

FORTITUDINE

BULLETIN OF THE MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

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FALL 1994

NUMBER 2

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TO ANOTHER MARINE



AN EMOTIONAL COMMEMORATION, AFTER 50 YEARS, OF GUAM'S WORLD WAR II LIBERATION . . . CASE BY CASE, MARINE CORPS MUSEUM IS BUILDING A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE PACIFIC WAR . . . 'UNDERGROUND' MARINES HONORED BY FORMER WAR ALLIES IN EASTERN FRANCE . . . FLIGHT LINES: THE LAST A-4 SKYHAWK

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FORTITUDINE

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

Historical Bulletin Volume XXIV

Fall 1994

No. 2

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THE COVER

One of a great many pen-and-ink sketches made by then-Sgt John R. McDermott, USMCR, on Guam in 1944, is this untitled view of digging-in as the lines advance. Sgt McDermott, in civilian life an animator for Walt Disney Studios, served as an official combat artist and was so prolific that his contemporary style became easily recognizable to both Marines, from published work in *Leatherneck*, and civilians, from glossy copies supplied by the Marine Corps to the nation's press. He went on to a busy career as an artist and filmmaker who took special pleasure in historical subject matter, before his death in 1977. His works still adorn Pentagon offices and one painting was familiar to visitors to the Commandant's office for many years. The 50th anniversary of the battle for Guam is the subject of BGen Simmons' "Memorandum from the Director," on page 3, in which he describes his own participation in the Pacific island's carefully planned commemoration ceremonies and additionally invites commentary from former congressman from Guam and retired Marine BGen Vincente T. Blaz. Among official ceremonies on Guam was one dedicating the War Dog Cemetery, attended by the Commandant, where 24 of these brave animals, trained to save Marines' lives, are buried. Archivist Frederick J. Graboske reviews a scrapbook added to the collection by one of these dogs' handlers in the 5th War Dog Platoon, in an article on page 20.

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Guam Redux



BGen Simmons

IN JULY 1944, 24-year-old Capt Louis H. Wilson was the commanding officer of Company F, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. Behind him and his company was a hard fight for Bougainville. Ahead was a much harder fight for Guam.

Ashore at Guam was a 16-year-old Chamorro boy who should have been in high school, but the Japanese occupiers of the island had commandeered into forced labor all able-bodied persons of more than 12 years of age. His name was Vincente T. Blaz, but everyone called him "Ben" Blaz. He had worked on the airstrip the Japanese had built near Agana and now there were bomb craters to be filled.

Halfway around the world in the mountains of western North Carolina, nine-year-old Carl E. Mundy, Jr., was spending much of his summer vacation glued to the family radio, listening to the war news. His father, too old for active service himself, thought the sun rose and set on the Ma-

rine Corps. He made sure that young Carl knew what the Marines were doing in the Pacific. On Saturdays they would go to the movies and see the newsreels. June had been filled with news of the Normandy landing. Now in July there was a big battle being fought in the Pacific in a place called the Marianas.

FIFTY YEARS LATER, July 1994 would bring these three together as key figures in the 50th anniversary observance of the Liberation of Guam.

Gen Mundy was now the 30th Commandant of the Marine Corps. On his plane, as part of his official party, in addition to Gen Wilson, the 26th Commandant of the Marine Corps, were retired lieutenant generals Alpha L. Bowser, Jr., and Louis Metzger. In July 1944, at Guam, LtCol Bowser had commanded the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, and Maj Metzger the 1st Armored Amphibian Battalion. I, too,

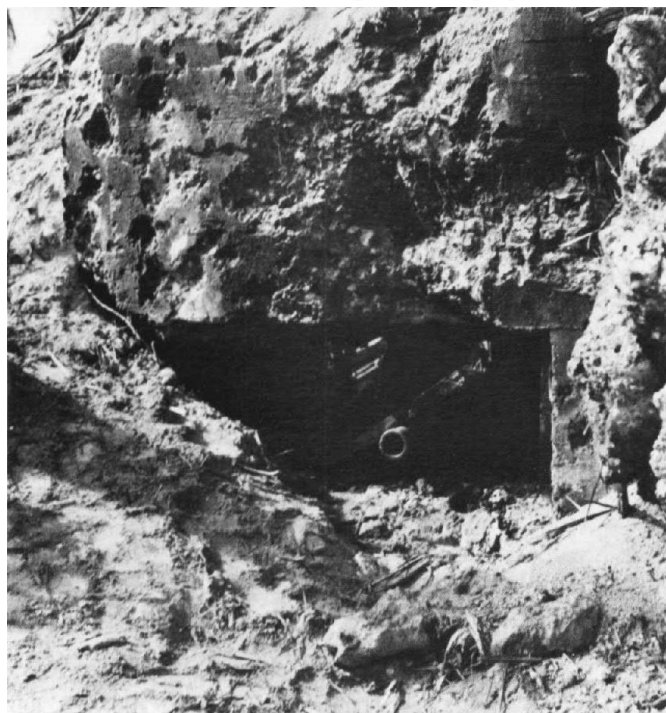
was along. In July 1944, I had been the survey and reconnaissance officer of the engineer company of the 5th Field Depot.

The Commandant's plane landed in mid-afternoon on Tuesday, 19 July, at Naval Air Station, Agana. There was a band and an honor guard, but more memorable was the line of beautifully dressed and smiling Guamanian women, who draped the Commandant's party, men and women, with shell necklaces, the more durable Guamanian equivalent of Hawaii's flower *leis*.

A CAVALCADE OF CARS, most of them driven by Guamanian policemen, whisked the party to the Hilton Hotel, where it was to be housed. Retired Marine LtCol Adolf P. "Sgamby" Sgambelluri, who spent much of his Marine Corps career as a military policeman, is Guam's Chief of Police. A bundle of energy, he is now one of the island's movers and shakers

The Japanese 75mm gun emplacement on Guam's Gaan Point, at left, before it was destroyed in the July 1944 battle, seriously damaged a number of the landing craft bringing the Marine at-

tack to the Pacific island. In July 1994, BGen Simmons found that 50 years had altered the site only slightly when he took the picture, from the opposite side of the emplacement, at right.





Then-Cpl John R. McDermott, a young Marine artist whose work adorns World War II-era issues of Leatherneck magazine, found victorious Marines on Guam enjoying a post-battle respite amid the palms and to the music of a traveling Navy jazz band.

and had a large part to play in the 50th anniversary of Guam's liberation.

THE HILTON overlooks Tumon Bay and is only one of a number of luxury hotels, as fine as any in Hawaii, that now ring the bay. Tumon Bay, lying north of Agana, had been the most obvious landing beach, which the Japanese themselves used when they invaded. Believing the Americans would land there as well, they fortified it heavily. It was a wasted effort because we did not land there.

After the island was secured, I had stayed on at Guam as adjutant of the 5th Field Depot. When times were slack we would picnic at Tumon Bay, in the company, if we were lucky, of Navy nurses from the nearby mobile hospital. After the first B-29 airfield was completed, Tumon Bay was in the flight path of the big bombers on their way to and from their raids against the Japanese home islands. Sometimes they would come back trailing smoke or otherwise showing damage. I remember one tranquil Sunday afternoon when one B-29 came back with two engines out. He went over our heads at coconut-palm height and we thought he had made it. He reached the field, but crashed in a big ball of flame, and nine of the ten-man crew were killed. That was before Iwo Jima was taken and there was a recovery airfield midway back for crippled B-29s. Harmon Field, the first of the

B-29 fields on Guam, is now overlaid by the Guam International Airport. Northwest Field, toward the very northern tip of the island, is gone. What was North Field in 1945, at the northeast corner of Guam, is now Andersen Air Force Base and the home of the Headquarters, Thirteenth Air Force, MajGen H. Hale Burr, Jr., USAF, commanding.

By the time we arrived, the 50th anniversary celebration was already well underway. That first night there was a reception on board the USS *Belleau Wood* (LHA 3). We had barely dropped our bags when the cavalcade of cars reformed to take us to the ship. From where we were on Tumon Bay to where the ship was docked took us along the coast road, suitably named "Marine Drive," through the length of the city of Agana. Before the war, Agana had been a picturesque Spanish colonial town of perhaps 2,000. During the battle for Guam it was flattened, almost obliterated. Agana itself still houses only about 2,000, but it is engulfed in suburbs and looks much like a mid-size city in the Hawaiian Islands.

ON BOTH SIDES of Marine Drive there was an unbroken line of Guamanian families camping out on the curbside for the holiday. The families had staked out their places from which to view the goings and comings of the celebration and, most particularly, for the big parade

which was to come on the 21st of July. This camping-out is not new; it is a custom that has grown big over the years. Most families had rigged some sort of bright-colored tent, fly or canopy. The unmistakable odor of barbecue was in the air.

The city was dressed for the occasion with flags (many iterations of both the United States and Guam flag), bunting, greenery, and welcoming signs. From a tall, 12- or 14-story building hung two huge banners. One said "WELCOME." The other said "LIBERATORS." Everywhere there were signs saying "Hafa Adai," the universal Chamorro greeting.

I remembered that in 1944 we had been told that the Guam natives did not like to be called "Chamorros." It is now politically more correct to spell "Chamorro" as "Chamoru," which unfortunately gives it a Japanese look and sound. In an effort to reproduce more closely in writing the sound of the Chamorro language, Guamanian scholars have developed a new orthography, moving away from the written language based largely on Spanish practice, and have come up with not only new spellings but also a multiplicity of diacritical marks not readily found on a standard typewriter or word processor. "Orote" becomes "Uroti" in the new orthography. "Sumay" is "Sumai." The new spellings have been only partially accepted.

The Chamorros were originally of Indonesian stock and their language a Malay dialect. Ferdinand Magellan touched there in 1521 during his circumnavigation of the globe, landing, according to tradition, at Umatac on the south end of the island. Spanish missionaries arrived in 1668 and named the island chain *Islas Marianas* (Mariana Islands) in honor of Maria Anna, the queen of Spain. Colonization was accomplished with considerable bloodshed. Infusions of Spanish and Filipino blood modified the depleted indigenous strain, just as Spanish and Tagalog changed the spoken language.

THE SPANISH remained in charge until 1898 when, on 21 June, the cruiser USS *Charleston* steamed into Apra harbor and fired 12 rounds with its 3-pounders at the old (and abandoned) Fort Santa Cruz. The Spanish governor, lacking a cable link, did not know that a state of war existed between Spain and the United States, thought the shelling was a salute, and sent out an apology that he

Uncle Sam, Won't You Please Come Back to Guam,

Veterans of the liberation of Guam will remember it, the "Uncle Sam" song that the Chamorros sang. Guamanians who lived through the Japanese occupation also remember it. Joseph Santo Tomas, too young to remember himself, got the song from his aunt. As he wrote in *Liberation: Guam Remembers*, "Both children and adults learned and sang the song though forbidden by Japanese authorities . . . Part of the ditty's popularity was that one could make up anything about the Japanese, and no matter how silly, it would still be appropriate."

As Tomas says, "Though reminded every day of the Japanese presence in Guam, Chamorros never lost hope that America would return to liberate the island." The song got so popular, Tomas' aunt told him, "that even humming the tune around the Japanese infuriated them."

