



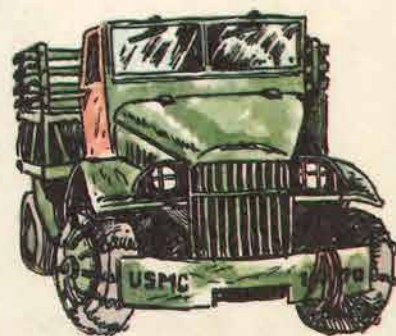
Marine Corps

RECRUIT DEPOT

PARRIS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

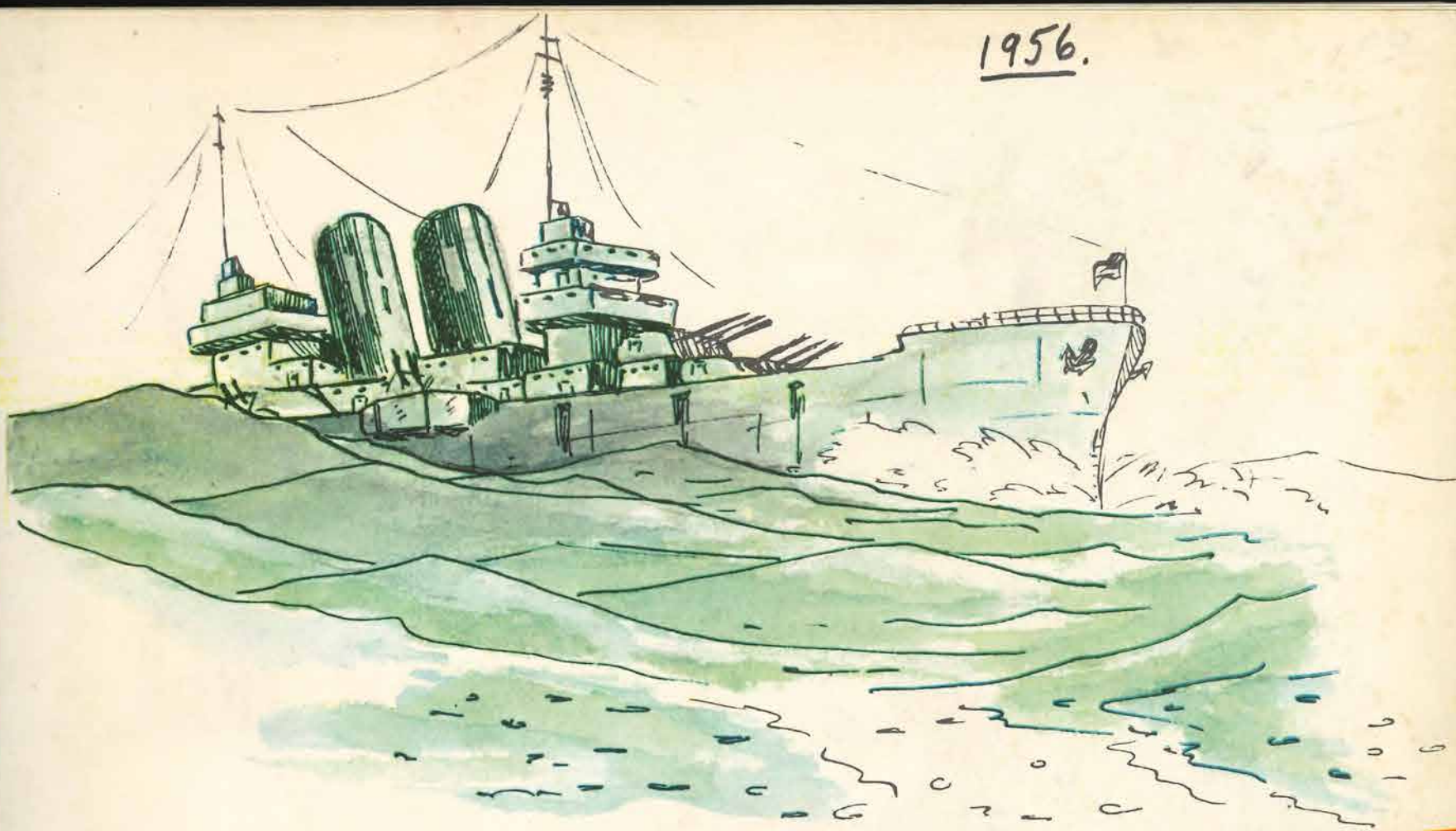
FOURTH BATTALION

PLATOON 68



make your choice...
then do your best

1956.



Iron Mike

ERECTED in memory of the men of Parris Island who gave their lives for freedom's cause during World War I, this bronze statue, affectionately nicknamed "Iron Mike," has been a familiar landmark to more than three hundred thousand Marines who have trained here since. The memorial was erected from funds given entirely by comrades of the fallen Marines, and typifies the traditional fighting spirit of the Marine Corps. Iron Mike originally stood in front of the old Post Inn, now the Depot Hostess House, and was moved to its present site in front of the Headquarters and Service Building in 1940.





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PARRIS ISLAND

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT

SOUTH CAROLINA





MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH C. BURGER

Commanding General

MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH C. BURGER, the Commanding General of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, is a veteran of more than 30 years Marine Corps service. He assumed his present duties on 13 January 1956, after having served as Director, Marine Corps Reserve, since June 1954.

Born 11 May 1902 at Washington, D. C., the general graduated from McKinley High School there and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland in June 1925.

Following Basic School at Philadelphia, General Burger saw service at various posts and stations in the United States, was on expeditionary duty in China, and at sea with Marine Detachments of the U.S.S. Utah and U.S.S. Arizona. He returned to China in April 1935, serving with the 4th Marine Regiment at Shanghai and later at the American Embassy in Peiping.

A Guadalcanal veteran of World War II, he won the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement at Bougainville as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, of the 1st Marine Amphibious Corps.

In July 1950, shortly after the outbreak of the Korean War, General Burger became Chief of Staff, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, at Pearl Harbor, where he served until November 1951.

He served as Assistant Division Commander, First Marine Division, in Korea from April 1953 until January 1954, receiving the Navy Distinguished Service Medal and the Republic of Korea's Ulchi Medal with Gold Star for meritorious achievement.

General Burger is married to the former Frances Fooks Freeny of Salisbury, Maryland. They now reside at Parris Island and are the parents of two children, a son, Joseph C., Jr. and a daughter, Eleanor.



COLONEL HENRY W. BUSE, JR.

Chief of Staff

COLONEL Henry W. Buse, Jr., Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, was commissioned in 1934 after graduation from the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

Colonel Buse served as Chief of Staff of the First Marine Division in Korea from September, 1952 until June, 1953, receiving the Legion of Merit and the Republic of Korea's Ulchi Medal with Silver Star for meritorious achievement.

He reported to Parris Island in July, 1954, after serving as assistant G-3 at Headquarters, Marine Corps. Prior to his present assignment, he served briefly as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, at Parris Island.

Colonel Buse was born April 10, 1912 at Ridley Park, Pennsylvania and attended schools there before entering the Naval Academy. After his graduation from Annapolis, he completed Basic School at Quantico, Virginia and was assigned sea duty. Later, he served as a Company Officer at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, T. H., and then completed a course of instruction in Armored Tank Warfare at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

The Colonel went to Cuba from Quantico in 1940 with the First Marine Brigade and was serving there when the First Marine Division was activated. He returned to New River, N. C., in 1941 with the First Division and was named executive officer of the 1st Tank Battalion.

In June, 1942, he went overseas with the First Division and participated in the initial assault on Guadalcanal, winning the Bronze Star Medal during action there. As commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine, Colonel Buse next took part in the Cape Gloucester operation in December 1943, where he was awarded the Silver Star Medal.

He left the 7th Marines to become executive officer and later commanding officer of the 5th Marines. With the 5th Marines, the Colonel took part in the landings at Talazea, New Britain, where he won a second Bronze Star Medal.

Colonel Buse is married to the former Miss Dorothy Snow of Baltimore, Maryland, and they now reside on Parris Island. They are the parents of two children; a daughter, Barbara; and, a son, Henry W., III.

PARRIS ISLAND DEPOT TRAINS

PARRIS ISLAND, home of basic training for today's Marines east of the Mississippi, has had a long and colorful history. Although the first Marine Corps activity on the island was in June, 1891, the story of its occupancy by the white man reaches back into antiquity for over three centuries.

Located off the South Carolina coast, Parris Island is midway between Charleston, S. C. and Savannah, Ga., opposite Port Royal, S. C. This flat, sandy piece of land covers an area of approximately 8400 acres and is covered with the verdure of the semi-tropics.

COMING OF THE WHITE MAN

The first attempt of the white people to settle within the present bounds of South Carolina took place on Parris Island. Probably the first white man to discover the island was Velaquez de Ayllon, a Spaniard in search of slaves and gold. De Ayllon landed in 1526, named the island St. Helena, and claimed it for Spain. Fifty years later the French Huguenots, intent on planting a colony, landed at Parris Island.

Jean Ribaut and his Huguenot friends left France for America on February 18, 1562, and after a hazardous two months at sea, reached Parris Island. Ribaut built Charles Fort (Arx Carolina), named for Charles IX, King of France, on the southeastern tip of the island. Here he left the 26 men he hoped would form the nucleus of a colony and returned to France.

