

Pass In Review

July _____ 1988





Pvt. Curt Breitegan, a "living history" enthusiast in the 53rd Pennsylvania, relaxes in his camp at Gettysburg

"It is monotonous, it is not monotonous, it is laborous, it is lazy, it is a bore, it is a lark, it is half war, half peace, and totally attractive, and not to be dispensed with from one's experience in the nineteenth century." So wrote Theodore Winthrop, a New York private, describing camp life shortly before he was killed at

Big Bethel in June, 1861. To the common soldier, North and South, the Civil War was not important battles, famous generals, or grand military strategy. It was an intensely moving personal experience.

From *The Civil War* by
Bruce Catton



photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore

Pass In Review

July ————— 1988

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photo by Cpl. J.D. Moore

On The Cover

A moment of history is captured in this Gettysburg statue depicting North Carolinians during Pickett's Charge. (More photos and story on pgs. 10-13.)

Contents

6 The Right Stuff

During Marine Band auditions, those who have the right stuff are separated from those who don't.

10 Photo feature -- Historic Gettysburg

History takes on a new perspective when walking the Gettysburg battlefield.

14 Officers beat H & S 12 - 6 in Barracks softball

Capitalizing on H & S's numerous mistakes, the Officer's team came out on top 10-6 in Barracks softball.

4 C.O.'s View/Barracks Talk

5 Opinion -- Keep up the fire.

16 News Briefs

18 Chaplain's Corner

19 Ask Da' Gunny

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C.O.'s View

Last month saw, and this month will see many significant events: J. Walter Thompson shot recruiting footage on the deck; we held a congressional breakfast; and lawn parties in CMC's yard are just a few. As in the past, we will continue to work hard. The best are required and expected to do more. We will do everything assigned to us as we always do - to perfection.

We will attempt to give the breaks as time is available, but at times it will require your full cooperation and dedication. For what has gone and what is to come, you all have my thanks and admiration.



D.J. Myers
Col. USMC



Col. D.J. Myers
Commanding Officer

Barracks Talk

What do you
think about the
U.S./Soviet
military balance?



Cpl. Thomas Sanders, SDP

"I think they're ahead of us because they spend more money on the military than we do."



LCpl. David Fedorezyk, D & B

"They're ahead in manpower, but we're better trained than they are."



Keep Up The Fire

"Mediocre" is the kindest term I can think of to describe the talents of most army units I had worked with, but these guys were different. They were very good at what they did. They had the kind of camaraderie that was contagious and they were as tactically proficient as most Marine infantry units. During the course of the five-day exercise they marched over 60 miles up and down mountain ridges in full field gear and managed to get the best of the "enemy" aggressors at every turn. It was my last field exercise before being transferred to the Barracks and the dedication of that infantry company still impresses me.

The soldiers in the unit took their jobs seriously and upheld the standards of the regiment. When a new man reported in, he had to pass a number of infantry oriented practical exams before he was considered qualified. After passing these tests and serving in the regiment for a required period of time, the soldiers were awarded a special belt buckle with the regimental crest. The belt buckle was a revered item and seemed to be the source of more pride than a commendation medal. It had the motto of the regiment on it -- "keep up the fire."

The 9th infantry regiment, it seems, was the most highly decorated regiment in the army. Around the turn of the century, during the Boxer Rebellion, the regiment had been involved in a fierce battle with the Chinese Boxers. The Chinese outnumbered them and were swarming all around. The regimental commander had been

mortally wounded and his last words to the men of his command were, "keep up the fire." They did, and the regiment was able to defeat the enemy.

But what was most striking about their motto was that they had turned it into something more than a wartime battle cry. To the men of that company, at least, "keep up the fire" meant; keep up the enthusiasm for your profession, don't become complacent. Do the best job you are capable of. Take your work seriously and strive to learn all you can about your duties. Have a passion for what you're doing.

It wasn't just the company that impressed me, either. The whole regiment had spirit and motivation. They were part of the Army's new "light infantry" concept. This essentially meant that they walked everywhere with packs on their backs instead of riding in armored personnel carriers like most Army infantry units do. If this new "light infantry" concept sounds familiar, it should; the Marine Corps has always been "light infantry".

