Yalu*. This covers the period from 24 November to 26 December 1950, when the advance by the American and U.N. forces into the west of North Korea was halted by the Chinese Army. \$35.00.

Vietnam

Khe Sanh, Siege in the Clouds: An Oral History. Eric Hammel. Crown Publishers, Inc., 508 pp. Eric Hammel's latest book is an oral history of the siege of Khe Sanh. In writing this, he interviewed nearly one hundred participants of the battle. Black and white photographs. \$24.95.

The Memorial. James Amos. Crown Publishers, 259 pp., 1989. In this novel, Jake Adams, businessman, husband, father remembers his time in Vietnam with Company A, 1/9 during 1968-69, and in so doing, realizes what the war has meant to him and to his generation. \$19.95

Historical Quiz

Quotes By, About, and For Marines

by Lena M. Kaljot
Reference Historian

Identify the speakers, or writers, of the following quotes:

1. "Why in Hell can't the Army do it if the Marines can; they are all the same kind of men, why can't they be like Marines?"
2. "Among the men who fought on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue."
3. "Once a Marine, always a Marine."
4. "We're not accustomed to occupying defensive positions. It's destructive to morale."
5. "Retreat hell! We're just attacking in another direction."
6. "We've been looking for the enemy for several days now. We've finally found them. We're surrounded. That simplifies our problem of finding these people and killing them."
7. "I had always enjoyed the title of Commander-in-Chief until I was informed . . . that the only forces that cannot be transferred from Washington without my express permission are the members of the Marine Corps Band. Those are the only forces I have. I want it announced that we propose to hold the White House against all odds at least for some time to come . . ."
8. "We don't want to get bigger—just better. The Marines' stock-in-trade is readiness. We are ready to go!"
9. "Where do we get such men?"
10. "We're going to ensure that every Marine is a warrior first . . . and our Marine infantrymen are going to be commandos. We're going to train them in five levels of martial arts. When we get through, nobody better mess with any of my Marines."

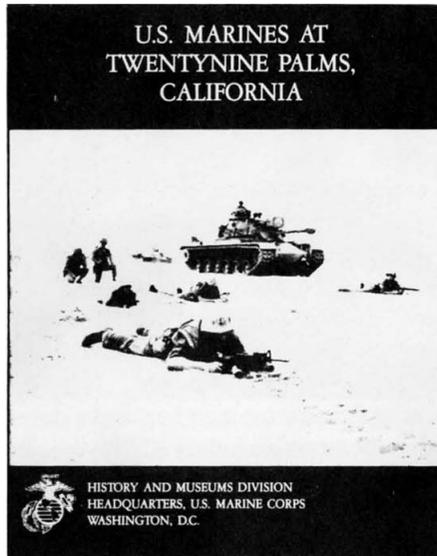
(Answers on page 14)

Twentynine Palms History Published

by Henry I. Shaw, Jr.
Chief Historian

A NEW BASE HISTORY, the 109-page U.S. Marines at Twentynine Palms, California, by Col Verle E. Ludwig, USMC (Ret), has just been published and sent out to Marine Corps organizations and libraries on our distribution lists. It is available from the Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Washington, D.C. 20402 (Order No. 008-005-00-176-5, \$6.00) in the soft-cover edition. Those who want to buy copies should not hesitate; GPO's reported small supply may well be used up by base post exchange purchases.

The author of *Twentynine Palms*, an alumnus of the University of Indiana, is a graduate of the old Historical Branch, G-3 Division, where he was, as a major, co-author of the first volume, *Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal*, of the World War II series. In addition to service as an infantry platoon leader on Okinawa in 1945, as a journalist between the wars, and as a division staff officer in Korea, Col Ludwig did a tour with the University of Missouri NROTC as Marine officer instructor; commanded the Marine Barracks, Hunters Point; led the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines into Vietnam in 1965; served later during the war as Deputy Information Officer, Military Assistance Command Vietnam, in Saigon; and held the Marine chair in amphibious warfare at the Naval War College at Newport. In terms of this history, however, his most important appointments were as Chief of Staff and then



Deputy Commander, Marine Corps Base, Twentynine Palms, in 1973-75.

ENAMOURED OF THE high desert country, Col Ludwig settled down after his retirement in the town of Twentynine Palms and began two decades of teaching English and creative writing for local community colleges. The book reflects both the love of the desert and the art of writing.

In a highly personalized style, the author describes not only the California high desert, but also its early inhabitants—the Indians, the goldminers, and the early settlers seeking better health and relief in the dry climate. He

covers the community's early history and the military's use of the surrounding desert, first as an Army glider training center during World War II, then as a naval air training area, and finally as a small Marine Corps training outpost of Camp Pendleton.

From the days of the original training activity, established in 1952, the history covers the growth from the 50s into the 80s as the base became the largest combat training center of the Corps. Today, year round, battalions from all over the country, both regular and Reserve, set up at the base's Camp Wilson and spend weeks in live-fire maneuvers which feature armor, artillery, and air. Brigade-size exercises with brigade-size forces are not uncommon. Twentynine Palms also houses the Corps' large Communications and Electronics School and all the support facilities needed to make the base function. A growing number of combat and combat service support units are permanently stationed there.

Like all such History and Museums Division publications, Col Ludwig's history has benefited from the comments of key figures in the narrative. The book, illustrated with photographs and maps, has an index, and several useful appendices, including one which gives biographical sketches of the men for whom the principal streets are named. □1775□

Readers Always Write

Summerall's Story Also a Colorful One

QUITE A LAD!

Your article about Gen Lejeune ("Director's Page," Summer 1989) was quite interesting. I'd like to add a wee bit about Charles P. Summerall, even though I know you are a Marine operation.

Then-Lt Summerall was assigned to Reilly's Battery at the relief of Peking. The following citation is from *Reilly's Battery* by Monro MacCloskey, Richard Rosen Press, NY (he was a '92 classmate).

Suddenly the Allied observers were dumbfounded to see Lt. Summerall calmly walk up to the gate and examine the stout eight-inch timbers. Peering through the crack he saw where the heavy crossbar was secured by enormous Chinese locks. Taking a piece of chalk from his pocket he marked the location of this bar and walked back to his gun.

The gun fired, the gate was opened and the relief force went through a wall. It seems Summerall did this for 3 gates and was ready at the 4th when he was told to hold up. At any rate he apparently did quite well at Peking. For sure he did well, becoming Army Chief of Staff. The pa-

rade ground at Ft. Myer is named after him.

Ed Milligan
Alexandria, Virginia

EDITOR'S NOTE: Curator J. Michael Miller, the Center's Boxer Rebellion specialist, comments that "1stLt Summerall indeed served in Reilly's Light Battery (Battery F, 5th Artillery), alongside U.S. Marines at the Chien Mien Gate in August 1900. Capt Henry J. Reilly was killed as he stood beside Marine Maj L. W. T. Waller, whereupon Lt Summerall opened the gate in the manner described. The Marines evidently were fond of the young artillerymen, cheering them as the American column began the march to Peking."

□1775□

Museum Chiefs Attend International Conclaves

by Col Brooke Nihart
Deputy Director for Museums

MUSEUMS ARE BIG BUSINESS, not only in the United States but, as those readers who have travelled abroad will attest, world-wide as well. Museums have their own trade association, International Council on Museums (ICOM), which is a wing of UNESCO, United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. When ICOM gets together it is so big, and members often have to travel so far, that conventions—"congresses" the international community calls them—are held only every three years. More than 2,000 members attended the most recent congress. The writer has been fortunate to attend several of these events and visit countries and their museums that he probably would not otherwise see.

