

**Ronald Reginald Van Stockum (b. 1916)
Inventory of Military Papers, 1937-2001
Mss. A V217**

[This was the inventory used by Wade Hall on 10/21&22/03]

**Inventory of my U. S. Marine Corps Papers
(Amplified with personal recollections)
(With new format of 11/1/03)**

The papers, photos, etc. included in this collection are basically all those in my possession relating to my military service. Duplicates of some papers and photos have been made for my children. Some papers involving the privacy of persons still living I may withhold, but nothing in my personal record, including my fitness reports, has been excluded.

I have portrayed completely and objectively the events occurring during my 30 years service as a regular marine officer (1937-67), followed immediately by those involving my service as a retired officer on active duty for a period of one and a half years (1967-69). Also I have included military papers generated during my post-retirement years in Kentucky (1970 to present).

INTRODUCTION

**Chronological Record of Duty Assignments
(With explanatory notes)**

**Inventory of my U. S. Marine Corps Papers
(Amplified with personal recollections) (Hardcopy)**

**Inventory of my U. S. Marine Corps Papers
(Amplified with personal recollections) (Disk)**

My hand-written Journals "Life in the Marines" (1937-42)

Verbatim transcript of the three journals (Hard Copy)

Verbatim transcript of the three journals (Disk)

**1 Journal No 1
(8/4/37 to 8/16/38)**

Commences 8/4/37 with arrival of my commission as second lieutenant from Marine Headquarters, and my swearing in by Police Judge Bert Van Moss in Longview, Washington. Van Moss had been a warrant officer in the Marine Corps.

Entries describe travel by rail from Kelso, Washington to Philadelphia where I reported to the Basic School at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on 8/10/37.

Instruction as a second lieutenant at Basic School from 8/10/37 to 5/24/38.

Travel across country, including leave of absence on the west coast, from 5/24/38 to 6/17/38, on which date I reported on board USS Tennessee, anchored off San Pedro, California.

Ends 8/16/38 on board USS Tennessee, to which I had just returned following completion of Secondary Battery Gunnery School on board USS Nevada.

2 Journal No 2 (8/22/38 to 9/4/41)

Commences 8/22/38 on board USS Tennessee, anchored off San Pedro.

Covers my tour on board Tennessee until I was detached in mid-May 1939. This included battle practices and observation of naval gunfire on Tennessee and other ships. Included also are observations during a cruise through the Panama Canal to New York for participation in Fleet Problem 20 and "showing the flag" at the World's Fair of 1939.

Covers my continuing career after detachment from Tennessee off San Pedro in mid-May 1939, commencing with service in the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines then stationed at Marine Base, San Diego.

Describes my aborted attempt to become a marine parachutist and my subsequent duty aboard USS Wasp, which I joined at Norfolk NOB (Naval Operating Base), from 1/22/41 until 9/4/41, the last entry in Journal No. 2, off Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Includes clippings and other current papers. New clippings of Betty Curtis and Peggy Vogel of San Diego of whom I was very fond. Also filed here is a copy of a letter from Bank of America dunning 1st Lt Tim Hager and me as co-makers with our Commanding Officer C.O. Captain "Flip" Hughes. It had been very improper of Hughes to use his influence to have us, who were under his command in the Marine detachment, USS Tennessee at the time, guarantee his note for \$300. He was an inspirational leader, but an alcoholic. He did not rise above the rank of major and a few years later was found dead in the bottom of a swimming pool.

3 Journal No 3 (9/9/41 to 9/6/42)

Entries continue from 9/9/41 aboard USS Wasp two days out of Trinidad until I was detached from Wasp in San Diego on 6/25/42. This period includes reaction while anchored off Bermuda to the Pearl Harbor attack and describes the two trips by Wasp in

the Spring of 1942 into the Mediterranean with Spitfires for the relief of Malta. It continues to 9/6/42 at which time I was commanding officer of newly-formed "D" Company (Battalion Weapons Company) of the 21st Marines, organizing and training at New River (later Camp Lejeune), North Carolina.

Includes reading notes. See entry for 5/13/1942 which mentions my contact with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. An autographed photo of Doug is found here. Fairbanks, who was born in 1909, was as handsome and dashing at the age of 33 as he had appeared in the movies, some of which, e. g., *Green Hell*, were definitely of "B" quality. He held the rank of Lieutenant (J. G.) at that time, and was particularly popular with the equally dashing young carrier pilots of the *Wasp's* squadrons. He later published (1993) *A Hell of a War*, which highlighted his experiences with the Admiral's staff on board *Wasp* on our second trip in the Mediterranean to deliver spitfires to Malta. His recollections of this hazardous trip agree with the current narrative I kept in my journals. However his report of the later sinking of *Wasp* on 15 September 1942 was practically 100% wrong. It was sunk by a Japanese submarine, not a kamikaze plane; the C.O. was Captain Forrest P. Sherman, not Mike Kernodle. It is remarkable how such obvious errors can be left standing in an otherwise worthwhile book and an indication that thorough research is usually more important than relying on memory.

At the time of my entry into the Marine Corps in 1937 it consisted of only 18,000 to 20,000 men. Of these, some 1,100 were officers, including the 82 in my Basic School class. Any officer who had served only a few years in the Marine Corps had met, or served with, or heard about nearly all the other officers on active duty. For example, near the end of my Basic School instruction in the Spring of 1938 I received orders to USS Tennessee. I looked up the roster of officers listed by assignment in the Naval Register and found that I would be serving under Captain W. R. (Flip) Hughes, then serving as C. O. of the Marine Detachment. I asked 1st Lt Norman Hussa, one of my instructors if he knew Captain Hughes. His replay was that he was Number 1, meaning that he was a first-rate officer.

BASIC SCHOOL, US NAVY YARD, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
1937-38

My records as a second lieutenant undergoing instruction at the Marine Corps Basic School in Philadelphia (1937-38) indicated that I completed the course ranked number 9 in a class of 82 highly qualified and carefully selected officers, including 25 from the top third of their Naval Academy Class of 1937.

4 Instructional material and tests #1:

Signal Communications

Chemical Warfare

Combat Practice Firing – M.G. and Howitzer Units

81MM Gun [Mortar]

Barrages and Concentrations

Browning MG tests: Mechanics, Gun and battery drill, Marksmanship, Direct laying,

Drill and Command, including marks for efficiency as platoon leader (87%), neatness (93%), and military bearing (95%). Test 1, 26 August 1937 through Test # 6, 15 April 1938

Naval Law. Tests #1, #2, #4, #5, #6 - 7 Dec 1937 to 18 Feb 1938

Military History, including Van Stockum Monograph "Battle of the Cowpens"
Mapping, including topography – Tests 1 thru 11 (#6 missing), from 10 September 1937 to 23 November 1937. This includes my only Unsatisfactory, the area sketch which I turned in before nightfall. [I **have attached a note to this!**]

5 Instructional material and tests #2:

Tactics – Tests #1 through #6 – 1 February through 25 March 1938.
Scouting and Patrolling – Tests #1 and #2 and Demonstration.
37m/m Gun – Tests #1 and #2 (7 October 1937)
Field Engineering – Tests #1 and #2 – 10 November through 19 November 1937
Hygiene and First Aid – Test # 1 – 18 August 1937
Musketry – Test # 1 – 29 October 1937
Interior Guard Duty – Test # 1 – 24 November 1937
Administration – Test #1 through #3 – 29 November 1937 through 14 January 1938
Administration =- Pay Rolls
Service Afloat – Tests #1 through #5 - 11 February 1938 through 29 April 1938

6 Instructional material and tests #3:

Tactics (Dates do not usually appear in this file, except 1937-1938)

Humphrey Time and Space Scale
Historical Map Problems – British Operations against Tribemen
The Organization of the Marine Infantry Battalion (1937-38)
List of map equipment for the tactics course.
Chart – Machine Gun Platoon-Attack
Machine Gun Company in Attack
Machine Gun Company and Howitzer Platoon in Defense
Rifle Company in Defense (3 papers)
Rifle Company in Attack (4 papers)
Howitzer Platoon in Attack
Notes :Marine Corps Supply
Estimate of the Situation
Machine Gun Platoon in defense (4 papers)
Field Orders
Combat Orders
Rifle Platoon in Attack – Terrain Exercise
Rifle Platoon in Defense – Terrain Exercise
Rifle Platoon in Attack (2 papers)
Rifle Company in Attack
Rifle Squad and Section – Security on the march and offensive combat
Rifle Section in Defense
Distribution of weapons, etc., in the squad

Rifle Section in Attack
Combat Orders
Defense Diagram
Aircraft as a Supporting Arm for Infantry
Artillery as a Supporting Arm to Infantry
Lecture on Tactics by Major Sims
Combat Intelligence – Map Exercise
Notes – Supply of Marine Corps Infantry Units
Solutions of Map Problems Conference
Night Operations
River Crossings – pontoons
Map Exercise (two-sided map maneuver) [Contains student assignments by name
– Van Stockum as company runner]
Terrain Exercise – Attack
Combat Practice Problem involving a Machine Gun Platoon and a Howitzer
Platoon in Attack.
Field Exercise – Machine Gun Platoons in Barrage and Concentration Fire
Missions.

6 Instructional material and tests #4:

Basic School Orders and Detail Order (3)
Basic School Regulations 28 June 1937
Pamphlet: “The United States Marine Corps as a Component Part of the United States Navy.”
Customs and Courtesies [With emphasis upon saluting]
Pamphlet: Marine Officers Notes – Service Afloat
Pamphlet: Service Afloat – Naval terms and Explanations
5-Inch Battery Officers' Check-Off List
Maintenance of Water-Tight Integrity
Organization Chart – US Fleet –[about 1938]
Organization Chart – typical battleship – [about 1938]
Small Wars – Tests #1 and #2 – 11 and 22 March 1937.
Balanced Defense Project [Field Fortification]
Hasty Trenches and Replacements
Trench Drainage
Assignment of students and staff for firing the Small Arms courses at Indiantown Gap, Pa., 18 April 1938.
Organization of Platoon and Squad Formations, Student Officers, Basic School, 8 September 1937.[I was assigned to First Platoon, Second Squad]
Assignment of Seats in Classroom #1 and Hooks in Cloakroom, 8 September 1937.
Organization of Platoon and Squad Formations, Student Officers, Basic School, 16 August 1937.[This was probably assignments temporarily of the newly-arrived College ROTC group. Earlier arrivals - Academy grads, naval aviators, those commissioned from ranks would have been at Cape May, NJ for marksmanship training. I was assigned to First Squad]

Machine Gun Marksmanship – Gun and relay assignments for range practice.—
spring 1938. This would include all 81 students of the class, “Honker” Townsend not yet
having been dismissed for writing bad checks.

Automatic Pistol Marksmanship – Test #1.

Rifle Marksmanship – Test #1. [I have filed here the test of my roommate, Harry
Shea]

BAR Marksmanship – Test #1.

Thompson Submachine Gun – Test #1.

7 Basic School Mementos #5

Muster roll of the Schools Detachment, Marine Barracks, Navy Yard,
Philadelphia, PA 2/1 to 2/28/1938. (Lists all my instructors and fellow-students. I was
listed as one of the 82 second lieutenants under instruction.

“Basic Facts” 1937-1938 – a mimeographed “Yearbook.” Prepared by talented
classmate Bob Heidl, with the help of others. A humorous document, but the humor
would be lost to those who had not attended this basic school class.

Miscellaneous clippings from newspapers of the time, one describing the make-up
of our class with emphasis on the members who had been college athletes.

Program for ceremony in memory of deceased classmates, 28 April 1956, and my
correspondence relating thereto. [15 out of 80 had died by this date, nearly half of these
being aviators.]

My Navy Yard, Philadelphia pass, issued 6 October 1937.

Articles about the Basic School and classmate Bob Heidl in three issues of
“Fortitudine,” Newsletter of the Marine Corps Historical Program. Bob, a friend and
classmate from my Basic School class (1937-38), was a bright individual who, during his
early years in the Corps did not impress his colleagues as being a hard-bitten Marine
type. He was the butt of many jokes. However he had an analytical mind and writing
skills beyond his years and became the author of many military articles and a book about
Haiti. He also became an authority on the subject of Naval Gunfire. In the middle of
WWII, while serving on a staff in Hawaii, he committed the unpardonable sin of writing
a personal letter complaining of the inadequacies of his commanding officer. This letter
he placed in an outgoing basket to be mailed to a friend. Unfortunately for his career,
this letter got into the hands of the C. O., himself. Heidl was passed over for promotion
and his ultimate promotion to Colonel, brought about by his subsequent superior
performance of duty, was delayed for a couple of years.

Review of a book “Fortunate Son” by Lewis B. Puller, Jr., badly-wounded son of
our favorite Basic School instructor. Puller, Jr., as I recall, eventually became a US
Congressman and later committed suicide.

Obituary of BGen Amor L. Simms, one of my Basic School instructors.

Marine Corps Gazette (November 1981) article about “The Basic School 1939,”
by LtGen Louis Metzger who was in the Basic School class two years following mine.

File of correspondence involving my efforts to get the class together for a reunion
in 1982.

7 Group photo of Basic School Class, Diploma 1938 (Mailing Tube)

MARINE DETACHMENT, USS TENNESSEE – 1937-38

8 Chronological list of papers accumulated during this tour, including:

Notes concerning officers with whom I had served.

A letter from Bank of America, 18 May 1939, announcing the default on a note by my Marine commanding officer, William (Flip) Hughes. Captain Hughes had improperly asked 1st Lt Hager and I, his subordinates, to co-sign for him.

Three issues of "Tennessee Tar," ships newspaper, April, May 1938.

Several copies of "watch, quarter and station assignments." Assignments to stations for battle, cleaning, and including Abandon Ship stations. I was assigned to the second trip (if any!) of the Fourth Motor Launch.

Roster of the enlisted men of the Marine Detachment, 17 August 1938.

My certificate: Lt Zuhrmuelen's "Bachelor of Ballistics." A humorous memorandum setting forth procedures for "Night **B**ottle Practice" on 9 August 1939, following completion of Battleship's Secondary Battery Gunnery School. Almost immediately after reporting aboard Tennessee on 17 June 1938, I was sent by launch to USS Nevada, anchored nearby for attendance at this school. Not having been a graduate of the Naval Academy and not being steeped in mathematics, I had difficulty computing the ballistic information used in preparation for firing exercises and in analyzing the results. My colleagues from the Naval Academy helped me. The care and study that went into naval gunnery at this time was very impressive and this presaged the excellent results obtained later in the war. There was no radar at this time and range was obtained by estimate or use of old-style coincidence rangefinders. Later, on Wasp, we had stereo rangefinders and by mid-1941 elementary radar.

Two extracts from books: specifications of Tennessee; losses of ships at Pearl Harbor by a survivor of the attack on Tennessee.

Correspondence with Captain Snowden Arthur, USN (Ret.), my roommate on Tennessee.

Obit of Captain Damon E. Cummings, USN, C.O. of Tennessee during second half of my tour.

Obit for Lyman S. Perry, LtCdr during my tour in Tennessee, a splendid leader. As was customary in those days (1938-39) the marine officers aboard ship were usually assigned legal duties. I was recorder(prosecutor) in a summary court martial of which Perry was senior member. I failed to prove intent in a case involving theft of a blanket. Afterward, Perry told me that I was a fine recorder of a trial, but not a good prosecutor. (I was so meticulous that I insisted without success that the Captain sign his name as Damon E. Cummings," as indicated in the Manual for Courts Martial He signed as usual as "D. E. Cummings.")

A letter to the editor in which I described Tennessee as a "Happy Ship."

Programs for the New York Dinner at Hotel Commodore on 1 May 1939 honoring the visiting naval officers and the Fleet Ball at the Waldorf-Astoria, which followed.

Large group photo of those attending the Fleet Ball (Mailing tube). (The empty seat in front is mine!)

6TH MARINES, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA – 1939-40

9 Cartoons by colleagues, including: “The Garand Illustrated” - 1939), a “spoof” of the newly-issued Garand rifle, “The Sad Sad Story,” “Field Equipment in the Brush,” “ ‘Modernized’ Marine Equipment,” Mess Officer D’Allesandro. Mortar Support by Van Stockum. [These, by fellow officer Loren Haffner, are really quite professional and quite humorous] I continue to be amazed at the variety of talents that may be found among the officers and enlisted men of a wartime combat unit.