FIRST MAP DRAWN

Historians are indebted to one member of this expedition in particular. He was a cartographer named Lenoyne, a man of considerable ability, who drew a map of the region. The map firmly establishes that Charles Fort was located on Parris Island. In the office of the present day Commanding General are photographic copies of this ancient map and its legend in translation.

Charles Fort, long abandoned, was rediscovered in 1663 by William Hilton of Barbados while exploring the newly chartered province of Carolina.

A title to the island was established in 1700. In the year 1698, the Lords Proprietors of South Carolina made a grant to Major Robert Daniell in the extent of 48,000 acres. Parris Island was

among the lands selected by Major Daniell, and the grant certificate, dated June 14, 1700, is still preserved.

PROPERTY CHANGES HANDS

Before the end of the year in 1700, Port Royal Island, as it was then known, became the property of Edward Archer. In 1715, the public treasurer of South Carolina, Alexander Parris, secured title to the island. The present day name of "Parris Island" dates back to this ownership.

Down through the years Charles Fort became obscured by a dense growth of trees and underbrush, and the island itself became the site of seven plantations. At one time a row of slave huts stood near the site of the ancient Fort.

In 1861, during the War Between the States, a fleet of Federal vessels anchored off Port Royal, bombarded and captured Fort Beauregard and Fort Walker on Bay Point and Hilton Head. Marines and seamen held the forts and surrounding territory until relieved by the forces of General Sherman.

SHIPPING CENTER

In olden days the harbor of Port Royal was used extensively as a shipping point for foreign and coastwise shipping. It was such a fine natural harbor that the entire United States Fleet rode at anchor there in 1874.

The Marines landed on June 26, 1891. On that day First Sergeant Richard Donovan, USMC, and a small detachment of Marines were posted on Parris Island for duty with the Naval Station. This Marine Corps post rendered outstanding service in preserving life and property during the hurricane and tidal wave disaster of 1893. The unit was again commended for heroic action during the severe storms of 1898.

TRAINING SCHOOL SET UP

The first Marine Corps school started on the island was the Officers school that was established in 1909. Two years later a small recruit depot was set up, only to be transferred later to Norfolk, Va., and to Charleston, S. C. The buildings that were built for the Marine Corps on Parris Island then reverted to the Navy for use as Naval Disciplinary Barracks.



OUR FINEST FIGHTING MEN

The Navy turned back the Parris Island facilities to the Marine Corps on November 1, 1915, and the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, then stationed at Norfolk, Va., moved back to the island. Parris Island has remained in the hands of the United States Marine Corps from that day to the present time.

The Government took over the entire island in 1917 and utilized the facilities to train our Marines for World War I.

REDISCOVERING THE OLD FORT

In 1923, the site of old Charles Fort underwent a careful excavation and most of the stout cedar stockade was found to be still in existence. Such pieces as 5-inch cannon balls and rusted, handwrought iron spikes were found to add to the island's ancient Indian relics. With much of the ancient fort exposed, photographs were taken, and the area carefully covered over again with sand. Concrete pillars were set to give the corner markers of the fort and the area converted into an attractive park.

Prior to 1929, all transportation to and from the island was by way of small boats which operated between the post docks and Port Royal. In that year the Horse Island Bridge and causeways were completed to end the era of water transportation. The latter additions of the Battery Creek Bridge and the outgoing side of the Horse Island Bridge have made for easy access to the island.

CONSTRUCTION CHANGES

During 1929 through 1931 economy was the watchword and expansion was curtailed. In 1937, however, existing Main Station barracks were torn down for the construction of the present day brick barracks.

Recruit training on a battalion basis was not introduced until August of 1940. With the organization of the First Battalion on August 6th came in quick succession the formation of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Battalions. The intake skyrocketed after Pearl Harbor with 5,272 recruits arriving during that fateful December alone. A record 9,206 arrivals was set in January as the 9th and 10th Battalions were added to the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Battalions. As the war influx continued, five of the existing battalions were sent to New River, North Carolina to train; then the 11th, 12th

and 13th Battalions were activated.

SLOWDOWN COMMENCES

The eventual cutback started in 1944 when the 12th and 13th Battalions were disbanded. In September, with the intake reduced to 1,556, the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th Recruit Battalions were deactivated. Towards the end of 1945, Battalions 5 and 6 were finally disbanded.

Between 1941 and 1945 a total of 204,509 recruits were trained at Parris Island. At the time of the Japanese surrender, the island housed 20,000 recruits, the largest number in the history of the Recruit Depot.

WAR'S AFTERMATH

After World War II the depot was staggered by one of history's most rapid demobilizations. At one time prior to the outbreak in Korea, only two recruit battalions were in operation.

In December, 1946, the organization of the Post was revised and the official designation became Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island.

Activities on the island began to take a sharp increase in the summer of 1950 when a large number of reserves reported for active duty along with the recruits. Battalions were re-established gradually to handle the increase and in February, 1951, the 7th Battalion was reactivated for the first time since August, 1944. The 3rd Recruit Training Battalion is devoted exclusively to Women Marines.

OTHER TRAINING SCHOOLS

The post at Parris Island also has schools for training clerk-typists, recruiters, field musics and bandsmen. The Parris Island Band is famous in this section of the country for its stirring martial music in the many personal appearance the unit makes.

Now geared for a wartime load, the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island handles some two-thirds of all Marine trainees. The only other "boot" camp is located at San Diego, California, to train male recruits from the area west of the Mississippi.





ENTRANCE TO **MARINE CORPS RECRUIT**



HOME OF BASIC TRAINING FOR TODAY'S MARINES

DEPOT

PARRIS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

ARRIVALS





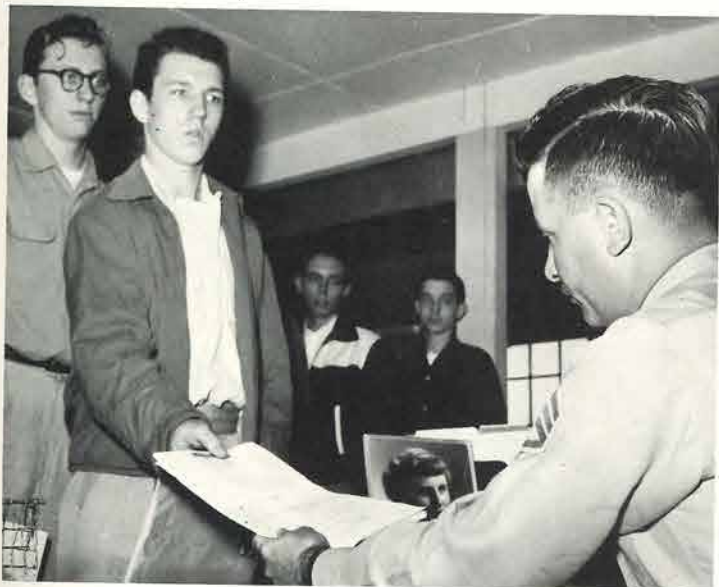
CHECKING IN AT THE MAIN GATE



Iwo Monument

SCULPTED from Joe Rosenthal's immortal photograph of Marines raising the Stars and Stripes atop Mt. Suribachi during the bitter fight for Iwo Jima in February, 1945, this statue is one of Parris Island's most inspiring attractions. Unveiled in September, 1952, by Major General Merwin H. Silverthorn, then commanding general of Parris Island, the monument here was a sculptor's model for a gigantic bronze memorial which now stands near Arlington National Cemetery overlooking the Potomac River in Washington, D. C. Inscribed on the monument is Admiral Chester Nimitz' tribute to the heroic marines who wrested the Island from superior Japanese forces . . . "Uncommon valor was a common virtue."