The XVth Congress of ICOM in 1989 was held in The Hague, capital of the Netherlands. Side trips were conducted to other Dutch cities as part of the program. The theme for the congress was "Museums as Generators of Culture," which implied a social-activist role for museums. This theme was discussed in the meetings of the several committees of ICOM during the course of the congress. *Rapporteurs* from the committees reported their conclusions at a final plenary session. Not all committees felt that museums should take an active role as generators of culture but

should continue to reflect culture as it was and is.

The several ICOM committees, of which Charles Anthony Wood's International Committee on Museum Security (ICMS) is one, and the various associated organizations, of which the writer's International Association of Museums of Arms and Military History (IAMAM) is one, held separate programs during the congress. IAMAM, represented by eight of its Executive Committee members and a dozen other members attending ICOM, enjoyed a two-day program of visitations.

OUR FIRST STOP was the *Koninklijk Leger en Wapenmuseum* (Royal Army and Weapons Museum) in the ancient city of Delft. There IAMAM's executive committee met, and among other things, settled details of IAMAM's 1990 triennial meeting in Scotland. The meeting was followed by lunch and a tour of the museum which is located in a 17th century armory on a canal. In those days ships of the Dutch East India Company fleet sailed right up to the armory wall where cranes transferred cannon, powder, and shot as well as other martial stores to them. Quality exhibits presented well interpreted material from those early days to the present and included everything

from uniforms and small arms to vehicles and today's artillery and armor.

That evening we visited one of the world's finest private collections of arms, belonging to Mr. Henk Visser, who specializes in 16th and 17th century Dutch and Saxon arms. We also enjoyed a Dutch-Indonesian specialty for dinner, an outstanding *rice staffel* or rice table consisting of rice and a couple of dozen tasty accompaniments.

The second day started with a visit to the town of Heusden, an old fortified town along the "water line" of flooded defenses against the 16th century Spanish invaders. The star-shaped earthworks and other features have been restored. We were lectured by reserve engineer LtCol van Sluifers, an authority on Dutch defenses of that age, after being greeted by the Burgermaster or, in this case, the Burgermistress in the *Stadthouse* or city hall.

The next stop was the *Van Brederodekazern* at Vught, the training center for Dutch army engineers, where we lunched in the officers mess. The historical engineer collection or *Genie Museum* at the casern presents the regimental history of the engineers and serves as a training aid for engineer recruits. In the first role, uniforms, individual equipment, insignia, flags, and photographs are exhibited; in

Deputy Director for Museums Col Brooke Nihart and Chief Curator Charles Anthony Wood traveled to the Netherlands for meetings of the International Council on Museums, and visited such sites as the 19 windmills of the Kinderdijk outdoor museum.

Photos by Charles Anthony Wood





The Netherlands Royal Navy, from the Amsterdam Navy Yard, above, hosted conference members for a legendary meal of nasi goreng – Indonesian-style fried rice – at the ancient, waterlocked building housing the Netherlands Maritime Museum.

the latter, engineer equipment such as mines and demolition kits are displayed, plus models of bridges and other engineer works.

FROM VUGHT IT WAS a short trip by mini-van to Veghel and the *Bevrijdende Vleugels* (Liberating Wings) Museum. The museum is dedicated to memory of the Allied airborne troops in the Market Garden or “Bridge Too Far” operation and is in a town lying between the Eindhoven and Nijmegen drop zones of the U.S. 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions. The museum is a private venture of Mr. Jan Driessen, who was in the Dutch Resistance and later an interpreter and liaison officer with an American division. The main exhibits represent a tour-de-force as the inside walls of the long, hangar-type building are painted to represent the streets of Veghel. Along the right side in the foreground are the actual armored and wheeled vehicles of the Allied forces together with uniformed mannequins of their crews and mannequins representing local townspeople. On the left side are similarly conceived scenes of the Dutch mobilization of 1939, the German invasion and occupation, and the Resistance.

After dinner at Mr. Driessen’s we were driven to Breda, site of the Dutch Military Academy, to witness the National *Tapptoe*. *Tapptoe* is the original spelling of the English *Tattoo* which today signifies an evening military display of marching bands and other events. In the 17th century it was a signal by drummers marching through a town where troops

were billeted to signal the tavern keepers *tap toe* (taps shut) and the troops to return to their billets. Breda’s *Tapptoe* was held on the barracks square of the academy for several thousand enthusiastic spectators. It included every military band in the Netherlands, including their large Marine Band, plus a band and company-sized drill team from Norway’s Royal Guard Regiment, and a fanfare from the French Gendarmerie.

In connection with ICOM we visited the museums of The Hague, the old university town of Leiden and its museums, an outdoor museum of historical buildings near Arnhem, and Appeldoorn palace of William of Orange and later kings. On free days I visited the *Rijksmuseum* in Amsterdam to see Rembrandt’s “Night Watch” and other portraits of 17th century militia companies.

ANOTHER DAY TOOK me to Rotterdam and the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps Museum. I was greeted there by retired LtCol Nicolas, the director. The museum, though small, comprehensively covers Corps history from 1666 to the present. Included was the full story of the connection with the U.S. Marine Corps in 1944 when a Netherlands Marine Corps brigade was organized, equipped, and trained at Camp Lejeune. It then deployed to the Dutch East Indies, now Indonesia, to oust the Japanese and then, as it turned out, oppose an Indonesian liberation movement until 1949. Interestingly, the Dutch Marines continued to wear U.S. Marine-style herringbone twill utilities un-

til 1972, 12 years or more after we had reluctantly given them up.

After ICOM I visited Brussels and the Royal Belgian Army and Weapons Museum, where an old friend, Mr. Jacobs, the director, showed me around. Only 12 miles from the 1815 battlefield of Waterloo the museum, as might be expected, has a vast collection of Napoleonic Wars material. Most is displayed in the traditional museum way; lots of great artifacts with little interpretation. However, two galleries have been redone in the most up-to-date manner, the medieval arms and armor and a special collection of

Professional Development

Part of the History and Museums Division’s professional development program is attendance at meetings, seminars, workshops, and training courses of professional societies. Division policy is for each employee at the professional level to be sent at government expense or permitted to attend at his own expense at least one such event each year.

Attendance is part of a professional’s experience and growth. Knowledge of his field is learned, new techniques gained, information exchanged, useful professional contacts made; in all a positive experience.

Thus our professionals attend meetings of the American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, Society of American Archivists, American Library Association, Oral History Association, and American Association of Museums, as well as Air Force and Navy military history symposia, Army Museum Conference, and so forth.

In late August Deputy Director for Museums, Brooke Nihart, and Chief Curator, Charles Anthony Wood, attended the triennial congress of the International Council on Museums (ICOM) plus programs of subsidiary groups, the International Association of Museums of Arms and Military History (IAMAM) and the International Committee on Museum Security (ICMS).



Madurodam, a historically correct reproduction of an average Dutch city and its surroundings, everything to a scale of 1:25, was on the must-see list for conference visitors.

Napoleoniana. Large collections of World Wars I and II material are also held and will be exhibited in the future in new galleries. Fine collections of World Wars I and II aircraft and World War II armor are also exhibited.