Menu for Christmas Day 1939 – 2nd Bn, 6th Marines.

Program for Commissioned Officer’s Mess “Klub Kabaret” 24-25 May 1940.

Orders to a number of officers for air flight 23 September 1940.

Roster of Commissioned and Warrant Officers, Fleet Marine Force and Marine Corps Base, San Diego 1 October 1940.

Program: Montana University vs. U.S. Marines – Football, 15 November 1940.

Roster of players includes a number of my fellow officers stationed at San Diego.

In 1939-40, while stationed with the Sixth Marines at Marine Corps Base, San Diego, I had dated General Vogel’s daughter Peggy. At that point in life Barney Vogel was anything but a good role model for a young officer. I recall following a field exercise a critique was held at which my battalion commander, LtCol Oliver Prince Smith, a brilliant officer and graduate of the Ecole de Guerre, ventured the suggestion that the French had executed a similar and effective maneuver. Vogel’s response: “The French. F--- the God Damn French” – this was just after the Fall of France. Smith later commanded the First Marine Division in its epic retreat from the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea, following the entry of the Communist Chinese in the Korean War, in the winter of 1950. He was promoted to 4-star general upon his retirement in 1955. He was one of the finest men under whom I have ever served. In 1962-63 while I was stationed in Philadelphia I became reacquainted with General Vogel. Susanne and I both became very fond of him. The fog of excessive drinking had dissipated and his true intellect and personality shone through.

MARINE DETACHMENT, USS WASP -- 1941-42

10 Group photo of Wasp Marine Detachment, taken shortly before I reported aboard. Group photo of all officers of USS Wasp. I am in second row, just to the right of center.

Log of my early flights (as passenger) 1937-41.

File of hand-written notes from Captain J. W. (Black Jack) Reeves complaining about my Marines. It was practically impossible for me to satisfy him.

Hand-written notes representing some of the movements of Wasp, including neutrality patarols of 1941.

Ships News Flash: report of a crewman of a Wasp plane who parachuted into the sea on 23 May 1942 and was picked up.

Notes on Patarol and Bermuda, 3 July 1941.

Invitation of 7 July 1941 by dispatch from Malabar Shore Station, Bermuda, inviting Wasp crew members for a tennis match.

Menu for dinner on 2 September 1941 at Queen's Park Hotel, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Recreation Schedule while anchored off Port of Spain, Trinidad on 3 September 1941.

Letter of 4 October 1941 from Commanding Officer of Marines of HMS Victorious to our Marine Detachment commander, Captain A.(Gus) Larson, asking him to put on a drill display by our marines on the flight deck of his ship.

Roster of all officers, including those in aviation squadrons, on board Wasp on 1 November 1941.

Boat Schedule while anchored off Bermuda on 1 December 1941.

Instructions for Officers of the Deck while anchored off Bermuda.

Line drawing of map of Bermuda, showing Wasp anchored in Grassy Bay.

Cartoon, probably drawn by a member of our Marine Detachment, portraying the difficulties of two marines riding bicycles in Bermuda.

Pearl Harbor

Wasp's (Radio News) Newsletter of 8 December 1941, 13 pages in length. This provides in gripping narrative the threatening movements of the Japanese fleet immediately before Pearl Harbor and the news flashes that came in describing the attack and its results, as they gradually became known.

Two pages from Wasp Newsletter, undated but obviously printed shortly after the attack. It lists personnel casualties, heroic actions by the crews, and some of the damage done to the Fleet at Pearl Harbor.

Navy Department instructions, dated 30 December 1941, regarding precautions in the event of capture.

Training Directive for Landing Forces, Argentia, Newfoundland, 15 January 1942.

Procedure for fueling at sea. 18 January 1942.

Procedure for fueling a destroyer at sea. 18 January 1942.

Procedure for aircraft radio communication. 18 January 1941.

Mail Censorship. 18 January 1941.

Classification of water-tight fittings for damage control.

"The Knack of Getting a 4.0" a motivational paper for the crew. On the reverse side is a cartoon, "The Friday Inspection Parties on the Wasp - Come Through."

Sheet showing silhouettes of U. S destroyers. On the reverse is a penciled sketch showing the present formation of ships on 14 April 1942. (My Journal indicates that this was the date we got underway from the mouth of the Clyde, Scotland, in company with HMS Renown and five destroyers, carrying 47 Spitfires for our first trip for the relief of Malta).

British Signal Card, dated 1937, used by our Wasp signal officer while we were cruising in company with British naval vessels.

Roster of officers of Commander Task Force 18 and USS Wasp, 20 June 1942. This was two days before we entered San Diego Harbor, having transited the Panama Canal from the Atlantic. I was detached on 25 June.

Last letter to me from my relief on Wasp, Captain John Kennedy, who had taken command of the Marine Detachment when I went ashore in San Diego. The letter was postmarked on 6 September 1942, having been passed by the Naval Censor. He reported, "We're still afloat and I hope we stay that way." He had, I believe, moved to my stateroom, which was perhaps a couple of decks above one of the torpedo hits. He was lost with the ship when it was sunk by a Japanese sub on 15 September off Guadalcanal.

11 Wasp Stinger Club

Some of my correspondence with the Stinger Club which was established after the war and became quite a successful organization. I joined in 1973 and was Charter Member # 115. Included are gripping official reports of survivors of the Wasp's sinking on 15 September 1942, including Captain Forrest Sherman's report of 24 September 1942, 9 days after his ship was lost.

12 "Wasp Journals"

Some correspondence with Norman Watson, editor of the Wasp "Stinger."
Three extracts from my "Life in the Marines" Journals that reported upon my experiences while serving on board USS Wasp. These were published in the "USS CV 7 Wasp Stinger" as follows:

Vol 59, No. 2 (August 1, 1998). Installment #1 covers "The Relief of Malta" – 23 March 1942 to 21 May 1942.

Vol 60, No. 1 (April 1, 1999). Installment #2 covers the period from my reporting aboard Wasp at Norfolk, VA on 22 January 1941 until 10 December 1941, three days after Pearl Harbor.

Vol 61, No. 2 (August 1 1999). Installment #3 covers the period from 10 December 1941 to the date of my detachment from Wasp on 25 June 1942. The journal entries which were published in Installment #1, "Relief of Malta" were not included here.

13 Wasp "Stinger" History Edition

Contains a number of accounts by officers and men of Wasp. Many deal with the sinking of 15 September 1942. I have corresponded with Captain Bud Gore, whom I remember as a Lt (J.G.), whose extracts from his book "The Navy Years," appears herein. I have a copy of his book which provides good reading for someone interested in the US Navy during the period of my Marine Corps service.

3rd MARINE DIVISION, FLEET MARINE FORCE **1942-45 (WORLD WAR II)**

14 My personal file on Military Courtesy, Battle Discipline and Leadership – 1941-44. Includes pamphlets: "Leader's Battle Doctrine (For Front Line Leaders)," dated 21 January 1944; "Combat Lessons," issued by General Marshall, C of S, US Army; "Meet New Zealand," a welcome pamphlet issued to us when we arrived in NZ.

15 WWII Official Personal File (Quite thin, some court martial records, letters from a couple of my men.) Contains a newsphoto and article about my promotion to Major (August 1942), five years after my initial commissioning as a second lieutenant.

16 Landing Exercises – J. Franklin Bell to Guadalcanal. (1942-1944)
It will be noted that the orders for these exercises, some of which actually involved embarking aboard ship, contained the usual annexes for amphibious operations conducted at that time, including Boat Assignment Tables, Wave Diagrams and Debarkation Schedules.

For the landing exercises conducted from USS J. Franklin Bell December 10-21, 1942, we embarked in San Diego. This was the last major exercise in which the 1st Battalion 21st Marines participated before departing on SS Mormacport for New Zealand on 20 February 1943. At that time the name "J. Franklin Bell" meant nothing to me. I had no idea that Bell, later C of S, U. S. Army, had been born in Shelby County and was a distant cousin of my future wife Susanne.

Travelling on Mormacport, a converted cargo ship, was an unpleasant experience. Ship was crowded beyond the capability of its mess facilities. Our troops were fed two meals a day while the crew ate the normal three. We officers, as I recall, were able to eat at meals at regular times in the wardroom. In any case, I was second in command to Lt Col Ernie Fry, the battalion commander. Had I been in command it would have been proper for me to assure that if the troops ate only twice a day the officers should adhere to the same schedule. We were not escorted on this non-stop trip from San Diego to Auckland NZ. Mormacport was evidently fast enough to avoid submarines, but perhaps more importantly, our country had been able to break the Japanese codes and perhaps determine that this southern route was free of Japanese submarines. It will be remembered that our departure date was 20 February 1943, nearly six months after the first significant offensive against the Japanese, the landing of the First Marine Division on Guadalcanal on 7 August 1943.

Other exercises were conducted in New Zealand in the Spring of 1943. The August 1943 operation plan may have been prepared for our landing on Guadalcanal, then secured and a staging area for our November 1943 assault on Bougainville.

17 Training Orders, directives, critiques and schedules – 21st Marines 1942-44. [the 21st Marines landed on Bougainville on 5 November 1943]. Most of these orders, instructions, etc., originated with the HQ of the 21st Marines. I must have also recorded elsewhere the later small action at "Hellzapoppin Ridge," where a few determined Japs held up our battalion for almost a week along a narrow ridge. In the final advance in this action I accompanied the C. O. of "A" Company, Captain Landrum, and spent an uncertain night in a front-line foxhole with him. A feared counter attack did not materialize.

18 My article "Jungle Attack," published in The Filson Club History Quarterly, Vol. 68, No. 2 (July 1994). This is an objective description of my first combat experiences -- in Bougainville. Also included in this folder: a reprint of this article; correspondence with Nelson Dawson prior to publication; my submission of the same manuscript to the Marine Corps Gazette and rejection letter.

19 Scrap Book kept by my mother during WWII [Clippings for the most part depict the Bougainville Campaign]. The only photo showing me in combat was a newspaper clipping which my mother had pasted in this book. It had subsequently been torn out, probably by my mother who didn't like the way I looked after a hazardous night on the front lines after the "Battle" of Helzappopin Ridge. This photo showed me pointing to a notch at the base of a banyan tree to hold the rifle of a Japanese soldier who had entrenched himself in a firing position, protected by the tree itself. We had been held up several days by a small body of Japanese, certainly no larger than a platoon and probably smaller. Only a narrow approach was available along the ridge so that a small body of defenders could dominate the approach. On the final assault I had accompanied the commander of A Company, 21st Marines, Captain Jack Landrum. On reaching the objective we shared a large shell hole with two or three other men on the front line. We were very apprehensive about a possible counter-attack, but none materialized. When a rain shower developed we were concerned about the sound of falling rain masking the approach of the Japanese. Included:

Some postcards I must have picked up on the battlefield.
Photo of Mt. Bagana in Bougainville (which overlooked "Hellzapoppin ridge.")
Newspaper photos of the Bougainville Campaign, including one of two of my sergeants whom I remember well.

The sign put up by the "Seabees" on the highway they constructed behind our front lines on Bougainville:

"So when we reach the "Isle of Japan"
With our caps at a Jaunty tilt
We'll enter the city of Tokyo
On the roads the Seabees Built"

(This road was later named "Major Fissel Highway," in honor of one of my Basic School classmates, killed while serving in an adjacent battalion.)

Several clippings relating to the Guam and Iwo Jima campaigns.

20 Printed material about the Bougainville Campaign and its significance. Also post-war and recent articles about the situation in present-day Bougainville.

21 Training Notes – 1944-45 (After Guam until Iwo Jima). Most of these directives and notes were originated in the HQ of the 3rd Marine Division. Included is a Third Marine Division Battle Doctrine pamphlet (1944).

22 Training – 1st Battalion 3rd Marines [Regiment] – 1944-45 [During period in which I was in command] This file contains training orders, memos, instructions, etc, from the 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Marines [Regiment] and from my command, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines during the period 21 October 1944 to 21 January 1945. We were then training for the assault on **Iwo Jima [Called "Island X-Ray in our maps and orders]**, which took place on 19 February 1945.

An unusual incident resulted in my being placed in command of this battalion. After Bougainville it was planned for me to move up to regimental HQ, the 21st Marines, as S-3 (Operations Officer) to replace a highly regarded staff officer, Lt Col Jim Tinsley.

He was then assigned to the command of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines. This opportunity for combat command he objected to, saying that Van Stockum with his infantry battalion experience was more qualified for such duty. Turning down a combat command is not only unheard of in the Marine Corps, but associated with a lack of courage. His action sounded an alarm; he was immediately relieved and ordered back to the U. S. and I was awarded the command he had refused. Tinsley was in fact an articulate, intelligent and capable staff officer and I don't know his motives for turning down command. However, on his way back to the States, he went through Marine Fleet Marine Force Headquarters, met a senior officer who supported him, and was not sent home. Later, after Iwo Jima, he was returned to the Third Marine Division and given command of a battalion, if I remember correctly, my old battalion, the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, shortly after I was rotated back to the US on 1 April 1945, after nearly 26 months in the Pacific theater.

23 My Iwo Jima file: IMPORTANT HISTORICAL FILE (I was C.O. of troops aboard USS Frederick Funston, commanded by Captain C. C. Anderson.)

Tactical map issued for the operation.
Diagrams of Southwestern and Southeastern beaches.

My file of Fleet dispatches covering the period 17 February 1945, immediately before the landing of 19 February 1945 and continuing until the operation was practically completed, 6 March 1944. My troops, combat-loaded aboard USS Frederick Funston, arrived off Iwo Jima about D+5 in time to see the US flag appear over Suribachi.

Early dispatches before the landing indicate a level of resistance much greater than anticipated.

The dispatch covering the first day (19 February) indicates the severity of the opposition.

Two days later casualties received aboard ships were: KIA 385; WIA 4,168.

A "Flash" dispatch of 23 February, reported that US flag was seen hoisted on Mt. Surivachi.

A summary of casualties as of 27 February: KIA 1,570; WIA 7,656; MIA 552; Total 9,778.

A summary of casualties as of 5 March: KIA 2,584; WIA 10,664; MIA 589. Total enemy dead reported as 14,456.

My operation plan 1-45 for the landing of my command, 1st Marine Battalion, 3rd Marines (Reinforced), (BLT 3-1), dated 4 February 1945. This is a complete plan for an amphibious landing..(This landing did not take place because LtGen Smith, Commander of the Marine Landing Force, considered the island too crowded with marines and Japanese troops to land the infantry of the 3rd Marine Regiment, including my battalion. The artillery under my command, (BLT 3-1) however, was landed), leaving the rest of my command on board.

Waiting to be sent ashore, literally with packs on our backs, while observing the stream of badly wounded marines being evacuated to our ship was a real challenge to morale.

Roster of naval officers aboard Funston, commanded by Captain Charles C. Anderson, (called "Chipping Charlie) whom I admired greatly. He lost his son, who died in his father's arms, in this campaign. [My story of this tragedy appears elsewhere in these files.]

Message of congratulations, dated 18 March 1945, to the officers and men of the 3rd Marine Division from the commanding general, Major General Graves B. Erskine.

24 The Anderson Story. The life, and death on Iwo Jima, of the son of Captain C. C. Anderson, C. O. of USS Frederick Funston, whose ship carried my reinforced battalion, BLT 3-1, to the waters just off Iwo Jima. I was with Capt. Anderson when his son come aboard from Iwo for a short visit. I observed Captain Anderson's boat trip to retrieve his wounded son from another transport anchored off Iwo.

Viola Bent Anderson, The Anderson Story: A Story in the Lives of the Charles Carter Andersons.

News clipping, dated 3/13/1945 [the D-day for Iwo Jima had been 2/19/45] about C. C. Anderson, Jr.'s death.

Correspondence reflecting my attempt to edit this story for publication in the Marine Corps Gazette and in the Filson Club History Quarterly.

[I note that in my Hard Drive, RVS Data, Other Writing Projects, I have a folder entitled "Anderson Story 6/21/99" which contains Mrs. Anderson's complete story typed into the computer.]