I had six Marines in a Firepower Control Team attached to that company and they all came away a little more dedicated after the trip. It had something to do with that motto. I remember it because I've seen a lot of people who have lost the fire. They give up their ideals or their values little by little. Everything in life becomes a dispassionate experience. There are no great enthusiasms left for them. They've lost any ambition they once had to do something productive with their lives.

In the profession of the Marine Corps, the fire has to be kept going. Stop having a passion for the profession and you lose the very essence of what being a Marine is all about. The Marine Corps was built on dedication to the unit standards of performance, professionalism and enthusiasm. The reputation Marines have in the world wasn't won by mediocrity or indifference, but by men who have resolved to "keep up the fire" within themselves and the Corps. And I used to think I'd never learn anything from the Army.

Capt. M.D. Visconage
Public Affairs Officer

The Right Stuff



For a musician, the audition is one of the most important events in his musical career. It is his chance to prove his worth.

For a moment he is in the spotlight and his performance will separate him from other musicians vying for the same job -- whether it is for a major symphony orchestra or a military band.

Auditioning for the Marine Band has come a long way since its founding July 11, 1798 when it was first comprised of 32 fifes and drums. In the early years, good musicians were hard to find and young boys were often enlisted as apprentices.

Today, an audition for a single opening in "The President's Own" may draw close to 40 musicians from the nation's finest conservatories and colleges.

"Our musicians are selected solely on ability," explained GySgt. Joe Hurley, Operations Chief of the Marine Band. "We use the same auditioning procedures as the major orchestras. Applicants perform behind a screen so that the auditioning committee cannot see them. The committee members base their decisions on how well the musician sounds, his intonation and style."

When a vacancy occurs in the band, it is advertised in the *International Musician*, a trade magazine listing job opportunities, and announcements are sent out to music teachers at colleges and conservatories

"When inquiries come in we take their name, age, height and weight, and explain the Marine Corps policy on weight limits,"

Hurley said. "All applicants must meet the Marine Corps' height and weight requirements and be under 35 years of age."

Applicants go through a preliminary audition first, and are selected to advance to the finals only if the auditioning committee feels the applicant performed well enough to be heard again. The committee is comprised of the Marine Band's two assistant directors, the principal player for the section and usually one to three others from the section.

In the final round, an applicant is chosen only if the committee feels that the person meets Marine Band performance standards. There have been times when no one was selected and the position remained vacant until the next audition.

A Marine Band musician

from the section with the opening accompanies the applicant during the audition to tell him what and when to play and to answer any questions he may have. The bandmember also escorts the applicant to the auditioning area, explains the procedure and tries to make the applicant feel comfortable.

SSgt. Mark Christianson recently won an audition for the Marine Band. The 33-year-old Winthrop, Mass. native has auditioned for various orchestras and symphonies approximately 25 times in the past 10 years - winning three auditions.

"Every audition is a new experience and you never know what to expect," explained the oboe and English horn player. "The audition here was very similar to the ones I've had in the past. But, in some ways, it was more difficult. Because it was an oboe and English horn audition I had to perform on both instruments, back-to-back, in rapid succession. It was very challenging."

The excerpts required during the audition are passages from orchestral or band literature and well known solo pieces. The music is selected for a specific reason -- either the passage is difficult or it highlights a particular style. Each applicant performs the same excerpts, so the excerpts are a consistent standard used to compare the players.

The applicant not only



SSgt. John Barclay plays the clarinet.

has to perform the required excerpt well but, because versatility is one of the most important qualities of a Marine Band musician, he must also be able to sight read well. The music, which

is often unfamiliar to the applicant, is selected from the band's vast library and the applicant must be able to play it at performance speed.

"The audition here



Percussionist SSgt. Steven Searfoss also played with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

required a lot of sight reading," said SSgt. Steven Searfoss, a percussionist from Broomall, Pa. "Most auditions require you to perform standard excerpts that can be memorized. Sight reading is different because you have to be able to play the music the first time you look at it."