By not so unlikely a coincidence, Col Archibald Hanna, Jr., USMCR (Ret) and a librarian emeritus at Yale University, recently sent the History and Museums Division the following 1944 version of "Uncle Sam":

UNCLE SAM

EIGHT OF DECEMBER
THE JAPANESE DROPPED THEIR BOMBS
PEOPLE GO CRAZY
RIGHT HERE IN GUAM

CHORUS:
OH MISTER SAM, SAM, MY DEAR
UNCLE SAM WON'T YOU PLEASE COME
BACK TO GUAM

OUR LIVES IN DANGER
YOU BETTER COME
KILL ALL THESE JAPANESE
RIGHT HERE IN GUAM

SUBMARINES, DESTROYERS, AND
LOTS OF BATTLESHIPS
COME WITH A THOUSAND
NEVER TO RETREAT

I DON'T LIKE SAKKI
IT'S BETTER CANADIAN
I DON'T LIKE A JAPANESE
IT'S BETTER AMERICAN

RAISE UP YOUR BANNER
RED, WHITE AND BLUE
ALL THE PEOPLE SINGING
JUST FOR YOU.

Guard Monument was hosted by BGen Eduardo R. Duenas, Guam's Adjutant General, and Felix F. Ungacta, Mayor of Agana.

During the Japanese occupation, the Japanese renamed Guam "Omiyajima" or "Great Shrine Island." Agana became "Akashi Mura," or "Red City," after the red sun in the Japanese flag. These years were a time of introspection for the Guamanians.

"We learned our language and culture," remembered Ben Blaz, "while the enemy was trying to impose his on us . . ."

AFTER THE WAR, the island's governor was once again a naval officer, until 1 August 1950 when, under the Organic Act of Guam, jurisdiction passed to the Department of the Interior with a governor appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate. The same act made the Guamanians, until then "nationals," U.S. citizens, but not yet full citizens as they were given no vote in U.S. presidential elections. Thanks to a bill passed by the Congress in 1968, Guam now has an elected governor. Another bill, passed in 1972, gave Guam a delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. This delegate can vote in committee but not on the floor of the House. Guam has consistently sought the same rights as those enjoyed by other U.S. citizens. As a reminder that Guam is American and because of its position west of the international dateline, the island bills itself as "Where America's Day Begins."

Guam totals only some 209 square miles. Shaped rather like a peanut, it is some 30 miles long and from four to eight-and-a-half miles wide. Land is at a premium and there is now considerable agitation over the large amount of acreage held in Department of Defense and Department of Interior reserves. Chamoru Nation, a political activist group, is campaigning for commonwealth status for Guam similar to that enjoyed by Puerto Rico. Such attempts to change from territorial to commonwealth status have made little progress. An affinity, at first surprising but completely understandable because of the parallelism, exists between the Native American and the Chamoru movements. Chamoru Nation leaders have consistently sought United Nations support to have the U.S. end "colonialism" on Guam.

lacked the powder to return what he thought was a salute. 1stLt John Twiggs ("Handsome Jack") Myers took the *Charleston's* Marines ashore and the surrender of Guam was accepted.

The myopic Americans shaping the peace treaty with Spain failed to claim the rest of the Mariana islands including Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. Spain, in much straitened circumstances, was left free to sell them to the Germans, who in turn lost them to the Japanese, by mandate, as a consequence of World War I.

Guam, ceded by the United States as an unincorporated territory, was a U.S. Navy fiefdom from 1899 until 1941, with successive Navy captains as the island's governors. In 1941, Guam's population was about 22,000.

CAPT GEORGE J. McMILLIN, USN, was the governor and garrison commander when the Japanese began their shelling on 8 December. To defend the island he had 153 Marines, an 80-man In-

sular Force Guard (paid at half the pay of corresponding U.S. Navy ratings), and an unpaid 246-man naval militia armed with obsolete and condemned rifles.

On 10 December a landing party of 400 Japanese sailors from Saipan came ashore at Dungca's Beach, north of Agana. The Insular Force Guard, under Marine 1stLt Charles S. Todd, defended the government buildings in Agana in a brief, violent fire-fight against the landing party. Meanwhile, the Japanese *144th Regiment*, altogether some 5,000 troops, was making three separate landings at Tumon Bay, Talofofo, and Merizo. Capt McMillin saw that the situation was hopeless and surrendered the island to the Japanese naval commander. The garrison had lost 19 killed and 42 wounded; 15 of the killed and 30 of the wounded were Guamanians. Veterans of the Insular Force Guard and their families had gathered at the Plaza de Espana in Agana on 19 July to commemorate these events. A formal dedication of the Guam Insular Force



The amphibious assault ship Belleau Wood (LHA 3) was used for many commemoration events, including a formal reception and a battalion-sized parade and review conducted by the NCOs of the 31st MEU. The Belleau Wood was one of four ships, including Dubuque, San Bernardino, and Germantown, in the Amphibious Ready Group that brought the 31st MEU to Guam.

The Chamorros of Guam are now on the edge of becoming a minority, as has happened in so many other Pacific islands, most notably Hawaii, with large and increasing numbers of resident Filipinos, Chinese, Japanese, Caucasians, and Micronesians from neighboring islands. In 1990 the population was about 132,000, of whom a shade less than half were of Chamorro stock. Filipinos, at 25 percent, are the second largest ethnic group.

THE AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT ship USS *Belleau Wood*, at 820 feet overall length and displacing 40,000 tons, is a big ship, the largest of the four ships of the Amphibious Ready Group that had brought the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, commanded by Col Jerry D. Humble, to Guam for the commemoration. The other three ships of the ARG were the USS *Dubuque* (LPD 8), *San Bernardino* (LST 1189), and *Germantown* (LSD 42). The 31st MEU was made up primarily of Battalion Landing Team 3/5, Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, and Marine Service Support Group 31.

The *Belleau Wood's* flight deck was large enough to accommodate a battalion-size parade and review, conducted by the NCOs of 31st MEU, with ample space for the seating of the spectators who numbered at least another thousand.

President Clinton's representative, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Territorial and International Affairs, the Honorable Leslie Turner, a young African-American woman, was introduced. Other

dignitaries present included Guam's governor, Joseph F. Ada; VAdm David B. Robinson, Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Pacific; LtGen Claude M. Kicklighter, USA (Ret), executive director of the inter-agency World War II Commemoration Committee; RAdm Edward K. Kristenson, Commander, Naval Forces, Marianas; MajGen H. Hale Burr, USAF, Commander, Thirteenth Air Force; MajGen Carlton W. Fulford, Commanding General, III Marine Expeditionary Force; BGen David F. Bice, Commanding General, 3d Marine Division; and a good many others.

BUT THE REAL guests of honor, as Gen Mundy said in his remarks, were the returned "liberators." Saluting the veterans, he said, "It is a privilege to stand in your shadow."

Counting wives, other family members, and friends, something like 1,200 to 1,500 veterans had returned to Guam. Many brought back snapshots of their time on Guam and some sought to find Guamanian families they had known. Most of the veterans were on the deck of the *Belleau Wood*. All services were represented, but Marines seemed to predominate. Gens Wilson, Bowser, and Metzger were, of course, present, and so was MajGen Charles Davis, USA (Ret) who had been an artillery officer with the 77th Division.

After the parade and review there was a reception and buffet on the hangar deck. The ship's crew appeared genuinely happy to have the old-timers on board. The mess force of the ship had outdone itself.

The whole ship glistened. I was told that this was not just because of the occasion; that an immaculate ship was the hallmark of the *Belleau Wood's* skipper, Capt Harry M. Highfill, USN.

The air-conditioned immensity of the *Belleau Wood* was a far cry from the sweat-soaked crampness of the USS *Ormsby* (APA 49) that had brought me to Guam 50 years earlier. The amphibious assault transport *Ormsby* had weighed in at 7,300 tons, full load, and with a good following sea could make 17 knots. Commissioned in June 1943, she already was a veteran of Tarawa, Bougainville, Kwajalein, and New Guinea.

THE V AMPHIBIOUS CORPS landed on Saipan on 15 June. The III Amphibious Corps was to land at Guam on 18 June. A few days later there was to be a third landing, this one on Tinian, just to the south of Saipan.

At Saipan, the V Amphibious Corps, under command of Marine Major General Holland M. Smith, had the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions in the assault. The Army's 27th Division was in floating reserve and the Army's 77th Division was being held in Hawaii in strategic reserve.

As it happened, by the spring of 1944, the Japanese Navy felt itself strong enough to once again challenge the U.S. Navy to a decisive battle. The collision of VAdm Raymond A. Spruance's Fifth Fleet with VAdm Jisaburo Ozawa's *First Mobile Fleet* came on 19 June. Called the Battle of the Philippine Sea, but better known as "The



Photo by GySgt Juan Tricoche, USMC

Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Carl E. Mundy, Jr., left, is joined by the 26th Commandant, Gen Louis H. Wilson, a recipient of the Medal of Honor for his heroism in World War II in the Pacific; and 31st MEU commander Col Jerry D. Humble and Belleau Wood skipper Capt Harry H. Highfill, at the battalion-sized parade and review on board Belleau Wood.

Great Marianas Turkey Shoot," it was the greatest carrier battle of the war. The Japanese lost 480 aircraft and three of their largest carriers. No American ships were sunk. Total loss of American aircraft was 130.

As a consequence of this big sea battle and the unexpectedly tough going ashore at Saipan, the landing at Guam, scheduled for 18 June, was postponed until 21 July. Ever since 1944, Guam has celebrated the 21st of July as Liberation Day. The 50th anniversary was to be the biggest celebration of all.

LANDING DAY at Guam was called "W-day" because the term "D-day" had been used for the Saipan landing. The landing force was the III Amphibious Corps, under command of MajGen Roy S. Geiger, a pioneer Marine aviator. The 3d Marine Division and the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade were in the assault and the

77th Infantry Division, brought forward from Hawaii, was in reserve.

The 3d Marine Division, commanded by MajGen Allen H. ("Hal") Turnage, would come ashore south of Agana, landing between Adelup and Asan Points. The 3d Marines would land on the left flank, the 21st Marines in the center, and the 9th Marines on the right.

The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, under BGen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., would land across the beaches south of Agat, the 22d Marines on the left, and the 4th Marines (newly made up of the old Raider battalions) on the right. The 305th Infantry, on temporary loan from the 77th Division, was in reserve.

Eighteen gunboats (LCI[G)s), evenly divided between the 3d Division and the 1st Brigade, led the assault waves. Each of the LCI(G)s had 42 4.5-inch rocket launchers in addition to its 20mm and 40mm guns. The armored amphibian tractors

(LVT[A][1)s) of Maj Louis Metzger's 1st Armored Amphibian Battalion, with their turreted 37mm guns and five machine guns, followed the gunboats. Behind the armored amphibs came 360 troop-carrying LVTs organized into six waves. H-hour was 0830.

Japanese guns in Adelup and Asan Points hit several of Metzger's armored amphibs. Said Metzger later, the gun on Adelup Point was "silenced by a destroyer that closed to the reef edge in a beautiful bit of seamanship." Metzger's own 37mm guns took out the gun at Asan Point.

MUCH THE SAME happened at the brigade landing where Japanese resistance at the water's edge centered on Gaan Point, which separated the beaches assigned to the 4th and 22d Marines. After securing the beachhead, the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade swung to the north along the axis of the Agat-Agana road,

cutting across the base of Orote peninsula to join up with the 3d Division.