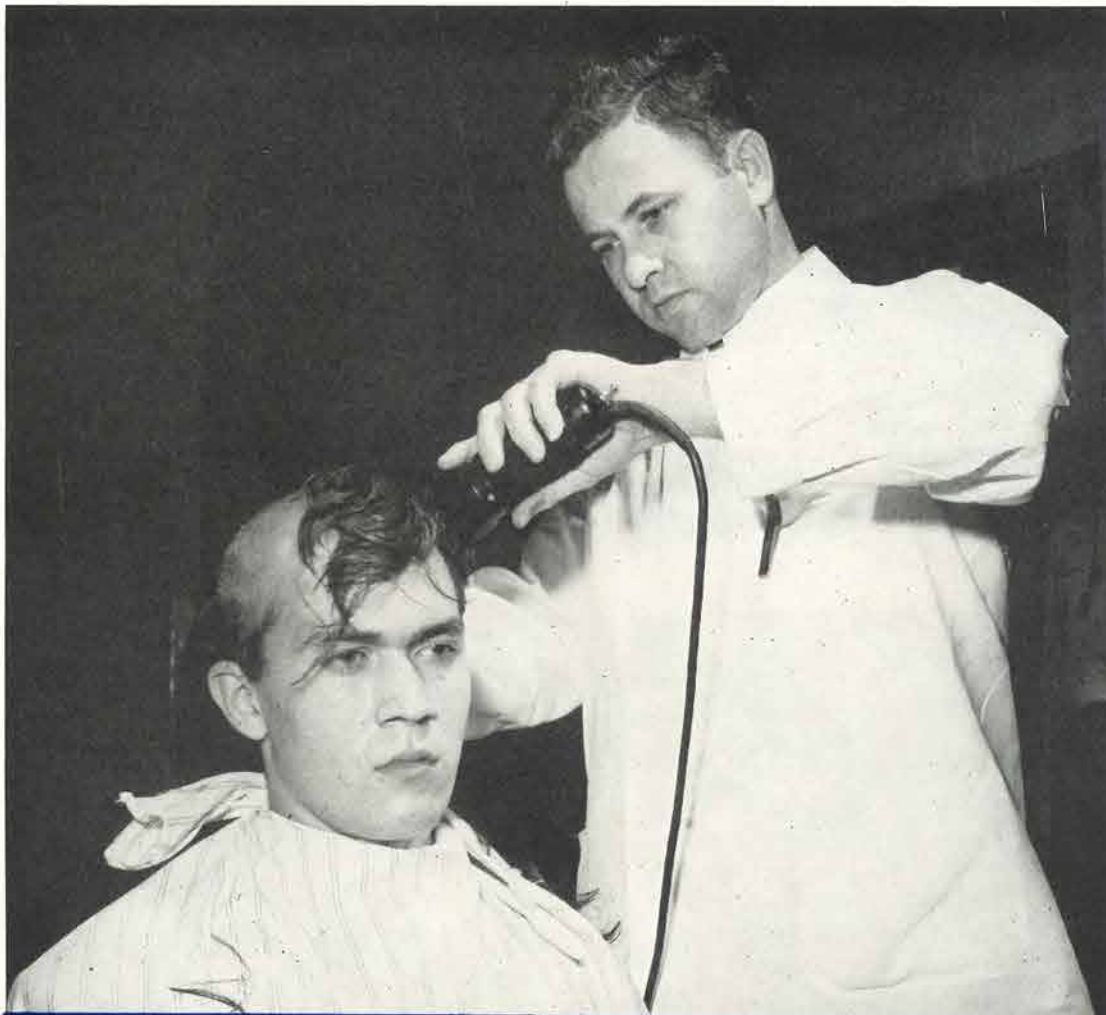




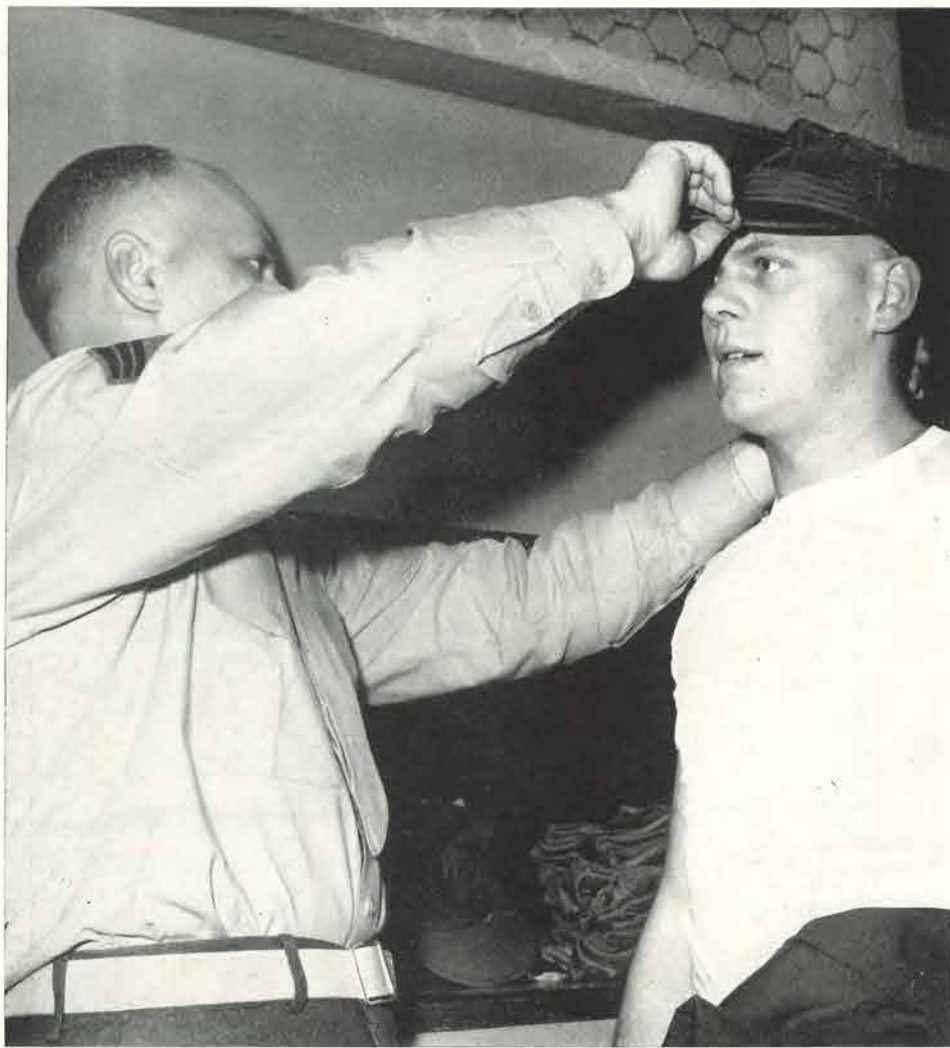
THE FIRST STOP







PROCESSING IN

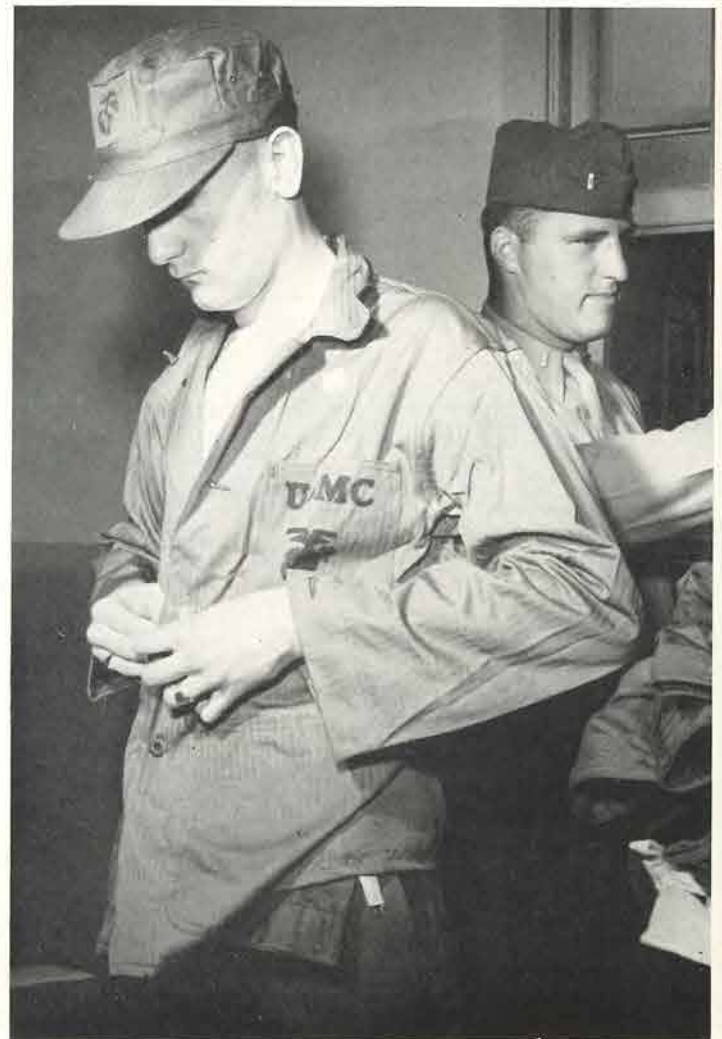


PROCESSING IN

On arrival at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, the new recruit is swept immediately into a whirlwind of activity—a fast moving, tightly packed schedule called “processing in,” in which he begins his metamorphosis from civilian to Marine.

After he checks in at the main gate his first stop is the recruit receiving section where he turns in his orders. It is here that he has his first encounter with his Drill Instructor, a raucous-voiced paragon of military virtue whose barked commands he will follow during his ten-week training cycle.