Searfoss had two previous auditioning experiences prior to winning the Marine Band position. He won positions in the Spoleto Festival of Two

Worlds in Italy and as an extra percussionist with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

SSgt. John Barclay's auditioning experiences are different. Though his audition for the Marine Band was his first professional audition, he won a clarinet position.

"My previous auditions were either for placement within a band or for a scholarship," explained Barclay. At 19, he is the youngest member of the Marine Band.

"To prepare myself for the audition I skipped classes so I could practice as much as possible," Barclay said. "The experience I was gaining was good and I became aware of the things to fine tune for next time -- if I didn't win the job. Because I was well prepared musically, the hardest part was sitting around waiting to hear the results."

Barclay and Christianson found out about the openings in the *International Musician*, while Searfoss saw the announcement posted on a college bulletin board. Each of them discussed it with their music teachers prior to making the decision to audition.

"While at the Eastman School of Music I studied with John Beck, a professor there and a former Marine Band percussionist," the 23-year-old Searfoss said. "He often mentioned the military bands to his students. I talked seriously with Beck and with my private instructor Alan Abel (a percussionist with the Philadelphia Orchestra) about auditioning for the Marine Band's opening. Beck told me what music to prepare and explained how the audition would go.

Abel followed our lesson routine, but did arrange for me to perform with the Philadelphia Orchestra a week prior to the audition. Playing with the Philadelphia Orchestra put me on high, and I brought their standards here for the audition."

Barclay joins those who have made the Marine Band a family tradition. "My father served as a clarinetist from 1950 to 1957," Barclay explained. "I had a positive opinion about the band because my father really liked it and always had good things to say about it. He was my teacher until I went to the University of Southern California and studied with Mitchell Lurie. Lurie supported me and helped me prepare for the audition. We discussed the style and concept which would best suit each particular situation in an audition. Our overall goal in our student/teacher relationship was to refine my playing to the standards which are commonplace in almost all auditions."

Christianson was with the Hong Kong Philharmonic when he read about the oboe and English horn vacancy in the Marine Band. "The situation in Hong Kong had changed during my six years there," he said. "I was looking for a place to settle down, make a contribution and work in my own country. When I saw the band vacancy listed in the magazine I immediately thought that this was a place I could start a new life and do what I was trained to do."

"I practiced for the audition like an athlete would train for the Olympics," he said. I set up a rigorous schedule. I played several hours a day and did a lot of sight reading. I started jogging



SSgt. Mark Christianson plays the oboe during a rehearsal.

to build up my wind and endurance and I prepared myself mentally."

"In an audition, unlike the Olympics where they give out silver and bronze medals," Christianson concludes, "you're auditioning for your life."

**story and photos by
Sgt. Joseph Steele
Marine Band PAO**



A wounded Confederate encourages fellow North Carolinians forward in one of the park's many lifelike monuments.

Feature

Gettysburg



Pvt. Curt Breitegan displays "duece gear", circa 1863.



Devil's Den -- July, 1863.



Devil's Den -- July, 1988.



Pickett's Charge started at the far treeline and ended near this cannon -- almost one mile away.

story and photos
by Cpl. J.D. Moore

Gettysburg continued



A Mississippian protects his state's wounded color bearer.

History preserved at military park

To many people, history is abstract. It's hard to imagine a great event like the battle of Gettysburg by reading a history book or listening to a lecture. No text can produce the sounds or smells the soldiers there must have experienced. What did they see? What did they feel? These are the questions no historian or musty book can answer. They can only be answered by visiting the actual battle site.

For those people that aren't satisfied with reading about Gettysburg there is always the battlefield itself.

One hundred and twenty five years later, Gettysburg is very much the same as it was during the battle on July 1-3, 1863. Many of the original farms are still there with their 19th century style wooden rail fences criss-crossing the land. Many of the houses in the town bear plaques attesting that they were standing during the battle. A few of the houses still have cannon balls lodged in their walls. There is also the train station where President Abraham Lincoln arrived on a cold November day to give his immortal Gettysburg Address.

The battlefield itself is dotted with hundreds of monuments, each one marking the spot of an important moment or person. As you travel one of the many auto, bicycle or hiking trails you begin to understand everything you were ever taught about this battle.