A day was spent at nearby Liege, Belgium, site of FN (*Fabrique Nationale des Armes*), and its sponsored *Musee d'Armes*. Again the director conducted me through the museum which is the last word in modern museum technique, featuring the arms made in Liege by FN and earlier gun makers. As FN was licensed by John

Browning to produce his inventions for Europe, there are displays of his pistols and FN versions of the M1895 "potato digger" machine gun, the BAR, M1917 and M1919 machine guns, and M2 .50-caliber guns. Today FN is making M16A2s and M249 squad automatics in Columbia, South Carolina. Mr. Gaier, the director, is also an old friend and a onetime exchange student at Notre Dame High School in South Bend, Indiana.

FINALLY, I VISITED West Germany and LtCol Dr. Schmidt, who has lectured

on German military museology at our Historical Center. He heads all 28 of the *Bundeswehr* museums from his headquarters in the flagship museum, the *Wehrgeschichtliches* (Military History) Museum at Rastatt between Karlsruhe and Baden-Baden. Other museums were visited in the latter two cities as well.

It was an intense, tiring, but professionally rewarding two and one-half weeks. I'll be repeating the pace in 1992 when ICOM meets in Quebec City. □1775□

The city of Utrecht, beneath its imposing cathedral tower, houses several museums with unusual and important collections.



Answers to Historical Quiz

Quotes By, About, and For Marines

(Questions on page 10)

1. In a letter to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, dated 12 February 1918, concerning his recent inspection of the Marines, by Gen John J. Pershing, USA, Commander-in-Chief, American Expeditionary Forces.
2. FAdm Chester W. Nimitz, USN, Pacific Fleet communique, 16 March 1945.
3. MSgt Paul Woyshner, a 40-year Marine, is credited with originating this expression during a taproom argument with a discharged Marine.
4. LtGen Holland M. "Howlin' Mad" Smith at Iwo Jima, 1945.
5. Attributed to MajGen Oliver P. Smith, Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division in Korea (1950), regarding his order for Marines to move southeast to the Hamhung area from the Hagaru perimeter.
6. LtGen Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller's response to reporters regarding Marine positions in the Chosin area during November 1950.
7. President John F. Kennedy, during a visit to the Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, Washington, D.C., 1962.
8. Gen Louis H. Wilson, 26th Commandant of the Marine Corps, 1978.
9. Gen Paul X. Kelley, 28th Commandant of the Marine Corps, welcoming remarks made at Camp Lejeune in December 1983 to the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit returning from Lebanon.
10. Gen Alfred M. Gray, 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, 1988.

Marine Staff Learns from European Museums

by Charles Anthony Wood
Chief Curator

FOUNDED 16 YEARS AGO, the International Committee on Museum Security (ICMS) currently has representatives from 33 nations as members. I have attended eight of the committee's sixteen annual meetings, including the one held this August in the Netherlands at The Hague.

These annual conferences serve the museum community by enabling members to meet with professionals in the security and protection disciplines from throughout the world and establish face-to-face working contact. They are forums for sharing advice on protecting irreplaceable artifacts more effectively and efficiently, and less expensively.

Our first observation tour of the 1989 meeting was to the *Het Rijksmuseum* in Amsterdam on 29 August. The general manager of the museum briefed the visitors and led the group on an unusual inspection of just-installed protective arrangements for the gallery which houses the world-famous paintings by Rembrandt, *The Night Watch* and *The Syndics: The Sampling Officials of the Amsterdam Drapers Guild*.

We traveled up narrow staircases that brought us out three stories up onto the building's exterior (with a view of visitors entering) and continuing through a small

door to something like a theater's catwalk. We saw above us a large skylight—newly installed—covering the length and width of the Rembrandt gallery. Below the catwalk, a wall-to-wall stretch of opaque glass obscured a further view below. Between the skylight and the glass was an unusual apparatus that employs a series of canvas "sails" arranged at various angles, each sail controlled by a computer-monitored drive mechanism. Our host explained that the sails regulate the amount of natural light reaching the priceless artwork to levels which help to ensure the paintings' preservation. Back in the gallery, on a day of bright sunlight, the adjustments made to levels of light in the room were nearly imperceptible, but the art was fully protected from the most harmful of the sun's rays.

FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE'S first business meeting, another official visit took us to the *Stedelijk* Museum, which has a large collection of art from 1850 to the present, and to the Vincent Van Gogh Museum. At the Van Gogh Museum, members were astonished by the extent of the collection of important and familiar paintings by this well-known artist, exhibited over three floors!

Making our way to the site by boat

through Amsterdam's canals increased the pleasure of a visit and buffet dinner served at the *Rijksmuseum Historisch Scheepvaartmuseum* (Netherlands Maritime Museum), housed in what was an arsenal and maritime stores for the city's ancient admiralty shipyards. The building is surrounded by water and, once, supplies and ammunition could be picked up only by ship. The Netherlands Royal Navy acquired the building in 1813 and held it until 1971. Since 1975 the Maritime Museum has occupied the site with a permanent exhibition tracing the history of shipping in the Netherlands from the year 1000 to the present.

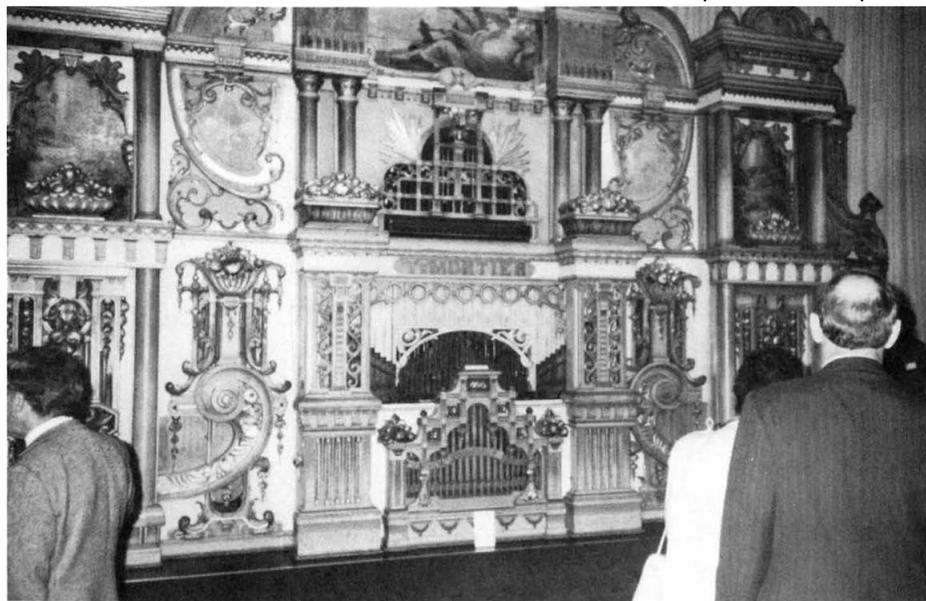
At the invitation of the Royal Navy we were treated to the legendary meal of *nasi goreng* (fried rice), reminding us that up until 1945 Indonesia was a Dutch colony, and that Indonesian cuisine (with its saté and "rice table") is very much enjoyed by the Dutch. So much so, that no matter where in the world its ships may be, the Royal Navy serves *nasi goreng* every Monday and a rice table every Wednesday.