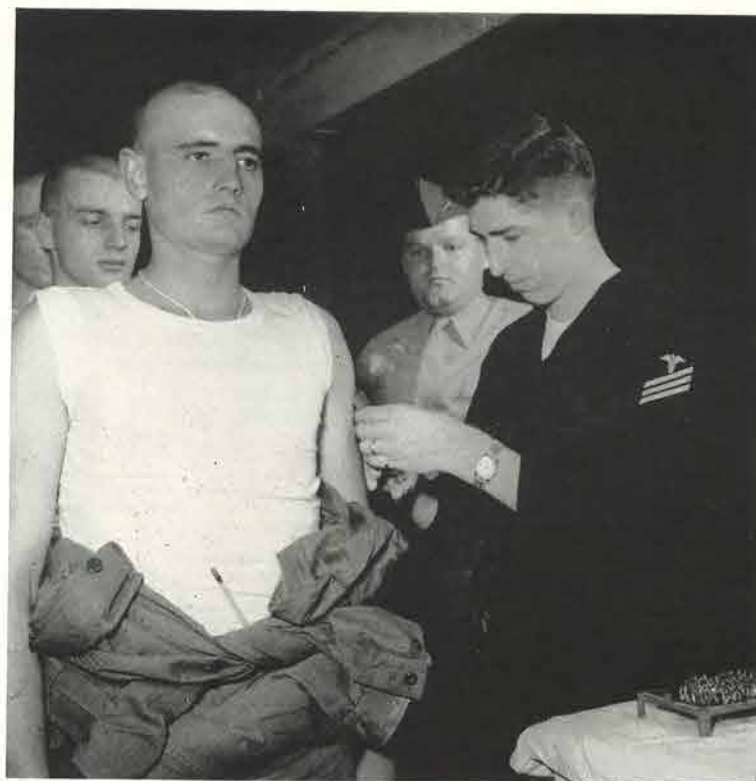
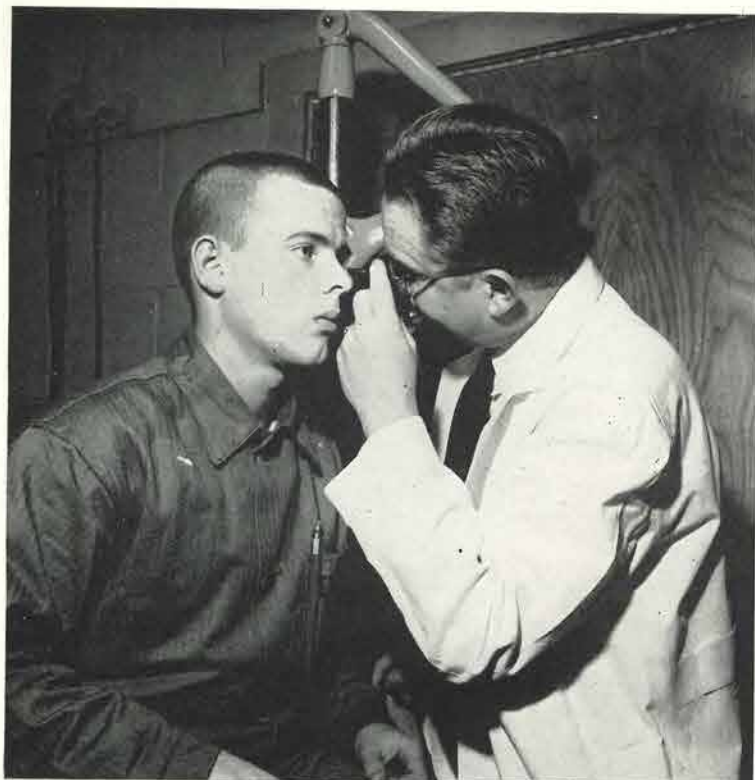
INITIAL



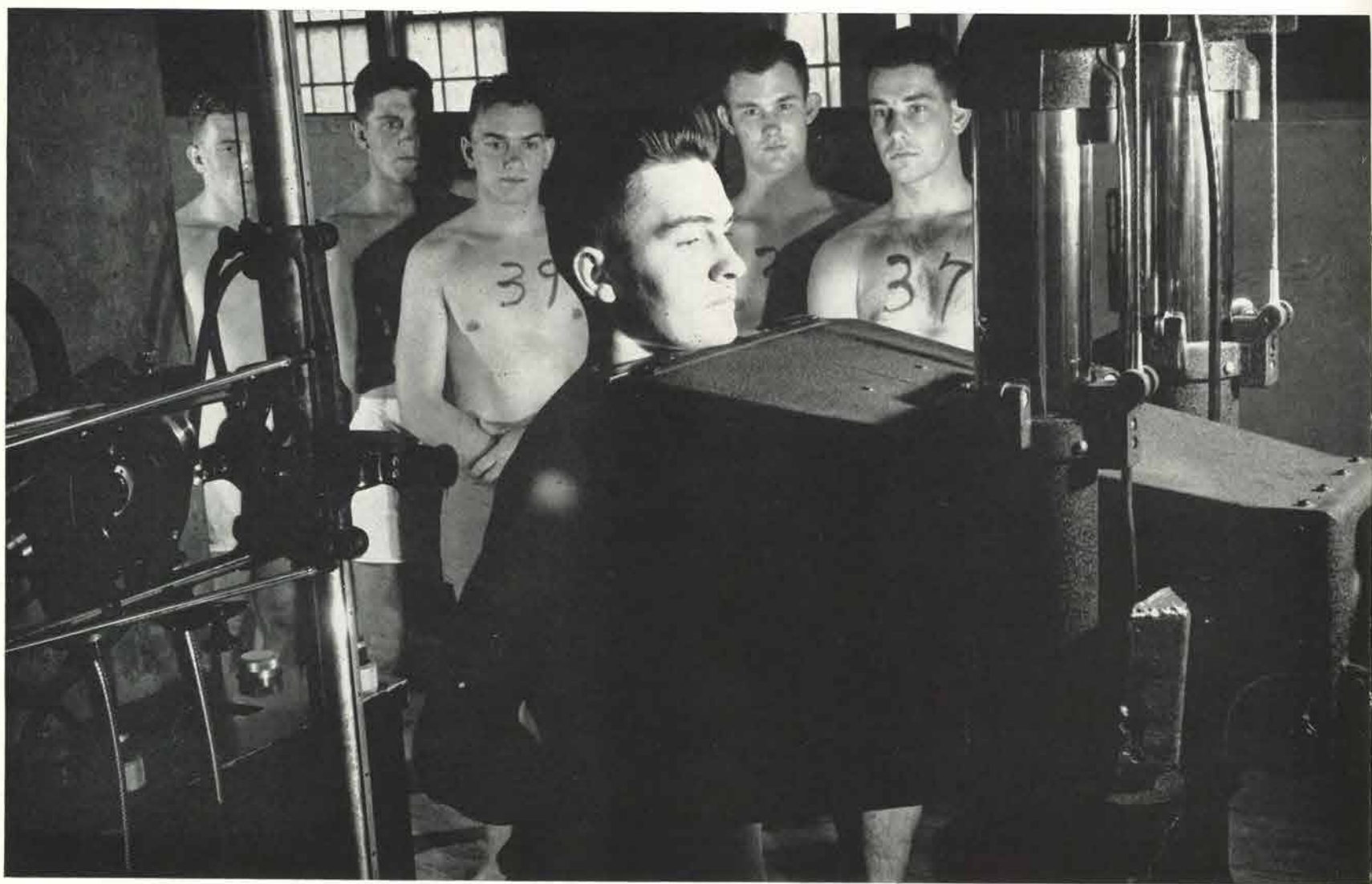
Next on the agenda is a visit to the hygienic unit for a haircut—boot camp style—and his initial issue of uniforms and boots. Because of traditional Marine Corps stress on neatness in appearance, all clothing is fitted under the watchful eye of a witnessing officer who insures that each individual is fitted correctly. Particular care is paid to the fitting of field boots, as emphasis is also placed on proper care of the feet. The recruit will spend many hours on the drill field. Next come Dental and Medical Examinations, inoculations, classification and orientation and the recruit is then led to his battalion area to end an exhausting day.