Dr. Tom Clark's appraisal of my book, Kentucky and the Bourbons: "A book that has cried out for the writing," applies likewise to The Anderson Story.

25 Letters sent home from combat, with miscellaneous contents, retained by my mother;

30 October 1943 (I would land on Bougainville six days later, facing my first ground combat) This describes the versatility of some of the 220 men in my Heavy Weapons (machine guns and mortars) Company.

1 November 1943 Letter to my father explains my feelings on the eve of battle. (This was the day of the first landing on Bougainville. I was to embark aboard ship about this time for the short trip to Bougainville where I would land on 5 November with my company across the beach at Empress Augusta Bay.

1 December 1943 Written during the Battle for Bougainville, this letter could not contain any descriptions of the on-going combat because of the need to keep this information secret. This was before the Battle of "Hellzapoppin Ridge" of 12-18 December 1943, in which I played an active part.

2 December 1943 Describes the simple needs of a marine in combat, the contents of the haversack carried into battle, etc.

29 July 1944 Written on captured stationery after the desperate Japanese attack on our lines the night of 25-26 July. I describe this attack and conclude with "There is more fighting left but the worst is over."

A couple of cartoons, one depicting "Night Watch on Guam"; the other has a note about the Samarai sword I recovered Guam.

Photo, passed by censor, taken March 1944, taken in our encampment in a cocoanut grove on Guadalcanal. I am included along with my battalion commander LtCol Ernie Fry and some of the battalion officers. I believe this was taken after reorganization of the Heavy Weapons Company and its absorption into other companies of the battalion. I must have been Battalion Executive Officer at this time. Two of the officers from my old Company "D" appear: Harbin and Voohees.

Two newsphotos from Washington State papers showing scenes of the Guam invasion. One was taken by Joe Rosenthal, later renowned for his photo of the Flag Raising on Iwo Jima. I remember him well: he had ridden ashore in my boat on the day of the initial landing (called W-Day for this invasion). He must have taken this photo immediately after we landed.

Label torn off bottle of Suntory Whiskey, liberted on Guam. There is a note from me on the reverse. Shortly after the Japanese counter-attack of 25/26 July 1944, during the initial advance a cave was discovered. It was inhabited by a Japanese soldier who was flushed out with a flamethrower, making available dozens of cases of this whiskey. I encountered Rosenthal shortly after this event and notified him about it. Whether or not he wrote about it, I do not know. The whisky "captured" was taken over by Division Headquarters and only a little "trickled" down to battalion level!

Japanese postcard I picked up on the battlefield. On the reverse is another note about the Samarai sword I took off a dead Japanese soldier during the Guam campaign.

3 photos I retrieved from dead Japanese, with my uncharitable comments on the reverse and a Japanese bill.

26 November 1950 issue of The Marine Corps Gazette. This is really a historical issue which features battles of the Marine Corps, with WW II battles starting on page 76. On pages 92-93 appear some photos of the 1st Marine Division and the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade in the early battles in Korea. The Inchon Landing had taken place, Seoul had been taken. The advance of the Division to the Chosin Reservoir and its courageous withdrawal after the Chinese Army attacked across the Yalu would come later in 1950. Major General O. P. Smith and Brigadier General Eddie Craig I had known well. Two of the finest officers ever produced by our Corps.

Brochure: Fifth Annual National Convention, Third Marine Division Association, 1959. Also some early copies of "CalTrap," Official Newsletter of the Association – July-August 1955 to September 1956.

TROOP TRAINING UNIT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA **1945-47**

27 San Diego/ Camp Pendleton area. From May 1945, when I reported to Camp Pendleton, California after returning from the Pacific Theater, until January 1947. During this period I was an instructor, principally with The Troop Training Unit, which was engaged initially in training Army and Marine units in Amphibious Operations. Before the dropping of the atomic bombs on 6 and 9 August 1945, followed by the surrender of Japan, this training was largely in support of troops scheduled to participate in the projected invasion of Kyushu, Japan later that year. I have a very thin file covering this period of my service.

**INSPECTOR INSTRUCTOR, 4TH INFANTRY BATTALION, US MARINE
CORPS RESERVE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 1947-48**

28 Official Personal Letter File covering period 12/20/1946 until 6/5/48 in connection with my duties as Inspector-Instructor of the 4th Infantry Battalion, USMCR at Naval Air Station, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Many of these letters involve reports to my superior in Chicago, Colonel Walker Reaves. There are also some allusions to the difficulty I was experiencing with LtCol John Storr, USMCR, the battalion commander, which eventually became a crisis.

Included in the front of this folder is the report associated with my transfer from Inspector-Instructor, 4th Marine Corps Infantry Battalion, USMCR, in Minneapolis to a similar position with the 1st Infantry Battalion in New York. This transfer resulted from a conflict with the reserve C. O. John K. Storr, who had a drinking problem, which was investigated by Colonel Jim Masters of the IG department. This was the one of the most critical incidents in my career. The C.O. was relieved and I was supported in a private letter from the Director, Marine Corps Reserve. As a Major General, Masters sat on the board that selected me for Brigadier General in 1961 and I am told that his explanation of this incident redounded to my credit in the discussions. Without Masters' support I probably would not have been selected. It is interesting that my first assignment as a general officer was Director, Marine Corps Reserve.

Included herein are several photos taken in 1947 during the visit of the Director, Marine Corps Reserve, a BGen, and one showing the District Director, Walker Reaves, my immediate commanding officer, in 1947, pinning on a medal, probably my Bronze Star, won on Bougainville.

I met Mr. Russell H. Bennett and his wonderful family while assigned as Inspector-Instructor of the 4th Infantry Battalion, USMCR at the Naval Air Station, Minneapolis, in 1947. Russell was a remarkable man, an intellectual and an industrialist. A prominent attorney in Minneapolis at the time said of Bennett, "He is the smartest man in the Twin Cities – and the wealthiest, too." Bennett headed a large industrial firm with offices in the Foshay Tower. As I recall, he told me that his grandfather had discovered that the Mesabi Range in Minnesota possessed an immense treasure of iron ore. While timber cruising through the area his compass had acted erratically.

The family lived in a beautiful home at 2217 East Lake of the Isles Blvd. in Minneapolis. He was an accomplished canoeist – took me once on a family canoe trip on the St. Croix. He owned Shoderee Ranch in Pincher Creek, Alberta, Canada where we visited him while crossing the country by auto enroute to the Canadian National defence College in 1957. He had written several books about ranching, including "The Compleat Rancher." In this work he inquires of a post-hole digger "Don't you ever get tired of digging?" The response, "I just dig one post hole at a time.

**INSPECTOR INSTRUCTOR, 1ST INFANTRY BATTALION, US MARINE
CORPS RESERVE, NEW YORK, NY 1947-48**

29 Inspector-Instructor (I-I), 1st Infantry Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Fort Schuyler, NY 1948-49. This new duty assignment involved duties similar to those I had

performed in Minneapolis. The Inspector-Instructor, a regular officer with a small staff, provided administrative and logistic support to a reserve unit composed of officers and men who came on duty a weekend a month for training. The commanding officer was a reserve officer, actually in command of the unit, who actually relied heavily on the advice of his regular counterpart.

This unit was actually far superior in strength, organization and structure to the one I had just left in Minneapolis. Its rank were filled with active and involved New Yorkers, most from the nearby Bronx borough. It had a marching band composed of experienced musicians, recruited along with its leader, especially for this purpose. Older than most reserve recruits, they may not have marched so well, but their music was superb.

It had its own newsletter, called "The Fighting First," a well-written and printed publication. Two examples are provided in this file, each bearing the same date, 12 May 1949. The reason for this apparent discrepancy is that when first printed it contained an editorial "The North Atlantic Treaty and You." This attempt at opinion in the foreign policy field, I considered improper for a low level military publication and directed that it be replaced. I did not necessarily disagree with the opinion but thought it to be inappropriate. This is an example of the "influence" of an inspector-instructor. My column as "I and I" appears inside.

This was a unit composed of dedicated Americans, with a high morale. It was called on active duty as a unit in 1950, a year after I had left, in response to the invasion of South Korea by North Korea on 25 June 1950.

As an aside: - I met my dear wife Susanne de Charette during this tour as Inspector-Instructor. She was living in Mt. Vernon, NY, across the street from one of the reserve officers who roomed in the home of a French lady who knew her and her family well. Susanne was invited across to join in a hand of bridge. I have sometimes mentioned, in jest, that the Marine corps sent me to New York with the idea that if I couldn't find a wife there I might be a life-time bachelor! We were married on 14 June 1949 in St James, Long Island, at the home of Major Irving Schechter, the reserve officer commanding the battalion. Buck Schechter and his wife Amy had become great friend of ours. This is an example of a close relationship that can be developed between the regular I & I, and his counterpart, the reserve commanding officer.

Included in this folder is a copy of the September 1949 issue of the Marine Corps Gazette. Commencing on page 36 is the first article that I published, "The I-I Meets the CO Halfway." Calling upon my recent experiences as I-I, I attempted to discuss and define the type of relationship between the regular officer I-I and his reserve counterpart, the Commanding Officer.

AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE SCHOOL, SENIOR COURSE, QUANTICO, VA, 1949-1950

- 30** Roster of the class, including photos.
Critique of my student presentation in "Instructors' Orientation Course."
Recommended books for personal Libraries [2 papers].
Collateral Reading List (pamphlet)
Amphibious Warfare School 1949-1950 publication on Leadership.

Notes to Accompany Combined Operations Presentation - pamphlet [By a British team]

Pamphlet setting forth data for Amphibious Command Post Exercise SC-99, Packard IV, 12 May –1 June 1950 [Really the graduation exercise for this course].

“Corresponding Naval and Marine Staff Officers” I was assigned as Chief of Staff of the “1st Marine Division.” [an important position in this command post exercise, probably based upon my successful performance in the previous months in the course.]

Note: I don't seem to have much material for this school. Probably the class material and class work were considered classified and collected after instruction.

31 Marine Corps Fights for its Life – 1949-52

This is not strictly school information, but material acquired in 1949 through 1952 when the new legislation to unify the Armed Services threatened to reduce the Corps to “the Navy's Landing Force.” An informal group of young marine officers formed themselves into “chowder and marching society” in order to discuss this threat and the means of countering it. It is strange that the Corps had literally to “fight for its life” just five years after the Corp's enhanced prestige as a result of bloody Iwo Jima.

This file contains Marine Corps policy statements, Congressional Record excerpts, etc. that can provide an insight into this serious struggle that, had it been lost by the Corps, could have resulted in its relegation to an inferior status.

There is a news item here reporting upon General Shepherd's adoption of the swagger stick for officers. Later, in 1960, when Congressional Medal of Honor winner Dave Shoup became Commandant of the Marine Corps, he stated: “I consider the swagger stick to be an unnecessary item of encumbrance.” This item disappeared!

SENIOR MARINE OFFICER, AMPHIBIOUS GROUP TWO (ABOARD USS MT. OLYMPUS, USS TACONIC, AND USS MONROVIA) 1950-52.

32 Photos of an amphibious exercise at Onslow Beach, Camp Le Jeune, NC conducted by Amphibious Group Two shortly before I joined the staff in the summer of 1950.

Photo of Rear Admiral Harold Baker and marine officers on his staff, taken aboard USS Taconic.

Photo of Rear Admiral Harold Baker and his staff, taken aboard USS Taconic.

Correspondence and papers involving my tour as Senior Marine Office on the staff of Commander, Amphibious Group Two – 1950-52. Includes some of my notes and reports, job description, etc.

Information Pamphlet for USS Mount Olympus (AGC-8), Flagship for Commander Amphibious Group Two during much of this tour. (Susanne called it the “Mount Puss.”)

Included also is a highway map of Panama, notes on the Bahama Islands, and a guest list (obviously for a reception for Bahamian dignitaries aboard our flagship)

32 Strat (Strategic) Plot Log for Operation “Blue Jay” at Thule, Greenland – 9 July 1951 to 22 August 1951. This was my duty station where lighterage for unloading

ships to set up an enormous Air Force Base far north of the Arctic Circle was controlled. It contains some of my entries and those of others who stood the lighterage watch.

Upon being relieved from watch one day late in the operation, I had created a fictitious message purporting to have been sent by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Vandenburg, who had visited us that day. It had been picked up by my relief as an actual message and sent immediately to the admiral. As I recall, I had written something such as follows: "I was impressed by your lighterage operation center, but I saw only marines there. Where was the Navy"? Admiral Brittain immediately prepared a response containing, "they were doing their job," but soon recognized the hoax. He sent for me and gave me a stern lecture on "the inviolability of Naval communications." Fortunately for me he was a senior naval officer with a sense of humor.

Penciled notes that had been attached by my colorful commander, RAdm Brittain to a plan or report. Brittain was a Kentuckian from Versailles. He was well-known in the Navy Department by his candid and colorful reports. While enroute to Thule, Greenland, in the far north, for the operation that set up the enormous air base there I remember that he included the following phrases in his reports: "Next time serve mine without ice"; "the well-named Sappa Creek rammed an iceberg"; "heaviest ice in the memory of the oldest Eskimo."

Marine Corps Gazette of April 1954, containing on pages 20-24 my article "Operation Bluejay" which describes this operation in detail.

33 Army Arctic Indoctrination School, winter Course, Big Delta. Alaska, 8 January to 3 February 1951. While the Amphibious Group staff was ashore, perhaps while the flagship was undergoing upkeep in the Navy Yard, I had the opportunity to be sent to this school in the cold heart of Alaska. Contains many photos taken personally, the log book I kept during this period and an official mosaic showing official photos.

Marine Corps Gazette of December 1951, containing on pages 42 to 50 my article "Big Delta: Survival at 50 Below" which describes my experiences at this school.

COMMANDING OFFICER, MARINE DETACHMENT, NAVAL TRAINING CENTER, GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS 1952-54. I WAS ALSO THE DISTRICT MARINE OFFICER ON THE ADMIRAL'S STAFF.

34 My folder of correspondence involving the Great Lakes Brig which was under my command when I was C. O., Marine Barracks, Great Lakes, Illinois, from 1952 to 1954. This was my principal responsibility during this tour and was demanding. This period was during the Korean War when many sailors and marines deserted or were AWOL. They were confined here waiting trial, awaiting Bad Conduct or Undesirable discharges or serving short sentences. The peak population in this brig reached 535 during my tenure, with the facility having been designed for perhaps a quarter of that number. This was a challenge of some magnitude and the general success of my efforts was significant in my career. Contains many reports about the prisoners, letters from prisoners, etc. Included also are copies of investigations, inspections, etc. It will be noted through an examination of this file that I made myself readily available to the prisoners, in person and by correspondence.

Included in this file is a booklet of cartoons, "The Lonely Ones" by William Steig, from the Brig's small library. One of the prisoner's had cleverly captioned the drawings of individuals in the book, relating them to guards, members of the staff, and events. I looked him up, feeling that a person of such imagination deserved special consideration. My memo of 17 October 1952 recommending his suspension of confinement is included in the book.

35 Photo with General Vandegrift, hero of Guadalcanal and former Commandant of the Marine Corps. He was my house guest and reviewing officer at a review of my troops at the Naval Training Center and was most gracious. [Photo signed by General Vandegrift: "To Michele and Reggie Van Stockum." Has been retained in my files.]

Three warm personal, hand-written letters to Susanne and me from General Vandegrift.

My official photo as a colonel

Other photos at Great Lakes, including a meeting of the staff of RAdm "Pop" Olds," whom I served as an additional duty as "District Marine Officer."

Photos with my relief Colonel William Enright.

Great Lakes Bulletin of 13 August 1954, with photo of my turning over command to Colonel Enright.

36 News clippings that I collected during 1949-1954. Most refer to the Korean War. In 1949 I was undergoing instruction at the Senior Course, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Virginia. From 1950 to 1952 I served at sea on the staff of Phib Group Two. From 1952 to 1954 I commanded the Marine Barracks at Great Lakes, Illinois. Included is a copy of US News & World Report of 8 December 1950, featuring "Inside Story of Korean Muddle," with General Mac Arthur on the cover.

G-2 (INTELLIGENCE OFFICER) 3rd MARINE DIVISION (AND PROVISIONAL CORPS), GIFU, JAPAN, 1954-55

37 This was a tour of one year, unaccompanied by my family.

"Notes on the Japanese State," 15 October 1954.