Meanwhile the 3d Marines had been stalled in front of Fonte hill, the 21st Marines had moved inland against a series of ridgeline positions, and the 9th Marines had taken Cabras island, the northern arm of Apra harbor. The 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, under LtCol Robert E. Cushman, could then be spared to help the 3d Marines against Fonte heights.

Firing in support of the 3d Marines and Cushman's battalion were the 105mm howitzers of LtCol Al Bowser's 3d Battalion, 12th Marines. Bowser had gotten to shore early on W-day. His guns were landed in amphibious trucks (DUKWs) and he had them in action in less than an hour and a half after H-hour.

Cushman's battalion drove a wedge into the Japanese lines creating a salient. Company F held the apex against seven separate Japanese attacks on the night of 25-26 July. The company's skipper, Lou

Wilson, three times wounded, collected a patrol in the morning and tidied up his position before allowing himself to be evacuated.

ABOUT THAT SAME TIME Al Bowser's battery positions were being heavily harassed by sniper fire from pockets of Japanese who had infiltrated the lines. Bowser's cannons, with the aid of two Sherman tanks from the division's tank park, cleaned them out.

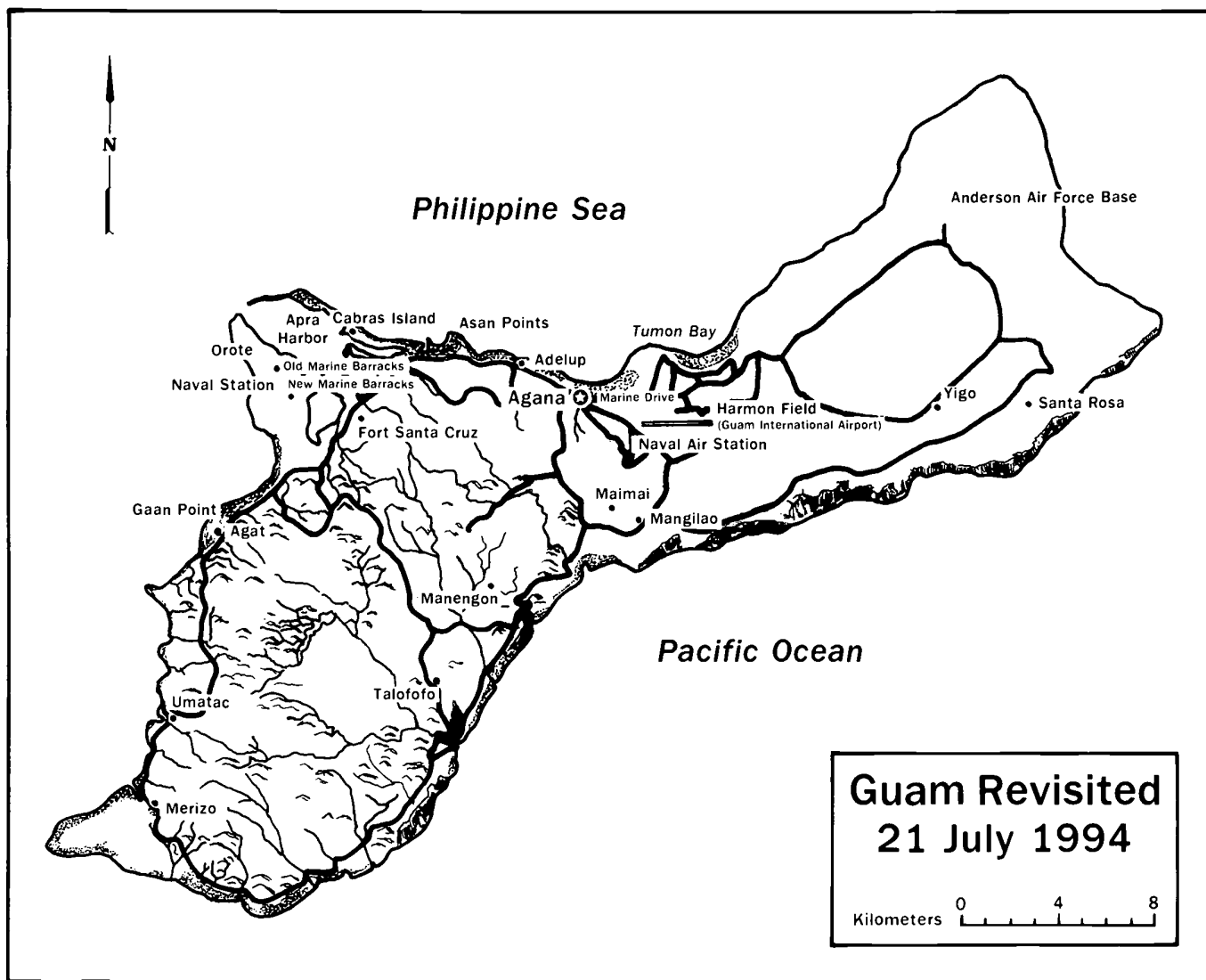
Lou Wilson, for his actions, received the Medal of Honor from President Truman, one of four Medals of Honor given Marines for Guam. PFC Luther Skaggs, Jr., a mortar squad leader in the 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, received one for his tenacious defense, after being badly wounded, the first night ashore. He lived. The other two awards were posthumous. PFC Leonard F. Mason of the 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, received his for heroism on 22 July that cost him his life. PFC Frank P. Witek, a

Browning automatic rifleman, was with the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, when on 3 August he gave his life covering his platoon's withdrawal after its surprise by an overwhelming Japanese force.

By 10 August the Japanese had been pushed to the rim of the northern cliffs overlooking the sea, and the island was declared secured. Japanese losses at Guam were counted at 17,300 killed with 485 prisoners taken. American casualties were 9,041 dead and wounded.

ALMOST 50 YEARS LATER, Wednesday morning, 20 July 1994, began for us with the "Golden Salute to the Chamoru People & Liberators of Guam" at 0900 on the grounds of the Adelup government complex and hosted by Governor Joseph F. Ada and Lieutenant Governor Frank F. Blas. It was a very hot morning and our solicitous hostesses kept us well supplied with iced water and other cold drinks.

Among those present was MajGen



Walter A. Churchill, USMCR (Ret), who, as a lieutenant colonel, commanded the 5th Field Depot (a lineal predecessor to today's Force Service Support Groups). A physical fitness buff for most of his life and now a very vigorous 90-year-old, Gen Churchill enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1922. He owns a chain of supermarkets in Toledo, Ohio. The U.S. flag is flown from a flagpole in front of each of his stores.

The speeches were good. Along with other Pacific Islanders, Guamanians have a strong tradition of oratory. In their published message, the Speaker and Vice-Speaker of the Guam Legislature, Senators Joe T. San Augustin and John P. Aguon, said of the 50th Anniversary, "It is a time to honor those who died, remember those who risked their lives, and rejoice for those who survived the perilous war. It is a time to welcome returning WWII Veterans who sacrificed during the War so that we could live in freedom. For some, this will be the first time they have returned to the island since the liberation. Most of us are probably not familiar with most of these men individually. But, the entire island of Guam is grateful for their valor and selflessness, and we hold each and every one of them in great regard. For without them, we would not enjoy the liberty that we do today."

After the ceremonies at Adelup, there was a *merienda* at Government House, Governor Ada's palatial official quarters. *Merienda* translated into a bountiful tropical buffet, a crush of guests smilingly guided by an abundance of hostesses, with everyone seemingly taking a turn at sitting at the governor's table.

CROWDING CLOSE on the Governor's luncheon were the ceremonies at the site of the old Marine Barracks, Guam, now part of the Naval Station. The 22d Marines, the left flank regiment of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, working north from Agat, had reached the fire-blackened skeleton of the old Marine Barracks on 28 July 1944. BGen Shepherd, who always had an eye for martial ceremonies, directed that the U.S. flag be run up the old flag pole once again. Found in the ashes were two bronze plaques which had marked the entrances to the barracks. Gen Shepherd saw to it that the plaques were sent to Quantico where they were held by the Marine Corps Museum.

Part of the ceremony at the old barracks



The photograph described by BGen Blaz in remarks at the site of the Marine Barracks on Guam shows an elderly Chamorro woman being carried out of a Japanese "concentration camp" on the island, cradling an old U.S. Marine campaign hat she treasured.

site was the return of one of the plaques. The most eloquent and moving part of this ceremony were the remarks of BGen Blaz. He spoke of having grown up close to the site of the barracks and having known some members of the Marine garrison. Their distinguishing marks were the felt campaign hats they wore. He remarked that a photograph of an elderly Chamorro woman, being carried out of a concentration camp* on a litter, shows her clutching a Marine's battered campaign hat. Stretching the symbolism a bit further, Blaz recently had a copy of the old campaign hat made out of coconut fiber and he presented this hat.

The Guamanian people, nationals and not yet citizens, remained stubbornly pro-American for the almost three years of Japanese occupation. Focal point of their resistance was the young Catholic priest, Father Jesus B. Duenas. In June and early July, pounded from the air by the Americans, the Japanese reacted cruelly against the Guamanians. Father Duenas was beheaded, the favorite Japanese means of execution, on 12 July. On the east side of the island there is now a school named in his memory. He was not alone in his martyrdom. There are several execution sites

*"Concentration camp" is correctly used here although it has come to be synonymous with the death camps of the Nazis such as Auschwitz and Buchenwald. The term first came into popular use during the South African War when the British "concentrated" their Boer enemies and their families into camps.

on the island. Our driver, an effervescent young man who works regularly as a government accountant, told us that his grandfather was one of those who was beheaded.

THE JAPANESE pushed much of the population into hurriedly designated camps where little or no preparation had been made for shelter, food, or sanitation. The largest and worst of the camps was Manengon. As one Guamanian account tells it:

Before the American invasion to recapture Guam, the Japanese ordered all Chamorros to be placed in concentration camps on July 10, 1944, Villagers living in Yigo and Santa Rosa, the northernmost villages, were forced to walk to Manengon Valley. No one was exempted from the difficult journey. The sick and elderly were carried and those who could not withstand the physical demands died along the way. As the villagers marched, the group grew larger as they passed through the other villages. Upon reaching Mangilao, they headed for Maimai Valley and proceeded toward Manengon Valley, inland from Yo'na, their final destination, uncertain of their fate.

About 10,000 Guamanians, half the population of the island, were held at Manengon until the 27th of July, when the



After 50 years, the debris of war still lies along the coral beaches and just below the surface of the water at Gaan Point, the site of heavy fighting, where an abandoned Japanese gun now serves only as a memorial. Orote Peninsula is visible at the right rear.

Japanese guards fled their posts. Many Guamanians, particularly the very young and the very old, had died.

A memorial service was held at Manengon on the 19th. Governor Ada, in speaking, said the site was "consecrated by the blood of our people, watered by the tears of our mothers and fathers." A memorial wall with 369 names engraved upon it was unveiled.

Some of the young men, Ben Blaz among them, had escaped from the Japanese and hidden in the hills. Some exacted their own personal revenge on their Japanese guards. As soon as they could, most found their way into the American lines, where they found immediate if informal employment as irregular scouts. Ben Blaz attached himself to a unit of the 9th Marines.

