



**Thank you for your interest in the National Museum of the Marine Corps.** You will find a wealth of information about the Marine Corps Heritage Center online at <http://www.usmcmuseum.org>. There are many newspaper articles and even videos on the Internet, just Google® “National Museum of the Marine Corps” to find interactive maps, flash and slideshows, blogs and more. We have welcomed almost one million visitors since we opened on 13 November 2006, and the word we hear most frequently is “WOW” followed closely by “I didn’t know it was this big!” We hope all our visitors are impressed, awed, educated, entertained, and moved by our exhibits and the stories told by and about Marines. **The story of the Marine Corps, after all, is the history of America and the world since 1775.** Marines have served all over the globe, “in every clime and place” and have always been “the first to fight” on land, in the air, and at sea.

**Your experience begins when you first glimpse the Museum building from the highway-- what does that form recall?** Perhaps the famous moment when a makeshift flagpole was jammed into volcanic rock to raise the American flag on Mt. Suribachi? A mighty jet fighter taking off? The attitude of a rifle at the ready or an upraised sword? All of these visceral feelings are evoked by the visual presence of the 210-foot spire rising over the treeline. Once you enter the building, you will be amazed by the steel and glass atrium where aircraft ‘fly’ above you. **You are invited to follow in the footsteps of Marines:** the yellow footprints where young recruits stand at boot camp, the boot prints left in the sands of Pacific island beaches during World War II, in the snow of the Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War, and in the red dirt of Hill 881 South in Vietnam. You will experience history through the eyes of Marines.

The Education Department has as its primary concern the presentation and interpretation of United States Marine Corps history to a wide variety of audiences. By providing venues for learning, discussion, demonstration, and experimentation, our programs serve as a catalyst for encouraging engaging and transformational experiences, with the goal of connecting the visitor’s own everyday experience with Marine Corps values, culture, history, and traditions, including current events. History is made every day!

**In order to help make your visit the best possible experience for everyone in your group, we have prepared this briefing for you.** Please call our Museum Educators with any questions we haven’t answered herein. We look forward to providing your group with a valuable learning experience before, during, and after your visit.

The Museum is easily reached from all points. Fly into Dulles or Reagan National, ride Amtrak, or drive. You do not have to pass through the gates of the Marine Corps Base, Quantico. **There is no admission fee for the Museum and onsite parking is free.** The non-profit Marine Corps Heritage Foundation operates the Museum Store, the Mess Hall and *Tun Tavern*, as well as a fee-based optional attraction, the Rifle Range laser target simulator (\$5.00). All purchases support the educational programs of the Museum.

### **Content Alert Message**

**The mission** of the National Museum of the Marine Corps is to **preserve and exhibit the material history** of the U.S. Marine Corps; **honor** the commitment, accomplishments, and sacrifices of Marines; **support** recruitment, training, education, and retention of Marines; and **provide** the public with a readily accessible platform for the exploration of Marine Corps history. To meet the goals of this mission, **the Museum has made every effort to present the history of the United States Marine Corps in the most objective manner possible – including scenes of combat and combat casualties.** This is done purposely to underscore the courage, hardship, and sacrifice made by every Marine on the battlefield. Throughout the Museum, **highly realistic cast figures, photographs, and movie footage** describe and **depict combat actions.** **Younger visitors may find the graphic nature of these displays disturbing or unsettling.** Several of the **exhibit galleries include authentic, immersive, combat environments with sounds and motion** that may be frightening to very young children. *We do not recommend group visits for children younger than 4<sup>th</sup> grade--* the content and layout of the exhibits have been designed for an older audience.

**Hours:** The Museum is **open every day of the year** (except Christmas Day) from 0900 to 1700 (that's **9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, for you landlubbers).

**Classroom:** Our classroom features flexible seating arrangements with or without tables and state-of-the-art audio/visual components for any kind of program. We offer enhancement activities for all ages, grades, and topics. Let the Museum Educators know in advance if you wish to include an activity with your visit.

**Museum Store:** Located on the First Deck off the Leatherneck Gallery, the Museum Store carries Marine-themed clothing, collectables, books, and toys. Open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 703-649-2355. Shop from the catalog online at [www.marineheritage.org](http://www.marineheritage.org).