Some G-2 (Intelligence) papers, 3rd Marine Division 1954-55, including my description of the responsibilities of the G-2 Section.

Photos of General Jim Riseley, CG, 3rd Marine Division and his staff

Photos of the officers on my staff as G-2.

Issues of Triad, 3rd Marine Division publication, showing my presenting Major General Riseley with the first certificate of membership in the 3rd Marine Division Association.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT, FAR EAST AND UNITED STATES COMMAND, TOKYO, JAPAN 1955-57

38 **Activities and Events.** From the summer of 1955 to the summer of 1957 I was Headquarters Commandant of this Theater Headquarters. I was in effect the "Housekeeper in Chief" of this enormous headquarters, Pershing Heights, in Tokyo. I also had under my command the Honor Guard which was turned out for the many senior

officers, American and United Nations, who visited General (4-star) Lyman L. Lemnitzer, U. S. Army, my "boss." This was a prestigious assignment, which provided more perquisites than available to some colonels who were senior to me but didn't have the benefit of an assigned sedan and Japanese driver. My duties were myriad and ranked from glamorous and challenging to absurd and challenging. I was involved prominently in ceremonies and included with Susanne in important social and diplomatic receptions. And I had to be sure that the bathrooms were clean and functioning! No job was too small!

A highlight of my career, personally and professionally. Susanne and I travelled widely throughout Honshu, visiting farming and fishing villages, speaking to the inhabitants as best we could and gaining a great appreciation for the character of the Japanese people. Elsewhere among these documents is a compilation of my reports of these trips.

Files in this folder include the following:

Rosters of Key Officers
History of the Honor Guard Company
Program for a dinner commemorating the 12th anniversary of the establishment of the Honor Guard company, Far East Command.
Welcome Pamphlet: "3rd Marine Division on Okinawa."
Pamphlet: "Information for Incoming Officers of Headquarters, Far East and United Nations Commands," issued by General Lemnitzer's predecessor General Maxwell D. Taylor.

File of correspondence while serving in this capacity, much of it with General Lemnitzer's personal staff. Contains a file of Honor Guard papers, including my personal briefings and an Officer of the Guard Report describing a sentry who was actually asleep on his feet for over a minute! Contains identification of some interesting housekeeping problems and their solutions. Some correspondence involving relations with our Japanese neighbors.

"HQ FEC Official Personal Correspondence." This file contains some sensitive correspondence concerning officers' performance of duty and allegations of misconduct. During this period a few key personnel were replaced because Army investigations had uncovered allegations of homosexual acts or tendencies. One of these was my outstanding Honor Guard commander, who had previously accompanied me on my climb of Mt. Fuji.

File of minutes of the regular staff meetings I conducted as Headquarters Commandant. Careful reading would uncover reports of some unusual, even bazaar, problems that I confronted. Some may even be humorous. [Note: One problem brought to my attention for solution was a report that the toilets were flushing hot water.]

Daily Notes. My personal handwritten record of daily activities, dated 28 September 1955 to 21 May 1957. Also my handwritten check list of projects to be accomplished 1955-1957.

Change of Command Ceremony and Distabishment of Far East Command 1 July 1957. Several copies of the Program and copy of plans for the ceremony.

39 Calling card box containing my cards as Headquarters Commandant, printed in Japanese and English. The Japanese were at this time "compulsive" in their desire to exchange cards!

40 Policy matters involving the Marine Corps. In October 1956 the Commandant of the Marine Corps visited Japan. The few Marine Corps dependents in Japan had just been ordered home, despite the fact that dependents of personnel of other services remained. This created a flap which was not diminished by General Pate's arrival in newly -designed uniform short trousers, accompanied by his wife. Related news clippings and statements are included in this file.

Contains statements regarding the position of the Marine Corps as a separate service, including my recommendation that the UNC/Far East Command Honor Guard no longer be designated as "Tri-Service."

Some correspondence with Colonel Don Hittle, a Basic School classmate, including professional articles he had written for "The United States Naval Institute Proceedings" regarding the position of the Marine Corps. (See elsewhere, reference to "The Marine Corps Fights for its Life.")

News items regarding Staff Sergeant McKeon and the "Ribbon Creek" flap. McKeon had led his recruits into the swamps of Parris Island in 1956 and lost several by drowning. This was a serious challenge for the Marine Corps, adversely affecting the career of a number of senior officers and bringing General Shoup into prominence. Major General Joseph Burger, Parris Island, SC, Base Commander at the time, was transferred to Camp Lejuene where he later became CG, 2nd Marine Division and my commanding general.

41 Manila envelopes containing 8X10 official photos as follows:

Ceremony for the Return of the Unknown Korean War dead, Yokusuka, 1/20/1956. I was master of ceremonies for this event which was of personal interest to General Lemnitzer. For this he presented me with a Letter of Appreciation.

[Also included are pages from Star and Stripes of 1/21/56. I appear in the group photo of the speakers.]

General Lemnitzer inspects my Honor Guard.

Some miscellaneous prints showing, including some showing General Lemnitzer escorting visitors for the Honor Guard ceremony.

My official photos as Headquarters Commandant. **famint**

Additional photos of my staff, honor guard personnel, etc.

Photos of the United Nations/ Far East Command principal staff officers (I am included).

Autographed photo of Major General Parks, USAF, G1 (Personnel).

- 42** Photos taken during the official visit of General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Commandant of the Marine Corps, to the Far East Command on 12 October 1955. Meeting the staff and inspecting the honor guard, accompanied by General Lemnitzer. Van and Susanne appear in photo taken at a dinner with the Marine officers, including General Shepherd.
- 43** (Day-Timer Box) As Headquarters Commandant at Far East Command/ United Nations Command in Tokyo 1955-57, I was invited with Susanne to all the important social events, including diplomatic receptions given by the United Nations represented at the command. This box contains 50 to 100 engraved invitations, some of historical interest.
- 44** Invitation to attend a reception to meet Emperor Haile Sellassie of Ethiopia.. [At this reception Susanne was particularly proud that she was able to give a deep curtsy in meeting the Emperor!]
A number of Christmas cards from foreign liaison (UN) officers attached to the command.
- 45** My file on Policy Matters at the Far East Command, including my personal analysis of the function of the Headquarters Commandant and how its effectiveness could be improved. I have included a photo section from a magazine, highlighting the Tokyo Olympics during the 1960's, which probably shows the quarters (406D) that we occupied during our 1955-57 tour in Japan.
- 46** Artifacts excavated while digging for new swimming pool at Pershing Heights, Ichigawa, Tokyo, Japan in 1957. An ancient burial ground. General Lemnitzer was very sensitive to the Japanese customs and religion and scheduled a proper Japanese service for the reinterment of the remains found during this excavation. When it became necessary to construct antenna for the "sub-basement" of Pershing Heights, a bomb shelter and protected command post originally constructed by the Japanese, the engineers proposed to have them protrude through an "island" in front of the main entrance to the HQ, where a beautiful ancient pine tree was growing. General Lemnitzer vetoed this suggestion and the antenna were located elsewhere.
- 47** Photos of Judo demonstration by the famous Kyuzo Mifune (Some Japanese individuals of such prominence in their profession were designated "Living National Treasures"), with General Lemnitzer and staff observing.— 13 February 1957. Includes photo of Van sitting with Mrs. Heitman, whose husband participated in the demonstration. I have included here a page from the Far East Air Force Wing Reporter of 12 April 1957 which has a photo of my son Reggie, seven years old, "throwing" his Judo instructor.
- 48** **My file of correspondence with former World Heavyweight Champion Gene Tunney, including his 13 letters to me, dated 9/25/1956 to 3/13/1962.** Those of my generation remembered him well. He defeated Jack Demsey in 1926 to win the

championship. I was ten years old at that time and remember my father favoring Tunney because he was a stand-up fighter, compared to Dempsey who fought in a crouch.

I had met Tunney while stationed in Tokyo in 1956. He was visiting his son Jonathan, a marine, who was stationed in Japan at that time. Tunney had a great fondness for the Marine Corps, having served in the Corps during WW I, winning the light heavyweight championship of the American Expeditionary Force in 1919. I once asked him how came to enlist in the Marine Corps. He responded that he had seen a war-time recruitment poster that posed the question "What is a Marine"?, followed by the answer, "A Marine is a two-fisted fighting man."

About five years later when I visited NY, he made a special trip into Manhattan to take me to dinner.

Gene Tunney's son, John V. Tunney, served in the U. S. Congress as Representative from California from 1965 to 1971 and represented his state as Senator 1971-77.

49 Small file of friendly personal letters 1955-57. Included:

An exchange of letters with General Lemnitzer.

An exchange with my good friend Pom Sinnock whom I had known while he was a Naval legal reserve officer on duty at Great Lakes. He had travelled widely, representing the business of his father, a folding door company in Indiana. A man of depth and knowledge, he was a close friend of New York times editorial roster, Scotty Reston, by whom he had once been interviewed on national TV. He discusses world affairs and the geology of Kentucky. My letter to him, dated 30 January 1955 provides in detail my evaluation of the character of the Japanese people, for whom I had a great deal of respect.

A letter to Rear Admiral Edward Nelson Parker, naval hero of the early days of WWII, expressing shock at his loss of a foot. This didn't keep him from advancement to Vice Admiral and assignment as head of the Defense Department's Atomic Weapons office. When I saw him later he complained bitterly about the failure of his physician to order a biopsy for his foot, where a cancer later developed.

50 Recommendation and citation for award of Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for my service as Headquarters Commandant from 12 June 1955 until 30 June 1957. Photo, dated 29 June 1957, showing General Lemnitzer pinning on this award. This was two days before the disestablishment of the Far East Command and General Lemnitzer's departure from Pershing Heights, accompanied by honor guard and band. My final fitness report from this command (This typewritten report had to be returned because the Marine Corps required that such reports be hand-written.)

Travels in Japan (While serving in the Far East Command)

51 My Touring Map of Japan (In sections). This had been placed on the wall of my office as Headquarters Commandant in Pershing Heights. I had been photographed pointing out locations on it for the U. S. Military's publication in the Far East: Stars and

Stripes. This photo is framed and displayed in the "Boarding House." It is marked to indicate the multitude of routes Susanne and I took on our many trips into the interior, on roads not travelled by western autos. In the summer of 1955, having returned from an unaccompanied tour of a year with the 3rd Marine Division in Japan, I returned to the States to pick up my family for an accompanied tour, as Headquarters Commandant, Far East and United Nations Command. As we lay off off Yokohama in a Naval transport, preparing to go ashore, Susanne proclaimed that we were going to tour all the back roads of the Kanto Plain (the Tokyo area). I protested that the roads were impassable for a western automobile, but was unable to convince her. As a result of her inspiration and inquisitiveness, we did tour the entire area – and unforgettable experience. We found the Japanese people in the countryside to be generous, helpful and very friendly and were very much impressed by their work ethic and inquisitiveness. Never did we feel any sense of resentment on their part, despite the fact that we were travelling in a large western automobile, a luxury far beyond their means.

52 Additional Maps of Japan.

53 **Journal of Travels in Japan – 1955-57. This loose leaf binder includes detailed itineraries of ten motor trip, schematic hand-drawn maps, and descriptions of experiences.** They provide an evaluation of the roads existing in the countryside of Japan at that time and incisive evaluations of the character of Japanese farmers and fishermen. Included in this file are pages from 1957 issues of the Pacific Stars and Stripes. A photo on one shows our family, not identified by caption, loading our automobile for one of our trips to the hinterland of Japan. The other contains a photo and article about our trips.

Included is a file containing some articles by Bob Frew, who wrote a column for the Nippon Times called "Motoring in Japan." I was in touch with Frew and followed his reports with interest.

Included is a report of an official trip I made to South Korea 2-5 January 1957 to visit the South Korean units and positions just south of the Demilitarized Zone. I was also flown in a small liaison plane just south of the DMZ to observe the entrenchments along the existing front line, as well as those just to the south where bloody attacks and counterattacks had taken place before the armistice.

54 8 X 10 photos of Fuji-San, enlarged from those I took during our trip by automobile completely around the mountain. Included is a working copy of my report of this trip: "Fuji Circuit 19-20 January 1957"

55 Envelope with brochures, tourist info, etc, about Nikko.

Envelope with brochures, tourist info, etc, about Kyoto..

Envelope containing miscellaneous travel info, including material about Armed Forces Rest Hotels.

Envelope with brochures, tourist info, etc, about the Izo Peninsula. My record of travel distances and times is included.

Miscellaneous loose material, including map of the Kanto Plain.

56 Miscellaneous brochures, maps, fliers, etc.

CANADIAN NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE – 1957-58

This college was held at Fort Frontenac in Kingston, Ontario. There were only 28 students in all, 4 from US, 4 from UK, and the rest from Canada. I, as a Marine, was the representative of the U. S. Navy, a Marine filling this billet every four years. Foreign services representatives were included from each country and the Canadian contingent included representatives from agencies allied closely with the government, such as Ontario Hydroelectric. I believe that UK sent the best of those attending the class, including John Killick, our outstanding member (later Sir John and Ambassador to Russia). In these files are other references to him, including a very candid personal letter to me decrying the policy of his own country.

This college was considered the equivalent of the U. S. Naval War College, Army War College and other top level military schools. However it was conducted in a “laid-back,” informal British way and could not be considered as challenging as the equivalent U. S. schools. However, the College tours were outstanding, including one of 53 days duration in Europe.

57 Member's Handbook – General information and policies, rosters of staff, along with biographies of officers attending this course, etc.

58 My file on class member, John Killick of the British Foreign Service, by far the outstanding member of our class. He is now (2003) Sir John Killick, having served as UK Ambassador to USSR and to NATO.

Ditty prepared by the class on completing the course. I sense the fine hand of Killick in this humorous parody.

Photo taken in tent at Churchill, Canada with Derek Lang and John Killick.

Letter of 3/5/60 from John Killick, expressing alarm at some of Britain's foreign policies. “But it's been a difficult year, and I've been pretty discontented with British policy in one way or another. I'm not at a high enough level to have much influence on it, but not low enough not to know what's going on.” “But something tells me there's a good chance of a bloody period ahead (round about the end of May) and if I were you, I wouldn't make any plans for a quiet vacation round about then – unless you fancy an extended sea voyage in a carrier.”

58 Miscellaneous. Includes:

Correspondence prior to arriving in Kingston.

Joining letter from the college and my response.

Photocopies of members of this class.

My letter to Colonel Lew Walt, recommending assignments in the future of Marine officers to this college.

Paper giving the history of Fort Frontenac, location of CNDC.

Rosters of all officers who had attended CNDC, through Course XIII, 1959/60.

[My class was Course XI, 1957/58.

59 Course Trip to Ottawa and New York, 24-30 November 1957, including visit to the United Nations Headquarters.

60 Course Tour – Canada and U. S., 21 January – 6 February 1958. This included a stop at Cambridge Bay on the DEW (Distant Early Warning) Line, above the Arctic Circle, that had just been established to provide advance warning of an attack over the pole.

Itinerary and map of route taken. Included Yellowknife, and Cambridge Bay in northern Canada, Washington, DC and Patrick Air Force Base in Florida.

My hand-written personal notes taken during this trip, including references to first US launch of a satellite into orbit, on 31 January 1958.

Copy of address by U. S. Ambassador Merchant on Canada-US Relations, 22 January 1958.

Photos of “Explorer” being launched on 31 January 1958. By coincidence we were at Patrick Air force Base at that time and were able to observe the launching of the first satellite into orbit (grape fruit size?) We were catching up with Sputnik.

Brochure, Air Force Missile Test Center, Patrick Air Force Base.

Brochure, Fort Churchill, and itinerary of our visit.

Program for our visit to Cambridge Bay on the DEW (Distant Early Warning) Line.

Brochure of the National War College, Washington DC, 1957-1958.

Program for our visit to HQ, Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, Norfolk, VA., 2-4 February 1958.

Booklet, including itinerary, issued for our visit to the Canadian Joint Staff in Washington 4-7 February 1958.

61 The 1958 Western Europe Course Tour, the highlight of the College Curriculum. In my files elsewhere is a narrative of this trip that I prepared shortly after its completion. I also spoke about it at a Shelbyville, Kentucky Rotary Club meeting in the summer of 1958.