On 30 August, the committee traveled to Dordrecht, one of the oldest cities in Holland, to visit the city's museum and conduct a security review at the request of the director. The Dordrecht Museum is located in the heart of the city, with a collection of artwork from the 17th century to the present. The director spoke on the recent mutilation of 10 paintings by a 61-year-old unemployed man. Paintings by masters such as Nicolaas Maas and Ferdinand Bol were repeatedly slashed by the man. Although he gave himself up, and he was convicted for the crime, his punishment consisted of being set free under orders to seek psychiatric help and to stay away from the museum for six months. The committee broke down into subcommittees, reviewed the museum's security procedures, and made recommendations to the director for correcting problems.

THE COMMITTEE WAS welcomed to *Het Mauritshuis* and the Royal Cabinet of Paintings, by its director, Dr. Hans R. Hoetink, on 31 August. This palace was built in 1634-1644, destroyed by fire in 1704, and rebuilt as a site for the art col-

Large street organ is a feature of Utrecht's "National Museum from Musical Clock to Street Organ," opened in 1971 and housed by a building inside a medieval church.

Photos by Charles Anthony Wood





The city of Rotterdam staged an informal reception for the nearly 2,000 conference-goers along the esplanade of the "Old Harbor," an urban renewal project created by Dutch architect Piet Blom, including tilted cube-shaped houses on concrete pillars.

lection of King Willem I. It became a museum in 1822. Dr. Hoetink led us on a tour, including behind-the-scenes inspection of work spaces, security systems, and storage facilities. Each painting on display is individually alarmed. Electronic monitors respond to two encroachments: they emit a high-pitched signal if a person comes too close (which breaks off as soon as the person moves out of range) and, if the painting is removed, a pulsating signal (which cannot be turned off until the monitor is reset). In addition, other systems respond to break-in, fire, and water damage.

Museums in the city of Utrecht were visited on 1 September. The *Nationaal Museum van Speelklok tot Pierement*, the National Museum From Musical Clock to Street Organ, was the first stop, an opportunity to see an entire museum complex installed inside a medieval church. The structure is self-contained and capable of being completely removed from the church, if needed, in a span of two weeks. It contains a collection of 500 automatic musical instruments from the 18th to 20th centuries.

THE MUSEUM'S DIRECTOR explained that when the collection had outgrown its original site, use of the church was granted, providing that this would not cause removal or restructure of the church. The architect accommodated this by installing what we would call a "Bally Box," a self-contained, heated, air-conditioned, and humidity-controlled structure, three

stories high, within the old church. The structure even floats on its own neoprene cushion, so it does not mar the floor! Committee members were impressed with the innovative use of an old building, and delighted with the objects on display, among them a Dutch carillon clock of about 1730; a mechanical nightingale from France, circa 1880; and a Paris street organ from around 1910.

The *Rijksmuseum Het Catharijneconvent*, housed in a beautiful 15th-century convent in the center of Utrecht, was created in the late 1970s by merging the collections of three religious museums in the city, resulting in the largest collection of medieval art in the Netherlands. The

museum's security chief escorted the visitors through the *onderdoorgan* (cellar) and *bogenkelder* (a portion of the cellar with valuted arches). Here the museum has on display priceless artifacts dating from the 9th to the 15th centuries, and a special lighting system. When a visitor enters the space the light throughout the entire exhibit is about one lux, or minimal illumination of the exhibits. Electronic rheostats automatically increase the lighting as a person enters the perimeter of an object on view. Should more light be desired, timed rheostats can be manipulated to increase it further.

On the final day of official functions, the committee made a visit to the province of Northern Holland, to see one of the most interesting preservation projects I have ever encountered. The *Museum De Cruquius* is one of three pumping stations which reclaimed the Haarlemmeer (Lake Haarlem) between 1849 and 1852. This functional pumping station became a museum in 1933. The old steam engine, dating from 1849, is the largest in the world and is still in its original condition. The three stations pumped 800 million cubic meters of water over the three-year period to reclaim the land occupied by the lake.

Committee members find at each of these meetings that there is much to learn from each other, and that the process can be enjoyable as well as instructive. The next opportunity will be a planned ICMS meeting in both Lisbon, Portugal, and Madrid, Spain. □1775□

Chief Curator and Mrs. Wood pose at the Netherlands Open-Air Museum near Arnhem. The museum preserves traditional Dutch structures and regional culture in natural settings over 104 acres. Thirty-three nations were represented at the conference.



The Infamous Reising Gun Remembered

by John G. Griffiths
Curator of Ordnance

HERE IS A RENEWED interest in the Reising sub-machine gun. It is featured in a new life-sized diorama in the "World War II" hangar at the Air-Ground Museum in the hands of a Marine parachutist. Then we receive queries about the gun from a Reising collectors club across the Potomac in Maryland. That is a lot of attention for one of the rarest sub-machine guns of World War II and one that was retired by the Marine Corps after failing the test of but one campaign.

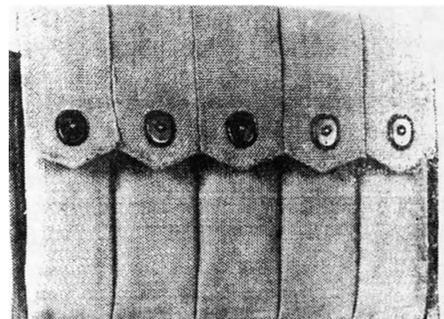
The Reising was designed and developed by noted gun inventor Eugene Reising. It was patented in 1940 and manufactured by the old gun-making firm of Harrington and Richardson of Worcester, Massachusetts. It is said that it was made on existing machine tools, some dating back to the Civil War, and of ordinary steel rather than ordnance steel. With new machine tools and ordnance steel scarce and needed for more demanding weapons, the Reising met an immediate requirement for lots of sub-machine guns at a time when production of Thompson M1928s and M1s hadn't caught up with demand and the stamped-out M3 "grease gun" had not yet been invented. It was a wartime expedient.

The Reising was made in two different models, the 50 and the 55. The Model 50 had a full wooden stock and a Cutts compensator attached to the muzzle. The compensator, a device which reduced the upward muzzle climb from recoil, was invented by Richard M. Cutts, Sr., and his son, Richard M. Cutts, Jr., both Marine

brigadier generals. The Cutts papers detailing their service and inventions are held in the Personal Papers Collection at the Historical Center. The other version was dubbed the Model 55. It had a folding metal-wire shoulder stock which swivelled on the wooden pistol grip. It also had a shorter barrel and no compensator. It was intended for use by parachutists, tank crews, and others needing a compact weapon. Both versions of the Reising fired the .45 caliber ACP, the same cartridge as the Colt automatic pistol and the Thompson.

IN ALL, THERE were approximately 100,000 Reising sub-machine guns produced between 1940 and 1942. Small numbers of the weapons were acquired by both Great Britain and the Soviet Union. However, most were used by the U.S. Marine Corps in the Solomon Islands campaign early in World War II. The Model 55 was issued to both Marine Parachute Battalions and the Raiders, seeing service first on Guadalcanal. After its dubious debut in combat it was withdrawn from frontline service in 1943 due to several flaws in design and manufacture.

The Reising's major shortcoming was its propensity for jamming. This was due to both a design problem in the magazine lips and the magazines themselves being made of a soft sheet steel. The safety mechanism didn't always work and if the butt was slammed down on the deck the hammer would set back against the main-spring and then fly forward, firing a cham-



Reising web magazine pouch.

bered cartridge. The design allowed the entry of dirt into the mechanism and close tolerances caused it to jam. Finally, the steel used allowed excessive rust to form in the tropical humidity encountered. Nevertheless, at six pounds it was handier than the 10-pound Thompson, more accurate, pleasanter to shoot, and reliable under other than combat conditions; but keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Thus, the Model 50 continued in use, being issued to Marines for guard duty at posts and stations in the United States.