**Mess Hall:** Located on the upper deck, this 160-seat restaurant resembles a shipboard cafeteria and features breakfast and lunch menus of quality food at reasonable prices. Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Tun Tavern:** Also located on the upper deck, *Tun Tavern* is a recreation of the 18th century public tavern in Philadelphia, PA in which, according to legend, the first Continental Marines were recruited in 1775 by Captain Samuel Nicholas. Open 11:00 to 4:00 p.m., *Tun Tavern* seats up to 30 at tables and booths and offers a delicious lunch menu referencing many Colonial-era dishes. Beer and wine are served.

**Directions:** The Museum is located just off Interstate 95 in Virginia, 36 miles south of Washington, D.C. and 20 miles north of Fredericksburg, VA. Our address is 18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Triangle VA 22172.

**From Points South:** Take I-95 North; Take "EXIT 150" (the VA-619 exit) toward "Triangle/ Quantico" then Merge onto VA-619 East; at the intersection before the Quantico Main Gate, Turn **RIGHT** onto Jefferson Davis Hwy / US-1; Turn **RIGHT** into the National Museum of the Marine Corps' driveway and follow the road straight around the flagpoles into the parking lot. Buses may drop off passengers at the front entrance and proceed to the marked spaces on the west side of the parking lot.

**From Points North:** Take I-95 South; Take the VA-619 exit "EXIT 150A" toward "Triangle/ Quantico"; Merge onto VA-619 East; Turn **RIGHT** onto Jefferson Davis Hwy/ US-1; proceed as above.

**Students should leave their outer garments and backpacks on the bus; the Museum has no coat check facilities. You may not bring food or drinks into the building.**



For information on area hotels and other public amenities in the area, please visit the Prince William County/Manassas Convention & Visitors Bureau online at [www.visitpwc.com](http://www.visitpwc.com).

< Main Gate MCBQ

Q-Town>

## Visiting the Museum with School Groups, Scouts and Others

**Partners in Education:** The Museum recognizes the important role classroom (and home schooling) teachers play in ensuring a meaningful museum experience. **Teachers, Scout leaders, church group leaders, coaches, and other adults have the opportunity to set an example for and train our nation's informed citizens.** The Museum's education staff wants to work closely with you as a partner in educating your students and young people. While exposure to artistic, historical, and discovery-centered objects is important to a young mind, **taking some time to prepare and to follow up your visit will allow young people to gain real knowledge and sensitivity to what they see, read, do, and hear while at the Museum.**

**Scheduling Your Visit:** *Please complete our Group Reservation Request form and return it by email or fax to the Education Department.*

**Before Your Visit:** Confirm the logistics of your visit with the Education Department and discuss any special needs you may have. **The Museum's exhibits are most appropriate for student groups in at least 4<sup>th</sup> grade.** Children younger than that may not have a background to relate to the material presented or the attention span to appreciate the experience. Plan to visit the Museum before you bring your class, if possible. We will provide you the opportunity to explore the exhibits and better prepare your students before they arrive for their scheduled visit. **Discuss *Museum Manners* with the whole group (including chaperones) so they understand what is expected of them in the museum setting.** If you care to, incorporate a pre-visit lesson that will set the tone and objectives for your visit. Try to integrate language arts, history, art making, or research into your lesson so that your group will be more active participants in the learning adventure once they arrive at the Museum. You will find most of your SOLs are addressed.

**On Arrival at the Museum:** Your group will be greeted by a Museum Education Specialist or a Volunteer or Docent to orient them to the layout of the Museum. **Plan to have your group divided into manageable groups of 10 or 12 with an adult for each small group,** as many exhibit spaces and galleries have constricted pathways and limited gathering spaces. Designate a spot to meet if someone gets separated from the group. **The Museum is designed to be an immersive, self-guided, self-paced experience. We do not schedule Docent-led 'tours' for student groups.** Our Volunteers and Docents are stationed at posts throughout the Museum and are trained to provide additional information as requested. There is an almost overwhelming amount of audio, video and interactive stimuli in the historic era galleries which, along with the printed text and labels, provide ample explanation of artifacts, themes, and historic connections.

**After Your Visit:** Expand your visit to the Museum by offering activities that complement your curriculum, as taking some time to prepare and follow-up your visit will reinforce the experience for you and your group.