Chart of this trip, showing stops at Gibraltar, Rome, Verona, Vicenza, Belgrade, Munich, Heidelberg, Bonn, Berlin, The Hague, Delft, Brussels, Luxembourg, Metz, Paris and London.

Detailed itineraries for each segment of this trip commencing with arrival in Gibraltar on 9 April 1958 through departure from London for Ottawa on 31 May. We travelled over the Atlantic on one of the early jet passenger planes, a Comet of the Royal Canadian Air Force. The first ride in a jet, I believe, for all of us. We were cautioned not to be startled by the steep angle of climb on take-off.

Chart of trip to the United Kingdom, showing visits to Coventry, Bradford, Leeds, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Photo album of our visit to the Daimler-Benz Factories in Stuttgart on 22 April 1958.

A medallion from the famous Italian Bersaglieri Regiment. They pride themselves on always moving on the double!

A folder containing my accumulated receipts for meals and lodgings during this trip.

Copies of NY Herald Tribune, European Edition, 14 May 1958, and France-Soir of the following day. These announced the takeover of Algeria by French paratroopers. We were in Paris during this critical time. This near-revolt led to the return of de Gaulle to power. We were in Paris at a critical time. Even the son-in-law of our good friend Jean-Michele Dunoyer de Segonzac was one of the paratroopers in a parade.

Group photo at Headquarters, Allied Land Forces Southern Europe, Italy. Photo of our group deplaning in Berlin. I have a photo on the wall being greeted by Willie Brandt, then Mayor of isolated Berlin, later Chancellor of West Germany.

Group photo at SHAPE Headquarters, near Paris.

Correspondence with Marchese Alessandro Marieni: We met Alessandro and his wife, a classic Italian beauty, in Tokyo when I was Headquarters Commandant of the United Nations/Far East Command during 1955 and 1957. He was on the staff of the Italian Ambassador. Susanne, with her French background and charm related especially well with the diplomatic personnel in Tokyo. My next tour, after leaving Tokyo in July 1957, was as a student at the Canadian National Defence College in Kingston, Ontario. Prior to leaving on the remarkable seven-week [8 April-31 May 1958] European tour with CNDC, I had corresponded with him with the hope of meeting him in Rome. During our visit in Italy during 10-12 April 1958, I met the Marieni's in Rome, had dinner with them and their children and was guided to St. Peter's by Alessandro. He showed me around the cathedral and we were present for one of the Pope's regular appearances in the square. This was a most impressive experience.

Several briefing sheets regarding countries visited by the other half of our class. Of our 28 students at the Canadian National Defence College, half visited Greece, Turkey, Iraq, Pakistan and India, instead of Western Europe.

62 Course Curriculum (10 Folders) The classified papers and documents used in our study of countering a Russian attack over the pole and responding to such an attack were taken back by the College.

Lecturers

Canadian Government

Canadian Defence Policy

Canadian Economy

Western Foreign Policy

Free Countries

Countries of Africa and Asia

Communism

Collective Security

Nature of Future War

2ND MARINE DIVISION, CAMP LEJEUNE, NC -- 1958-61.

I joined the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, NC on 12 August 1958, serving as Deputy Chief of Staff from that date until 2 July 1959. On 3 July 1959 I assumed command of the 8th Marines (Regiment), a component of the 2nd Division at Camp

Lejeune, serving in that capacity until 10 June 1960. On 11 June 1960 I became Division Inspector. On 3 February 1961, when the incumbent was summarily relieved of his responsibilities, I became Chief of Staff to the Division Commander, Major General Phil Berkeley, serving in that capacity until detached on 5 July 1961 and assigned as Director, 4th Marine Corps Reserve and Recruitment District, headquartered in Philadelphia.

63 **Morale – Leadership.** This is a file of material, including articles and news items involving morale and leadership, that I gathered from 1956 until 1962 when I was promoted to BG. Most of this material was accumulated during this tour with the Second Marine Division.

64 **Strategy – Tactics.** My file of material on this subject, 1956 to 1962, including Time magazine cover stories on General Lemnitzer and Charles De Gaulle.

65 **Personal – Official Letters – 9/6/58 to 5/4/62.** (Arranged in chronological order) Includes correspondence with Air Commodore Bert Millward, Major General Vogel, Parker Colmer, Al Geiger, Lt Gen Burger, General Greene, Major General Phil Berkeley, and Bob Heinl.

Additionally includes a copy of the roster of principal officers of 2nd Marine Division as of May 1961, showing me as C of S, and the news release covering my assignment as C of S, along with a summary of my military record. Some invitations to military social events. A letter from Mayor Dilworth of Philadelphia, dated 11/22/61. Some letters from General Lemnitzer. Short letter from General Lewis P. Hershey, long time Director of Selective Service, who was later to be entertained by Susanne and me while at LFTU, San Diego in 1966. His son Gil had been a Major in the 8th Marines when I was C. O.

Also included is a file of news clippings involving the legislation bringing about the end of so-called tombstone promotions. This perquisite of those cited for heroism in combat had resulted in countless promotions to flag and general officer rank in the Navy and Marine Corps. It was terminated effective 11/1/1959, causing a number of officers to scramble for retirement in time to qualify for advancement in rank on the retired list. While I was eligible for this advancement, based upon my Bronze Star for Bougainville, I did not retire at that time, but remained on active service, being selected for BG in the regular manner in 1961.

66 **USMC Birthday Plans – 10 November 1958, Camp Lejeune.** I coordinated the ceremony for this annual event. Nothing of particular interest here except this file provides details as to how such ceremonies had been conducted for years in the Marine Corps.

67 **Photos showing my taking command of the 8th Marines (Regiment) from Colonel George Killen on 3 July 1959 and turning over command to Colonel Bisceglia on 10 June 1960.**

68 **Operation Old-Timer.** General “Barney” Vogel was a visitor with other living former CG’s of the 2nd Division at “Operation Old-Timer,” on 1 February 1961, the

Division's 20th Birthday, an event conceived by Major General Berkeley. I coordinated this event. Photo of all the living former commanding generals of the 2nd Marine Division taken during "Operation Old-Timer." In the background in evening dress uniform are active duty general officers. L to R: Chapman, Burger, Connolly, Berkeley, Luckey. In the foreground in tuxedos: Hart, "Chesty" Puller, Watson, Vogel, Smith, Pollock. Two days after this event the current Chief of Staff of the Division, Colonel Wright, was abruptly removed and I replaced him.

69 "Bellican Army" – I was the commander of this Aggressor "force" in late March and early April 1960. [An important "success" in my career]. My mission was to provide "opposition" for the 2nd Marine Division. As I recall, this mission was assigned to me as C. O. of the Eighth Marines [Regiment] because I had only one battalion while the other two regiments had three each. One of my battalions had been deployed to the Mediterranean as a ready force aboard ship. This was a regular rotation of six months. Also, at this time one of the battalions in the Eighth Marines had been placed in cadre (skeleton) status because of funding limitations.

I used a helicopter to coordinate the activities of my "troops." A framed cartoon, drawn by one of my officers, showing my flying off in a helicopter hangs in my study.

Looking through these files it does appear to me that I exercised considerable imagination and initiative in providing realistic opposition for the rest of the Division. There are several glossy photos and news clippings of me and my "Bellican" staff. Also some "cartoons."

70 Includes many photos and clippings while in 2nd Marine Division 1959-62 (During this time I served successively as Assistant Chief of Staff, C. O., 8th Marines (Regiment), Division Inspector, and as Chief of Staff.

My official photo as Colonel.

Photos from a Field Exercise – 2nd Marine Division, November, 1959.

Autographed photo from Maj Gen Burger, CG, 2nd Marine Division.

71 Personal Log Book as C. O. 8th Marines 2 July 1959 to 10 June 1960 (I do not possess a log book covering my initial duties in the 2nd Marine Division, (18 August 1958 to 2 July 1959) as Deputy Chief of Staff.) In reading these entries, made over 40 years ago, I am surprised at the broad and myriad responsibilities of a regimental commander and how actively I was involved in so many administrative details.

Many conferences were involved, at my level and at the level of the division commander and the agenda of each is recorded. It will be seen that I made myself available for discussions with my officers and enlisted men, helping many with personal problems. I have always believed in the traditional "Request Mast (A Navy term)," procedure whereby a military man is assured a private interview with his C. O to address grievances and personal problem. Of course he would be required to discuss these matters first with the lower commanders, but would not be denied the right of an interview with the Regimental C. O and ultimately the Division commander. It will be noted that many individual's names keep cropping up numerous times as I tried to resolve their personal problems or determine the proper punishment for serious infractions.

LtCol Reifel's name keeps cropping up. He was C.O. of my 1st Battalion, a conscientious and forthright former enlisted man. For some reason he had a serious grudge against his executive officer, Major Gil Hershey, son of the well-know National Director of Selective Service, General Lewis Hershey. Reifel was so responsive to criticism, and he received a good deal of it, that I provided him guidance, support and encouragement and did not relieve him of his command.

During this period the conscientious discharge of responsibilities by Major General Berkeley is fully recorded. He was a hands-on commander, focusing upon all things, great and small, and followed up with directives and personal visits. He also was served by an aggressive and ambitious Assistant Division Commander (ADC), Brigadier General Connolly who spent a good deal of time visiting and inspecting the units of the command.

There are many reports of inspections, preparations, and briefings involving my 3rd Battalion which was getting ready for deployment to the Mediterranean. Such units were designated as "NELM" Battalions. For a number of years an infantry battalion from the Division had been assigned a six-months tour of duty aboard amphibious shipping in the Mediterranean, ready to land in support of U. S. interests in that area, or even go through the Suez Canal on other missions if required.

Entries of 16 and 17 December 1959 report upon my criticism by the CG for allowing my Ready Battalion (Ready to proceed on short notice to Cherry Point, NC, to be flown to a trouble spot by Marine aircraft) to attend a "smoker" at a nearby base theater. My entry reports that I was "bawled out in a rather considerate manner." I remember General Berkeley's exact words: "Consider yourself bawled out."

Entries of 22 to 26 January 1960 report an accident involving a jeep in Rota, Spain, in which LtCol Paul, C.O. of the NELM battalion, had been injured along with members of his staff. The driver had been killed. Mrs. Paul was alarmed so my dear wife Susanne, in one of her typical gestures, called Spain at her own expense and initiative and got a prognosis.

Entry of 24 February 1960 reports another example of criticism by General Berkeley for bad judgment in dealing leniently with a couple of my men. (I may have been a little too kindhearted). In this and in other such problems I dealt forthrightly and honestly with General Berkeley, which he seemed to appreciate.

Entries of 25 March to 4 April report my activities as commander of the Aggressor (Opposition) Forces, Self-proclaimed "Colonel General of the Bellican Army." This was in an operation called "LANT-PHIBEX 1-60" (Atlantic Amphibious Exercise 1-60). As can be seen, this was a a challenging and enjoyable experience.

Near end of entry for 22 April 1960 appears this reference to simulated use of an atomic weapon in an exercise:

"- Give justification for initiating **atomic war** 'Enemy having initiated atomic war.' LanForCdr (Landing Force Commander) authorizes atomic weapons. (ADC says this echelon is high enough.)

- 8" [Howitzer] will deliver atomic punch in place of A4D [aircraft]"

72 Personal Log Book as Division Inspector 15 June 1960 to 3 February 1961 and as Chief of Staff from 3 February 1961 to 16 June 1961.

As Division Inspector I had the responsibility of scheduling inspections, conducting inspections myself, and accompanying the Commanding general (CG) on his inspections. I also processed disciplinary matters for action by the CG, interviewing personnel who were requesting personal interviews with the CG (Request mast), etc.

I had the responsibility for the administrative procedures for homosexuals, most of whom were given Undesirable Discharges. Most "confessed" and described their activities in written statements. Many individuals of normal sexual persuasion I am sure, not being able to adapt to the service, had manufactured such statements in order to receive a discharge.

The entries of 21 and 28 October 1960 remind me of some difficulties I had with the CO of the 6th Marines, Colonel Mel Henderson, who sometimes objected the decisions I conveyed from the CG. He was an ambitious, hard-driving and capable individual, perhaps a little too sure of himself. He later became G-4, Logistics Officer, on the Division Staff and was subsequently selected to the rank of Brigadier General. Later, in February 1966 I was ordered to Okinawa to relieve him. He had run afoul of Major General Walt while conducting operations in Vietnam, had been reported to be in a state of depression.

Also I was a senior colonel who could perform other duties as directed by the CG, e.g., Chairman of the "Operation Old-Timer Committee. (See description of this event, above)." My entries of 21 January to 3 February 1960 refer to this event.

Sudden assignment on 3 February 1961 as Chief of Staff.

It is perhaps appropriate to make a verbatim transcript from my log book entry of this date:

Assuming C/S Desk

C/G asked Col Youndale to see him at 1300. While awaiting this interview Col Y. overheard a heated exchange. When he went in to see CG he was informed that Col Wright had been relieved. Col Y. reports that kCG was concerned about leaving Col W. in a position to make decisions while CG absent on PHIBEX. [He] asked Col Y if Allen could take over 10th [The artillery regiment presently being commanded by Colonel Youngdale]. Wanted Y to take over ADC [Assistant Division Commander] duties and be in command of Rear Ech. He left the impression with Y that perhaps Hitt would eventually take over 10th Marines. Has other plans for time-being for Appleyard.

[On Monday 30 Jan CG had informed me informally that he planned to move me up as C/S and Col W. to ADC 'after 'Old Timer.' I had heard no details as to timing nor anything about my relief as Inspector. It appears now, however that G-1 had authority from CG to implement this plan on 7 Feb]

1315 G1 came down, visibly shaken, to ask me to come up: C/S had just been relieved and I had been designated as immediate relief. When I arrived Col W. was packing a box.

The final straw apparently had been his assignment of Capt Cushing [the General's aide] rather than Lt Cushman the task of translating a briefing for Adm Perez. This was an [sic] it would appear, an explosion caused by pressures a'building for some time.

I reported to CG and informed him that I understood his method of operations – or so I thought – and looked forward to the opportunity of serving him. While I was in his office he called General Burger [his superior, as CG Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic] to inform him of the decision and obtain authority to call CMC [Commandant of the Marine Corps] about Col W.

At 1700 he had a return call from General [Gus] Larson's office approving Wright's transfer to [Marine Corps] Base. He called me back to ask me to call Col W. to inform him of his transfer to Base – 'paper work may take a while.' I don't recall if he said 'immediately.' [I] Informed Col W by phone."

Entry of 14 February 1961: "Charlie saved Willie Luckey's life by running for help." [My second son, aged six, had been playing with General Luckey's son Willie in a sand bank near our quarters at Camp Lejeune. They constructed a tunnel, in which Willie was trapped. Charlie ran to General Luckey's quarters and alerted the mess steward who came running to pull Willie free. General Luckey sent a note of appreciation to Charlie; the mess steward was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.]

There are not many entries in the rest of this log book which covers my short, but significant, period as Chief of Staff. I have recorded the agendas of the CG's conferences, but apparently had little time to record daily details.

**DIRECTOR, 4TH MARINE CORPS RESERVE AND RECRUITMENT DISTRICT,
PHILADELPHIA 1961-62**

This duty assignment was at the District level where I had direction over a number of reserve units and recruitment stations. This was a reasonable decision by Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps, as I had served two tours as Inspector-Instructor of Marine infantry reserve units. Also, those in headquarters making this assignment, unaware of my performance of duty as C of S, would have considered it unlikely that I would be selected for the rank of brigadier general and that this would be my last duty station.

73 Congratulatory Letters to me on my selection to the rank of Brigadier General and my responses thereto. – July and August 1961.

74 Personal Log Book as Director 4th Marine Corps Reserve and Recruitment District 12 Jul 1961 to 21 May 1962.

Much of my responsibility involved travel throughout the District, which included Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, and Delaware, to inspect reserve and recruitment units, and to make calls on governors and other public officials. This log book contains my observations in considerable detail. Travelling around the District was made easy because of the ready availability of rail connections. I tried to visit each unit during my year here and came close to succeeding.