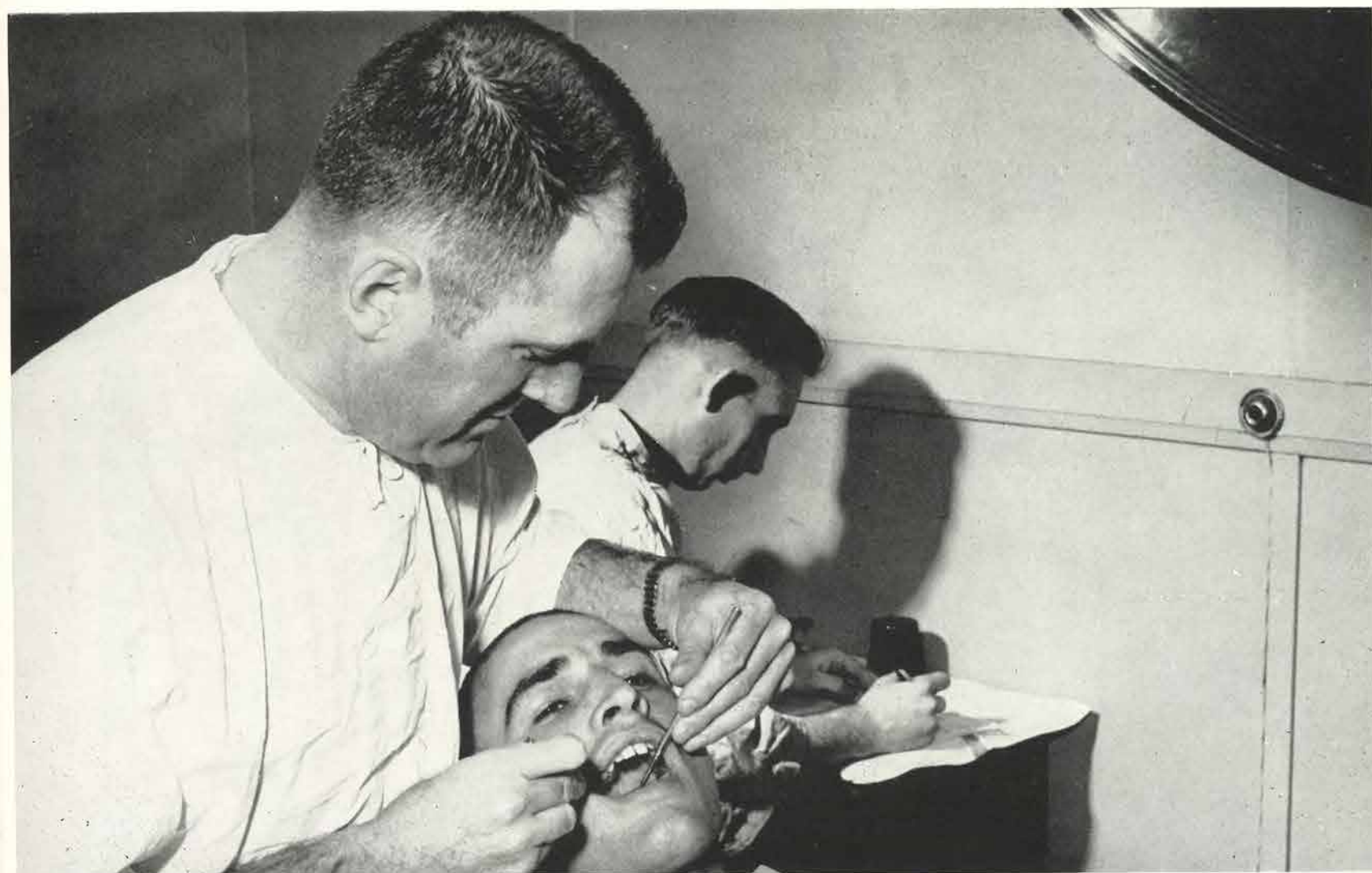
ISSUE



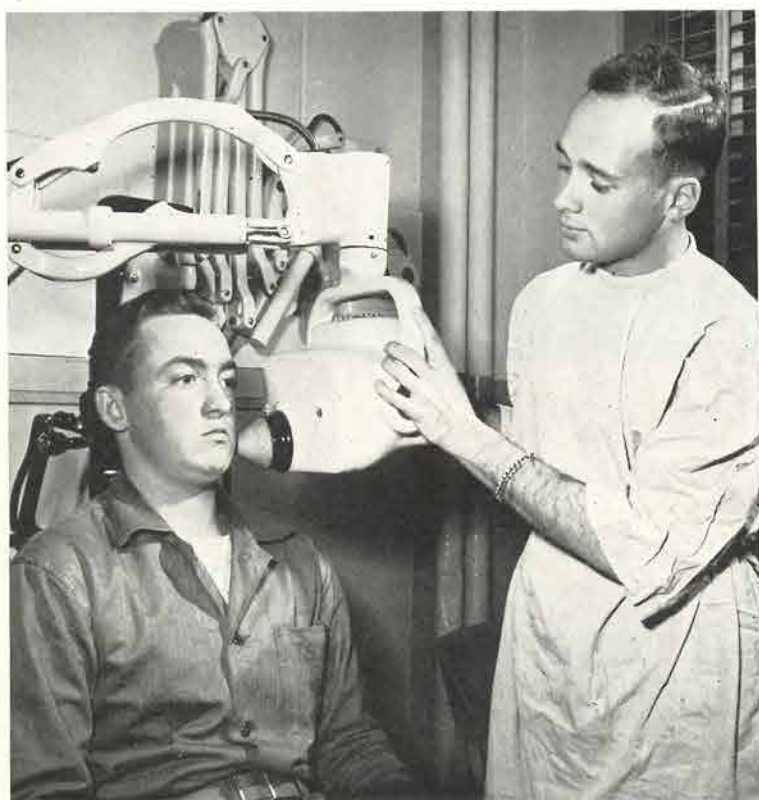


MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS





DENTAL EXAMINATIONS





EQUIPMENT ISSUE

BEWILDERMENT creases the Recruit's face the first time he gazes on an alien assortment of straps, buckles and poles laid out for issue to him. Termed "782 Gear" in Marine vernacular, this equipment is given to the recruit at the beginning of his training at Parris Island. Instruction on the proper care and use begins in earnest at the time of issue. It consists of canteen, cup, cover, meat can, knapsack, haversack, shelter half, tent pole and pegs and other sundry items. The recruit's first instruction covers the purpose and use of these items of equipment. Then he is taught to assemble the different field packs, be-



ginning with the light marching pack and ending with the giant, 72-pound field transport pack in which is carried individual bedding, shelter, rations and extra clothing for extended operations in the field.

The M-1 Rifle is an item of separate issue. Each weapon is thoroughly inspected and its condition at the time of issue is carefully noted. When the recruit turns in his weapon at the conclusion of his training cycle, it is again inspected and he is held accountable for each defect found. Such a system, together with daily rifle inspections, breeds responsibility in keeping weapons clean and in top condition.

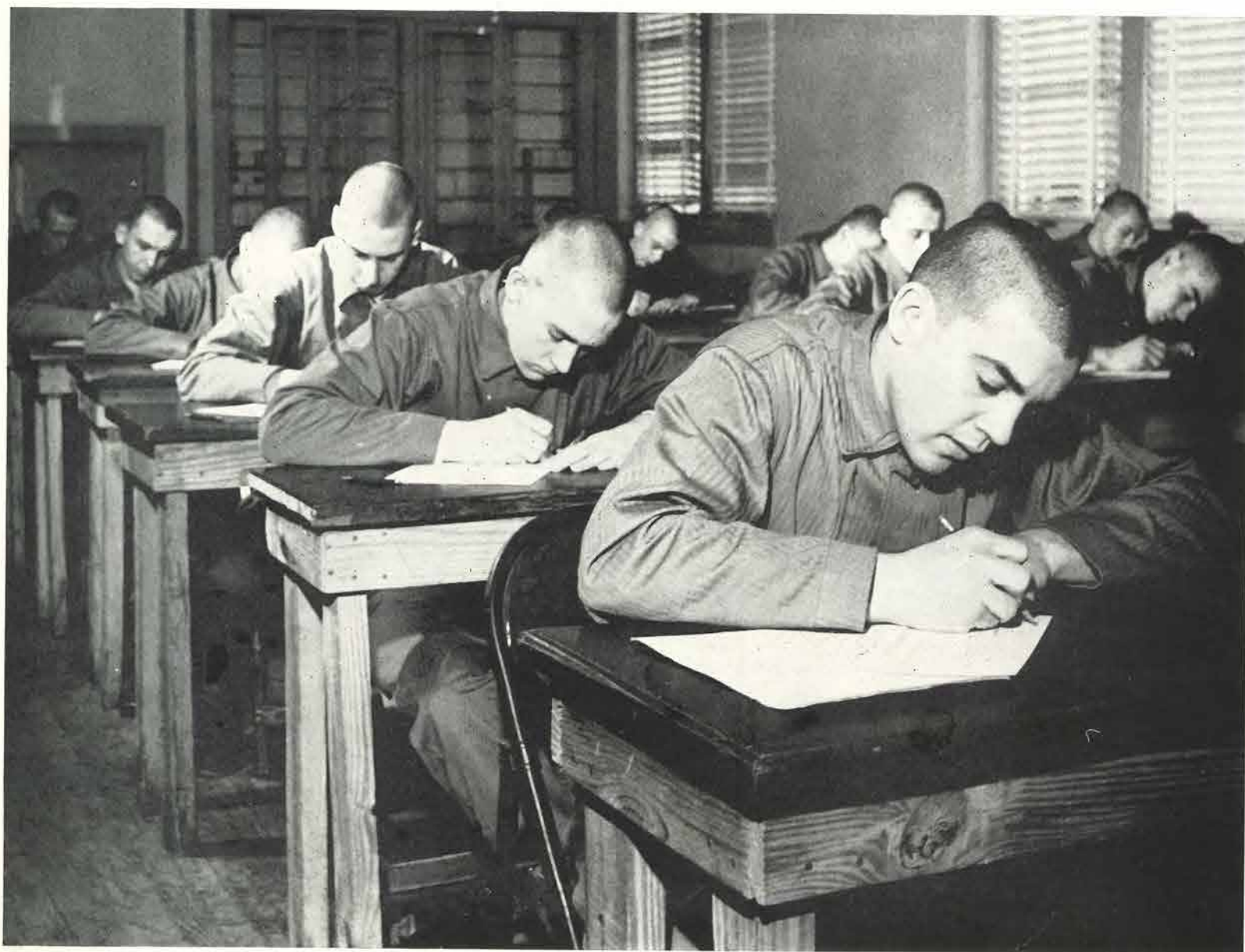
RIFLE ISSUE

CLASSIFICATION

Building No. 288 on Parris Island is a neat yellow concrete structure housing the island's testing and classification center. In this building each recruit spends a complete work day during the very early stages of his boot training. He is interviewed

about his background and practical experience before entering the Marine Corps. The recruit is also tested on his general ability to learn and is given special aptitude tests to measure civilian experience and skills in the use of office machines, radio and electronic equipment, etc.

Results of the tests and interviews are placed in each recruit's official record, and will follow him throughout his Marine Corps career. The scores of these tests are used in determining the duty assignments for individual recruits after training.