- Incorporate writing and research assignments to extend your experience.
- Plan a studio art activity that relates to the images you saw at the Museum.
- Ask students to keep a journal to record their thoughts, sketches, and reflections of their Museum visit.
- Explore the Internet to find additional information about the exhibits, artists, or objects you viewed.
- Assign group or individual projects where students can assume the role of a museum curator. What kinds of items would they display? Why? What would they like to teach visitors who come to their show? What artifacts and periods of history would be included?

## Museum Manners

*Visiting a museum should be a fun and enjoyable experience for everyone. One of the ways to ensure a positive adventure is to **practice appropriate behavior for the place you are visiting**. The following practical advice is good for both the novice and the experienced museum visitor and **must** be discussed with students and chaperones prior to visiting the National Museum of the Marine Corps.*

The **Museum is a place to enjoy learning with your eyes and ears and brain**. Our exhibits are realistic and invoke emotions and memories in many visitors. We honor the service of all military veterans, active-duty troops, and their families. **Please be considerate of others when you explore the Museum and please respect the precious and irreplaceable artifacts of Marine Corps history.** *Thank you for abiding by our guidelines. We expect your cooperation, as the rules are for your safety and for the enjoyment all visitors.*

## Museum Guidelines for Groups

1. Try to **arrive at the time you specified** as group visits are scheduled to minimize crowding. Please call the Visitors Desk at 703-784-6107 with news of any delay.
2. Buses may **discharge and pick up visitors at the front of the building then park in the marked spaces**. Any group arriving unannounced may find there is no immediate room in the parking lot for their coach.
3. Our food service contract prohibits bringing outside food into the Museum. If you bring bag lunches, they must be left on your bus. Box lunches for large groups (35+) may be ordered from the Mess Hall in advance.
4. **Outer garments, backpacks and bags, gum, food and drinks MUST be left on the bus**. You may be turned back at the Front Desk by our safety officers to place items on the bus that may not be brought inside.
5. The **Group Leader and chaperones are responsible for keeping the group together and maintaining proper behavior**. Please explain that shouting, running, touching and climbing on exhibits, disregarding instructions of Museum staff (or group leaders/ teachers/ chaperones), and other inconsiderate actions will disrupt the experience of other visitors in the Museum as well as your own group. If a Museum staff member must intervene, your group may be asked to leave the building.
6. Cameras are permitted, but **no flash** photography is allowed of the Iwo Jima flag. The intense light hurts sensitive paper and textile artifacts.
7. Volunteers, Docents, Staff, and Security are available for information and assistance during your visit.
8. The Museum is accessible to people with disabilities. Please call for specifics.

## For Your Safety and the Preservation of Museum Exhibits

1. Artifacts and art on display are **not to be touched**. There is **no climbing or sitting on displays or artifacts**, both for visitor safety and for the protection of the artifacts. Even though some experiential exhibits are open, with no physical barriers, **please respect the virtual boundaries and do not enter the scene or touch the items**. Did you know that body oils are corrosive and degrade metal and other surfaces?
2. **No eating or drinking is allowed anywhere in the Museum** *except* the Mess Hall and Tun Tavern upstairs.
3. Proper behavior in the Museum includes quiet voices, no running or shouting, not leaning against walls or pedestals-- you may obscure information on text panels. *Please help us maintain our exhibits for future visitors.*
4. Please be aware of your surroundings and watch your step; exhibits are all around you, above and below, too.
5. Objects in the Museum are there because they are important reminders of our history. Many of them are very old, rare or unique. The Marine Corps wants them to last so people can see them far into the future. If people were to touch them, they would start to fall apart. There are **some objects in the "Making Marines" boot camp area that have been designed to be manipulated and invite interaction**; other than that area however, text panels, rails, glass cases, artifacts, cast figures...**NOTHING** else should be touched or come in contact with one's body.
6. PLEASE —take this opportunity to educate your students in the proper behavior expected in the environment of our Museum.

## NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS -- ICONIC ARTIFACTS

Visitors to the National Museum of the Marine Corps will find approximately one thousand artifacts on display – from tactical aircraft to a small field ration can opener – each with its own story to tell. However, certain artifacts stand out because of their unique power to bring the past of the Corps to life. Below is a sampling of some of the many special iconic artifacts on display at the Museum.