AFTER THE WAR he would go to the University of Notre Dame and come into the Marine Corps as a second lieutenant in 1951. He served three times with the 9th Marines; the first time in 1954. In 1966 in Vietnam he was the operations officer, at a time when I was the commanding officer. In 1972, on Okinawa, he would command the regiment. He retired in 1980 as a brigadier general. In 1984 Guam sent him to the House of Representatives as its elected delegate. He would so serve for eight years.

The next ceremony on Wednesday afternoon was at the close-by Navy Memorial Park. A time capsule was buried, VAdm Robinson spoke, and Gen Mundy laid one of seven wreaths. The school children of Guam planted a grove of trees, the holes

providentially dug beforehand and the trees in place. Both the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band and the U. S. Navy Band, Guam, played. Volleys were fired by a 3d Marine Division rifle squad and a Navy saluting battery.

Next came the dedication of the War Dog Cemetery, also within the confines of the Naval Station. Prime mover for this event was veterinarian Dr. William W. Putney, who as a Marine lieutenant had commanded the war dogs at Guam. Twenty-four war dogs are buried there. Dr. Putney lost his own dog, "Cappy," in the fight for Cabras Island.

I had my own memories of war dogs at Guam. All that I saw were Dobermans, but I heard there were some German Shepherds. Some or all that were destined for the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade were embarked in the *Ormsby*. As I climbed

A Japanese 70mm round lies where it was left in the hills above the Agat beaches. On a personal tour of the battleground Gen Simmons encountered other exploring veterans; they found a marker locating the 1st Provisional Brigade's first command post.



down the cargo net to board the bouncing LCVP (Landing Craft, Vehicle and Personnel) below, the dogs were being lowered in slings behind me. I was well sprinkled. After I left the ship, the *Ormsby* took a Japanese shell in the bow, killing an officer and an enlisted sailor, her only personnel casualties of the war.

THE COMMANDANT attended the war dog ceremony at which a life-sized statue of a Doberman was unveiled. I did not. I stole away for a private visit to Agat beach. I wanted to see Gaan Point once again.

Gaan Point, a coral outcropping that went down to the sea, separated Yellow Beach on the left where the 22d Marines landed from White Beach on the right where the 4th Marines went ashore.

My LCVP had taken me to the reef's edge where I transferred to an LVT (Landing Vehicle, Tracked), which had already landed its first load, for the run into White Beach One where I was to land. It was mid-morning and about two hours after L-hour when we ground ashore. I heard, or thought, that some of my party might have landed on Yellow Beach so I went to see. Warned that Gaan Point was still "hot," I went behind it, working my way through the coconut palms toward the beach. I could see a welter of damaged LVTs churning about in the surf. I slid up behind a Marine who was kneeling behind a coconut palm. I thought he could tell me what was happening, but when I touched him on the shoulder he fell over and I saw that he was dead.



The float carrying the Liberation Day Queens, a tradition of the Liberation Day parades since 1947, was one of nearly 300 to take part in the 1994 celebration. Other events were a bicycle race finish and a mini-marathon that ended at the reviewing stand.

I MYSELF SAW ONLY one Japanese gun in the nose of Gaan Point and there must have been two-dozen knocked-out LVTS out there in the surf. Later I was told that there were two Japanese 75mm guns and one 37mm gun. Except for a covering of vegetation, it looked, fifty years later, much the same to me. In July 1944 naval gunfire had stripped away most of the greenery leaving the raw orange and brown coral.

While I was pondering these things I was joined by another veteran, William Richmond of Redding, California, who limped a little. A former Raider, he told me he had been with the 4th Marines, but through error had been landed on the 22d Marines' beach. Such things happened. In trying to get to White Beach he had been wounded at about where we were standing.

Another 4th Marine veteran, William Mesloh of Tehachapi, California, joined us. He had landed on the proper beach, but he remembered Gaan Point. A third Marine veteran, whose name I did not get, came by as we talked. He had been a runner in BGen Shepherd's message center. The brigade's first CP (command post) had been set up close to where we were, in a coconut grove on the inboard side of the coast road. There is a marker on the road to show where it was.

LIBERATION DAY itself, 21 July 1994, was a busy day filled with ceremonies. The Commandant's official day began at 0800 with a ceremony at the National Park Service's War in the Pacific Park at Asan

Beach. He spoke there, as he did at each of the ceremonies in turn, but his schedule was so crowded that he had to move on before the ceremony, one of the largest of the celebration, was over. The highlight of the ceremony was the dedication of a magnificent memorial honoring the liberators. Local veterans, headed by LtCol Sgambelluri, raised \$200,000 and worked tirelessly to insure that the memorial was finished on time. He reported that they ended up with an hour to spare.

The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade commemoration, held at 0900 at Agat's Rizal Point, came next. Santa Rita's Mayor Gregorio Borja spoke, as did Mr. Paul Ulrich, the president of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade Association, as well as the unflagging Commandant.

A tropical rainstorm finally having passed by, a Marine Corps color guard and other military units get the parade underway.



At the same time the veterans of the brigade were meeting at Rizal Point, Army veterans of the 77th Division were meeting at Gaan Point.

For the Commandant the next event was the 3d Marine Division Commemoration at Asan. Both Gen Mundy and Gen Wilson spoke as did BGen David P. Bice, the present commanding general of the division. Afterward, the spectators literally faced about for the deactivation of the 9th Marine Regiment. The same personages spoke again, BGen Bice this time as the Commanding General, 9th Marines.* As a nice touch, the colors of the regiment were first presented with a bare staff. Then each streamer in turn was affixed by a Marine veteran, called out by name, of the 9th Marines at Guam. Several former commanding officers of the regiment were present and they were invited to join the reviewing party.

SINCE 1947, Guam has held a parade on Liberation Day. One of the traditional features has been the naming of princesses from each of the villages and from this collection of princesses a Liberation Day Queen is elected. This year's Queen was Bernadette ("Bernie") Afaisen, from the village of Inarajan in the southeast corner of the island. She was chosen from some 25 princesses at ceremonies held on the 4th of July. The remaining princesses made up her court. On Guam, once a queen or princess, always a queen or princess, so in the reviewing stand there were actually two courts, this year's court and one from years past.

Just as a bevy of princesses is a feature of the Liberation Day Parade, so is the large number (300 was mentioned) of elaborate floats. A number of events preceded the parade itself. First, coming along the parade route, was the conclusion of a bicycle race. This was followed by the last leg of a mini-marathon, a 10-mile annual run, that ended at the reviewing stand.

Al Vogel, now age 71, who was with Maj Metzger's 1st Armored Amphibian Battal-

*Being commanding general of a Marine regiment had at least one precedent. Col Pedro A. del Valle, while commanding the 11th Marines on Guadalcanal, was promoted to brigadier general in October 1942. Reluctant to leave his regiment while it was in combat he continued as the commanding general of the regiment until April 1943 when he transferred to HQ, I Marine Amphibious Corps.

ion in the landing, and at least one other Marine veteran, ran in the race, just to show, they said, that they could do it. LtGen Metzger was in the reviewing stand and they saluted as they went by. The runners were followed by a procession of sports cars and customized trucks, the kind with the big wheels. More or less coordinated with this, was a fly-over of military aircraft.

THE PARADE ITSELF, scheduled to start at 3 p.m., actually got underway, as happens with community parades, somewhat later. It was raining, a pulsating tropical rain, that varied from a drizzle to a gully-washer, but no one's spirits seemed particularly dampened.

A feature of the preliminary ceremonies was the presentation of the Army's Distinguished Service Cross, for heroics in Vietnam, to SgtMaj John Blaz, USA (Ret), by Gen Mundy.

The marshals for the parade were four Guamanian veterans of World War II: Carlos Taitano, USA; Peter Siguenza, USMC; Glenn Martinez, Army Air Force; and Jorge Cristobal, USN.

MILITARY MARCHING units included the Marines, the Navy, the Army, and the Guam National Guard, dressed out as jungle fighters. Early on there was an overflight by a string of Marine Harriers and helicopters.

The Filipino and Chinese communities had costumed groups in the parade. There were also fearsome aborigine warriors from Fiji and the Southern Philippines, dragon dancers from Taiwan and Hong Kong, and a contingent of Native Americans. Marchers from the other Mariana islands, including Saipan, were present. The parade, scheduled for three hours, went on for six.

The last scheduled event for the day was

a gigantic fireworks display at Tumon. My wife, Frances, and I watched from the balcony of our sixth-floor room at the Hilton Hotel and we agreed that they were quite the best fireworks we had ever seen. As they exploded into glittering stars and streamers, I thought of the prelanding naval gunfire bombardment in the early hours of the morning of 21 July 1944.

GUAM'S CELEBRATION of its liberation attracted little national media attention, a neglect not lost on the Guamanian people. As the *Pacific Daily News*, Guam's newspaper, put it, "Most of the ceremonies this week are . . . intimate gatherings where the men remember their struggle to capture an island and free a people." And then, a bit sadly, "Unlike the recent commemoration of the invasion of Normandy, no presidents or other heads of state came to thank these men."

□1775□

A Grateful Guam Remembers . . .

LONG AFTER THE pictures and memories of the emotional ceremonies and joyous festivities that were part of Guam's golden salute to its liberators have faded, the beautiful memorial built to honor them will continue to shine.

The memorial is a 10x15-foot cube of polished gray marble that rises six feet above its broad, four-tiered octagonal

base, finished in washed pebble effect. The inspiration behind its construction was the desire to have a way of showing gratitude to the liberators. The goal was to build something simple, yet elegant; modest, but dignified; and, strong, yet not imposing.

The drivers of the effort were two retired Marine officers, LtCol Adolph Sgambelluri and Captain Peter Siguen-

za, and Staff Sergeant Juan Cepeda, USA (Ret). Their efforts raised about \$200,000 to underwrite the project and raced with time and typhoons to have the memorial completed on time.

The memorial is located within the War in the Pacific National Park on the same beach where the 3d Marine Division landed during the battle for Guam.

— Ben Blaz



WWII Vets' Corrections Tidy Up Historical Accounts

AN EASTER SUNDAY GIFT

I wish that your April 1st item in the latest *Fortitudine* World War II chronology had noted that D-Day was both April Fools' Day and Easter Sunday for the Okinawa assault.

All hands in the III PhibCorps were aware of this and it was the subject of much discussion as to whether either, neither, or both would prevail over the landing. Fortunately, it was both.

Based on the experience of the Peleliu, Saipan, Guam, and Iwo campaigns the planners expected strong resistance to the landings and heavy casualties. The fact that the landing was not opposed at the beaches was the "April Fool!" to the planners, and the very low [number of] casualties of 1 April was the Easter Sunday gift to the men who made the assault.

BGen F. P. Henderson, USMC (Ret)
Moorestown, New Jersey

SUPERIOR WORK

I want to pass along a "well done" to Richard Harwood for his superior work on *A Close Encounter: The Marine Landing on Tinian*. He most effectively tells the story without wasting words. I noted a minor typo on page 26 [in the final paragraph], where he mentions "... 28th Marines." Obviously he meant Company E, 2d Battalion, 8th Marines. But Harwood has done a splendid job and I commend him.