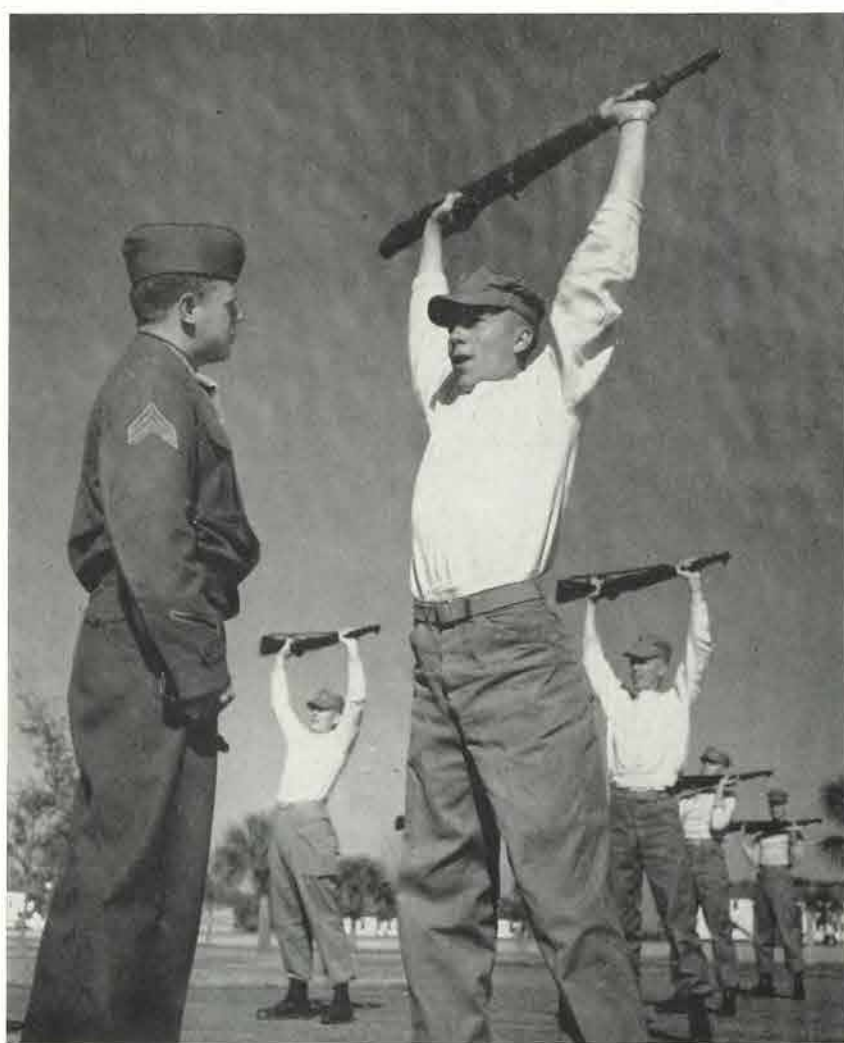
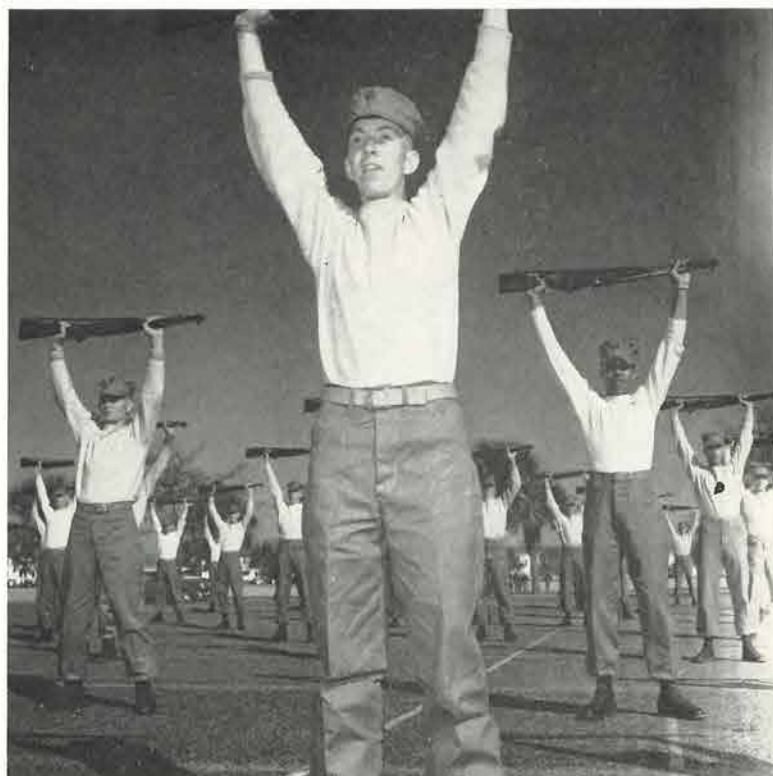


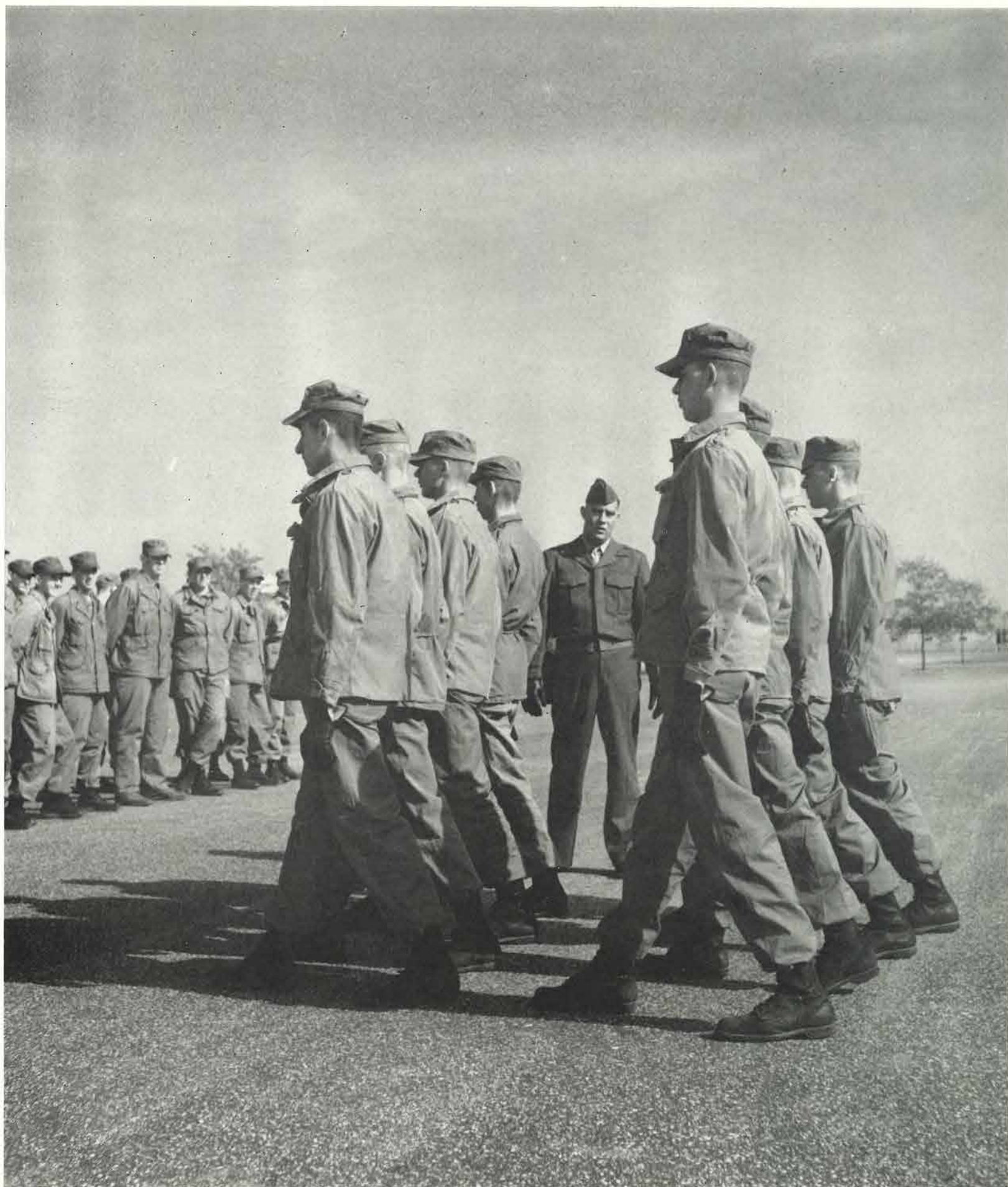


MAIN STATION

PHYSICAL fitness is another important phase of the recruit's training cycle. Besides the physical advantages of increased body conditioning, it breeds confidence, aggressiveness and self-reliance, all necessary qualities in a military man for operations in the field.

