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Presidents Notes

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PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Resistance to the tyranny of King George III took many forms in the beleaguered American colonies in November 1775. One of the more intriguing accounts, which I came across recently, concerned the individual act of defiance of a good citizen of Newport by the name of Coggeshall. As reported in the *Newport Mercury* of 6 November 1775:

Early last Saturday morning (November 4) one Coggeshall, being somewhat drunk or crazy, went on the Long-Wharf, and turn'd up his backsides toward the bomb brig in this harbour, using some insulting words; upon which the brig fired two 4 pound shot at him; one of which went through the roof of Mr. Hammond's store on the said wharf, and lodged in Mr. Samuel Johnston's distillery, at the N.E. part of the cove, within the Long Wharf. The man was soon after taken up, and sent out of town.

The British retaliation to this singular (if unusual) act of patriotism could hardly be termed a measured response; indeed it might even be termed overkill. Certainly, hitting the Newporters' source of liquid refreshment might have evoked an unwanted response by fanning faster the flames of rebellion.

Fortunately for the future of the United States—and without impugning citizen Coggeshall's show of independence—an event of much greater and lasting moment took place in Philadelphia that very week of 1775.

The Continental Congress, on 10 November 1775, ordered the creation of two battalions of Marines, thereby establishing the United States Marine Corps. One of the mandates of the Continental Congress in this resolution was that "...particular care be taken, that no persons be appointed to office, or inlisted [sic] into said battalions, but such are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs so as to be able to serve to advantage by sea when required..."

The Marine Corps has served with distinction in maritime affairs since its birth in 1775. Here at the Naval War College, Marine officers are an important part of our faculty and student body. At present, 26 are enrolled in the College of Naval Warfare, 20 are in the College of Naval Command and Staff and 10 serve in key positions on the faculty.

Marines were present at the beginnings of the Naval War College and have played an important role in its evolutionary development as the highest professional-level educational institution in the Navy. The first

2 NAVAL WAR COLLEGE REVIEW

Marine students were members of the Class of 1886, the college's second class, and, with few exceptions, Marines have been in every succeeding class. Marine Corps muster roles and officer registers reveal that Capt. Richard Wallach reported to the staff of the college on 10 May 1894 following correspondence between BGEN Commandant George Elliott and Admiral Luce.

Beginning in 1902, assignments to the staff were filled on a more regular basis, often by notable Marines. Lewis C. Lucas, who served on the Navy General Board from 1918 to 1932, Dion Williams, John H. Russell, Robert H. Dunlap, Earl H. Ellis, and Ben H. Fuller were all in this group.

There was close contact between Quantico and the War College in the early thirties. Col. E.B. Miller of the college staff corresponded extensively with officers drafting the Tentative Manual for Landing Operations and visited Quantico frequently.

Many Marine students and staff members went on to achieve particular prominence, distinguishing themselves in combat and rising to general officer rank. Several became Marine Corps Commandants. There were those, too, who made significant contributions to the college's corpus of knowledge on naval warfare and related fields. The much-heralded military planning process, the Navy's Plan Orange for war in the central Pacific, and the place of amphibious operations in comprehensive tactical and strategic war plans were championed by Marines.

Academically, each class of Marines has been impressive, frequently winning the Stephen B. Luce Award (CNW students) and the William Snowden Sims Award (CNC&S students) for academic excellence. They have captured the Luce award for the past 3 years and ended academic year 1978-1979 on a particularly high note by winning both the Luce and Sims Awards.

At the Center for War Gaming, the college and the Marine Corps Development and Education Command have embarked on a joint gaming venture that uses the Navy's WARS (Warfare Analysis and Research System) and the Marine Corps' TWSEAS (Tactical Warfare Simulation, Evaluation, and Analysis System). Such a capability to game all aspects of amphibious operations will enhance the college's ability to deal with every major element of naval warfare: ASUW, ASW, AAW, MCM, carrier strike warfare, complex surface and helicopter-borne ship to shore movements, close air support, NGFS, and sea to land C³. TWSEAS formed an integral part of a recent CINCLANTFLT game played at the college and was most successful in integrating the Navy-Marine Corps team. Specifications for the new Naval War Gaming System (NWGS) are being revised to incorporate the TWSEAS capability and will allow a single system approach to both the at-sea and ashore phases of amphibious operations. This will ensure that our future gaming capability matches the increasing sophistication and can deal with the complexity of such operations.

Marines have always spearheaded the college's research efforts and have contributed to many important studies done at the Center for Advanced Research. Some recent topics have included USMC VSTOL operations aboard merchant ships, an examination of desert operations, a study of Soviet logistics, F/A-18 two-place variant study, and an examination of strategic mobility to include the air and sealift alternatives. Marines are involved throughout the college's mission "to conduct research leading to the development of advanced strategic and tactical concepts for the future employment of naval forces."

Marines directly influence the direction of the college and its emphasis, the creation of new

PRESIDENT'S NOTES 3

programs, and the fine tuning of existing programs and issues. LTGEN John McLaughlin, USMC (Ret.) has just been appointed to the college's Board of Advisors, replacing LTGEN William Jones, USMC (Ret.) whose advice and counsel were of great benefit to my predecessors and to me in assessing the course of instruction and in providing a fresh, and studied viewpoint for decisionmaking.

At the present time, 27 of the 77 Marine Corps General officers are graduates of the Naval War College. On the last selection list for Brigadier

General, five out of seven were Naval War College graduates. The college is proud of its Marines—they've been an integral part of our faculty, staff, and student body since the college's founding—and I am confident of their continued effect on its direction and relevancy.



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