### **Bell UH-1E Huey**

*Located on the Legacy Walk*

The Bell UH-1 Huey helicopter is one of the most iconic aircraft of the Vietnam War. Known for its distinctive sound, the Huey served as a transport, aerial ambulance, flying control post and gunship. The UH-1E hanging above the Legacy Walk is the aircraft with which Marine Capt. Stephen W. Pless and his three-man crew heroically rescued the crew of a downed U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook on August 19, 1967, from overwhelming Viet Cong forces. After forcing the advancing enemy back with gun and rocket attacks, Pless landed and his crew fought hand-to-hand with the advancing Viet Cong to rescue the surviving Army helicopter crew members. With the additional Army helicopter crew members aboard dangerously overloading their own helicopter, Pless's crew jettisoned any unnecessary equipment helping Pless to coax the Huey into the air to deliver the wounded Army crew members to a field hospital. For his bravery under fire, Pless was presented with the Medal of Honor and his three crew members were awarded the Navy Cross.

*Transferred from NAVAIR Display of the Bell UH-1E is sponsored by Bell Helicopter*



### **Sergeant Major Daniel Daly's Medals of Honor**

*Located on the Legacy Walk*

Often called "the outstanding Marine of all time," Sergeant Major Daniel J. Daly received Medals of Honor for his valorous actions during the Boxer Rebellion (August 1900) and the first Haitian Campaign (October 1915). Daly also fought in France during World War I and is known for his immortal battle cry of "Come on you sons of bitches, do you want to live forever?"

*Donated by Mr. Burton J. Loeb*

*Display of SgtMaj Dan Daly's Medals of Honor sponsored by Marine Military Expositions*



### **The Mount Suribachi Flags**

*Located in the World War II Gallery*

Perhaps the most important artifacts in the care of the National Museum of the Marine Corps are the pair of original American flags raised by the Marines on Mount Suribachi on 23 February 1945. The attack transport *Missoula* donated the smaller flag, raised by the Schrier Patrol on the summit. Landing Ship Tank (LST) 779, then unloading at Green Beach, donated the larger flag, raised later in the day and portrayed in the famed Joe Rosenthal's photograph. Frayed by strong winds, the second flag flew from Suribachi for the balance of the battle for Iwo Jima.

*To reduce exposure to harmful light, the two flags be displayed on a rotating basis. At all times, one of the two Mount Suribachi Flags will be on display at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.*



### **The Leftwich Trophy**

*Located in the Vietnam Gallery*

Named in honor of Lieutenant Colonel William G. Leftwich, Jr., who was killed in Vietnam, this trophy is presented each year to the outstanding company grade Marine officer, through the bequest of Mr. Ross Perot. Mr. Perot conceived the idea for the trophy and commissioned Mr. Felix DeWeldon to sculpt the original statue.

*Display of the Leftwich Trophy sponsored by H. Ross Perot*



### **M-40A1 Sniper Rifle**

*Located in the Vietnam Gallery*

Lance Corporal Charles Benjamin "Chuck" Mawhinney used this rifle during his service in Vietnam where he killed a confirmed 103 enemy soldiers (with an additional 216 probables) with this rifle. Discovered at Weapons Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Quantico, in 1996, the weapon was retired from service and retrofitted to the configuration used by Lance Corporal Mawhinney during the Vietnam War.



# NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS -- ICONIC ARTIFACTS

## The Tarawa Oscar

Located in the World War II Gallery

In 1944, the Motion Picture Academy presented the Marine Corps this Oscar for its gritty documentary *With the Marines at Tarawa*. Graphic and shocking to American audiences, it was filmed by Marines of the 2nd Photographic Division and released on the order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.



## Wake Island M1903 Springfield Rifle

Located in the World War II Gallery

This rifle, much beloved by Marines, was the primary issue rifle for much of the first half of the 20th century, before being replaced by the M-1 Garand during World War II. Millions of these rifles were manufactured. This particular M1903 rifle was used by Marines defending the US naval outpost at Wake Island. Captured by the Japanese, it was subsequently recaptured later in the war when American forces liberated the island of Wake.