From a small group of trees you look out over gently rolling fields to a treeline almost a mile away. On July 3, 1863 12,000 Confederates swarmed out of those trees and began what is known as Pickett's Charge.

They marched slowly, keeping their alignment as they moved toward the Union line. To one Federal soldier the Rebels

looked like "an overwhelming resistless tide of an ocean of armed men sweeping upon us! ...on the move, as with one soul, in perfect order...over ridge and slope, through orchard and meadow and cornfield, magnificent, grim, irresistible."

As the Confederates advanced, the Union artillerists ripped open their ranks with canister and grapeshot. However, as quickly as the Southerners fell, more closed up the files. Suddenly, thousands of muskets belched forth a storm of acrid smoke and deadly lead balls. The battle noise was "strange and terrible, a sound that came from thousands of human throats...like a vast mournful roar," said one veteran.

Still the Southerners advanced and the two masses became one in a frenzied hand-to-hand struggle. With muskets swinging and sabers flashing, they battled for the overrun Union position. Then Federal reinforcements arrived forcing the Confederates to retreat back across the open fields. When the smoke cleared, over 9,000 Rebels lay dead or wounded across the mile-long expanse of grass.

Besides the site of Pickett's Charge there are also many other interesting points to see such as The Little Round Top, Devil's Den and the park's museum. Park Rangers are available to answer almost any question concerning the battle and will also guide visitors around the park.

For more information on group reservations, campgrounds and other park facilities write to: Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Make sure to state the date and hours of your visit and the number of people in your group.

H&S Bats Too Late Officers 12, H&S 6



Despite a late seventh inning rally by H & S Co., the Officers' team still came out on top 12 - 6 in Barracks softball action June 23.

The Officers capitalized on countless H & S errors in the first six innings of the game. Throughout the game the Officers seemed to be positioned exactly where H & S batters hit the ball.

Numerous opportunities for Headquarters to get into the game were silenced by fine defensive plays by the Officers' outfield.

Offensively, the Officers got men on in almost every inning and took full advantage of H & S's poor fielding. Overall, the Officers did not play like a team with an "O" and three record.

Averaging more than 25 hits per game, H & S was limited to two hits through six innings. Then in the seventh inning pride seemed to take over.

With the Officers leading 12 - 0 into the last of the seventh, the Headquarters bats finally awoke for eight consecutive hits accounting for six runs. But it was too little, too late as the Officers hung on for the 12 - 6 victory.

The Officers got on the board in the second inning led by Capt. James Barry who had three hits and scored the

first run on two errors by the H & S infield. The lead stretched to 5 - 0 in the third inning when the roof collapsed on the H & S defense and they made two more crucial errors.

Capt. Timothy Jackson led off the third inning with his first of three hits. After 1stLt. Paul Amato flied out to right field, Capt. Andrew Haeuptle singled through the infield to score Jackson. Capt. Michael Hanson, who played a fine defensive first base, smashed a double for the first of his two RBIs. A single by Barry and another H & S error led to the last run of the inning.

In the sixth the Officers batted around. 1stLt. Ricky Thompson led the rally with a smash through the middle, and later scored on a double by

Capt. Michael Owen to extend the Officers' lead to 7 - 0. Two doubles by Capt. Lawrence Fryer and Capt. Robert Burge accounted for the last run of the inning to make it 8 - 0.

The Officers added four more runs in the seventh inning on two doubles and two singles. The big blast, a double by Jackson, and two more errors sent the runs come across the plate. Going into the last of the seventh inning, H&S was down 12 - 0.

Leading off, LCpl. Jeff Holmen started the rally with a single, and scored the first H & S run on a double by LCpl. Michael Ploplis. After LCpl. Michael DeHaven sacrificed Ploplis to 3rd, LCpl. Mark DeCarolis lined a RBI single to left field for the 2nd run. A walk to

Lt.Cmdr. James Griffith followed by a hot single to right by Sgt. John Jones scored DeCarolis and left runners at the corners.

1stSgt. Hamilton Smith and Sgt. Reggie Goode lined singles to end the scoring, making it 10 - 6, officers.