The Marine Corps Museum has in its firearms collection five Model 50 and five Model 55 Reising sub-machine guns. Most are in the reserve and study collection at Museums Branch Activities, Quantico. On exhibit are one Model 50 and one Model 55 at the Marine Corps Museum, Washington; one Model 55 at the Air-Ground Museum Quantico and one Model 55 at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, Command Museum.

□1775□

The Model 55 Reising sub-machine gun was intended for use by parachutists.



Artist-Illustrator John DeGrasse Recalled

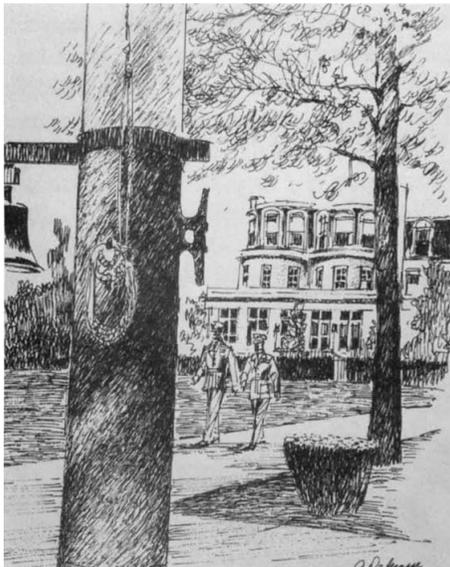
by John T. Dyer, Jr.
Curator of Art

THE NAME John DeGrasse—when heard among his friends who served, worked with, or knew him for any length of time—stirred anticipation of a good tale: of John performing a ridiculous stunt on the tennis court while beating or losing to some game admiral, general, or lance corporal; or employing an unorthodox method of cumshawing material for a project. John built a sailboat—from scratch—from such scrap material; his sailing craft are represented often in his Potomac riverscapes.

His sudden death after a short illness on 20 September shocked at first, then infuriated; a DeGrasse joke we knew we'd recover from when John poked his grinning, goateed countenance over a partition or around a corner. But we soon realized and accepted the loss of a good friend who rarely said bad of anyone and never wasted his tremendous energy on holding a grudge.

John was born in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1919; grew up to receive an art scholarship to the University of Maine's Portland School of Fine Arts; and, in 1941, joined the Marine Corps to serve on the Presidential Guard Detail at Shangri-La (now Camp David), Maryland. As art director for *Leatherneck* magazine (1943-48), he met, drew, and painted with and was positively influenced by Reserve Sgts Tom

DeGrasse highlighted familiar features of Marine Barracks, 8th and I, in 1972.



*Originator of a style known to nearly all Marines, DeGrasse produced more than 100 covers for *Leatherneck* and *Marine Corps Gazette* and many inside illustrations.*

Lovell and John Clymer. He produced more than 100 covers for *Leatherneck* and the *Marine Corps Gazette*, and many inside illustrations. Both cartoons and sculpture had the DeGrasse signature, and hardly any medium was foreign to John.

AS NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER in Charge of the 1st Combat Art Team assigned to the 1st Marine Division in Korea he observed and painted frontline action, winter and summer, and some of these works of art are in the Museum's collection of Korean War art.

He painted nuclear-exercise Marines against a background of a mushroom cloud at Yucca Flats, Nevada, and had a dream assignment covering Marines at posts and stations around the world (Ber-

muda, Cuba, Panama, Puerto Rico, Trinidad, London, Paris, Rome, and Berlin).

In July 1974, while exhibits chief of the Marine Corps Museum, he went to Camp Lejeune and painted the relatively new Harrier AV-8 aircraft during an exercise, Express Charger.

NOTED FOR HIS ART, he was equally known for sharing his experience and talent and encouraging his fellow artists.

Tennis-playing angels who like to paint, have a healthy interest in sailing, and give St. Peter a crinkle in his eye, may be part of heaven's scene, but we know our Shangri-La-trained John DeGrasse is NCOIC of the streets guard. □1775□

DeGrasse visited Marines around the world, from Cuba to Berlin. In July 1974, while exhibits chief of the former Marine Corps Museum at Quantico, he painted the relatively new Harrier AV-8 aircraft during exercise Express Charger, at Camp Lejeune.



Deaths of Resistance Fighter and Corps Historian Noted

by Benis M. Frank
Head, Oral History Section

BGen Horace W. Fuller

BGen Horace W. "Hod" Fuller, USMCR (Ret), 81, died of cancer on 15 August at his home on the island of Spetsai, Greece, some 50 miles southwest of Athens. He had been one of the nine living survivors appearing in the historic photograph taken 11 August 1942 of Gen Vandegrift and his staff on Guadalcanal.

Gen Fuller was a 1930 graduate of Harvard University. He was an enlisted Marine reservist 1931-1936, and was commissioned in 1941. He was executive officer of the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion on Guadalcanal, where he was wounded and evacuated.

When then-Maj Fuller returned to service, he was assigned to the OSS in England, where he was detailed as the leader of a Jedburgh Team, consisting of an American officer, a British officer, and two Free French officers who parachuted into the Pyrénées Mountains area in Southern France in 1944. Here they joined the French resistance movement, the Maquis, in liberating that area from Nazi occupation forces.

After the war, in 1948, Gen Fuller went to Greece as a member of the Marshall

BGen Horace W. Fuller



Plan and Military Air Group during the Greek Civil War. He later entered the shipping business. The accompanying photograph of Gen Fuller was taken at the Arch of Triumph in Paris, where as senior officer of American volunteer parachutists in the Jedburgh operations he placed a wreath honoring his fallen comrades during the French *Cérémonie de la Flamme*. For his gallantry in action against the enemy in France, he was awarded the Silver Star Medal by the United States, made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the French government, and Mentioned in Despatches by the British government.

Ralph W. Donnelly

Ralph W. Donnelly, 75, former head of the History and Museums Division's Reference Section, died on 26 August in Charlotte, North Carolina, following a heart attack. He was buried 30 August in Washington, North Carolina, where he had retired in 1975.

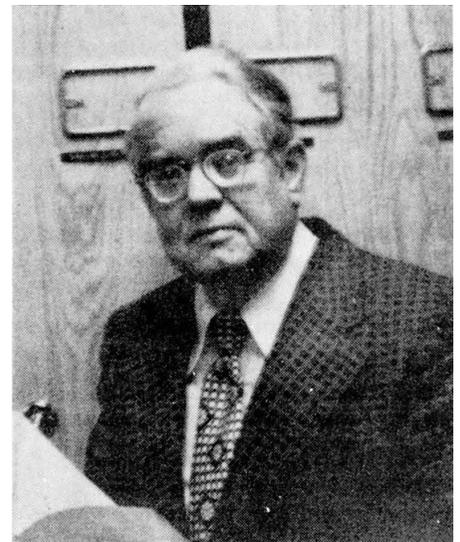
A native of Washington, D.C., during his working years Mr. Donnelly was engaged there in a number of activities and occupations. He graduated from the James O. Wilson Teacher's College in Washington in 1935, and in 1940 obtained a master of arts degree in political science from the Catholic University of America. He was at various times a junior high school teacher in the Washington school system; an insurance company employee and executive; and finally, in 1967, following a long interest in history and research, a Marine Corps civilian employee.