The entry of 13 July 61 records that I made an official call on the C.O. of the Marine Barracks, Naval Station, Philadelphia, who was, by coincidence, Colonel Al Wright, who had been so abruptly relieved of his duties the previous February as Chief of

Staff. [This call, dictated by military etiquette, would not have been a pleasant experience for either of us.]

Entry for 22 July reports that I had visited HQ, Marine Corps, in Washington, DC on 20 July, the day the Board for selection of colonels to Brigadier General was signed. While the identify of those selected could not yet be revealed, there were several hints by senior officers that my name was on the list.

Entry for 24-25 July 1961 reports my official notification of selection for BG. Only six of us out of 42 in the selection zone had been picked. I had just arrived at Camp Lejeune where Major General Berkeley invited me to dinner. A news item from the Armed Forces Journal of 29 July 1961 lists those selected and identifies me as the youngest at age 45. [While I had been selected for BG, I had to wait almost a year, until 1 July 1962 when a vacancy occurred, to pin on my stars. I would then be the youngest general officer in the Marine Corps.]

On 10 August I was again in Washington conferring with the Marine Corps staff, including a cordial five minutes with Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Dave Shoup. He expressed the opinion that my selection would show the reserves that second-raters were not being sent for duty with the reserves.

On 16 August I reported a lack of support from Colonel Al Wright, C. O. Marine Barracks, Philadelphia. [This was not an unanticipated reaction]

At 30 November is a report of a counseling session I had with one of my underperforming officers.

At 16 November I report a visit by retired Major General Vogel, whose daughter I used to date in 1939.

I don't recall why there are no entries in this book after 2 April 1962.

75 Monthly Minder 1962 – My desk calendar for this year.

76 Fourth MCRRD District Conference, Philadelphia, 12-14 Oct. 1961. Agenda, discussion items, roster of all officers in my district. Reserve matters and recruitment were discussed. My District, with HQ in Philadelphia, included the states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

77 Monthly Newsletters July 1961 to May 1962 – 4th MCRRD (Each contains my Director's Newsgram, which I wrote personally.)

78 Travel Orders as Director 4th MCRRD – 18 July 1961 to 8 May 1962. I liked to make personal visits to the units of my command and tried to visit each during my tour of duty. However, my tour lasted only a year as I was ordered to report to HQ Marine Corps in Washington as Director, Marine Corps Reserve where I had responsibility for all Reserve units and activities for the entire Marine Corps.

79 My Public Relations file while Director 4th MCRRD, including photos, rosters, news releases, etc. Included herein are several group photos in which I appear and an invitation for dinner given by Governor Meyner of New Jersey to honor the Armed Forces.

Front page of NY Times of 21 February 1962 which headlines Marine Corps Colonel John Glenn's orbit of the earth [U. S. first].

Ticket to 1961 World Series Game #3, at Crosly Field, Cincinnati.

80 Correspondence as Director, 4th MCRRD – 1961-62, including briefings I gave, policies, plans for reorganization, etc. Also personnel matters, including disciplinary action, etc. Also reports to my superior officer, BGen Fairbourn, who I subsequently replaced. Photos with LtGen "Barney" Vogel in Philadelphia on 9 January 1962 while I was Director, 4th Marine Reserve and Recruitment District.

81 My letter of 18 January 1962 relating to the Marine Corps League, and related papers. Up to this time, I had not been very much impressed with the Marine Corps League.

82 Speech Material – Policy statements, clippings and other material for possible use in my talks.

DIRECTOR, MARINE CORPS RESERVE – 1962-64

83 Personal Log Book as Director, MCR (5 June 1962 to 3 March 1964) and as Commanding General Landing Force Training Unit (18 March 1964 to 18 June 1965). Not many entries as Director, Marine Corps Reserve; large part of this journal includes a tabulation of my travels to visit reserve units, 69,900 miles.

As noted before, I did not "make my number," i.e., there was no BG vacancy, until 1 July 1962, which was my date of commission as a Brigadier General. For the rest of June, I was the Director of Reserve at HQ, USMC in Washington, even though still holding the rank of Colonel.

On 5 June 1962 I called on senior officers at HQ, including General Shoup, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, who was my immediate superior officer.

On 6 June I called on the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Korth, Congressman Eddie Hebert from Louisiana and other high official who were involved with the US Reserve programs.

On 2 August 1962 I had my first round of golf with General Shoup (copy of score card appended).

There is not much of significance reported in this log book, either for my tour of duty as Director Marine Corps Reserve, or my subsequent tour as CG Landing Force Training Command in San Diego. My other files will shed more light on the nature of each of these two duty assignments.

84 Official orders for trips as Director, MCR – 18 June 1962 to 18 February 1964.

85 Commandant MC policy while I was Director, MCR. News release announcing my appointment as Director, Marine Corps Reserve effective 12 June 1962. Official (complimentary) report of my testimony before a subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee in March 1963. Includes two scorecards for golf with General Shoup (I shot 95, Shoup, 88 at Washington Golf and Country Club; I shot 99, Shoup 98

at Army Navy Country Club.). While he was Commandant and I was in his headquarters as Director, Marine Corps Reserve, General Shoup would occasionally on the spur of the moment send for me to play golf with him. He had a well-known explosive temper (not unlike that of "Black Jack" Reeves of Wasp fame) but my relations with him were excellent. He enjoyed wagering on the golf course and he was one of my friends who would "reach for his wallet upon observing my backswing." Mrs. Shoup was fond of Susanne. In the early 1970's while they travelling through Kentucky on the way to Shoup's home in Indiana, they called us and we had dinner together at the Pendennis. As I recall Dave Shoup at that time was quite lethargic – not his usual self.

Also a file of General Shoup's "Green Letters" (Policy Statements). These may be of historical interest because of General Shoup's penchant for frank expression and his strong opposition to involvement of ground forces in Vietnam.

86 Some press clippings during my tenure as Director, Marine Corps Reserve. These cover my visits to many of my reserve units all over the country, including those to my old home towns, Bellingham and Yakima, Washington, and my future home town, Shelbyville, KY. Included:

A copy of a MC Reserve newsletter reporting my assumption of the position of Director, Marine Corps Reserve.

A page from the Navy Times of 23 March 1966 which reproduces a drawing of me and highlights my military career.

A copy of the Marine Corps Gazette of July 1963 which contains my column on the Reserve. (While in this position I personally wrote a monthly column for the Gazette)

87 Public Relations during tenure as Director MCR, including field trips. Guest lists, programs, trip reports, papers involving Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association. I have included fitness reports and associated correspondence involving Brig Gen Bill Klenke, USMCR. He had achieved his rank in the Reserve perhaps because he had been described in his civilian pursuits as a high level automobile executive. He was loud, abrasive; perhaps could be better described as "Bull" Klenke.

88 Photo: General Shoup and Susanne pin on my stars – July 1962. While I had been selected for Brigadier General the summer of 1961, a vacancy in the lineal list would not occur until 1 July 1962. General Shoup did not favor promoting such officers before "making their number," so I had been serving as a colonel for a few weeks in a BG's billet

While General Shoup was a stern task master, belicose at times, he treated me well. Occasionally he would call on the spur of the moment to ask me to fill out his foursome at the Army-Navy County Club. He liked to bet on the game and I suspect that the first time he saw my disjointed backswing he considered I would be vulnerable.

Official photos as a Brigadier General, Director Marine Corps Reserve - 1962

Official Biography as BGen – July 1962

89 Participating in parades as BGen at Marine Barracks, 8th & Eye Streets, Washington, DC.

A program for the Evening Parade of 12 July 1962 which honored President Kennedy.

Photos of Reserve officials and me, in civilian clothes, observing parade, 6 July 1962.

Program and photos as Reviewing Officer at parade, 5 October 1962. Susanne and daughter Michele appear with me.

Program, photo with Colonel John Glenn and others when I was reviewing officer at parade in his honor, 13 September 1963. Chief Justice Earl Warren will be seen on front row. My daughter Michele is in second row of one photo, with sons Reggie and Charlie barely visible behind Susanne and me.

90 Appointment schedule of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Shoup for 22 November 1963, the date that President Kennedy was assassinated.

Many photos taken during my field trips to visit units of the Marine Corps Reserve country-wide. Photos with Under Secretary of the Navy Paul Fay, Jr.

91 More photos as Director, Marine Corps Reserve. Many of these were taken on visits to reserve units throughout the country, including one taken with my boyhood friend Jack Carver in Bellingham.

COMMANDING GENERAL, LANDING FORCE TRAINING UNIT, PACIFIC – SAN DIEGO (CORONADO) CA. 1964-66

This was my second duty assignment as a general officer. Being out of Washington and in a position of command, I was able to benefit from the perquisites associated with such a position. My family was able to occupy beautiful and spacious old brick government quarters at the Marine Corps Base in San Diego proper. Being in quarters it was possible for me to benefit from the assignment of two mess stewards who helped around the house. I had a sedan and driver for official use.

Perhaps unique in the whole Marine Corps I had also the use of a naval "barge," very convenient for transportation to Coronado where my Headquarters was located. Coronado was practically an island separated from the mainland by a strand, a long trip by sedan, a short trip by boat. I might explain naval use of the term "barge." This was a boat, that was used by an admiral (or by a Marine general fortunate to have one assigned). The term "gig" referred to a boat carrying a naval "captain." The officer did not need to be an actual captain in rank; he could be an ensign in command of a small vessel. My barge was used for a number of official purposes, including the entertainment of prominent local naval supporters. On 4 September 1964, I used it to take General Greene, Commandant of the Marine Corps, to make an official call on Vice Admiral Ramage, afloat on board USS Saint Paul, tied up at a Coronado dock. On that occasion General Greene expressed satisfaction that I had retained its use, despite recommendations to the contrary.

92 Official correspondence with HQ, USMC, including General Greene, Commandant, while CG, LFTU, Coronado, CA, April 1964-February 1966. Included is my letter of 21 July 1965 requesting combat duty in Vietnam.

93 A file of other correspondence while CG, LFTU, Coronado, CA, filed alphabetically, April 1964-February 1966. Includes correspondence with Major General Barney Vogel, USMC (Ret.) – my association with him is also described elsewhere.

94 Speeches while CG, LFTU, Coronado, CA, April 1964-February 1966 – a thick file.

95 Susanne's fabulous parties when I was stationed in San Diego in 1964-66 as CG LFTU Pac, especially the memorable one for Millard and Marguerite Cox, friends from Louisville, on 1 July 1965, the day Millard, Jr. sailed for Vietnam. Young Millard distinguished himself in Vietnam, later became my aide on Okinawa. This was Susanne at her best. The motif was patterned after the Kentucky Derby. Included is a photo of General Hershey, long-time Director of Selective Service, and me.

Inspection Visits to Far East as CG LFTU

96 **File covering my trip as CG LFTU to the Western Pacific, 14 October to 6 November 1964.** Early stages of our involvement in the Vietnam War. Teams of my command in Coronado, California were deployed throughout the Western Pacific to train our allies in amphibious warfare.

In front of folder is an invitation to dinner at Tsoying, Taiwan on 10/22/1964 from Lt General Yu Hao-chang, Commandant of the Chinese (Taiwan) Marine Corps. This was a magnificent, really memorable, banquet, representing the best in genuine Chinese cuisine. It is interesting to note that the emblem of the Chinese Marine Corps carried the map of all of China!

Briefing sheets, brochures, etc. Includes visits to senior commanders, U. S and allies, in Hawaii, Tokyo, Yokosuka, Atsugi, and Iwakuni, Japan, Okinawa, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Saigon, Bangkok, Manila. This file does not contain my reports, which would have been classified, but principally itineraries and information about the officers I would be visiting and the areas visited.

During this trip it was possible for me to travel extensively through South Vietnam to observe training without the threat of guerilla activity. American involvement was minimal, consisting principally of advisors under the direction of the U. S. Military Assistance Command and also instructors from my command who entered the country for short periods of time to train the Vietnamese in amphibious operations. There was however significant military support being provided the South Vietnamese in their efforts to combat the Vietcong by a Marine Corps Helicopter unit. As I recall their activity was given the name of "shoo, fly." I called on all U. S. senior commanders and many Republic of Vietnam senior officers, including the Commandant of the Vietnamese Marine Corps and the Commandant of the Command and General Staff College at Dalat. Dalat was located in the highlands of South Vietnam. North of Saigon and had a temperate climate because of its altitude. It's climate must have been comparable to that of Baguio, the summer capital in the highland of the Philippines.

97 Photos and correspondence involving trip to South Korea 10 to 16 February 1965 to call on Korean Military Commanders and visit units being trained by my command. My log book indicates that I departed San Diego on 8 February 1965. The itinerary indicates that I visited Panmunjom on 13 February 1965. [Somewhere is a photo taken of me posing at the negotiating table at Panmunjom on the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)]

98 File covering my trip as CG LFTU to the Western Pacific, 9-25 October 1965. Marine battalions had landed in Vietnam by this time and were engaged with the Viet Cong. Includes visits to commands in Tokyo, Okinawa, Da Nang, Saigon, Manila, Guam, Honolulu. Also visit with Marine commands at Danang: III MAF and 3rd Division, and in Chu Lai and Hue Phu Bai. Briefing sheets, brochures, etc. Not an extensive file.

99 Miscellaneous brochures, maps, etc, picked up on LFTU trips 1964-1966.

COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET MARINE FORCE PACIFIC (FORWARD)
AND DEPUTY COMMANDER, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC 23
FEBRUARY 1966 TO 16 MARCH 1967.

My duty assignment was Okinawa where I had significant responsibilities in coordinating logistics for the support of the continually growing marine forces committed to the Vietnam conflict. My family was not authorized to accompany me. I was deputy to Lt General Victor (Brute) Krulak, C.G. FMF, Pacific whose headquarters were in distant Hawaii. Krulak was nicknamed "Brute" because of his stature; he would have to stretch to reach a height of 5 feet 3 inches. He was small enough to be coxswain of the rowing crew while attending the Naval Academy. While small of stature, he was large of mind and drive, a truly remarkable officer, as becomes obvious from a reading of my papers and records. All his career he had performed brilliantly and was always chosen by senior officers to serve in key positions on their staffs. His capability was matched by his ambition; he had impressed many, but irritated some of his colleagues. He was obviously on a career path for promotion to Commandant of the Marine Corps, the highest position in the corps, but others perhaps less abrasive were chosen. It is a remarkable coincidence that while he failed in his objective, his son Charles Krulak actually became Commandant, serving as head of our corps from 1995 to 1999.

100 Official desk calendar covering period of January 1966 through March 1967, including my entire tour as CG FMF Pac (Fwd) on Okinawa.

General Hershey, Director of Selective Service, for dinner at my quarters in San Diego on 7 February 1966. I remember this event because General Greene, CMC, called me during dinner to let me know he was ordering me to Okinawa.

Records my trips to Vietnam from Okinawa on 5-10 April 1966 and on 19-23 November 1966.

Records my trip to Hawaii 8-16 July 1966.

101 First log book during my tour on Okinawa. Covers period 20 February 1966 to 8 July 1966. This log book and the following one contain contemporary notes about some

of the serious logistics problems involved in the support of the troops. It will be noted that my "boss" LtGeneral Krulak was a "hands-on" leader who sent me frequent and detailed instructions and demanded immediate action. Also he made frequent short visits to my headquarters in Okinawa, utilizing his time effectively. His level of energy matched his intellect.

As an item of interest I have included in this folder the remarks by the Secretary of Defence on the occasion of the end of the tour as Commandant of the Marine Corps of Charles Krulak, son of my "boss" Brute Krulak, and his replacement as Commandant by James Jones, nephew of my old comrade in the 6th Marines in 1939-40, Bill Jones.

Enroute to Okinawa I visited Krulak at his headquarters in Hawaii on 21 and 22 February 1966 and was briefed extensively by him and his staff. The extensive notes (16 pages) I made reflect the complexities of the logistics situation in the Pacific.

Shortly after arrival on Okinawa, on 27 February I met an old friend, LtGeneral Yu, Commandant of the Chinese (Taiwanese) Marine Corps whom I had previously visited on Taiwan.

8 March 1966 Report of a briefing I presented to a high-ranking member of the U. S. Joint Staff, Lt General Spivey and his comments.

14 March Discussions with GAO (General Accounting Office, an arm of Congress) team. This team was planning to spend four weeks to learn about logistics functions.