The game was the Officers' first win after three defeats. For H & S, the loss was probably the most embarrassing one of the season. Their record dropped to three wins and two losses.

story by
LCpl. Mark DeCarolis
Operations Office



Soviet Military Power released

Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci recently introduced the annual *Soviet Military Power* review at a press conference.

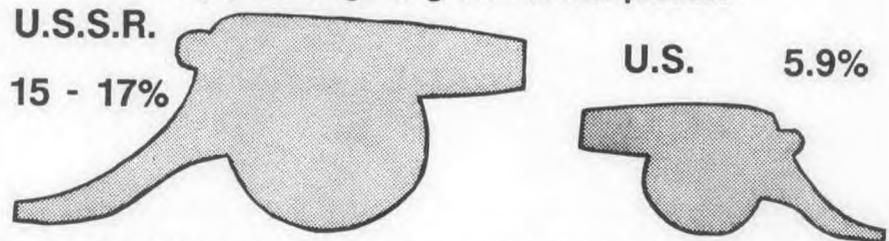
Soviet Military Power, he said, is a serious effort to share an assessment of Soviet military power and the threat it poses to the Free World's collective security.

The Soviets are dedicating between 15 and 17 percent of their gross national product to the military, said the secretary, and there is no sign of that slowing down.

American capabilities in the Far East hinge on bases in Japan, Korea and the Philippines.

Soviet Military Power also assesses military balances in regions throughout the world. Said Carlucci, "The Warsaw Pact enjoys significant advantages in virtually every category. While the trends in air forces are not as unfavorable as those comprising the ground balance, they still reflect a formidable Warsaw Pact capability that poses a serious threat to NATO. Due to this administration's efforts to rebuild our Navy, we enjoy significant advantages in our maritime balance, especially when our allies are included in the assessment."

1988 U.S. and Soviet Military Spending by percentage of gross national product



Source: SecDef Annual Report to Congress and 1988 Soviet Military Power

PIR Graphics Dept.

The military balance in the Middle East and Southwest Asia is also of extreme importance to the Soviet Union and the United States. If a global war started in Europe, few U.S. and NATO forces could be spared for the region. The oil there would be of strategic importance if the Soviets failed to reach objectives elsewhere quickly. They would then be tempted to invade Turkey and Iran to gain oil for themselves and to deny it to NATO. U.S. and Soviet capabilities provide each side with advantages and disadvantages in the region, says *Soviet Military Power*. Local military capabilities will be extremely important in determining the outcome of a conflict there.

The immense size of the East Asia and Pacific area makes it primarily a naval and air theater in case of war. Soviet capabilities in the area have grown, and Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam is now the largest Soviet base outside the USSR.

American capabilities in the Far East hinge on bases in Japan, South Korea and the Philippines. The United States is in a good position to deal with any threat to sea lines of communication in the Pacific. However, the qualitative aspect

again enters the picture, and the United States must continue to invest in upgrading anti-submarine technologies.

How technology will offset future military competition is also addressed. Carlucci said, "The Soviets are using a variety of legal and illegal means to acquire Western technology to redress what they consider to be their most serious shortfalls in the military balance."

"The Soviets are using a variety of legal and illegal means to acquire Western technology..."

The United States and its allies maintain the technological lead; however, the Soviet Union is narrowing the gap and will continue to do so unless the United States maintains strong safeguards against the USSR's sophisticated efforts to acquire technology.

story by
Jim Garamone
AFIS

"B" Co. Marine top NCO grad

A "B" Co. Marine recently graduated as honor man in his NCO school class at MCCDC Quantico.

Cpl. Travis Schnitzler, of Fulton, Ill., took top honors in a class of 131 Marine Corps and Navy NCOs in class 6-88. Schnitzler was also received awards for academics, leadership and physical fitness. He attained averages of 95.71 percent in academics, 98.15 percent in leadership and 100 percent in physical fitness.

"I didn't expect to go there and get any awards," said Schnitzler. "I just went down there as a kind of break from the Barracks and I wanted to do my best. I didn't know how I'd stack up against the others so I just didn't worry about it."

The 215 pound body bearer looked forward to the

school as a change of pace from his normal work at the Barracks.

"It was refreshing to do something different," he said. "I wanted to do well so I just did the best that I could."