## Major General John A. Lejeune's Overseas Cap

Located on the Legacy Walk

Marines serving in France during World War I needed headgear that was comfortable to wear but that could be easily stored. Modeled after a French hat, the overseas cap became a permanent item. Legendary Marine Corps Major General John A. Lejeune wore this one.  
*Donated by Mrs. John A. Lejeune*



## Major General O.P. Smith's M1911 .45 Pistol

Located in the Korean War Gallery

This .45 caliber pistol was the mainstay of military issued side-arms for the US armed forces for over 70 years. The .45 pistol was carried by famed Marine Major General O.P. Smith through out his service during the Korean War as commander of the 1st Marine Division.



## M50A1 Ontos Anti-tank Vehicle

Located in the Vietnam Gallery

Developed and rejected by the U.S. Army as an anti-tank vehicle, it was accepted for procurement by the Marines in 1955. Within a year, the Ontos was integrated into the armored units of the Fleet Marine Force. In Vietnam, its role soon shifted to direct fire support of ground troops. It was used in defense at Chu Lai and during the siege of Khe Sanh. During the battle for Hue, the mobility and firepower of the Ontos combined with pinpoint fire from M48 tanks proved an effective combination in the street-to-street fighting. Colonel Stanley Hughes, commanding the 1st Marines later stated that the Ontos was the most effective of all supporting arms the Marines fighting in Hue had at their disposal.



## Three - Generation Ka-Bar Fighting Knife

Located on the Legacy Walk

This fighting/utility knife became synonymous with the Marine Corps following its introduction in 1943. Marines in the Pacific used the Ka-Bar for any number of tasks – to pound tent stakes, open ration tins, drive nails, and even dig foxholes. Manufactured by several different companies since World War II, the Ka-Bar fighting/utility knife has been carried by Marines into combat for more than 60 years. Marines of the Lambourne family carried this Ka-Bar during service in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.  
*Donated by Mr. Michael Lambourne*



# LEATHERNECK LINGO

## Learn the language of the Marine Corps!

Here are some words you will encounter in the Museum or you could hear Marines using. You might be surprised where, when, and why these terms originated.

First of all, what does "**lingo**" mean? You might call it *slang*.

**AWOL:** absent without leave; leaving a post or position without official permission; also **UA**

**BLT:** It's not a sandwich. It's a Battalion Landing Team, the main body of infantrymen that make up a *MEU*

**Barracks:** building where unmarried Marines live or a duty station where they serve

**Berm:** perimeter line of a fortification, usually raised above surrounding area (notice the outside of the NMMC)

**Boo-coo:** near-pronunciation of *beaucoup*, French for "much" or "many"

**Boondoggle:** any military operation that hasn't been completely thought out; an operation that is absurd or useless

**Boonie Hat:** soft hat worn by a *boonierat* in the *boonies*

**Boonierat:** a combat infantryman

**Boonies:** infantry term for the field; jungles or swampy areas far from the comforts of civilization

**Boot:** new recruit or young Marine just out of boot camp; inexperienced, untested

**Bouncing Betty:** antipersonnel mine with two charges: the first propels the explosive charge upward, and the other is set to explode at about waist level

**Brig:** military jail

Building parts: **Bulkhead:** wall; **Deck:** floor; **Hatch:** door; **Head:** bathroom; **Ladder:** stair; **Overhead:** ceiling; **Passageway:** corridor; **Rack:** bed; **Topside:** upstairs

**CMC:** Commandant of the Marine Corps

**Civilian:** anyone not in the military

**Cover:** (noun) hat; (verb) to find shelter or protection in combat

**DI:** Drill Instructor

**DMZ:** demilitarized zone; dividing line between North and South Vietnam established in 1954 at the Geneva Convention

**Deployment:** when a Marine's unit departs its home base for an extended period of time

**Deuce Gear:** see 782 gear

**Doc:** medic or corpsman; Navy corpsmen were assigned to Marine units a medical personnel

**Dust-Off:** medical evacuation by helicopter

**Elephant Grass:** tall, razor-edged tropical plant indigenous to certain parts of Vietnam

**Field Day:** day set aside for cleaning the office and barracks

**Float:** to be deployed at sea, usually on a MEU, as in "six month float"

**Grunt:** Originally slang for a Marine fighting in Vietnam but later applied to any soldier fighting there; a *boonierat*