MajGen Carl W. Hoffman, USMC (Ret)
Escondido, California

HE NEVER WAS MAYOR

I have read with more than considerable interest *A Close Encounter: The Marine Landing on Tinian*. Author [Richard] Harwood has done an excellent job. You will, however, be hearing from some older Philadelphia Marines concerning his reference to Gooderham McCormick becoming Mayor of Philadelphia.

"Goodie," as he was known to Philadelphia Marines of the 6th Battalion, upon his return became associated with Allen, Lane and Scott, the well-known banknote and bond printers. BGen Wallace Scott was part owner and Goodie became an

officer. He was never Mayor of Philadelphia.

MajGen Robert E. Friedrich, USMCR (Ret)
Doylestown, Pennsylvania

EDITOR'S NOTE: The incorrect identification of Gooderham McCormick as a postwar mayor of Philadelphia was a mistaken insert by the general editor of the World War II Commemorative Series of pamphlets, who subsequently apologized to author Harwood for the error.

RECALLS EVENTS OF PHOTO

I always enthusiastically read each new issue of *Fortitudine*. The Summer 1994 issue was of particular interest to me because of Ann Ferrante's article, "Corps Grappled with Complex Somalia Relief Effort." I participated in Operation Restore Hope in a number of capacities, including Commander, Task Force Mogadishu.

I believe the photo on page 16 is miscaptioned. The Marines depicted were members of Task Force Mogadishu, not "Task Force Somalia." I believe, too, that the photo was taken on the morning of 7 January. On the evening of the 6th, about thirty of General Aideed's men attempted to ambush one of my convoys. In retaliation, we were ordered to seize two of his Authorized Weapons Storage Sites. We had hoped that the operation would be accomplished without resistance. Unfortunately, Aideed's men decided to try to make a battle of it and a pretty significant firefight ensued. I believe the Marines

depicted in the photo were not searching for arms caches, but were after a sniper who had engaged my command post.

BGen J. W. Klimp
Commanding General
MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina

THE SOLOMONS PILOTS

Recently I received a pamphlet *Up the Slot: Marines in the Central Solomons*. I was interested in this phase as I had returned to Guadalcanal in the summer of 1943 with a squadron of new pilots that again was designated VMSB-141 [the writer was a flight surgeon]. On one occasion I rode along as the radio gunner in an SBD on an attack on New Georgia. Another time I flew into Munda to pick up a load of casualties for evacuation to Guadalcanal. More recently, in 1942 along with several of the original VMSB-141 pilots, we returned to Guadalcanal and chartered a flight up the slot and landed at Munda. There we found a delightful "South Seas Islands" resort.

However, my reason for writing is because of an error on page 33 of the pamphlet. In the photograph, Fiske Marshall was indented as an Army Air Force colonel. He was a Marine Reserve officer with MAG-25 and subsequently commanded the MAG. I remember him well as he was tall and very bald and it is a recollection that he was a vice-president of Northwest Airlines before coming on active duty

Dr. V. S. Falk
Stoughton, Wisconsin

Gen Klimp says these Marines are members of Task Force Mogadishu who, on 7 January 1993, sought a sniper who fired on their command post the night before.



Marine Corps Museum Exhibits Spotlight World War II

by *Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas*
Curator of Material History

VISITORS NOW COMING to the Marine Corps Museum in the Marine Corps Historical Center at the Washington Navy Yard will find a series of new exhibits commemorating World War II in the Special Exhibits Gallery. These displays are part of the History and Museums Division's observance of the 50th anniversary of Marine participation in World War II.

The first case is a large one, covering the entire north end of the gallery. This case was constructed in a modular form and assembled in the gallery after each of its component pieces was moved from the Exhibit Unit's woodworking shop. The floor-to-ceiling case contains some of the artifacts which were included in the special exhibit on the Central Solomons Campaign which had been shown in the Pentagon's "50th Anniversary of World War II" Corridor from January to July 1993. These items were selected because they represented the total Marine Corps experience in the Pacific Theater of Operations. Included in this case is a herringbone-twill utility coat, a four-foot-by-four-foot model of a Chance-Vought F4U-1 Corsair aircraft, and a large model of a LCVP "Higgins" landing craft. The enemy is represented by a heavy Type 92 machine gun, a smaller Type 99 light machine gun, a 70mm mortar, and a large

Its contents adapted from a larger exhibit originally prepared by the Marine Corps Museum for an entrance corridor of the Pentagon, the "Central Solomons Campaign" case was specially designed for its current location by the Museum's Exhibits Unit.



Japanese imperial flag, which is draped over much of the background. In the center of the background is a three-dimensional photographic rendering of a downed Japanese A6M2 "Zero" fighter.

IN FOUR WINDOW WELLS special cases have been constructed which maintain the design characteristics of seven cased exhibits in the entrance corridor, which trace the history of World War II from the pre-war period to the Guadalcanal Campaign. These exhibits were constructed in 1992 and 1993 and contain a number of rarely-seen artifacts.

The four new cases are devoted to the Central Solomons, Bougainville, Tarawa, and Cape Gloucester. The story of each campaign is told by blending photographs, facsimile copies of original documents, and artifacts. Since, in most cases, the Museum no longer displays fragile documents, they have all been copied and then treated to give an impression of the original. The individual exhibit cases contain a wide range of artifacts, from machine guns to sea shells, including uniforms, medals, insignia, personal equipment, and scale models of heavy ordnance and vehicles. Scarce items such as a Johnson light machine gun magazine carrying case and Marine Corps canine equipment



Exhibits Specialist James A. Fairfax adjusts backing for a display case being built in the Museum's nearby woodworking shop.

are displayed along with such more familiar artifacts as a M1 steel helmet (in this instance, one worn by then-Col Oliver P. Smith).

Prior to the installation of these cases, the Special Exhibits Gallery held an exhibit of art by former Marine Richard M. Gibney (see *Fortitudine*, Fall 1993.) Many of these scenes of World War II were executed by Mr. Gibney from memory over the past few years. When the new exhibit cases were built, a portion of the art in the show was removed. The Museum then borrowed a selection of art by Tom Lea from the U.S. Army's Center for Military History, and several works by Kerr Eby from the collection of the U.S. Navy Historical Center. All six of the paintings by Lea are of Peleliu, while five by Eby cover the campaigns of Bougainville, Tarawa, and Cape Gloucester.

AS THIS PROJECT progresses, another large exhibit case is being built for the south end of the gallery. This case is being fitted with baffles to provide discrete display areas for the next six campaigns of the war. Upon its installation this winter, art by other Marine artists of World War II, such as John McDermott, Donald L. Dickson, and Woodrow M. Kessler, will be on display concurrently. □1775□

Wartime French Allies Honor 'Underground' Marines

by Benis M. Frank
Chief Historian

ON 1 AUGUST 1944, an all-American Office of Strategic Services (OSS) mission entitled Union II parachuted with a large supply of weapons for the French underground into the outskirts of les Saisies, a town in the Haute Savoie region, near the confluence of the French, Italian, and Swiss borders. The team, headed by an Army major, consisted of seven men, including Marines Maj Peter J. Ortiz, Sgts John P. Bodnar, Jack R. Risler, and Frederick J. Brunner, as well as several other men. This area was still under the control of a strong Nazi force, although the underground was quite active here.

Fifteen days later, on 16 August, Ortiz and a detachment were surrounded by a large Gestapo party in the vicinity of Centron, a small village, the headquarters of the OSS team, in the Haute Centron region just south of Lake Geneva. Ortiz surrendered his party because he believed that if he and his men attempted to shoot their way out of the trap, the villagers would undoubtedly suffer reprisals for German deaths which a firefight might produce. Ortiz knew of another French town, Oradur-sur-Vayres, where Nazi troops shot all the men, locked up all the women and children in the village church, and set the whole town afire in retaliation for the killing of a German officer there. Ortiz didn't want this outrage to be repeated, so he parlayed with the Nazi commander in Centron, and offered to surrender if the village was spared. He also told his Marines that he would hold the Germans at bay while they escaped; Brun-

Mrs. Peter J. Ortiz, widow of the World War II OSS hero, stands with their son, LtCol Peter J. Ortiz, Jr., in Centron.



Centron's 93-year-old mayor, Mr. J. Bardassier, left, is joined at the naming ceremony for Place Peter Ortiz by, from left, Mrs. Ortiz, LtCol Ortiz, 26th MEU commander Col Peter T. Metzger, and LtCol Robert L. Parnell, assistant naval attache in Paris.

ner did, but the other two sergeants insisted on remaining with their commander and were captured and imprisoned with him. As a result of an agreement between Ortiz and the leader of the German force, the town was spared.

Fifty years later, the citizens of les Saisies haven't forgotten the drop of arms and men into their town, nor have the people of Centron forgotten the heroic act which he performed and still hold Peter Ortiz' name in honor. Both les Saisies and Centron commemorated the 50th anniversary of the two 1944 events.

INVITED TO ATTEND the ceremonies in August this year were the late Col Ortiz' wife, Jean, and their son, Marine LtCol Peter J. Ortiz, Jr.; retired SgtMaj John P. Bodnar, USMC; and former Sgt Jack R. Risler. The latter two had attended 40th anniversary celebrations in France 10 years earlier. Accompanying Mrs. Ortiz from her home in Prescott, Arizona, was Capt William A. Gary, USMCR (Ret), also of Prescott. LtCol Ortiz was on his way to his new command at Kaneohe, when he was intercepted by MarForPac commander LtGen Charles C. Krulak and given orders to France, where he would join his mother for the events honoring his father. Meanwhile, MarForLant commander LtGen William M. Keys arranged to have LtCol

Robert L. Parnell II, Assistant Naval Attache in Paris, and Col Peter T. Metzger, CO, 26th MEU, with a color guard and an honor guard from his unit, participate in the ceremonies.

On 1 August 1994, the ceremonies at les Saisies began in the afternoon with a parachute drop made by French troops. Members of the famous *Chasseurs Alpins* regiment, together with 26th MEU Marines, rendered honors as a monument acclaiming the 1944 event was dedicated.

Twelve days later, the town of Centron held its own ceremonies when it unveiled a plaque naming the town center "Place Peter Ortiz." This event was attended by many former members of the local Maquis, the former French underground unit in the region, as well as the Marine contingent and Mrs. Ortiz.

Peter Ortiz was born in the United States of an American mother and a French father. In 1932, at the age of 19, he joined the French Foreign Legion and served in Africa. Now an officer, he fought with the Legion in France during the early years of World War II, was wounded, and captured. He escaped from prison, made his way to the United States, and enlisted in the Marine Corps. Parris Island recruit depot authorities realized that they had no ordinary boot when he appeared in formation wearing his many French



Col Ortiz' teammates for the weapons drop in France's Haute Savoie region, SgtMaj John P. Bodnar and Sgt Jack R. Risler, both retired, salute the flag raising at the dedication of the memorial to the events of 1944 in Les Saisies, located near the Swiss border.

decorations for valor. His entitlement to these awards was validated after inquiries were made by Headquarters Marine Corps. Upon completion of boot camp, Ortiz was directly commissioned as a second lieutenant and assigned to the OSS in Africa. He made many trips behind enemy lines, and was wounded several times.

IN HIS FIRST DROP in France in the Ver-cor region in January 1944, Ortiz was

accompanied by a French and a British officer. They spent many months training resistance fighters in the use of American equipment and leading them in daring missions against the Germans. After leading four downed British pilots in an escape from France over the Pyrenees to Spain, he returned to England. His accomplishments during this first tour behind enemy lines in France earned him his first Navy Cross, which was bestowed in a "clas-

sified" ceremony in London.