The school, which polishes leadership skills, physical fitness, and military knowledge, was well worth the effort put into it," said Schnitzler.

"It taught me a lot," he said. "It reminded me of a lot of things I already knew, but didn't practice. I just wanted to do my best in each area. Knowing that I was being tested made me try harder."

Before joining the Marine Corps Schnitzler served in the Army where he was honor man in boot camp and his MOS school.

Despite his success as

a soldier, the life of an Army Ranger didn't satisfy Schnitzler's appetite for a good challenge so he joined the Marine Corps.

"The Marines are an elite force and I was looking for a challenge," he said. "If I'm not tested I get bored with my job. I wanted something more than being a Ranger could offer."

Schnitzler said there are a few things Marines should remember when they go to NCO school.

"You have to have the right attitude and take advantage of everything they teach. Getting your body ready for the PT will give you one less thing to worry about," he concluded.

story by

Cpl. J.D. Moore

Survival Information

Alcohol is a factor in at least half of the 50,000 fatalities that occur each year on America's highways. Many of these deaths occur during extended holidays like the upcoming Independence Day weekend.

The wisest way to prevent becoming part of 1988's statistics is, of course, to not drink and drive. But, if you do drink there are several guidelines you can follow to keep someone from collecting on your SGLI.

- **Eat before you drink.**

Eat before and while you are drinking. The food will help slow the absorption of alcohol into your bloodstream.

- **Set a limit.**

You know how much alcohol you can safely handle so don't exceed your limit. If you do, don't drive.

- **Drink responsibly.**

Know what you are drinking and how it affects you. Drink slowly so your body has time to eliminate the alcohol from your system.

- **Don't let others drive drunk.**

Offer to take them home or call a cab for them. If necessary, take their keys away from them.

- **If you do have too much...**

Don't drive! Have a sober friend take you home or use public transportation.

PIR staff report

Chaplain's Corner



During the month of July we celebrate our independence. It is a festive time in remembrance of all the freedoms we enjoy in this country of ours. It is a worthy freedom and President Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed it as having "The Four Freedoms"; freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of religious beliefs and freedom of the press.

In addition to President Roosevelt's four freedoms there is one more very important freedom that has been given to us by God and can be found in his testament, The Bible.

Romans 6:18, "You have been set free from sin."

The freedoms we enjoy came at a great price. Many people gave much including

their very lives so that we can practice the freedoms we cherish. The same is true of the freedom from sin. It cost God His only son and it costs us our continual obedience to God's will for our lives, but the reward is freedom from a life of sin and the opportunity to inherit eternal life.

"Glorious Freedom!
Wonderful Freedom!
No more in chains of sin I
repine!

Jesus, the glorious
Emancipator!
Now and forever he shall be
mine!"

Haldor Lillenas

by Lt.Cmdr. Griffith USN
Chaplain

Prayer breakfast

A prayer breakfast will be held July 20 in the Enlisted Club from 6 - 7 a.m.

Capt. Norvell Knight, Deputy Chaplain for the Marine Corps, will be the guest speaker.

Tickets for the full breakfast buffet can be purchased for \$3 at company offices, command clubs or in the Chaplain's office.

For more information contact Petty Officer 2nd Class Luther at 433-6201

Worth Repeating

"Never take counsel of your fears."