**Gung Ho:** ready, fired up, enthusiastic; the phrase is Chinese for "working together"

**Hashmark:** stripes worn on forearm of dress and service uniforms by enlisted Marines, each denotes 4 yrs of service

**JOB:** "junk on the bunk" or field gear and uniforms displayed on bed for inspection

**MEU:** Marine Expeditionary Unit, a group of Marines organized for a float

**Military Brat:** a term of endearment given to children born and reared in the service

**Ninety-six:** four-day weekend pass, 96 hours--usually given for holidays

**Ooh-Rah:** Marine Corps motivational term when exclaimed loudly; an affirmative reply or term of concurrence (like "Right On")

**PT:** Physical Training; **PT Gear** then would be shorts, tee shirt, etc.

**Recon:** reconnaissance; going out to observe for the purpose of identifying enemy activity

**Recruit:** (noun) an individual attending boot camp; (verb) encourage someone to join the USMC

**782 Gear:** "*Deuce*" gear; includes pack, canteen, poncho, ammo pouch, etc. used when in the field; "782" refers to the official form signed when gear is issued

**SOP:** Standard Operating Procedure

**Scuttlebutt:** rumor or gossip

**Secure:** (verb) lock up, close, take care of, finish for the day

**Semper Fi:** short for *Semper Fidelis*, "Always Faithful" in Latin (most mottoes are in Latin)

**Seventy-Two:** three day pass (72 hours)

**Sick Bay:** hospital, clinic, or office of medical personnel

**Sick Call:** assigned time for ill Marines to go to *Sick Bay* (usually first thing in the morning)

**Skivvies:** underwear

**Squared Away:** prepared, taken care of, sharp looking ("That's one squared away Marine!")

**TAD:** Temporary Additional Duty and **TDY:** Temporary Duty

**WM:** Woman Marine

**XO:** Executive Officer (2nd in command of a unit)

# GYRENE JARGON

## Marine Corps Terms, Legends, and Traditions

**A few good men:** Capt Wm. Jones was quoted in the *Providence Gazette* on March 20, 1779: "The Continental ship Providence, now lying at Boston, is bound on a short cruise, immediately; a few good men are wanted to make up her complement."

**Blood Stripe:** Many legends persist about the Marine Corps uniform and the origin of certain traditional aspects, such as the red stripes on the blue uniform trousers of Marine officers and NCOs. This may commemorate the courage and tenacious fighting of the men who battled before Chapultepec in the Mexican War and whose exploits added the phrase "*From the Halls of Montezuma...*" to The Marines' Hymn. Thus the red stripe is said to symbolize the blood shed by these Marines of another century.

### **Come on, you S\*O\*B\*s, do you want to live forever?**

Marine Corps legend has it that this saying originated during World War I in France. During the violent fighting in Belleau Wood, Sergeant Dan Daly's platoon, part of the 6th Marines, was pinned down by intense enemy fire. The gallant Daly, already possessor of two Medals of Honor (one for heroism during the China Relief Expedition in 1900 and the other received during the Haitian Campaign of 1915), raged up and down the line trying to get his troops moving. Finally, the story goes, he yelled "Come on, you S\*O\*B\*s, do you want to live forever?" as he leaped out of the trench, and led his men in the attack.

### **Devil Dogs**

In the Belleau Wood fighting in 1918, the Germans received a thorough indoctrination in the ability of the Marines. Fighting through supposedly impenetrable woods and capturing supposedly untakeable terrain, the persistent attacks, delivered with unbelievable courage, soon had the Germans calling Marines *teufelhunden*, referring to the fierce fighting dogs of legendary origin.

### **Esprit de Corps**

A French term for the spirit of a unit, commonly reflected by all members. It implies devotion and loyalty to the Marine Corps, with deep regard for history, traditions, and honor.

### **First to Fight**

Marines have been in the forefront of every American war since the founding of the Corps. They have carried out over 300 landings on foreign shores. They have served everywhere, from the poles to the tropics. Their record of readiness reflects pride, responsibility, and challenge.

### **Gyrenes**

The term gyrene is a joking reference to Marines first used in England as early as 1894, and in the United States around the time of WW I. Its exact origin is unknown, but it did appear to have a derogatory meaning in its early usage. It has been suggested that the term may embody a reference to *pollywog*, a naval slang term for a person who has not yet crossed the equator, hence, a landlubber.