PHYSICAL TRAINING





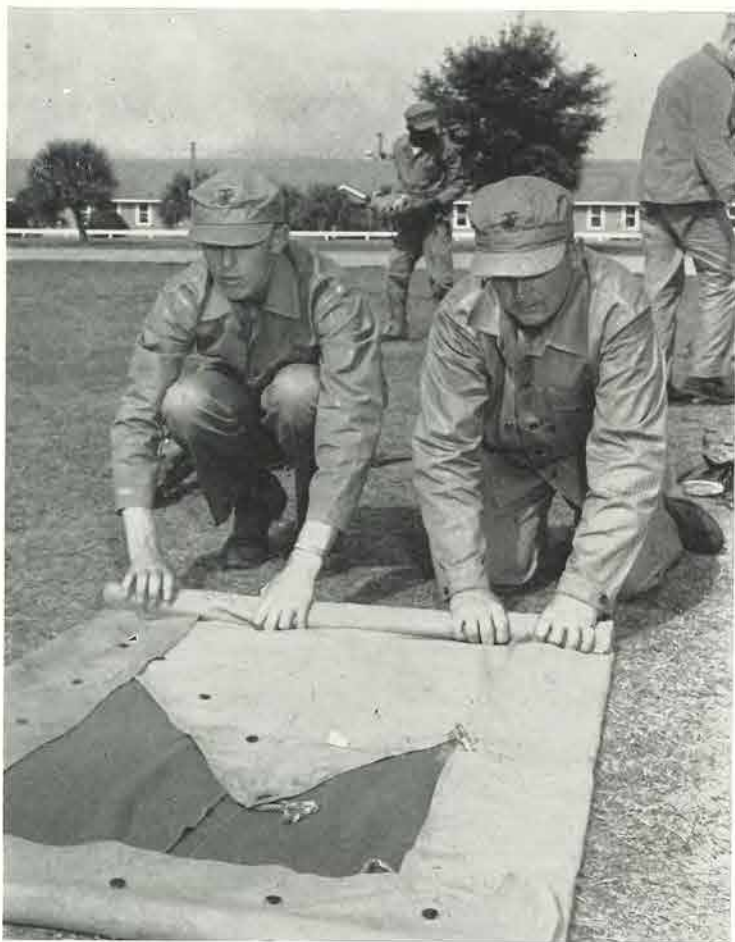
DRILL

HWAN, hup, threep, foh, yo lef—the inimitable chanting cadence of the Marine Drill Instructor is heard from dawn to sunset by the recruit. Two types of close order drill are taught the recruit during his ten weeks at Parris Island. The military bearing and personal carriage of boot camp graduates evidence the perfection obtained in but a few short weeks.



DRILL



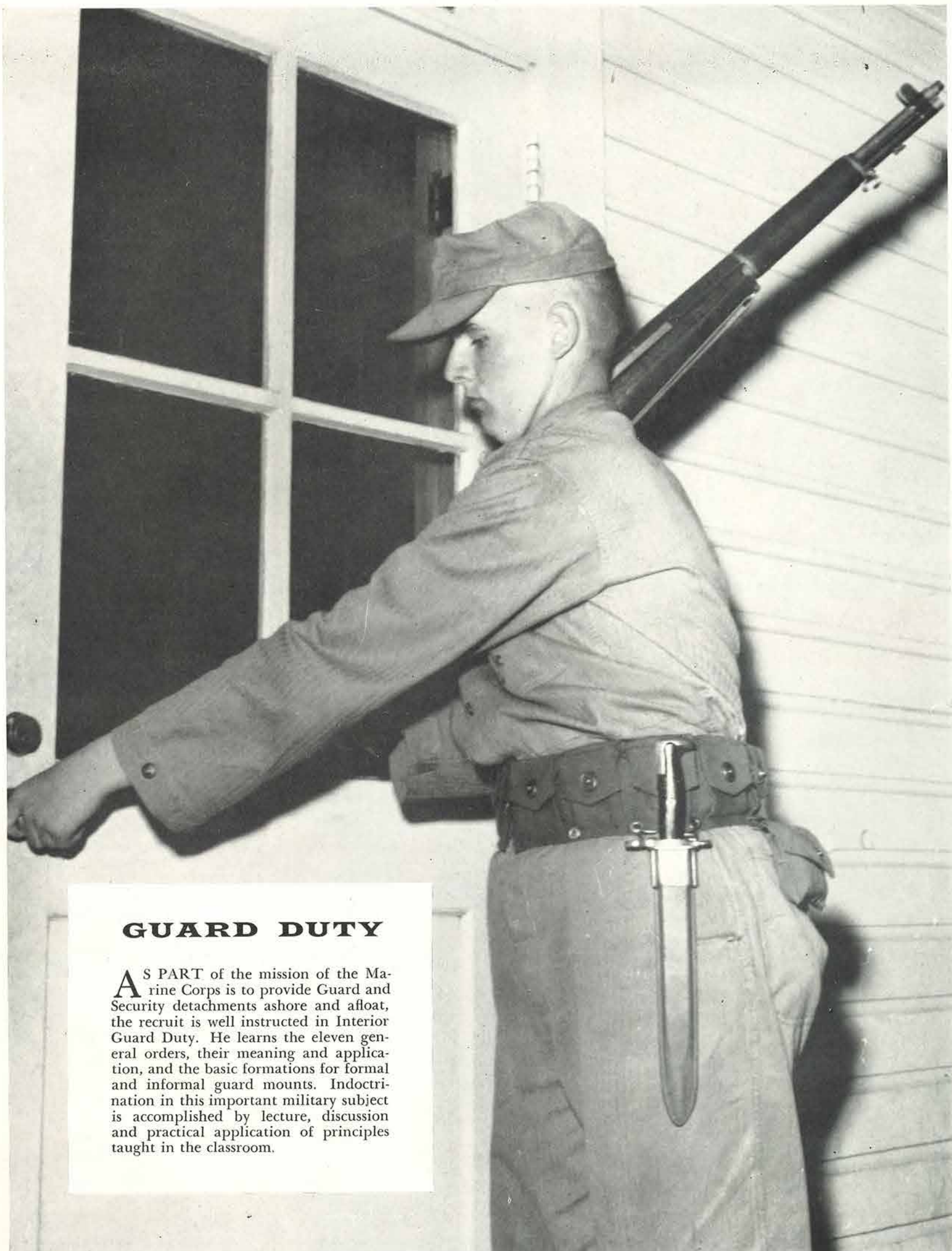


THE PACK

THE Marine Corps Pack M-1941, is designed to carry, without crowding, the necessary items of clothing and equipment when going into combat. The pack consists of haversack, knapsack, belt, suspenders and blanket roll.

During recruit training, "boots" are taught the nomenclature and assembly of the pack, and put into actual practice what they have learned by living out of the pack during the Elliotts Beach bivouac.





GUARD DUTY

AS PART of the mission of the Marine Corps is to provide Guard and Security detachments ashore and afloat, the recruit is well instructed in Interior Guard Duty. He learns the eleven general orders, their meaning and application, and the basic formations for formal and informal guard mounts. Indoctrination in this important military subject is accomplished by lecture, discussion and practical application of principles taught in the classroom.



My Rifle

THIS is my rifle. There are many like it, but this one is mine.

My rifle is my best friend. It is my life. I must master it as I master my life.

My rifle, without me is useless. Without my rifle, I am useless. I must fire my rifle true. I must shoot straighter than my enemy who is trying to kill me. I must shoot him before he shoots me. I will. . . .

My rifle and myself know that what counts in this war is not the rounds we fire, the noise of our burst, nor the smoke we make. We know that it is the hits that count. We will hit. . .

My rifle is human, even as I, because it is my life. Thus, I will learn it as a brother. I will learn its weaknesses, its strength, its parts, its accessories, its sights, and its barrel. I will keep my rifle clean and ready, even as I am clean and ready. We will become part of each other.

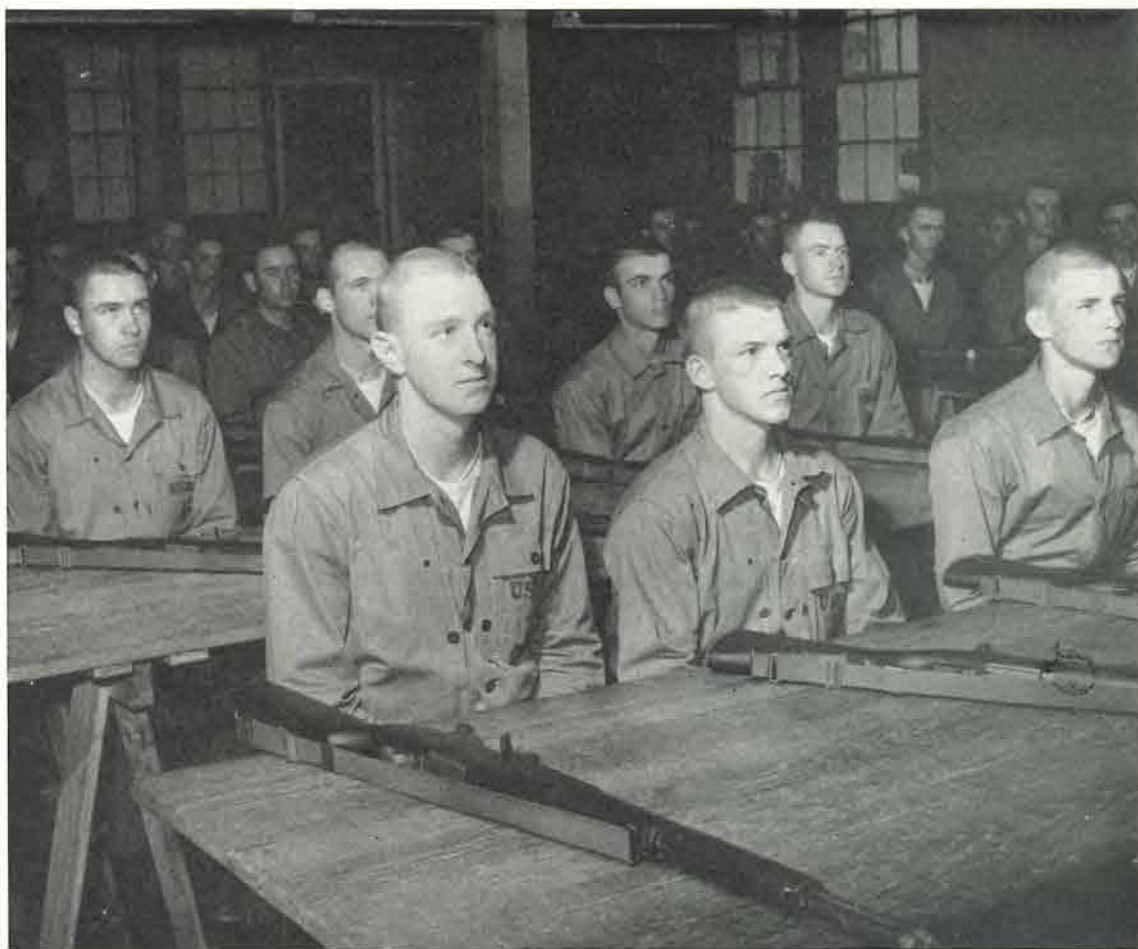
We will. . . .