In a lifetime of research, which never ceased, Mr. Donnelly became the undoubted leading expert on the history of the Confederate States Marine Corps. His interest in the Civil War grew slowly during his high school and college years. In the early 1950s, he joined both the Washington Civil War Roundtable and the American Military Institute, and later The Company of Military Historians, which, in recognizing his contributions to history

and historical research, elected him a Fellow of The Company. Membership in these organizations brought him into contact with some great Civil War historians, notably Bruce Catton. The first fruits of his research into the Confederate States Marine Corps resulted in articles and papers beginning in 1957. In 1973, he published on his own, *Biographical Sketches of the Commissioned Officers of the Confederate States Marine Corps*; followed in 1976 by *The History of the Confederate Marine Corps*; and in 1979 by *Service Records of Confederate Enlisted Marines*. These three books were paperbacks with typescript text. This fall, White Mane Publishing Company is releasing his *Rebel Leathernecks: A History of the Confederate Marine Corps* in a single volume.

While a Marine Corps historian, Mr. Donnelly wrote for *Fortitudine* five biographical essays on as many Marine Corps historians who were selected for outstanding achievement and service. Also while a member of the History and Museums Division, Mr. Donnelly co-authored with Henry I. Shaw, Jr., *Blacks in the Marine Corps*. In 1975, Mr. Donnelly retired to North Carolina, where he remained very active in historical and genealogical endeavors. □1775□

Ralph W. Donnelly



'Great War' Marines

(Continued from page 24)

was the quickest and luck was with me for I got the drop on them with my pistol so they dropped their rifles and threw up their hands. They were my prisoners but we were in the German lines so there was still some difference and a little to their advantage and I think they realized it for giving up so easily. There was only one thing to do and that was keep my prisoners with me and try to get back into our lines which I did and it is needless to say I was glad to get there too." Mr. Watson was discharged on 28 May 1919.

Mrs. Watson also sent three photographs of her husband. In one, Mr. Watson appears in civilian clothes on 16 May 1917, the day he enlisted in the Marine Corps.

MR. CARL L. SNARE, SR., of Rialto, California, donated personal papers and the *Army Song Book* which belonged to his brother, Bernard Wesley Snair, who was killed in the Battle of Soissons on 18 July 1918. The song book was among the possessions of Bernard Snair sent back to his family upon his death. The book was issued by the War Department Committee on Training Camp Activities and was compiled with assistance of the National Committee on Army and Navy Camp

Robert J. Watson had his picture taken on 16 May 1917, the day he became a Marine.



Music in Washington in 1918. Song books such as this featured spirited tunes meant to help fighting men maintain morale and esprit de corps during trying times. Some of the songs in the book are "The Star Spangled Banner," "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Sweet Adeline," "My Old Kentucky Home," plus songs of the Allies, "La Marseillaise," the French national anthem; "God Save the King," the British anthem; and "The Garibaldi Hymn," the Italian anthem.

Also donated were three citations issued to Bernard Snair by the French government, for service with the 4th Brigade and 5th Regiment and upon his death at Soissons.

A *Short Vocabulary of French Words and Phrases with English Pronunciation* was donated to the Personal Papers Collection by Col James M. Weidner, USMC (Ret), of Olympia, Washington. This dictionary was printed and distributed by the USMC Publications Bureau in New York City, 15 August 1918, and was prepared for Marines serving in France.

MR. CLARENCE E. DONZE of Lehigh Acres, Florida, provided 19 photographs of friends who fought in the war, one of himself in uniform, and some of the sights in Paris. Mr. Donze never saw actual battle, but many of his friends were in the 13th Regiment and were picked as replacements for the dead and wounded from the 5th and 6th Regiments after the fighting at Belleau Wood, Chateau-Thierry, and Aisne-Marne. Mr. Donze spent his service in World War I as a military policeman, guarding German POWs and American supply warehouses.

Several memoirs were sent to the Museum by World War I veterans recounting their training, hardships, and battle experiences while serving their country in the 2d Division, AEF.

Mr. Frank D. McClelland of Maryville, Tennessee, writes of joining the Marine Corps in May of 1917 after seeing a "Soldiers of the Sea" recruiting poster. Mr. McClelland served with the 78th Company, 2d Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, and was sent to France on board the USS *Henderson*, arriving on 8 February 1918 at St. Nazaire, France. Troops were transported by railroad boxcars and this mode of transport was given the name "40 Hommes, 8 Chevaux" or 40 men and 8

horses, from the French standard for a fully loaded car. He spent about three months, from February to May, in the defensive sector on the front lines, meanwhile training vigorously at marching, trench digging, and grenade throwing.

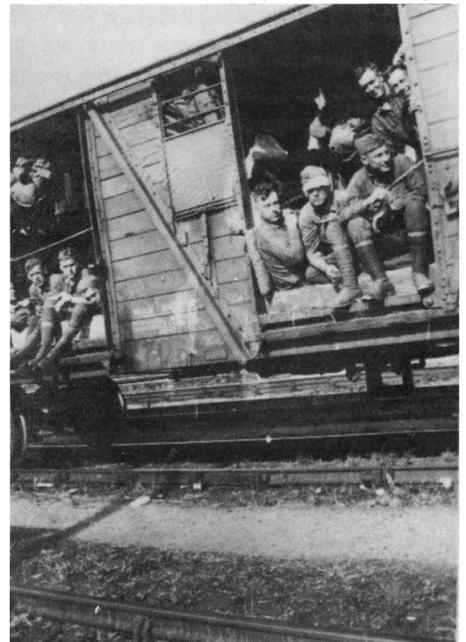
MR. MCCLELLAND TELLS of the many hardships that Marines had to deal with, such as rain, night raids, snow, mud, long marches, hard digging, shell fire, rats, and cooties.

The Marines' most persistent struggles were with mud, cold, and "cooties", their "worst enemies next to the Germans." Cooties were large body lice, acquired by impromptu sleeping arrangements when troops slept on straw in dugouts and old barns. The cooties left welts on the body and apparently no amount of clothes-washing or hot showers got rid of them for long. In a 7 May 1918 letter home to his brother Mr. McClelland wrote, "I found the other day that I don't have a single cootie. They are all married and have big families."

In more serious passages, Mr. McClelland goes into detail about training methods, use of explosives and their effects, hand-to-hand combat, the terrain and type of soil and how it affected combat, and mustard gas bombing (which he had the misfortune to experience).

□1775□

Mr. McClelland traveled to the front in a "40 and 8" boxcar, here seen in a snapshot from his photo album. His letters home dealt humorously with hardships.



Hungarian Military Historians Visit Center

by Henry I. Shaw, Jr.
Chief Historian

IN JUNE 1988, BGen William A. Stofft, USA, then the Army's Chief of Military History, led a U.S. Army and Air Force delegation to Budapest to get a first-hand view of the Hungarian Peoples' Army's military historical and educational institutions. Part of an ongoing program of official visits to Warsaw Pact and USSR military historical and museum activities initiated in the spirit of *glasnost* (see *Fortitudine*, Spring 1989), the American visit to Hungary was reciprocated during the first week of October 1989. Two Hungarian military historians, MajGen Ervin Liptai, Director General of the War Historical Institute and Museum, and Col Imre Fuzi, Chief of Faculty of the Zrinyi Miklos Military Academy, made the trip.