### **"Have gone to Florida to fight Indians"**

In 1836 the Creek and Seminole Indian tribes in Georgia and Florida were waging war against the United States. The U. S. Army had its hands full. The Fifth Commandant of the Marine Corps offered the services of a regiment of Marines for duty with the Army. Archibald Henderson placed himself in command and, taking virtually the entire available strength of the Corps, left for the extended campaign after tacking a terse message on his office door which read: "Have gone to Florida to fight Indians. Will be back when war is over, A. Henderson, Col. Commandant"

### **Jarhead**

A slang term used by sailors as early as WW II to refer to members of the Marine Corps, drawing the term from the resemblance of the Marine dress blue uniform, with its high collar, to a Mason jar. (Mason jars were used for home canning.)

### **Leathernecks**

The Marines' long-standing nickname goes back to the leather stock or neckpiece, a part of the uniform intended to ensure that Marines kept their heads erect. Beginning in 1798, "one stock of black leather and clasp" was issued to each U. S. Marine annually. This stiff leather collar, fastened by two buckles at the back, measured nearly three and a half inches high, and was practical only for full-dress wear. It could hardly be worn in battle as it prevented the neck movement necessary for sighting along a barrel. The stock was dropped as an article of Marine uniform in 1872, after surviving through the uniform changes of 1833, 1839, and 1859. But by then it was a part of American vocabulary, a word preserved, like so many words, beyond its original meaning.

### **Once a Marine, Always a Marine**

Having earned the title of "Marine" it becomes an integral part of who and what we will become in later life. The motto of the Marine Corps League.

### ***Semper Fidelis***

"Always Faithful" is the motto of the Corps. That Marines have lived up to this motto is proved by the fact that there has never been a mutiny, or even the thought of one, among U.S. Marines.

### **Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue**

Admiral Nimitz's ringing tribute to Marine fighting on Iwo Jima, the largest all-Marine battle in history, was applied to the entire Marine Corps in WW II. Inscribed on the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial.

# LEATHERNECK LINGO QUIZ

Fill in the blanks below with one of the terms in the following list:

DI, Deployment, Doc, Gung Ho, Junk on the bunk,  
Hashmark, Ooh-Rah, Recon, Recruit, Semper Fi,  
Squared Away

\_\_\_\_\_ : medic or corpsman; Navy corpsmen are assigned to Marine units as medical personnel.

\_\_\_\_\_ : when a Marine's unit departs its home base for an extended period of time

\_\_\_\_\_ : short for *Semper Fidelis* or "Always Faithful" in Latin; most mottoes are in Latin

\_\_\_\_\_ : ready, fired up, enthusiastic; the phrase is Chinese for "working together"

\_\_\_\_\_ : stripes worn on forearm of dress and service uniforms by enlisted Marines; each denotes four years of service

\_\_\_\_\_ : drill instructor

\_\_\_\_\_ : Marine Corps motivational term when exclaimed loudly; an affirmative reply or term of concurrence like "Right On!"

\_\_\_\_\_ : reconnaissance; going out to observe for the purpose of identifying enemy activity

\_\_\_\_\_ : prepared, taken care of, sharp looking; "That's one \_\_\_\_\_ Marine!"

\_\_\_\_\_ : field gear and uniforms displayed on bed for inspection

\_\_\_\_\_ : (noun) an individual attending boot camp; (verb) encourage someone to join the USMC

## LEATHERNECK LINGO QUIZ – ANSWER KEY

**Doc** medic or corpsman; Navy corpsmen are assigned to Marine units as medical personnel

**Deployment** when a Marine's unit departs its home base for an extended period of time

**Semper Fi** short for *Semper Fidelis*, "Always Faithful" in Latin, (most mottoes are in Latin)

**Gung Ho** ready, fired up, enthusiastic; the phrase is Chinese for "working together"

**Hashmark** stripes worn on the forearm of dress and service uniforms by enlisted Marines, each denotes four years of service

**DI** Drill Instructor

**Ooh-Rah** Marine Corps motivational term when exclaimed loudly; an affirmative reply or term of concurrence (like "Right On")