15 March General Krulak visited and his concerns are noted. He believed that the GAO team's visit was to embarrass us and that all dealings with them should be formal and in writing.

19 March Half hour visit by Krulak while he was enroute from Vietnam to Japan. My report of his visit reflects how effectively he used his time.

20 to 24 March I visited Japan.

1 April Notes concerning my briefing of an LA Times correspondent.

4 to 10 April Detailed report of my visit to the combat marine units in Vietnam, with emphasis on logistics support. Many of the commanders I visited were friends with whom I had served before.

18-21 April I visited the Philippines.

11 May Detailed notes taken during Krulak's short visit.

15 May Report of visit by Admiral Sharp, Commander in Chief, Pacific theater (CinCPac) headquartered in Hawaii. Krulak made an unscheduled visit, probably to meet Sharp. He had spent hours in Vietnam in discussions with General Dihn, whose headquarters had been overrun by troops from another political faction in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN). I don't remember the details of this political conflict.

6 June 1966 Major General Youngdale, a good friend with whom I served while in the 2nd Marine Division, who had just returned from Vietnam, discussed the logistics situation. He had been sent out from HQ, USMC as head of a Logistics Evaluation Board. His preliminary conclusions are set forth in some detail.

8 to 11 June Report of my trip to Japan. During this visit Yoshioka, my outstanding driver when I had been stationed in the Far East Command in Tokyo 1955-57, visited me. Susanne and I had become very fond of this devoted Japanese man.

15 to 16 June I made a quick visit to Iwakuni, Japan.

29 June Briefing for Mr. McGiffert, Under Secretary of the Army.

3 to 4 July Report of Krulak's observations and instructions during another of his short visits.

7 to 8 July Another short visit by LtGeneral Krulak.

102 Second log book during my tour on Okinawa. Covers period 8 July 1966 to 17 March 1997 when I departed for the States.

8-17 July In Hawaii. Report of conferences at LtGen Krulak's HQ, including one with the Secretary of the Navy and top level naval commanders.

19-20 July A flap developed concerning delay in movement of personnel from Okinawa to Danang.

21 July Report of Krulak's concerns about the investigation by the GAO, that they were approaching supply in isolation from transportation. His further emphasis on formal dealings with the GAO team; he was concerned that they draw the wrong conclusions.

23 July Report of my extensive discussions with Admiral Rivero and the other senior naval officers visiting from Washington concerning acquisition of property on Okinawa.

27 July Telephone conversation with LtGen Krulak: "He volunteered info from a respected source that my name was not on the selection list [to Major General]. The news, it appears was harder for him to transmit than for me to receive. I reported my reaction 'Disappointed but not disheartened or discouraged.'" "

5-6 August Visit to Okinawa by General Wallace Greene, Commandant of the Marine Corps. I escorted him on a tour of Marine facilities on Okinawa and hosted a reception for him

8 August Another GAO problem. "Mr. Asby blew his top. [at HQ Marine Corps in Washington]." He complained about me by name. An officer present during his tirade reported "Asby hadn't done his homework and was thus embarrassed by his superiors, reacted violently."

8 August I appended notes here taken during General Greene's visit of 5-6 August.

11 August Mr. Asby of the GAO returned to Okinawa from Washington. He was pleasant, was obviously unaware of the report I had received of his tirade back in Washington [see 8 August entry]. I quote:

"Asby then made off-the-record remarks that back in Washington at various offices (Including that of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, I suppose) he had emphasized the great job everyone was doing out here and his concern that they get nervous prostration from overwork. This off-the-record remark is entirely inconsistent with his intemperate remarks at HQ USMC."

21 August Major General "Bud" Masters visited, stayed overnight at my quarters. He was the younger brother of Major General Jim Masters who had been on the board that selected me for BG. I quote:

"Extended friendly discussion with Bud Masters. He indicated that a few kind words had been said about me at the gen off conf [general officer's conference]. He also mentioned two aspects of the last selection that I had not considered: Jones [William K.] through his fine job in legislative liaison had many friends in Congress; Davis [Ray], a Georgia man, had the support of [highly influential] Sen. Russell [of Georgia]. [Even

without this influence, these two fine officers were assured selection on basis of record, but this situation eliminated all flexibility].”

Sentence in brackets immediately above was originally written as such. Bill Jones, my old friend as a second lieutenant, had acquired an outstanding record as a battalion commander in WW II. He retired as a Lieutenant General; his nephew General Jones, was later Commandant and now (Oct 03) is the NATO Commander in Europe. Davis, a Medal of Honor winner in Korea, retired as a 4-star General.

25 August Another conciliatory expression by the GAO team.

1 September Another visit of a few hours by LGen Krulak. A Typhoon had been in the area and this affected his flight schedule. Detailed report of his comments is included along with reports of typhoon damage to Okinawa.

6-7 September Another visit by Krulak, with a full report of discussions and instructions. We discussed how my inspection visits could dove-tail with his. Near the end of his visit on 7 September, I recorded the following:

“1140 At end of itinerary for LGen K we arrived a few minutes after 1130 EDT at Futema. I found the staff lined up for a presentation. My first thought was that someone w/o coordinating with me had cranked in another event. To my complete surprise I was directed to stand in front of the formation. Gen K presented a L.M. [Legion of Merit medal] for my service in LFTUPAC [My previous duty in San Diego]. I didn't know I had been recommended for an award and had never been more surprised in my life.”

21-27 September Report of my trip to Japan. Report of severe typhoon damage to temporary camps near Mt. Fuji. Winds had reached 200 mph at top of Fuji.

11-14 October More involvement with the GAO team, including their successful efforts in persuading us not to tape their exit conference. Mr. Gibson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Installations and Logistics, dominated the initial conference, “keeping the heat on Mr. Asby” who left for Tokyo before the conference ended. This was a very successful conference from my standpoint and I entertained Mr. Gibson at dinner that night. The final session on 14 October was very short, on the track and very satisfactory. I made a full report to Krulak who responded by dispatch: “Your 150616Z is a fine message.” [I have included in the this book this meaningful compliment from a man who did not waste words.]

26 October Had a chat with my old shipmate in Wasp. Vice Admiral B. J. Semmes, who had accompanied the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Mc Donald on a visit to Okinawa. B. J., a promising officer in Wasp, had survived the sinking. I sat next to Admiral Mc Donald at dinner:

“He was pleasant, convivial and most interesting to chat with. He seems discouraged with the trend of events in U.S. – feels socialism in U.S. is more of a problem than Vietnam. **Is concerned about ‘infallibility’ stand of Mc Namara – says Mac could make a lot of friends if he would admit a mistake or miscalculation now and then. Concerned about covering up a bomb shortage, the total of sortie vs total bomb load statistics. Decisions being made for political reasons. ‘Mac’ pushes loyally every Presidential decision – and admits this – whether or not he believes in it.**”

29 October General Krulak arrive, accompanied by Col Bob Kriendler part owner of the 21 Club in NY, an old colleague from my days in WW II with the 3rd

Marine Division in the Pacific. **Krulak offered to make out a special fitness report for me, said "he wants me to make MG."**

19-23 November Visited Marine Corps units, logistics facilities in Vietnam. Called on a number of senior officers whom I had known well during my service, including LtGen Lewis Walt, CG III MAF, commander of all marines in Vietnam. Given an excellent briefing by Rear Admiral Tom Weschler, who also took me on a tour of harbor facilities. Tom had been an especially close friend when we were shipmates in Wasp 1941-42.

2 December 1966 LtGen Krulak called to inform me confidentially and unofficially that my name was not on the list for promotion to Major General.

12 December Cautioned one of my colonels to be a little more circumspect in discussing his problems, professional and personal, in dinner conversation and not to volunteer a lot of problems to the higher echelons.

12 December General Chapman informed me confidentially of my non selection. I did not tell Chappie that I had heard of my non-selection ten days ago. Apparently the President does not wish to submit such nominations to the Senate for approval when Congress is not in session.

31 December 1966 to 1 January 1967 Met Cardinal Spellman and escorted him on a tour of facilities. Found him to be a fascinating man, most complimentary of the Marines. "I asked him if [his opponent] Sen Morse] was a member of the faith. His reply – 'a member of the Communist faith.'

20 January 1967 I provided a briefing on the function of the Okinawa base to Mr. Moskin, foreign editor for Look magazine.

22-26 January Visit to Taiwan. Here I met for the first time Vice Admiral Gentner whom I would find a hard person to work for later when with the Navy Board of Decorations and Medals. Again I met LtGen Yu, Commandant of the Chinese (Taiwanese) Marine Corps, whom I had encountered so often before.

5-10 February I visited Japan, toured facilities, called on Japanese commanders, including LtGen Namikawa at Sasebo. He and I got along well and I later corresponded with him.

16 March At a change of command ceremony I turned over my command to Major General Bouker, who was fortunate, in a change of policy, to be able to bring his wife with him. He and his wife moved into my comfortable quarters at Camp Butler in Okinawa.

17 March 1967 Having completed an unaccompanied tour of nearly 13 months, I departed for the United States.

103 Change of Command Ceremony in which I turn over command of Landing Force Training Unit, Pacific, San Diego, February 1966.

Lt General Krulak pins on my first Legion of Merit, Okinawa, 7 September 1966.

104 Correspondence – Outgoing during my tour on Okinawa. Copies of 147 letters, dated from 10 March 1966 until 10 March 1967. Tabulated by date. A good deal of this correspondence is with high-ranking U. S. and foreign officers.

105 Correspondence – Incoming, Volume I, during my tour on Okinawa. Originals of 117 letters from 18 February 1966 until 14 September 1966. These letters are tabulated by date; many are from high-ranking U. S. and foreign officers.

106 Correspondence – Incoming, Volume 2, during my tour on Okinawa. Originals of 48 letters from 15 October 1966 until 3 March 1967. Tabulated by date. A good deal of these letters are from with high-ranking U. S. and foreign officers.

107 Personal Correspondence 1966-67

Letters of regret from military friends that I was not selected for promotion to Major general. Included: Mrs. Krulak (to Susanne); LGen Chapman (future Commandant); MGen Bill Van Ryzin; Men Leak; Mgen Bruno Hockmuth; Major General Carl Youngdale; Major General Bud Masters, who said, **“I would guess that you came up against two of the most formidable competitors anybody ever faced – Bill Jones and Ray Davis. I don’t think anybody else in the Marine Corps could have made it when those two were up for the two ground vacancies”**; BGen Louis Wilson, future Commandant; LtGen Al Bowser; LtGen Krulak; classmate MGen McCutcheon, who died on active duty as a full General and probable future Commandant; MGen Carl Youngdale.

Correspondence relating to my detachment from LFTU, Pacific – 18 June 1966.

Correspondence with LtGen Krulak, Lt Gen Jim Masters and General Greene. General Krulak’s letter asked me to visit Hawaii on 9 July 1966 and suggesting that Susanne might join me. She did, bringing the boys, and we had a wonderful family reunion.

108 Copies (and/or notes) of Fitness Reports I completed on officers of my commands from 1963 to 1966. Most of these were prepared while I was Director, Marine Corps Reserve.

109 Copies of Fitness Reports I completed while serving as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific (Forward) 1966 to 1967.

110 Public Information file while serving on Okinawa 1966-1967. Includes discussion of eventual reversion of Okinawa to Japan and material relating to adverse incidents involving the local populace. Also position papers relating to the importance of Okinawa as a military base to the U. S. and to Japan. Contains a news clipping about Weldon James of the Courier-Journal and his resignation because of his support for the Vietnam War. As a colonel, USMCR, he came on active duty as LtGen Krulak’s public info officer. [There are two sides to this story]

111 Guest lists for official entertainment on Okinawa 1966-67.

112 File containing itineraries and briefing notes concerning visits of senior military officers while I was stationed on Okinawa.

113 File containing itineraries and reports of trips to Philippines and Japan from Okinawa – 1966-67. Includes a candid report of trip to Vietnam (5-10 April 1966) by my Aide-de-Camp, Millard Cox of Louisville.

114 File containing questions asked by LtGen Krulak during his visit to Okinawa of 29-30 October 1966 and my detailed responses.

115 My file of correspondence and other dealings with my immediate superior, LtGen Krulak, during my tour on Okinawa as his Deputy Commanding General.

116 Two Official reports of hearings about “The Air War Against North Vietnam.” Included is the testimony of my classmate at the Canadian National Defence College, now Major General Gil Meyers.

“Vietnam Perspective,” remarks by General Lewis Walt, USMC. Lew Walt was on active duty and had been Commander of the marines in Vietnam. He was not retired as was General Shoup and thus paints a hopeful picture of a confused and unpromising situation.

Interview between General David, M. Shoup, retired, former Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps and Congressman William F. Ryan – 12/19/1967. **This contain significant and candid observations of General Shoup who had originally been against a policy of “fighting a land war in Asia.”**

File of newspaper clippings, December 1967, involving the nomination of General Chapman to succeed General Greene as Commandant of the Marine Corps. I knew Chappy well, was a friend of his, had served with him – he was a man of high intellect and ethics – an ideal choice. The competition between Chapman, then C of S to General Greene, LtGen Lew Walt, former Commander of Marines in Vietnam, and LtGen Krulak was intense and is described in these clippings.

Copy of NYTimes “New of the Week in Review” of 11/24/1963 describing the assassination of President Kennedy and the succession of Johnson. [I was serving in Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington at this time as Director, Marine Corps Reserve.]

117 Photos taken with General Greene, Commandant of the Marine Corps, LtGen Chapman, the next Commandant, LtGen Unger, US Army, Commanding General of the Ryukus (Okinawa), and Cardinal Spellman – Okinawa 1966-67.

118 Thick folder of official 8x10 photos taken during my tenure as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific (Forward) 1966 to 1967. Includes:

Change of Command Ceremony in which I turned over LFTU to Col Humphries, before leaving for Okinawa in February 1966. Photo with BG Mel Henderson, probably taken shortly after I arrived in February 1966 to replace him. He had experienced problems in Vietnam and had been temporarily assigned to Okinawa. He had been working as Assistant Division Commander to MG Lou Walt and may have been placed in an untenable position. Some of Walt's contemporaries considered Walt, a friend of mine, to be ruthless.

Photos with Colonel Anglin, taken in Vietnam.

Photos greeting Major General Yu, Commandant of the Chinese (Taiwanese) Marine Corps. [I had called on General Yu in Taiwan a year or two previously when I was CG, LFTU, Pac.] Major General Jeff Fields is also in the group. He was a large handsome Chinese officer and I had established cordial relations with him at our earlier meeting when we enjoyed a round of golf in Taiwan.

Clippings from Okinawa papers.

Visit to Vietnam as CG FMFPac (Fwd).

Foreign officers, including General Yu, Commandant of the Chinese (Taiwan) Marine Corps whom I had met while CG, LFTU.

Miscellaneous photos.

Photos with "Mrs. U.S. Savings Bonds."

Visit to Taiwan, February 1967.

More official photos taken while based on Okinawa 1966-67.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, HQ, U. S. MARINE CORPS, WASHINGTON, DC –
– 30 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 1967

Upon completing my tour on Okinawa as CG, FMF Pac (Forward) I was ordered to HQ, Marine Corps, Washington DC, where I served as Deputy Chief of Staff (Administration) for two months pending my retirement on 1 July 1967. Here I worked for my good friend LtGeneral "Chappie" Chapman, Chief of Staff to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, who would shortly be promoted to 4-star rank and become Commandant. My duties were administrative in nature and consisted in "problem solving," trying to bring about agreement between staff members who had opposing views.

On 22 June, a week before my retirement, at the suggestion of the Commandant of the Marine Corps. I visited the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen, Texas to consider accepting the position of Superintendent. Neither Susanne, who accompanied me, nor I were impressed with that part of Texas and I decided not to apply for this position. We much preferred the rolling hills of Kentucky!

On 30 June 1967, completing thirty years of active service, I retired from the Marine Corps. There was a review at the Marine Barracks, Eighth and I Streets, Washington, in my honor.

MARINE CORPS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE NAVY DEPARTMENT BOARD
OF DECORATIONS AND MEDALS, WASHINGTON, DC. — 5 AUGUST 1967
TO 1 FEBRUARY 69.