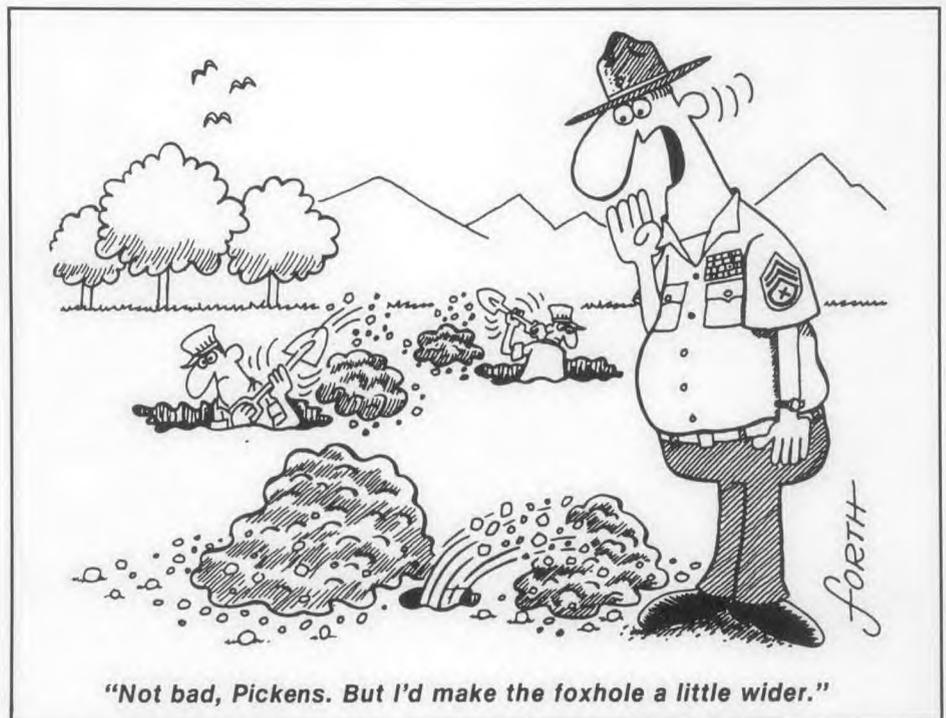
-Gen. Stonewall Jackson
Confederate general

"The liberty of the press is essential to the security of freedom in a state."

-Massachusetts Bill of Rights

"A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman, of the next generation."

-James Freeman Clarke,
clergyman and writer



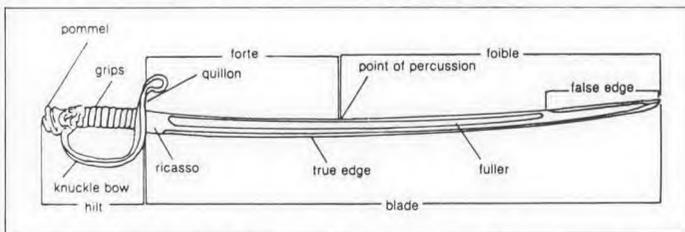
Feature

Ask Da Gunny

Now that parade season is here, there seems to be a lot of NCO swords bouncing off the legs of Marines on the Parade Staff. Seeing all of these outdated weapons made me wonder if you all know the history behind the sword.

Throughout history the sword has been the symbol of the soldier's calling. With this weapon our military ancestors carved out their notches in history. When firearms were developed the sword's actual employment as a weapon was reduced to a secondary role.

Modern warfare however, has not detracted from the position which the sword occupies as the badge of a military man. As the oldest form of weapon still in use, it has become a symbol of command. Those who carry it must bear the burden of continuing the heritage which has been passed down by men who once used their blades in earnest.



In this respect, the NCOs of the Marine Corps have the distinction of being the only NCOs of the U.S. Armed Forces who still have the privilege of carrying a sword, which is traditionally, the weapon of a commissioned officer.

On April 9, 1850, the present day NCO sword was adopted by the War Department as the regulation saber for foot soldiers of the infantry. In 1859, Marine Corps officers