The Hungarian officials' first day-long round of briefings took place on Monday, 2 October, at the Army's Center of Military History (CMH) in the Pulaski Building in Washington. The next morning was spent at the Pentagon in protocol visits and presentations at the DOD and JCS historical offices. The afternoon was given over to a visit to the Washington Navy Yard's adjoining Navy and Marine Corps Historical Centers and Museums.

The visiting party, led by Gen Liptai, and consisting of Col Fuzi, two State Department interpreters, and Dr. Burton Wright III, CMH escort, crossed the street to the Marine Center in mid-afternoon and was greeted by the Director, BGen Ed-

MajGen Ervin Liptai, Director General of the Hungarian War Historical Institute and Museum, is welcomed to the Historical Center by SSgt Randy Shouse and Sgt Kevin L. Parker. Gen Liptai said he was reminded of the security guards at U.S. Embassies.



On the Museum quarterdeck after their tour, parting remarks are translated for Gen Liptai and Gen Simmons by State Department interpreters, center right. Looking on, center left to right, are Mr. Shaw, Col Fuzi, Col Smith, Col Nihart, and Dr. Wright.

win H. Simmons, USMC (Ret), on the museum's quarterdeck.

AFTER A SHORT briefing by Gen Simmons on the Marine Corps' History and Museums Division's organization and mission in the second-deck conference room, the tour group, which also included the division's two deputies and the chief historian and curator, visited each section. As they often do on such occasions, the section heads made a brief but comprehensive statement of the functions they were responsible for and answered the visitors' questions. All comments in English made during the visit had to be translated for the visitors, who had questions at several points in the tour, which naturally enough had to be translated in turn for the Center's staff. A small Hun-

garian flag occupied a prominent place in the Reference Section, placed there by historian Robert V. Aquilina, who acquired a collection of eastern European flags in anticipation of the series of visits.

Gen Liptai, in the course of comments made as he moved through the Center, said that the day's duty NCOs, SSgt Randy Shouse and Sgt Kevin L. Parker, both in dress blues, reminded him of the U.S. Embassy guards in Budapest. He also noted in passing that Soviet Marines had a deserved reputation for being feisty and full of themselves.

As the visitors departed, bound for dinner and a visit to the Kennedy Center and a National Symphony concert, Gen Simmons presented them sets of prints of Maj Donna J. Neary's "Marine Corps Uniforms 1983" and Col Charles H. Waterhouse's "Marines in the Frigate Navy" paintings. During the rest of their week in the Washington area, the Hungarians spent a morning at the USAF historical office and an afternoon at the Air and Space Museum, a day at the Army's Military History Institute at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and a day at the Gettysburg Battlefield taking part in a staff ride organized by Col Harold Nelson, the Army's new Chief of Military History.

Poland is the next country on the agenda of proposed reciprocal visits of official military historians, with a trip to Warsaw by a U.S. delegation, with Marine Corps participation, planned for the early part of 1990. □1775□

The U.S. Marine Corps and the Vietnam War

by Robert V. Aquilina
Assistant Head, Reference Section

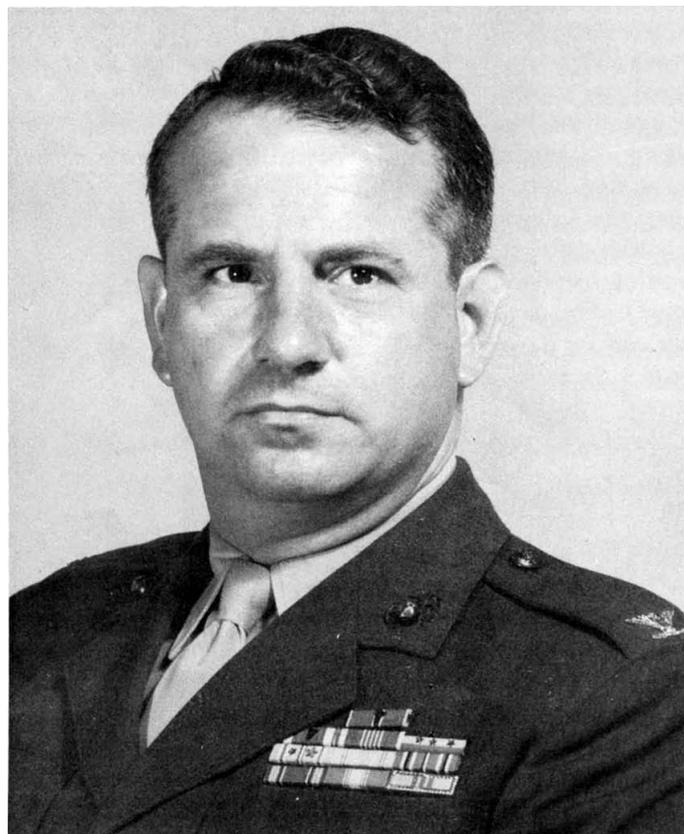
Next spring will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first large-scale deployment to Vietnam of U.S. Marine combat troops. Fortitudine is commemorating that event by publishing a serial chronology of Marine Corps participation in America's longest conflict—the Vietnam War. This issue highlights the critical events of the period 1954-1964, from the fall of Dien Bien Phu to the passage of the Tonkin Gulf Resolution. A more detailed treatment of these and other events of the period is provided by the History and Museums Division's volume in the Vietnam War series, U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Advisory and Combat Assistance Era, 1954-1964, from which many of the following entries were excerpted.

1954

7 May—A 13,000-man French and Vietnamese garrison at Dien Bien Phu surrendered to Viet Minh Communist forces under the command of Gen Vo Nguyen Giap. The crushing defeat effectively ended French determination to maintain a colonial presence in Vietnam dating from long before World War II.

20 Jul—Armistice terms agreed upon in Geneva, Switzerland, ended the fighting in Vietnam, and divided the country at

LtCol Victor J. Croizat, who arrived in South Vietnam in 1954, became the first Marine advisor to the Vietnamese Marine Corps.



the 17th parallel of north latitude, pending reunification elections to be held in 1956. The Viet Minh, officially the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, was to take the northern zone of Vietnam, including the cities of Hanoi and Haiphong. The State of Vietnam, soon to be known as South Vietnam, was to take all areas south of the 17th parallel. The United States acquiesced in the terms of the agreement without signing any conference documents, and the Government of South Vietnam withheld its assent from the formal settlement.

2 Aug—LtCol Victor J. Croizat, USMC, arrived in South Vietnam for duty with the U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG). LtCol Croizat headed the MAAG detachment at Haiphong, where he coordinated U.S. refugee operations in the Tonkin area with the French and South Vietnamese.

8 Sep—The Manila Pact was signed by the U.S. and seven other nations (Great Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand, and Pakistan), and was quickly transformed into the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO). The treaty specifically included the “free territory under the jurisdiction of the state of Vietnam” as eligible for both the protective features and economic benefits provided by the treaty.

13 Oct—Premier Ngo Dinh Diem of South Vietnam decreed the establishment of a 1,137-man Vietnamese Marine Corps (VNMC).

1955

Feb—LtCol Croizat became the first U.S. advisor to the VNMC.

26 Oct—After a plebiscite in which the people of South Vietnam were asked to choose between him and former Emperor Bao Dai, Premier Ngo Dinh Diem declared the state of South Vietnam a republic—henceforth the Republic of Vietnam—and proclaimed himself president.