As noted, he returned to France in August 1944, and from the time he was captured at Centron, until the end of the war, he was a prisoner of the Germans. Upon gaining his freedom, he, Bodnar, and Risler were returned to the United States. Ortiz was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Navy Cross, the Legion of Merit, and two Purple Hearts. The British government presented him the Order of the British Empire, and the French recognized him by making him a member of the Legion of Honor and awarding him the Croix de Guerre (two palms, gold star, silver star, and five citations), and various other wartime citations.

Col Ortiz became active in the Marine Corps Reserve after the war and served as a consultant to the movie industry with respect to the Foreign Legion. He also appeared in several of John Wayne's movies. He died after a long illness on 16 May 1988 at the age of 75 at the Veterans Administration hospital in Prescott, Arizona. Col Ortiz was buried 23 May in Arlington Cemetery with full military honors with British and French military personnel in attendance. □1775□

Protect back issues of FORTITUDINE

To assist readers of *Fortitudine*, *Bulletin of the Marine Corps Historical Program*, in providing for permanent storage of back issues, the Marine Corps Historical Foundation is offering for sale a sturdy slipcase, covered in dark-red vinyl and gold-stamped with the bulletin's masthead. Each slipcase is designed to hold up to 32

copies of the bulletin. Cases may be ordered from the Foundation either by mail with check, money order, or credit card, or by telephone using credit card. Each slipcase costs \$15, including shipping and handling (Virginia residents must add 68 cents in tax).

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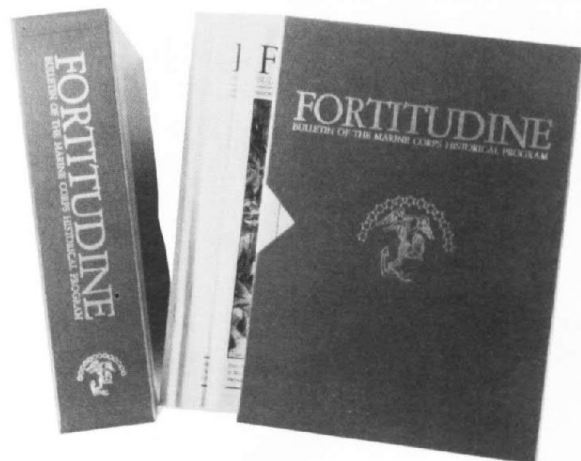
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Marksman's Wrecked House Reveals 'Surprise Collection'

by *Kenneth L. Smith-Christmas*
Curator of Material History

THIS PAST SUMMER, the History and Museums Division acquired a collection of personal papers and artifacts which had belonged to the late Maj Calvin A. Lloyd. Maj Lloyd was one of the Marine Corps' best-known marksmen in the years prior to World War II. Indeed, his contributions to this field were so numerous that the small arms range complex at the Marine Corps Combat Development Command is named for him. He also was one of the key planners in the movement of these ranges from mainside Quantico to the new training areas which were gained when the Marine base expanded during World War II.

Although most of the gifts donated to the History and Museums Division usually

arrive in Washington or Quantico via the routine channels of the U.S. Postal Service or the largest commercial shipping companies, the methods used to acquire this collection were unexpected "firsts" in the staff's experience.

In the late afternoon of 21 June, Mr. Werner Schultz, a supervisor of the Fredericksburg, Virginia-based W. C. Spratt Construction Company, came to the Museum's Administration Building at Quantico with a stack of small arms manuals, each of which dated from the 1920s. He said that his company was under contract to tear down an empty old house which had been condemned by authorities of the town of Quantico, but that field manuals and Marine uniform items had

started falling out of the attic when the demolition began.

UPON ARRIVING at the one-story house on 4th Avenue, the staff was informed by Quantico Police Chief Lee Rodriguez and Mr. Mitchell Raftelis, one of the town councilmen, that the small bungalow had belonged to Maj Lloyd and that it had been abandoned since his widow's death some 25 years ago. Apparently, surviving family members had been contacted, but none had expressed any interest in anything which may have been left behind. Mr. Schultz, an avid historian whose hobby is the study of medieval armor, then turned over a trunk containing several stacks of personal papers which

Marine Sharpshooters' Records Were Piled in Attic of Old Lloyd House

by *Amy J. Cantin*
Archivist

IN 1961, Maj Robert E. Barde wrote in his book, *The History of Marine Corps Competitive Marksmanship*, that "in an ever increasing drive to conserve office space, records of competitive marksmanship have been destroyed and the names and scores of matches lost." Recently a discovery was made while a house was being torn down in Quantico, Virginia. As the demolition team worked its way through the structure they discovered that the attic contained old documents, a chest, and various other items including an old holster. These materials belonged to Marine Maj Calvin A. Lloyd, and they included "records of competitive marksmanship" that previously had been thought to be lost.

Once known world-wide as "Marine Gunner," Maj Lloyd counted numerous achievements, including a world record for consecutive bull's eyes, an unusual number of championships won, and many international recognitions. Lloyd, in his periods of service from 1908-1911 and 1918-1943, along with Merritt A. Edson and Thomas Holcomb, helped to

revitalize the Marine Corps marksmanship program through training and competition.

The recent discovery of Maj Lloyd's personal papers provides a trove of information on the marksmanship program during his service. These papers allow the researcher to look into many aspects of training, the rules and regulations which guided Marines, and the levels of success expected.

THE MOST REVEALING documents are those related to the firearm competitions. Team rankings and rivalry match-ups for the scheduled days of competition are summarized. Also included are the respective firing range dope sheets of several Marines, including Malcolm J. Holland, Clifford W. Rawlings, and Thomas R. Mitchell. Among Lloyd's papers, these aforementioned Marines have the distinction of being posted separately in the U.S. Marine Corps Team dope sheets and being "selected . . . with the usual care" to the 1938 National Individual Rifle Match Competition.

Miscellaneous parts of the Lloyd collection include detachment orders from the early 1940s which have detailed instructions on caring for, cleaning, and inspecting small arms. Other documents include descriptive reports on how to assemble, maintain, and operate the 1941 .30-caliber M-1 rifle; a copy of the 1941 memorandum to Commandant Holcomb which discussed and recommended action on the establishment of the Ordnance Branch; and a 1937 color topographic fire control map (scale 1:10,000) of Quantico, with firing ranges sketched in red and blue crayon. Such descriptive records are difficult, if not impossible to find today.

In 1953 a new firing range opened at Quantico. The Lloyd collection contains a 1940 committee's proposal for the new range; Lloyd was a member and the recorder of that committee. This new range was named after a man who contributed significantly to the development of the Marine Corps marksmanship program: the Calvin A. Lloyd Range. □1775□



Every inch a Marine of his era, Maj Calvin A. Lloyd takes aim in this pre-World War II photo. The famous marksman, for whom the small arms range complex at Quantico is named, lived near the Virginia base and stored his records in the attic of his house.

knowledgeable local collectors of Marine Corps memorabilia. Unfortunately, the medals were not found.

MANY OF THE attic boxes contained only remnants of what once had been official orders, reports, and manuals. None of the recovered artifacts was in very good condition, and several uniform items were beyond salvage, since the costs of professional restoration would far exceed the value of the items. However, several World War I-period accouterments, including a M1912 pistol belt, two USMC-marked magazine pockets for the M1911 pistol, a pistol lanyard, a set of Marine Corps pistol belt suspenders, and two M1910 USMC-issue packs were added to the Museum's collection. Also found was an officer's service cap insignia, in addition to Maj Lloyd's identification tags and his padded shooting jacket. Unfortunately, the shooting jacket, one of the most interesting items, will require extensive restoration before it can be put on exhibit.

□1775□

he had pulled from the sagging rafter beams.

The staff spent the next day at the site, rescuing artifacts, books, and papers from the jaws of an oversized backhoe as the house was torn down. The heavy equipment operator, Mr. Butch Saunders, also is an amateur history buff who quickly gained an appreciation of the objects being recovered and adroitly maneuvered the machinery to minimize damage to the artifacts.

Obviously, no one (except cats and mice) had been in the attic for decades. There was no way to gain access to what was literally a crawl space, without lights or flooring, and with broken and damaged household items stacked among cardboard boxes and trunks. Hopes ran high that Maj Lloyd's shooting medals were among the items left in the attic, since these were not in the Museum's collection and their whereabouts was unknown to the Marksmanship Training Battalion and other

U. S. MARINE CORPS RIFLE TEST											
DOPE SHEET											
DATE	TIME	TEMP	LIGHT	WIND	COULD	WIND	WIND	WIND	WIND	WIND	REMARKS
					100	200	300	400	500	600	
1/25	3:15	94	W		27/4	2/2	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	W

Historical Quiz

Marines in Haiti

by Lena M. Kaljot
Reference Historian

Answer the following questions or identify the individuals described:

1. What was the name of the bandit group in the northern part of the country that fought the Marines during their occupation duty in Haiti?
2. Name at least three of the five general officers who served as Commandant of the Marine Corps during the years of Marine occupation of Haiti (1915-1934).
3. Who was the first Marine killed in action during the U.S. intervention?
4. Who were the two Marines who each earned his second Medal of Honor in Haiti?
5. These two Marines were awarded Medals of Honor for actions on 31 October 1919, when they infiltrated the Caco camp, killed Charlemagne Peralte, and escaped.
6. In March 1922, this general officer was appointed U.S. High Commissioner (with rank of ambassador) to Haiti in addition to his duties as Commanding General, 1st Marine Brigade.
7. How many Medals of Honor were awarded for actions during the Haitian intervention?
8. On 7 December 1929, a Marine platoon fired into a crowd of Haitian demonstrators killing 12 and wounding 23 in the town of Les Cayes. What was this incident labeled by American anti-interventionists?
9. What was the name given to the Haitian constabulary officered by Americans, which was created by the new government in Port-au-Prince?
10. When did U.S. Marines withdraw from Haiti?

(Answers on page 20)

The Last A-4 Skyhawk

by Michael E. Starn
Curator of Aviation

ON 27 FEBRUARY 1979, the skies were bright and clear over El Segundo, California. The 2,960th production A-4 aircraft, Bureau Number 160264, rolled off the assembly line and was about to be turned over to MajGen William R. Maloney, Commanding General, 3d Marine Air Wing, for assignment to Marine Attack Squadron (VMA) 331. This was the last aircraft of this type to be produced. On 21 June 1994, this same aircraft made its last flight from Marine Air Group (MAG) 41, Memphis, Tennessee, to Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), El Toro, California, after serving both the Navy and the Marine Corps for 15 years. At that time it became

part of the Marine Corps' historical aircraft collection and was placed on display at the MCAS El Toro Command Museum.

The story of the A-4 Skyhawk begins during the Korean War, when concern was raised about the increased weight and cost of contemporary fighter aircraft. Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc., which began as a private venture, decided to design a new light fighter aircraft. In 1952, the design was presented to the Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics, but, although the aircraft generated great interest, the Navy was already committed to several new fighter projects. The Navy suggested Douglas modify the aircraft as a carrier-borne jet attack bom-

ber and resubmit its proposal.