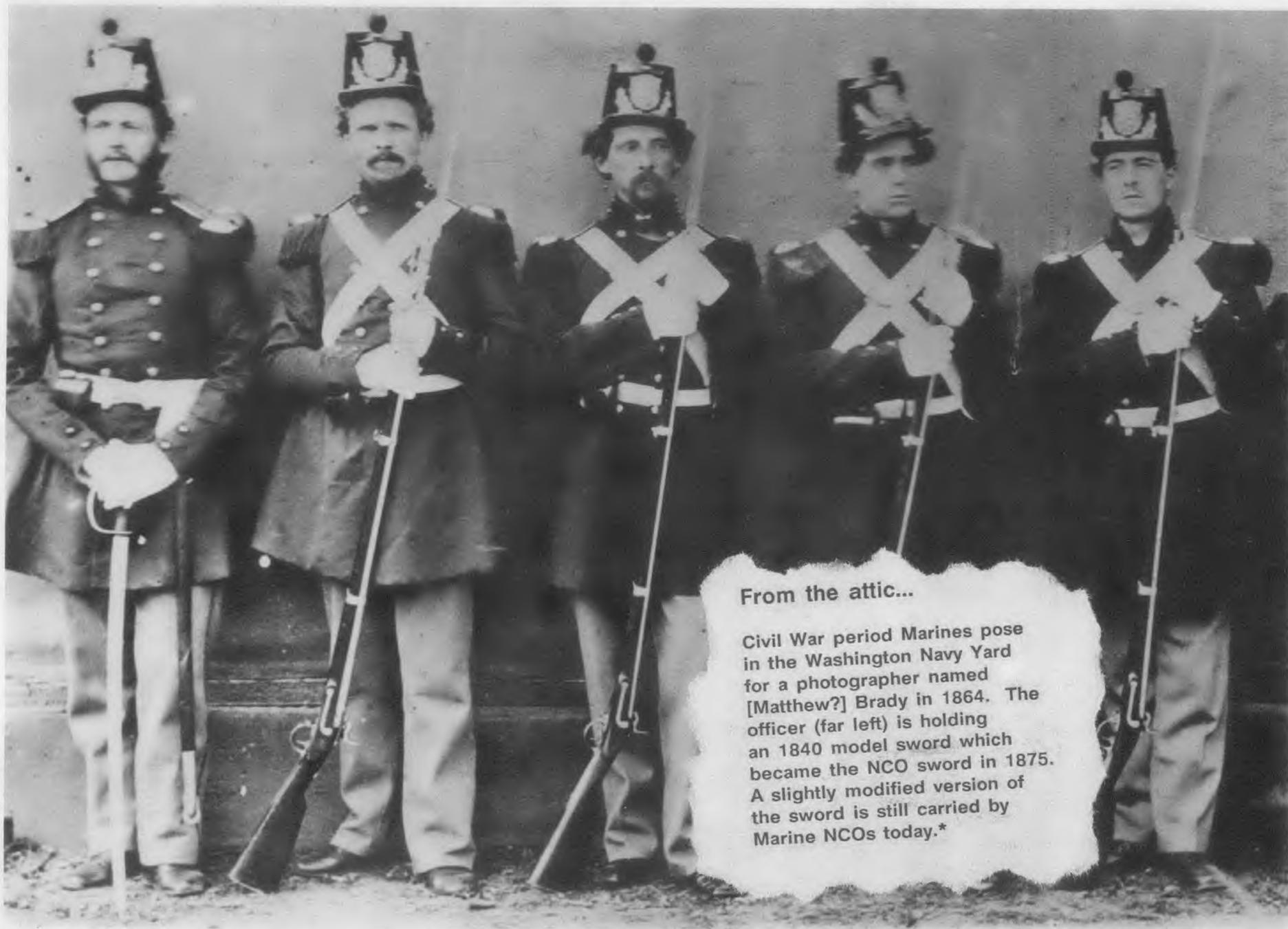
adopted this sword to replace their Mameluke sword because it was a heavier and more practical sidearm. Also, the 1850 model sword had a leather scabbard which did not dent like the all metal scabbards of the Mamelukes.

As the Corps moved into its "Golden Age" of fancy uniforms covered with gold and silver, the officers decided it was time to switch back to the shiny Mameluke sword, which would look better with their uniforms. To take care of the sudden surplus of 1850 models the Marine Corps authorized NCOs to carry the former officer's weapon.

Both commissioned and noncommissioned officers retain their sabers for what they imply rather than personal protection. The sword today's NCO carries represents leadership and authority handed to them from their commissioned brothers-in-arms.

Semper Fidelis,

Smedley D. Smut
Smedley D. Smut
GySgt USMC



From the attic...

Civil War period Marines pose in the Washington Navy Yard for a photographer named [Matthew?] Brady in 1864. The officer (far left) is holding an 1840 model sword which became the NCO sword in 1875. A slightly modified version of the sword is still carried by Marine NCOs today.*

Photo courtesy of U.S. Marine Corps Historical Division.

*For more on the history of the NCO sword see "Ask Da' Gunny" on pg. 19.