I returned as a retired officer on active duty to serve in this capacity. Susanne and I wanted a little time to plan the move to Kentucky and to renovate Allen Dale as our residence. Also I wanted to "learn" how to be a civilian! While serving on this board I attended night school, conducted by The George Washington University at the nearby Pentagon to obtain my Masters Degree. I studied College Administration, a specialty which helped me gain employment with the University of Louisville on 1 July 1970.

119 My personal log books while serving as senior Marine Corps Member (Deputy Senior Member) on the Board of Decorations and Medals – August 1967 to February 1969. The Vietnam War was still in progress and there were thousands of medals being recommended. I tried my best to hold the line and maintain the necessary standards for each medal.

120 Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual, with changes, in effect 1967-69. Administrative Notices and Directives from the Secretary of the Navy modifying and amplifying the instructions for approval of awards. Roster of officers serving on the Board.

121 File on the development and approval of the new “Combat Action Ribbon.” An example of the proliferation of medals that took place during the Vietnam War. I had a number of disagreements with Vadm Gentner, who believed in increasing the number of awards, including those to the U.S. Navy personnel, whose exposure to danger was much less than that of Marines in combat on the ground. Except for naval aviators, sailors did not incur the risks of WW II, when enemy attacks by subs, by enemy aircraft, including Kamikazes, took a heavy toll.

This file indicates how a determined senior officer, VAdm Giltner, using his influence and contacts with the Chief of Naval Operations was able, almost single-handedly, to overcome opposition along the way and achieve his objective of establishing this new award.

122 Policy papers and memos involving medals during the Vietnam War. Differences of opinion by high-ranking officers are indicated. Contains many notes giving my opinions to Gentner and other senior officers. [My attitude was that the award of so many medals had the effect of depreciating their importance. I had many differences with Vice Admiral Gentner, USN (Ret.) a smart, dominating and opinionated officer.

GENERAL MATERIAL

My Complete File of Military Orders from Date of Notification, 16 June 1937, of my selection as 2nd Lt USMC, awaiting Senate Confirmation, until my Service, as a Retired BG, as member, BDM in 1967 to 1969.

123 Change of station orders and Temporary Additional duty (TAD) orders from initial commissioning, 4 August 1937, until arrival as C.O. Marine Barracks, Great Lakes Naval Training Center on 8 July 1952.

Included is a copy of a letter of 24 October 1949 which documented my eligibility, as “having been commended for performance in actual combat,” and thereby eligible for promotion upon retirement. The statutory basis for such promotion was eliminated before I retired and the practice discontinued. Thus it had no effect on my promotion to BG, which was accomplished through the normal selection process in 1961, six years before my retirement.

Includes my appointment as a Colonel, effective 1 July 1951.

124 Orders after arrival at Great Lakes Naval Training Center as C.O. Marine Barracks on 8 July 1952, until departure from Headquarters, United Nations Command/Far East Command as Headquarters Commandant on 6 July 1957.

125 Orders from departure Far East Command on 6 July 1957 until completion of my assignment as Director, Marine Corps Reserve in Washington, D. C. on 3 March 1964. Includes some references to awards and a commendatory note or two from the Commandant, General Shoup. My change of station orders detaching me from my duties as Director, MCR and assigning me as CG LFTU will be found in the next folder.]

126 Orders from completion of my assignment as Director, Marine Corps Reserve in Washington, D. C. on 3 March 1964 until completion of my assignment as a member of the Naval Department Board of Decoration and Medals and return to retired status on 31 January 1969.

127 Fitness reports are prepared by seniors, covering the performance of duty by officers under their command. Such evaluations have presented a thorny problem, similar to those encountered in the civilian world. The Marine Corps over the years has changed the report form and procedure to make such reports more objective. This has not been easy. As will be seen in my reports, some are marked straight down in the outstanding column. At one point later in my career, senior officers were asked to list how many officers of each rank were marked in overall evaluation in each category, i.e., Outstanding, Excellent, Very Good, etc. If, for example, a senior awards an overall evaluation to an officer of Outstanding, that marking would be much more meaningful if he had marked only one out of six in that category. I have recently (2003) read a report of a means to overcome the effect of grade inflation in colleges by requiring the professor to show how many "A's" he has awarded in a given class, how many "B's," etc.

Fitness Reports 1961-67, including the pivotal report of 30 June 1961, as Chief of Staff, 2nd Marine Division. This report by my Commanding General Major General Phil Berkeley covered the short time (3 March to 16 June 1961) that I had served as his Chief of Staff (the coordinator of the staff's activities of the Second Marine Division). I had achieved this position because Berkeley fired his previous C of S and told him in to clean out his desk and "get out." [I had not fomented this action in any way, directly or indirectly. My record of this event may be found in a log entry quoted in full elsewhere in this narrative.] He sent for me to immediately assume the position of C of S. Interestingly, before that time, in other capacities, it had not been apparent to me that I had performed quite up to the standards of General Berkeley. My dear wife Susanne later quoted Mrs. Berkeley, of whom she was very fond, as reporting that her husband had said, "When Van was performing other duties in the Division he couldn't do anything right; when he became Chief of Staff, he couldn't do anything wrong." In the month or two following this report, my name came before the Selection Board for Brigadier General. General Berkeley sat on that board as did several other general officers who knew me. I was included in the small group selected. Proceedings before such boards are confidential, but it is highly unlikely that I would have been promoted had it not been for such an outstanding report at a critical time. One member of the board told me later, "You were not exactly a shoo-in, Van."

128 Congressional Record, Vol. 107, No. 133, of August 4, 1961 (2 copies) in which appears, on page 13689, Senate Confirmation of my Nomination to Brigadier General.

129 Personal History, including USMC. Official biography as Colonel and as BG. Official photos as BG.
Additional personal history papers, including reference to medals.

130 Official retirement papers — 30 June 1967

131 Separation on 31 January 1969 from active duty with the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. DD214. Report to the Commandant.

132 Military Education: diplomas, certificates.
Diploma from Army Arctic Indoctrination School, Big Delta, Alaska, 1/8/51 to 3/3/51, with list of instruction covered.
Certificate, Amphibious Warfare School, Senior Course, Quantico, VA 1949-50, Graduation program.
Administrative record of post-retirement VA education (GW University)

133 Original Citations, Letters of Appreciation.
Second award of Legion of Merit, presented at an evening parade at Marine barracks, DC, on 19 May 1967. (For service as Deputy CG, FMF Pacific (Forward) 2/23/66 to 3/16/67)
First award of Legion of Merit (For service as Commanding General, Landing Force Training Unit, Pacific from 3/18/64 to 2/18/66.)
Award of Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant (For service as Headquarters Commandant, United Nations Command and Far East Command 6/12/55 to 6/30/57) Filed here is an official photo of General Lemnitzer pinning this medal on me.
Award of Bronze Star Medal (Temporary Citation signed by Admiral Halsey and Permanent Citation by Secretary of the Navy) for meritorious service in action on Bougainville, 11/6/43 to 1/9/44).

When I originally entered the Marine Corps in 1937, there were only a few medals: e. g., Medal of Honor, Navy Cross, Navy and Marine Corps Medal. These were seldom awarded. Sometime early in WWII the Silver Star was added (or reconstituted) and awarded retroactively to many who had served in France in WWI. About 1943, or perhaps earlier, the Legion of Merit was established and then the Bronze Star. My original recommendation for action on Bougainville was for the Legion of Merit. It was downgraded in the chain of command to Bronze Star. Only a few medals had been awarded to members of my battalion, 1st Infantry Battalion, 21st Marines for Bougainville. Proliferation of the granting of medals had not reached the USMC at that time. The temporary citation, more accurate, was issued in the South Pacific. Later the citation was “massaged,” at HQ, USMC, put in better English and reissued as the permanent citation in this file. When I received this, I was disappointed that a phrase “outstanding professional ability in choosing locations for the delivery of fire by his

company's weapons" had been deleted. This phrase had been put in the recommended citation by a superior officer who had observed me doing just this.

134 Miscellaneous awards and decorations. Includes Letter of Appreciation, dated 3 May 1957, award of the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant, dated 30 June 1957 and letter of appreciation from the U. S. Marine Corps, dated 5 August 1952.

135 Official Portraits as BG — 1966-67

136 Professional Military Publications, etc.

Staff Manual – 1948

A Guide for the Study of The Evolution of the Art of War

“All Hands” – March 1955

“Special Trust and Confidence” Bob Heinl, 1956 [See elsewhere for my appraisal of this highly influential Basic School classmate.]

FM 7-40 – Infantry Regiment – 1950

FM 30-5 – Combat Intelligence – 1951

“Base Plate McGurk,” by Bill Jones – 1948 [Bill Jones, more elsewhere, had served with me when we were second lieutenants in the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines in San Diego. He had many talents, was an outstanding officer who retired in the rank of Lieutenant General. His nephew, General Jones was the 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps, reassigned recently (Aug 2003) as Supreme Allied Commander in the European Theater.

“The Armed Forces Officer” – 1960

Roster of Third Marine Division Association –1956

Some of my golf scorecards

Glass name plate (as Colonel) and metal name plate as BG.

MILITARY IN KENTUCKY

137 Correspondence covering the establishment and the short life of the Shelby County Navy League chapter (Commander Robert Kemper Memorial Council) under my presidency – 1972-75. A personable promoter, Terhune, came to town in late 1971 or early 1972, following the tragic death of Kemper, a distinguished naval aviator from Shelby County. He used this tragedy to recruit the largest chapter, I believe, ever formed by the Navy League. He emphasized the opportunities for travel in naval aircraft, which didn't materialize. In a patriotic surge of enthusiasm 135 prominent citizens joined, really a “who's who” of Shelby County. I was asked to be president. After its auspicious start, it withered on the vine. Hardly anyone renewed his membership.

138 President Ford as guest of the Louisville Armed Forces Committee, which I chaired. “That Championship Season” – 14 May 1976. Photos of my introduction of the President, other photos, programs, news item, correspondence. **I may have recorded elsewhere that in the process of inviting President Ford I nearly found myself in an untenable position. Not having heard from the White House as the date for this event approached, I made contact with the staff of Ronald Reagan, a serious rival against a sitting (but unelected) president for the nomination. A few days before the**

event, before hearing back from the Reagan camp, I was contacted by phone by advance White House representative to let me know that they were already en route by air, coming to prepare for the Presidents's appearance.

Thus it was President Ford, not aspirant Ronald Reagan, whom I introduced as speaker at the 50th Annual Dinner of the Louisville Armed Forces Committee's. [The first speaker had been General Pershing in 1919.]

Senator Gene Snyder of KY, a strong supporter of Reagan, was an unhappy camper at the head table that night. I heard him mutter something about "rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic."

139 Correspondence, including that with senior military officers, and programs, etc., while I was Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the Louisville Area Chamber of Commerce.

140 A file of my correspondence involving military matters from 1967, when I retired, to 1984, much of it with Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps. It contains a file of personal correspondence with the following Commandants of the Marine Corps: Chapman, Cushman, Wilson, Barrow. Lou Wilson was my house guest for the Derby in May 1979.

141 A file of my correspondence involving military matters, especially those involving the Marine Corps, from 1971, the year after I returned with my family to settle at Allen Dale Farm in Shelby County, KY, until 1983.

Includes: articles from the Marine Corps Gazette of August 1981, discussing the activation during the Vietnam War of battleships for fire support.

My report to HQMC regarding the wearing of the uniform by evangelist Clebe McClary.

Correspondence recommending that Millard Cox, Jr. be reestablished in his original position on the officers' lineal list.

News items involving the 1975 controversy of the polling of general officers regarding their preference for the next commandant, to replace General Cushman. It was alleged that the responses were coded so that it would be possible to identify the person who filled out each form returned.

This created quite a stir and the resulting enmities among several senior officers continued for a long time.

A letter to Lew Walt giving my opinions on the tragedy of the MyLai massacre.

142 Personal military correspondence 1971-2001, after retirement, including that with general officers, including Commandants of the Marine Corps, members of Congress. etc. Arranged in chronological order.

143 Louisville Armed Forces Committee activity 1980-81 (After my chairmanship) – contains material involving my bringing my former CG, General Lemnitzer in as speaker. It also contains correspondence with General Russell Dougherty, former Commander of the Strategic Air Command, a Kentuckian, and the program for the dedication of a hall on the U of L campus in his name, 15 May 1981.

144 Some military correspondence with senior military officers in Kentucky, not involving USMC. Includes an exchange of with John Chafee, the Secretary of the Navy.

145 News clippings, including obits, about marines with whom I had served:
Bill Fairbourn whom I replaced as Director Marine Corps Reserve in June 1962.
Obit of Lem Shepherd, former Commandant – I never served closely with him but I knew Shapley and Schneider who appear in the photo with him.
Obit of David Shoup, former Commandant, whom I did know well (see other entries in this document).

News clippings about O. P. Smith, Al Bowser, and Louie Puller in Korea (whom I knew well).

Obit of Lew Walt (our paths crossed many times, but I had never served directly under his command).

Obits of O. P. Smith, whose middle name was “Prince.” He was a “Prince” of a man (see other references in this document).

Obit of Chappy Chapman, former Commandant and intellectual. Good friend and supporter (see other references).

General Chapman swears in the 24th Commandant, Carl Munday.

Article about RAdm Charlie Lyman, son of a Marine, brother of a Marine. An officer and gentleman of the old school whom I called on when assigned to Philadelphia as Director, M. C. Reserve and Recruitment District. He was author of a book about customs and traditions in the old Navy, which I have never been able to obtain.

Obit of Gus Larson, my Marine C. O. aboard Wasp, and who I later replaced. A conscientious and thoughtful Christian gentleman. I shall always remember him on the flight deck in front of the detachment, leaning forward while the marines leaned backward as the ship rolled: “Men, things go on like this for days and days ... and then they get worse.”

Advertisement in a U. S. magazine for Suntory Whiskey, which brings back memories of the Guam campaign. After surviving the fierce Japanese counterattack of 25-26 July 1944, we moved out. We found a cave, from which a poor Japanese soldier was flushed out with a flamethrower. It was discovered that this cave contained a large cache of Suntory whiskey, which was labeled “Suntory Scotch Whiskey, made in Yamasaki in accordance with the finest procedures for distilling Scotch,” or something quite similar. A few minutes later I encountered correspondent Joseph Rosenthal, famous later for his “Iwo Flag Raising” photo and told him about this newsworthy event. [Rosenthal had ridden ashore in an assault boat with me on D-Day.]

Photo from Marine Corps Gazette of December 1999, “The Commandants: 1964-1999.” My relationship with them:

Greene I worked for him when he was C of S to General Shoup. Intelligent, highly dedicated, a man of true character.

Chapman I had been associated with him at many levels. He was a supporter and he and his wife were good friends of Susanne and me. He visited us at Allen Dale after retirement.

Cushman I knew him well. He had served on Guam in the 9th Marines when I was in the 21st. Shoup was bitterly opposed to him; relieved him of duties as G-3 while I was serving in HQ as Director, MC Reserve. He was restored to favor by General

Greene, later became Commandant. The hassle involving his replacement is described elsewhere in this document.

Wilson A good friend. Won the medal of Honor on Guam while serving in the 9th Marines. (I was in the 21st) See further reference in this document.

Barrow I knew him slightly when he was a colonel.

Kelley “

Gray Did not know him, but he seemed to affect the air of a rough, tough combat Marine.

Mundy He recalled serving with me, but this I don't recall.

Krulak I knew his father “Brute” Krulak, well, worked directly for him when on Okinawa. He was very short in stature like his dad, but obviously a top-notch Marine, again like his dad. The father, known universally in the Corps for his ambition, and disliked by a few of his influential colleagues for making it so evident, achieved the ultimate in vicarious accomplishment in seeing his son reach a goal that had been his own life's ambition.

Jones Six feet four or more, he stands in the group photo next to Krulak who was at least a foot shorter. Jones was a nephew of Bill Jones, who served as a second lieutenant with me in the 6th Marines in 1939-40. Bill Jones had a very successful career as a combat officer and staff officer, retiring with three stars. Bill Jones' brother had been a Marine, remembered in WWII for being featured in a training film on amphibious reconnaissance. Commandant Jones had spent many years of his youth in France and is bilingual in French. This capability certainly must have been a factor in his choice, announced 7/19/02 as Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.