Within two weeks, the leader of the design team, Ed Heinemann, was back in Washington with a preliminary design for a carrier-borne bomber that surpassed Navy design requirements by very substantial margins. The weight was less than half of that specified by the Navy, and the top speed and combat radius exceeded requirements by 100 mph and 115 miles. Douglas Aircraft had proved, on paper, that the A-4 was a viable lightweight bomber, and Douglas was awarded a contract for one XA4D-1 on 21 June 1952.

VMA-224, at MCAS El Toro, was the first Marine Corps unit to receive the new A-4A's in January 1957; the original A4D-1 designation was changed in 1962 when all military aircraft designations were standardized. As time went on, new models were introduced and replaced the A-4A's. A-4B's were received by VMA-211 in September 1957, and A-4C's replaced the A models flown by VMA-225 in March 1960. The A-4M made its first appearance in April 1970.

In the early years of the Skyhawk, it was primarily relegated to routine training until July 1958, when it was called to action flying cover for Marines in Lebanon. About three years later, the Skyhawk was involved in the blockade of Cuba. On 2 August 1964, the Skyhawk saw its first true combat action when it was flown from carriers on Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin, at the beginning of the Vietnam War.

In December 1967, A-4's were beginning to be phased out of fleet squadrons, until 1989 when the A-4M's began replacing the A-4F's in Reserve squadrons.

A new development in the A-4's history can be reported. Not only has the Marine Corps Museums Branch acquired the last A-4M produced, but it also has acquired the last A-4 to be flown by the Marine Corps. In August 1994, this A-4M (BN 160024), which formerly was located at MAG-49 at Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, was flown to MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina, where it was stricken and placed on loan to Cherry Point for static display.

□1775□



The 2,960th A-4 Skyhawk, the very last of the familiar Marine aircraft, streaks through the brilliantly clear air above California. Its last flight took it from Memphis to El Toro.

Technical Data

Manufacturer: Douglas Aircraft Company (Division of McDonnell Douglas Corporation), El Segundo and Long Beach, California.

Type: Carrier-based attack-bomber.

Accommodation: Pilot only.

Power Plant: One 11,200-lb s.t. Pratt & Whitney J52-P408A turbojet.

Dimensions: Length, 40 feet 3 3/4 inches (excluding refueling probe); Height, 15 feet 0 inches; Span, 27 feet 6 inches.

Weights: Empty, 10,465 lbs; Gross, 24,500 lbs.

Performance: Max Speed, 670 mph at sea level; Initial rate of climb, 8,440 ft/min; Tactical radius, with 4,000-lb bomb load, 340 miles.

Armament: Two fixed forward-firing 20 mm guns. Up to 9,155 lb of ordnance externally on five strong points.

Scrapbook Recalls 5th War Dog Platoon Peleliu Action

by Frederick J. Graboske
Head, Archives Section

AS WE COMMEMORATE the 50th anniversary of the World War II Peleliu operation, it is appropriate for us to highlight a collection of materials donated by a Marine who was wounded there. Charles A. Linhart was a private first class with the 1st Marine Division when he was hit on 19 September 1944. He served with the 5th War Dog Platoon.

After the war, Linhart joined the Pennsylvania State Police and was reunited with "Blitzkrieg," one of the dogs from his platoon. The dog had been returned to his prewar owner and re-trained for civilian life. The owner located Linhart, his handler during the war, and gratefully made him a gift of the dog.

Linhart's scrapbook contains the following inscription: "War is peculiar human activity—it is founded basically on cruelty, suffering, horror, and all of the undesired emotions and sensations. Yet, it at times has its peaks of exhilaration, of enduring companionship, or raucous humor and breathtaking adventure. It is the latter that I wish to remember." The photographs are well captioned, which makes them especially valuable to researchers.

There is a newspaper photo of "Blitzkrieg" and his original owner, Navy Lt Ge-

PFC Charles A. Linhart, of the 5th War Dog Platoon on Peleliu in September 1944, poses with his charge, "Blitzkrieg."



orge W. Dunn, the two of whom had been reunited briefly on Peleliu. The dog had received a letter of commendation for warning a Marine patrol of a Japanese sniper. Lt Dunn had been commended for actions on Peleliu, the "skillful maneuvering" of his ship in the rescue of 22 men from two other small craft during a storm.

The entire 5th War Dog Platoon received a letter of appreciation from MajGen William H. Rupertus, CG of the 1st Marine Division, for its actions on Peleliu.

After Peleliu, "Blitzkrieg" was not in good health, so Linhart was assigned another dog. He didn't want another dog, so he asked for, and received, a transfer to the 5th Regiment Scouts-Snipers. Included in the scrapbook are photos of that unit on Okinawa, and additionally shots of Shuri Castle and of Japanese arriving for surrender.

THE SPECIAL INTEREST in World War II history evoked by this anniversary period has resulted in many new projects undertaken by the Archives Section. After the capitulation ceremony on the USS *Missouri* (BB 63), Japanese Army commanders in China ceased hostilities but did not surrender formally for several weeks. Recent inquiries from a Japanese historian indicate that his country's official histories make no record of these local surrenders to Chinese Nationalist forces in Nanking and Beijing and to Marine commanders in Tsing-*tao* and Tientsin. We have been able to supply him copies of the surrender documents from Tientsin, photographs of some of these ceremonies, and portions of General Lemuel C. Shepherd's oral history about accepting the surrender in Tsing-*tao*.

Linhart went to Tientsin, but there are no photos of that ceremony in his scrapbook. However, he did observe and photograph the surrender in Beijing. The National Archives was unable to locate anything else in its collection, and there apparently is nothing in Japan, so we supplied copies of Linhart's photos to this researcher.

The surrender took place on 10 October, the day of the traditional Double Ten festival in China. The ceremony took place at the Daiho Chamber in Beijing's

Imperial Palace. LtGen Hiroshi Nemoto was the Japanese signatory; he is shown placing his sword on the table after having signed the surrender documents. Chinese Theater Commander Gen. Sung Lien-chung is said never to have faced Nemoto squarely during the ceremony because of the Japanese general's facial expression of vexation at this humiliation. One might have expected the Chinese to gloat. Instead, they had further use for their former opponent.

THE JAPANESE researcher informed us that Nemoto was invited by Chiang Kai-shek to come to Taiwan to develop strategy for the defense of the Chinese Nationalists' territories against the Communists. He was given the rank of lieutenant general and the Chinese name Lin Pao-yuan in 1949. In the summer of 1950 he was posted to the island of Quemoy, where he succeeded in destroying an invasion force of 33,000 men. The Taiwanese nicknamed him "The God of War" and the Communists placed a \$50,000 bounty on his head. He returned to Japan, where he died peacefully, in 1966. □1775□

Answers to the Historical Quiz

Marines in Haiti

(Questions on page 18)

1. They called themselves "Cacos," after a red-plumed bird of prey, and would wear something red on their clothing as a badge.
2. MajGen George Barnett, MajGen John A. Lejeune, MajGen Wendell G. Neville, MajGen Ben H. Fuller, and MajGen John H. Russell.
3. Sgt John Platt (26 September 1915).
4. GySgt Daniel J. "Dan" Daly (24 October 1915) and Maj Smedley D. Butler (17 November 1915)
5. Sgt Herman J. Hanneken and Cpl William R. Button.
6. BGen John H. Russell.
7. Eight Medals of Honor were awarded to Marines in Haiti, six for actions during 1915 and two for actions occurring in 1919.
8. "Cayes Massacre."
9. Gendarmerie d'Haiti.
10. U.S. Marines departed during August 1934, but the U.S. retained direct fiscal control in Haiti until 1941 and indirect fiscal control until 1947.

July-September 1945

*by Robert V. Aquilina
Assistant Head, Reference Section*

Fortitudine's World War II Chronology concludes with final Marine Corps operations in the Pacific, and the dropping of two devastating weapons that would end the war, and forever change the world.

Final Operations and the End of the War Against Japan

1 Jul—The final phase of the naval war against Japan opened when the Third Fleet sortied from Leyte, Philippines, to attack the enemy nation's home islands and destroy the its naval and air forces.

13 Jul—U.S. Far East Air Forces expanded to conduct tactical operations in support of the planned invasion of Kyushu, Japan.

16 Jul—At Alamogordo, New Mexico, the first atomic bomb was successfully exploded.

17 Jul—2 Aug—The Potsdam Conference met in Germany. The United States, in company with the United Kingdom and the Republic of China, issued the Potsdam Declaration calling for the unconditional surrender of Japan (26 July).

24-26 Jul—Marine pilots of VMF-513, VMTB-234, and CASD-3 on board the Marine escort carrier *Vella Gulf* (CVE 111) flew sorties against Pagan and Rota Islands north of Guam.

1 Aug—Marine Carrier Group 4 on board the Marine escort carrier *Cape Gloucester* (CVE 109) (attached to Task Group 31.2), departed Okinawa to cover minesweeping operations in the East China Sea and to launch strikes against shipping in the Saddle and Parker Island group near Shanghai.

6 Aug—The first atomic bomb ever to be exploded in a war was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

8 Aug—The USSR declared war on Japan, to be effective on 9 August.

Marine LtGen Roy S. Geiger, left, joins in a conversation with his host, Adm William F. Halsey, on board USS Missouri. Gen Geiger was invited to witness the formal Japanese surrender.



BGen William T. Clement, foreground, and members of his Third Fleet Landing Force, chiefly the 4th Marines, are given a tour of the surrendered Yokosuka Naval Base near Tokyo.

9 Aug—Marine aircraft flew their last bombing mission in the Bismarcks when North American PBJ Mitchells from Marine Bomber Squadrons 413, 423, 443 and Marine Aircraft Group 61 Headquarters, raided Rabaul.

9 Aug—The second atomic bomb exploded in World War II was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.

10 Aug—Japan sued for peace on the basis of the terms enunciated in the Potsdam Declaration (26 July).

11 Aug—President Truman informed Japan that a Supreme Commander would accept its surrender and that the Emperor and High Command would have to issue a cease-fire to all Japanese armed forces before the Allies could accept Japan's suit for surrender.

14 Aug—Japan accepted the Allied unconditional surrender terms, and President Truman announced that the war had ended. Gen Douglas MacArthur was designated Supreme Commander Allied Powers and given authority to accept the surrender of Japan for the governments of the United States, Republic of China, United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union.

14 Aug—Adm Chester W. Nimitz, the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet/Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Areas (CinC-Pac/CinCPOA), ordered the cessation of all offensive operations against Japanese forces.

20 Aug—Japanese peace emissaries sent to Manila were given General Order No. 1. Under its terms, the Japanese commanders of forces in the Pacific islands south of Japan would surrender to CinCPOA or his representatives; and the commanders of forces in Japan proper, the Philippines, and the southern section of



In September 1945, Marines march along a cleaned thoroughfare in the city of Nagasaki, amid the devastation wrought by the atomic bomb dropped there in the preceding month.

Korea would surrender to the Commander in Chief, Southwest Pacific Area or his representatives.

29 Aug—Adm Nimitz arrived in Tokyo Bay and authorized Adm William F. Halsey to begin the rescue of Allied prisoners immediately.

30 Aug—The Yokosuka Naval Base Area surrendered to BGen William T. Clement, USMC, commanding the Fleet Landing Force, and the First Naval District capitulated to RAdm Robert B. Carney, USN.