1956

Jul—President Diem refused to hold elections for reunification of North and South Vietnam, called for in the Geneva Accords of 1954, claiming that no election in the Communist north could be fair.

1957

Jan-Dec—During this year a campaign of terrorism began in South Vietnam, aided by the Communist government in Hanoi, but also arising in the South from opponents of the Diem government. By 1958 the Diem government was fighting a guerilla war.

1959

1 Jun—The VNMC expanded to a Marine Corps Group of 2,276 officers and men. A third landing battalion was formed from

a nucleus of veteran VNMC officers and noncommissioned officers.

1960

20 Dec—The Communist “National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam” was formed. This body was designated as the political arm of the movement and the Viet Cong as the military arm. Many South Vietnamese who had migrated to the north at the time of the 1954 partition, now began to return south to join in the political and military resistance against the Diem government.

1961

May—Small groups of U.S. Marine officers and noncommissioned officers began an on-the-job-training (OJT) program which allowed them a brief (two-week) period “in country” to observe the counterinsurgency tactics employed in Vietnam.

Jul—The VNMC was reorganized and expanded to a strength of 3,321.

Nov—President John F. Kennedy sent his special military advisor, Gen Maxwell D. Taylor, USA, on a fact-finding mission to Vietnam. Gen Taylor's report, along with President Diem's implied request for American military personnel to assist in logistics and communications, led to a new phase of greatly increased American aid to South Vietnam. By the end of 1963, this aid would total nearly \$500 million annually.

11 Dec—An American escort carrier arrived in Saigon, bearing more than 30 helicopters, four single-engine training planes, and operating and maintenance crews numbering about 400 men. This event was a direct prelude to the “helicopter war” in which the U.S. Marine Corps would play a large role in transporting South Vietnamese forces in “search and destroy” operations.

1962

1 Jan—The former Vietnamese Marine Group was redesignated the Vietnamese Marine Brigade and expanded to 6,109 officers and men. An amphibious support battalion, consisting of just over 1,000 officers and men, also was organized.

17 Jan—The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff directed the Commander in Chief, Pacific (CinCPac), Adm Harry B. Felt, to prepare for increased operations in South Vietnam. It was evident from this order that additional helicopter units would be deployed to South Vietnam to augment the three U.S. Army helicopter companies already in operation.

9-15 Apr—Marine Task Unit 79.3.5 (codenamed Shufly), under the command of Col John F. Carey, arrived at Soc Trang to begin operations in support of South Vietnamese government forces. The task unit was built around Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 362 (HMM-362), which began its first combat support missions on 22 April.

24 Apr—Sixteen Marine helicopters supported the 21st Division of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) in Operation Nightingale conducted near Can Tho. Almost 600 ARVN troops were lifted into eight landing zones.

4 Sep—Initial Shufly elements began deployment north to Da Nang, South Vietnam's second-largest city, located in the ARVN I Corps Tactical Zone. (In August 1963, HMM-163 replaced HMM-362 as the operational squadron assigned to

Shufly. By early 1965, half the medium helicopters in the Marine Corps had rotated through Da Nang for a tour of duty.)

6 Oct—A U.S. Marine Corps search-and-rescue helicopter crashed near Tam Ky while on a mission in support of the 2d ARVN Division. Five Marines and two U.S. Navy personnel were killed in the crash, the first deaths suffered by Marine Task Unit 79.3.5 since its deployment to Vietnam.

1963

15-16 Aug—HMM-261 helilifted 2d ARVN Division units from the field in Operation Lam Son XII.

Oct—VNMC units participated in a major search-and-clear campaign in northwest Gia Dinh Province.

1 Nov—The South Vietnamese Government of President Ngo Dinh Diem was overthrown by a group of Army officers headed by MajGen Duong Van Minh. Both Diem and his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, were assassinated. The new provisional government was immediately recognized by the United States.

Dec—The number of American troops in South Vietnam had reached 16,500.

1964

1 Jan—Gen Wallace M. Greene, Jr., succeeded Gen David M. Shoup as Commandant of the Marine Corps. Gen Greene had been serving since 1960 as Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps.

March—LtGen Victor H. Krulak replaced LtGen Carson A. Roberts as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. A Navy Cross recipient from World War II, LtGen Krulak served both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson as a special assistant for counterinsurgency operations.

15 May—The U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) was abolished. The Marine Advisory Division was renamed the Marine Advisory Unit, and placed under the operational control of the Naval Advisory Group, Military Assistance Command Vietnam.

2-4 Aug—North Vietnamese patrol boats clashed with U.S. Navy ships cruising in international waters in the Gulf of Tonkin. The U.S. retaliated by bombing North Vietnamese naval stations. The U.S. Congress, at the specific request of President Lyndon B. Johnson, passed a joint resolution to “take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States.” Passed unanimously by the House of Representatives and by a vote of 82-2 in the Senate, the Tonkin Gulf Resolution gave President Johnson a wide grant of power to escalate the American military presence in Vietnam.

31 Dec—A Viet Cong terrorist bomb killed three and wounded 51 at an American bachelor officers' quarters in Saigon. Marine Capt Donald B. Koelper, advisor to the 4th VNMC Battalion, was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for warning those present at a theater to take cover immediately prior to the bomb's detonation.

31 Dec—The 4th VNMC Battalion was badly mauled in fighting at Binh Gia in the ARVN III Corps area, suffering more than 200 casualties and large losses of weapons and equipment, after engaging elements of the *9th Viet Cong Division*.

□1775□

Acquisitions

Museum Preserves Memory of 'Great War' Marines

by Jennifer L. Gooding
Registrar

MARINES WHO FOUGHT IN World War I have donated personal papers, memoirs, photographs, and uniform items to the Marine Corps Museum over the past few months, some in response to an unusual effort mounted by Personal Papers Collection Curator J. Michael Miller.

Mr. Miller conducted a vigorous search across the nation

Illustration from the 1918 Song Book carried at Soissons by the brother of Mr. Carl L. Snare, Sr., symbolizes American intentions in World War I, "To make the world safe for democracy."



SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY!

for surviving World War I veterans with the help of a list of names of Marines who served in the war provided by the Veterans Administration. Mr. Miller sent letters to 220 individuals believed to be surviving veterans, in hopes of better preserving the memory and experiences of the Marines who fought with the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) in the "Great War."

Mrs. Margaret E. Watson of St. Clairsville, Ohio, donated items belonging to her late husband, Robert Joshua Watson, including uniforms, copies of letters he sent to his family, and copies of the citations and letters which he received awarding him Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal Number 24723 and the World War I Victory Medal with five battle clasps. Mr. Watson was a member of the 81st Company, 6th Machine Gun Battalion, 4th Brigade, 2d Division, AEF. As a member of the 6th Battalion, Mr. Watson saw some of the fiercest fighting of the war, participating in the battles of Belleau Wood, Soissons, Chateau-Thierry, St. Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne.

IN ONE OF HIS LETTERS home, written on 25 September 1918, Mr. Watson described a situation that developed when he was injured and attempting to rejoin his company. After receiving attention at a first-aid station he walked into the enemy lines: "I was wounded the first day but not bad and stopped at a dressing station to get first aid and then started out to catch up with the company. Well, I got lost and wandered into the German lines and didn't know it until I bumped right face to face with two Huns. It was a case of who

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