**Recon** reconnaissance; going out to observe for the purpose of identifying enemy activity

**Squared Away** prepared, taken care of, sharp looking ("That's one squared away Marine!")

**Junk on the bunk** field gear and uniforms displayed on bed for inspection

**Recruit** (noun) an individual attending boot camp; (verb) encourage someone to join the USMC

# Marine Corps History Quiz

*Use your reconnaissance skills and observation abilities to find answers to these questions in the Museum.*

**1. Who was the first commandant of the Marine Corps?**

General Krulak     Major Smedley Butler     Capt Sam Nicholas     Colonel Slick

**2. The first Marines were recruited at**

Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, PA     Tavern on the Green in New York     Ton Tavern in Philadelphia, PA  
 Hun Tavern in Berlin, MD

**3. "Semper Fidelis" is the Marine Corps motto. It is Latin for**

Always Friendly     Always Faithful     Always Ready     Always Prepared

**4. Our mascot, "Chesty" the bulldog, is named for an officer who received five Navy Crosses for heroic action in combat. Who was he?**

LtCol Chesty Fuller     LtGen Chesty Puller     Capt Chesty Nicholas     Major Chesty Butler

**5. Who was the first Marine aviator and the "father of Marine aviation?"**

Capt Alfred E. Newman     Richie Cunningham     Lt Randy Cunningham     Capt Alfred Cunningham

**6. The battle of Belleau Wood was fought in which war?**

Revolutionary War     Civil War     World War One     World War Two

**7. What is the name of the Marine Corps officers' sword?**

Saber     Marmaduke     Mameluke     Cool Hand Luke

**8. Marines fought at the Chosin Reservoir during which conflict?**

World War One     World War Two     Korean War     Vietnam

**9. Which of the following is NOT a nickname for Marines?**

Devil Dogs     Leathernecks     Grunts     GI Joes

**10. The siege of the Marine base at Khe Sanh took place during which war?**

Viet Nam     Korean     World War Two     World War One

**11. The Continental Congress authorized the formation of two battalions of Marines on:**

11 November 1776     10 November 1775     4 July 1776     1 Jan 1900

**12. Who commanded the assault and capture of the fortress at Derna, Tripoli in 1805?**

Lt Elvis O'Bannon     Lt Elvis Presley     Lt Presley O'Bannon     Lt Darby O'Gill

**13. Which Commandant is known as the "grand old man of the Marine Corps?" He helped prevent President Andrew Jackson from transferring the Marines into the United States Army in 1829.**

Gen Thomas Holcomb     LtGen John Lejeune     MajGen Joe Pendelton     BrigGen Archibald Henderson

**14. Who was the 13th commandant, known for his development of Marine Corps amphibious warfare doctrine in the 1930s?**

Gen Al Gray     MajGen Smedley Butler     LtGen John A. Lejeune     BrigGen Archibald Henderson

**15. The Marine assault on \_\_\_\_\_ was the first combat test of Marine Corps amphibious doctrine in World War II.**

Guadalcanal     Tarawa     Iwo Jima     Okinawa

# Marine Corps History Quiz

## ANSWER KEY

1. Who was the first commandant of the Marine Corps? X\_Capt Sam Nicholas
2. The first Marines were recruited at X\_\_Tun Tavern in Philadelphia
3. "Semper Fidelis" is Latin for X\_\_Always Faithful
4. Our mascot, "Chesty" the bulldog, is named for X\_\_LtGen Chesty Puller
5. Who was the first Marine aviator and the "father of Marine aviation"? X\_Capt Alfred Cunningham
6. The battle of Belleau Wood was fought in which war? X\_\_World War One
7. What is the name of the Marine Corps officers' sword? X\_\_Mameluke
8. Marines fought at the Chosin Reservoir during which conflict? X\_\_Korean War
9. Which of the following is NOT a nickname for Marines? X\_\_GI Joes
10. The siege at Khe Sanh took place during which war? X\_Viet Nam
11. The Continental Congress authorized two battalions of Marines on: X\_10 November 1775
12. Who commanded the assault and capture of the fortress at Derna X\_Lt Presley O'Bannon
13. Which Commandant is known as the "grand old man?" X\_BrigGen Archibald Henderson
14. Who was the 13th commandant? X\_LtGen John A. Lejeune
15. The Marine assault on X\_Tarawa



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