2 Sep—Japan surrendered formally to the Allied Powers on board the battleship USS *Missouri* (BB 63) in Tokyo Bay. The Marine detachments of the *Missouri* as well as Marine officers from Fleet Marine Force, Pacific (FMFPac); the staffs of (CinCPac/CinCPOA) along with the Third Fleet were present. The senior Marine present was LtGen Roy S. Geiger, Commanding General, FMFPac.

NOTE: By the end of the war, the Marine Corps had reached a peak strength of 485,833. The major Marine ground commands in the Pacific within Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, at Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, were the III Amphibious Corps on Guam and the V Amphibious Corps on Maui, Hawaiian Islands. Marine Divisions were located as follows: 1st Division, Okinawa; 2d Division, Saipan; 3d Division, Guam; 4th Division, Maui; 5th Division, at sea enroute to Japan; and 6th Division (less the 4th Regimental Combat Team held at Yokosuka), Guam. Of the Marine aviation organizations, Air Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, was based at Ewa, Hawaii, and the Marine aircraft wings were distributed as follows: 1st Wing, Mindanao, Philippines; 2d Wing, Okinawa; 3d Wing, Ewa; and 4th Wing, Majuro. The groups and squadrons of the wings were based either with the wings or on various islands throughout the Pacific. A Marine carrier group in four escort carriers, under the operational control of Carrier Division 27, was attached to the 3d Wing.

The Surrender of Japanese Forces in the Pacific

20 Aug—VAdm George D. Murray, USN, Commander, Marianas, organized the Marianas Surrender Acceptance and Occupation Command (Task Group 94.3) to standardize the conduct of the surrender and occupation program. It was comprised of the Truk, Bonins, and Palau Occupation Units, the Guam Evacu-

ation Unit, and three other units commanded by naval officers. **22 Aug**—The Japanese garrison on Mille Atoll surrendered; it was the first Japanese group in the Pacific Ocean Area to capitulate.

2 Sep—Japanese army and navy officers on Truk Island, holding the largest Japanese force in the Pacific, surrendered. The terms of the capitulation committed Japanese troops on the following islands to surrender: Truk, Wake, the Palaus, Mortlake (Nomoi), Mille, Ponape, Kusaie, Jaluit, Maloelap, Wotje, Puluwat, Woleai, Rota, Pagan, Namoluk, Nauru, and Ocean.

2 Sep—The commander of Japanese forces on Rota Island capitulated to Col Howard N. Stent, USMC, representing the Guam Island Commander, MajGen Henry L. Larsen.

2 Sep—The Japanese area commander of the Palau Islands capitulated all forces under his command, including those on Yap, to BGen Ford O. Rogers, USMC, Island Commander, Peleliu.

3 Sep—The commander of the Japanese forces in the Bonins surrendered to Commo John H. Magruder, Jr., USN, on Chichi Jima.

4 Sep—The Japanese commander on Wake Island capitulated his forces to BGen Lawson H. M. Sanderson, USMC, commander of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, representing the Commander, Marshalls-Gilberts Area, and the atoll was designated a Naval Air Facility.

7 Sep—Gen Joseph W. Stilwell, USA, accepted the surrender of the Japanese Ryukyus garrison, signifying the beginning of American political hegemony in the area.

11 Sept—LtCol Hideyuki Takeda, Imperial Japanese Army, surrendered the last unified element of the Japanese defenders on Guam.

The Occupation of Japan

8 Aug—Advance copies of Adm Halsey's Operation Plan 10-45 for the occupation of Japan were distributed, setting up Task Force 31 (Yokosuka Occupation Force).

10 Aug—Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, directed the 6th Marine Division to furnish a regimental combat team to the Third Fleet for possible early occupation duty in Japan. BGen William T. Clement, USMC, Assistant Division Commander, was named to head the Fleet Landing Force.

10 Aug—RAdm Oscar C. Badger, USN, was designated Commander, Task Force 31 (Yokosuka Operation Force), and all ships were alerted to organize and equip bluejacket and Marine landing forces for occupation duty in Japan.

11 Aug—Preliminary plans for the activation of Task Force Able, to participate in the occupation of Japan, were prepared by the III Amphibious Corps. The task force was to consist of a skeletal headquarters detachment, the 4th Marines (Reinforced), an amphibian tractor company, and a medical company. Concurrently, officers designated to form Gen Clement's staff were alerted and immediately began planning for Task Force Able's departure for Japan. Warning orders were passed to the staff directing that a regimental combat team with attached units be ready to embark within 48 hours.

20 Aug—The 4th Regimental Combat Team, assigned to occupation duty in Japan, arrived on Guam and joined Task Force 31.

21 Aug—LtGen Robert L. Eichelberger, USA, commanding the Eighth Army, directed that the landing by Task Force 31 at



Devastation of the Nagasaki industrial district was caused not by the atomic bomb, but by repeated air raids before the bomb was dropped. The 2d Marine Division occupied the city.

Yokosuka, Japan, be made at the naval base in the city. The reserve battalion of the 4th Marines was directed to land on Futtsu Saki to eliminate any threat by shore batteries and coastal forts.

28 Aug—The first American task force, consisting of combat ships of Task Force 31, entered Tokyo Bay and dropped anchor off Yokosuka.

30 Aug—The 11th Airborne Division, USA, and the various advance headquarters staffs landed at Atsugi from Okinawa in conjunction with the arrival of the amphibious landing force—comprising U.S. Marines and sailors, British sailors, and Royal Marine commandos—at Yokosuka and the harbor forts off Miura Peninsula. The first landing craft carrying elements of the 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, went ashore at Futtsu Saki, found the coastal guns and mortars rendered useless, and reembarked. The main landing of the 4th Marines on Beaches Red and Green, Yokosuka, went without incident, and the regiment moved to the “initial occupation line” and set up a perimeter defense for the naval base and airfield.

14 Sep—A reconnaissance party led by Col Daniel W. Torrey, USMC, commanding Marine Aircraft Group 22, landed and inspected Omura airfield, selected as the base of Marine air operations in southern Japan.

16 Sep—An advance reconnaissance party from the V Amphibious Corps—led by Col Walter W. Wensinger, USMC, and consisting of key staff officers of the Corps and the 2d Marine Division—arrived at Nagasaki to prepare for the landing of Corps troops supported by Army units.

19 Sep—Adm Raymond A. Spruance, USN, as Commander, Fifth Fleet, relieved Adm Halsey, Commander, Third Fleet, of his responsibilities in the occupation of Japan.

20 Sep—LtCol Fred D. Beans, USMC, relieved BGen William T. Clement, USMC, commanding Task Force Able, of his responsibilities at Yokosuka, and the general and his staff returned to Guam to rejoin the 6th Marine Division.

20 Sep—A second reconnaissance party from the V Amphibious Corps, which included key officers from the Corps and the 5th Marine Division, arrived at Sasebo and completed preparations for the landing of Corps troops augmented by Army units.

22 Sep—The 5th Marine Division and the V Amphibious Corps headquarters troops arrived at Sasebo. The 26th Marines (less the 3d Battalion), reinforced by the 2d Battalion, 28th Marines, landed on beaches at the naval air station and relieved Japanese guards on base installations and stores. They were followed by units of the 13th and 27th Marines and the 5th Tank Battalion, which established guard posts and security patrols ashore.

23 Sep—MajGen Harry Schmidt, USMC, V Amphibious Corps commander, established his headquarters ashore at Sasebo and took command of the 2d and 5th Marine Divisions.

23 Sep—Most of the remaining elements of the 5th Marine Division landed at Sasebo, and MajGen Thomas E. Bourke, USMC, set up his command post ashore. Patrols began probing the immediate countryside; Company C (Reinforced) of the 27th Marines was sent to Omura to establish a security guard over the naval air training station there.

23 Sep—Marine Fighter Squadron 113 landed on Omura airfield.

23 Sep—The 2d and 6th Marines, 2d Marine Division, landed simultaneously on the east and west sides of the harbor at Nagasaki for occupation duty and relieved the Marine detachments from the cruisers USS *Biloxi* (CL 80) and *Wichita* (CA 45), which had been serving as security guards.

24 Sep—Gen Walter Krueger, USA, commander of the U.S. Sixth Army, assumed control of all forces ashore. The remainder of the 2d Marine Division landed at Nagasaki.

27 Sep—An advance party of the V Amphibious Corps reached Fukuoka, largest city in Kyushu and administrative center of the northwestern coal and steel region.

30 Sep—Leading elements from the V Amphibious Corps began arriving at Fukuoka, Kyushu. BGen Ray A. Robinson, USMC, Assistant Division Commander of the 5th Marine Division, was given command of the Fukuoka Occupation Force which consisted of the 28th Marines (Reinforced) and Army augmentation detachments. □1775□

In a poignant ceremony, the U.S. flag is raised over the Hirohata POW Camp on the Japanese main island on 2 September 1945. Honor guard of former POWs carries Japanese rifles.



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Museum Houses Flag Flown by Lebanon, Somalia BLTs

by Col William J. Davis, USMC
Deputy Director for Marine Corps History and Museums

ON THE 2D OF DECEMBER 1994, seven former members of Battalion Landing Team 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, presented the Marine Corps Historical Center a significant item of Marine Corps history: A U.S. national flag originally used by BLT 2d Battalion, 6th Marines, in Beirut, Lebanon. The flag was one of many flown over the BLT compound from 14 February through 29 May 1983. Upon departing Lebanon, the Battalion's Headquarters Commandant, Maj Alfred L. Butler III, kept one of the flags and gave another to LtCol Thomas M. O'Leary. Butler and O'Leary agreed to raise these flags in future contingencies while leading Marines. This opportunity would not come for Maj Butler, who died in Beirut while serving with the staff of the 22d Marine Amphibious Unit. But on 9 December 1991, LtCol O'Leary fulfilled the charge. Late in the afternoon of 9 December, while participating in Operation Restore Hope, BLT 2/9 secured the United States Embassy compound in Mogadishu, Somalia. As dusk approached, LtCol O'Leary, who was the BLT Commander, and 2/9's SgtMaj Sam Perez, with the assistance of Capts Dave Hall and Robert Castellvi, raised the flag over the compound. The BLT subsequently moved inland to Baidoa, and on 1 January 1992, was visited by President George W. Bush. The members of the BLT requested and

received the President's autograph on the flag. Later, most of the leaders of Operation Restore Hope and the officers and staff noncommissioned officers of the BLT added their signatures to the flag.

Marines have long had an affection for flags. The Marine Corps Historical Center in Washington, D.C., proudly displays the cantons from Chapultepec and Mexico City in 1847 and from Maj Reynold's battalion at First Manassas during the Civil War. National colors exhibited in the collocated Marine Corps Museum are those

carried by Huntington's battalion at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in 1898; and the first U.S. flag raised on the Isthmus of Panama in 1903. Two of the Marine Corps' most treasured symbols, the two national colors raised atop Mount Suribachi during the battle for Iwo Jima in World War II, are centerpieces of the Museum.

THIS BEIRUT/SOMALIA FLAG, which also holds a place within Marine Corps history, will become a part of the museum's permanent collection. □1775□

The flag flown by BLTs in both Lebanon and Somalia, and autographed by President Bush in Baidoa, Somalia, is presented to BGen Edwin H. Simmons, representing the Historical Center, by LtCol Thomas M. O'Leary and former members of BLT 2/9.