Before God I swear this creed. My rifle and myself are the defenders of my country. We are the masters of our enemy. We are the saviors of my life.

So be it, until victory is America's and there is no enemy, but Peace!

MARINES have long been known for their excellent marksmanship. Therefore instruction in the use of the rifle is exacting and thorough. Recruits are taught the general characteristics, disassembly, assembly, functioning, care and cleaning. Instruction is given using both cut-away models and the recruit's own rifle, as lectures and individual participation.

Care and cleaning of the weapon is stressed heavily, since experience has shown that the majority of rifles that become unserviceable do



RIFLE CLASS

so due to lack of care and not from firing. Each man is responsible for the care and cleaning of his own rifle.

Functions of the rifle are also stressed in order that it may be kept in proper working order. A man must automatically know what to do when his weapon fails to fire, since a failure to function in combat could be fatal.

All men are taught the fundamentals of rifle marksmanship. Unless the sights are set for windage and elevation, you cannot expect to hit the target. Recruits are taught windage and elevation rules, and how to set and change sights.





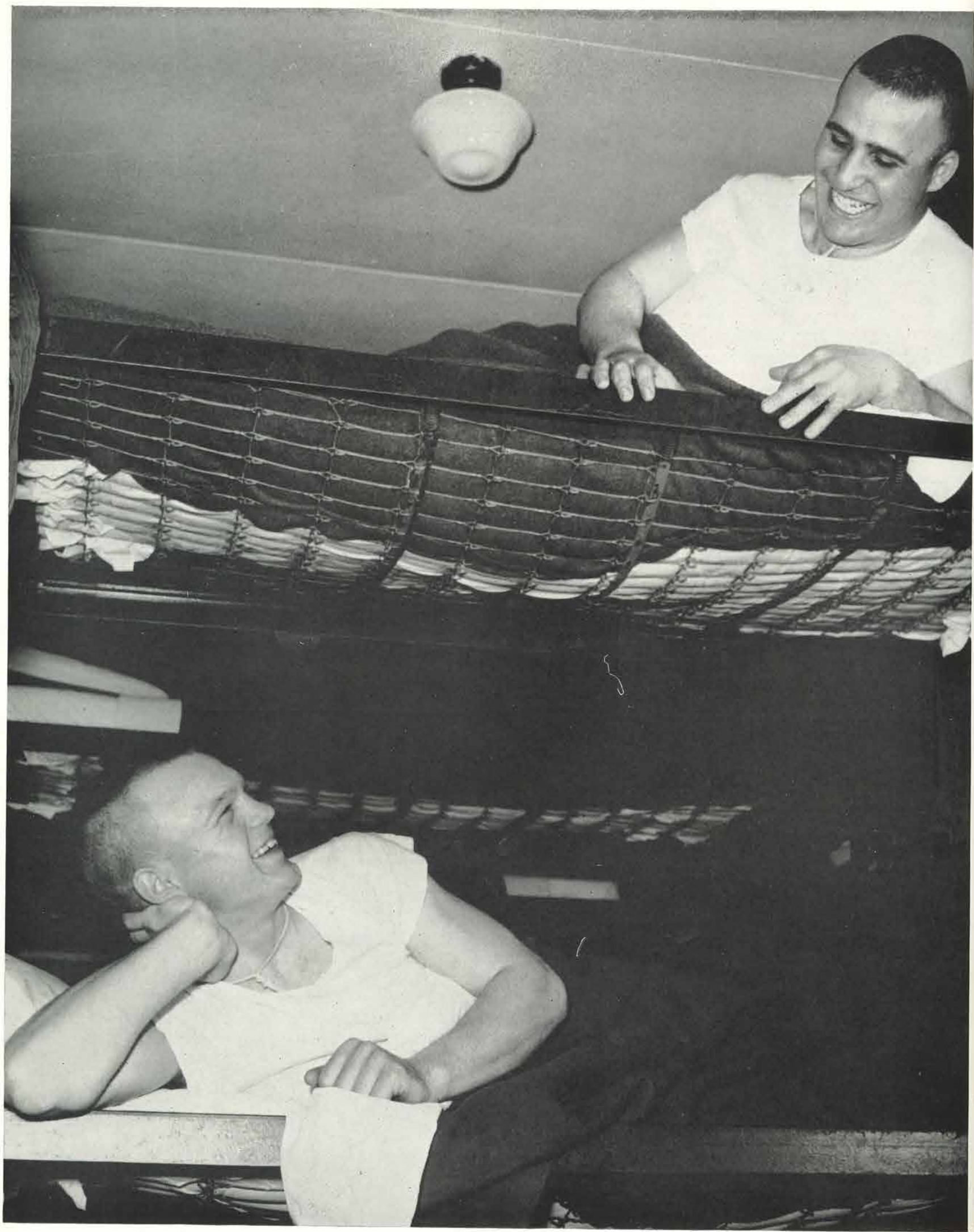
BARRACKS LIFE

A RECRUIT'S day is never done. From reveille at 5:30 a. m. until taps at 10:00 p. m. he is constantly busy at the job of "becoming a Marine." During the day he will be occupied with learning the fundamentals of drill, both close and extended order, guard duty, the pack, military courtesy, customs and discipline, scouting and patrolling, and many, many other similar subjects. Come night he must catch up on the things that he could not do during the day; for some, shining shoes, writing letters and marking clothing will occupy this time before taps. For others, it may mean study, review or group instructions. At other times, all will be required to attend instruction designed to help them in their training.

Time for washing clothes, visiting the post exchange, drawing uniforms, having uniforms altered and the many other activities incidental to making life more comfortable for the recruit is provided for in the training schedule.

To most recruits the day begins by "getting up with the chickens" at 5:30 a. m. With their entire day being accounted for in a training schedule, their morning shave and shower must be done in almost record time. Their day's work begins with making their bunks, sweeping and swabbing the barracks, emptying trash cans and eating a hearty breakfast.



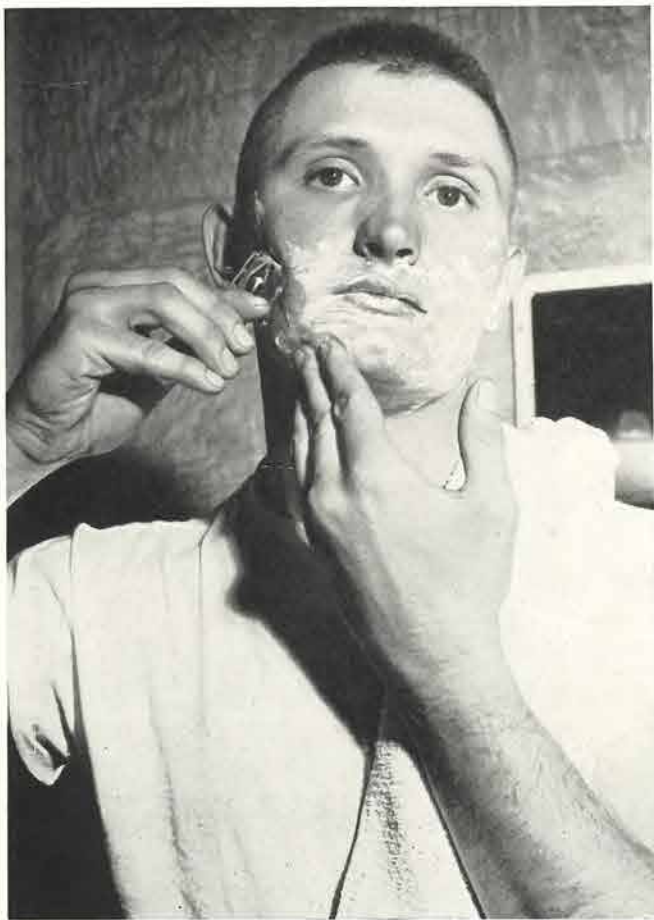




BARRACKS LIFE

HAVING eaten, they return to the barracks for their rifles and equipment, falling out in formation to begin the day's inspections, drill, and what have you.

Upon completion of the day, recruits secure from drill, return to their barracks to put away their equipment and clean up for the evening meal. After the evening meal, unless someone has "doped off" during the day, their time is their own to write letters and prepare for the next day's training. Very little "horse-play" transpires during this time as most men feel as though they have done a day's work—and they have. Most, if they are still awake at 10, are more than happy to hear the bugler when he blows taps, officially ending the day.



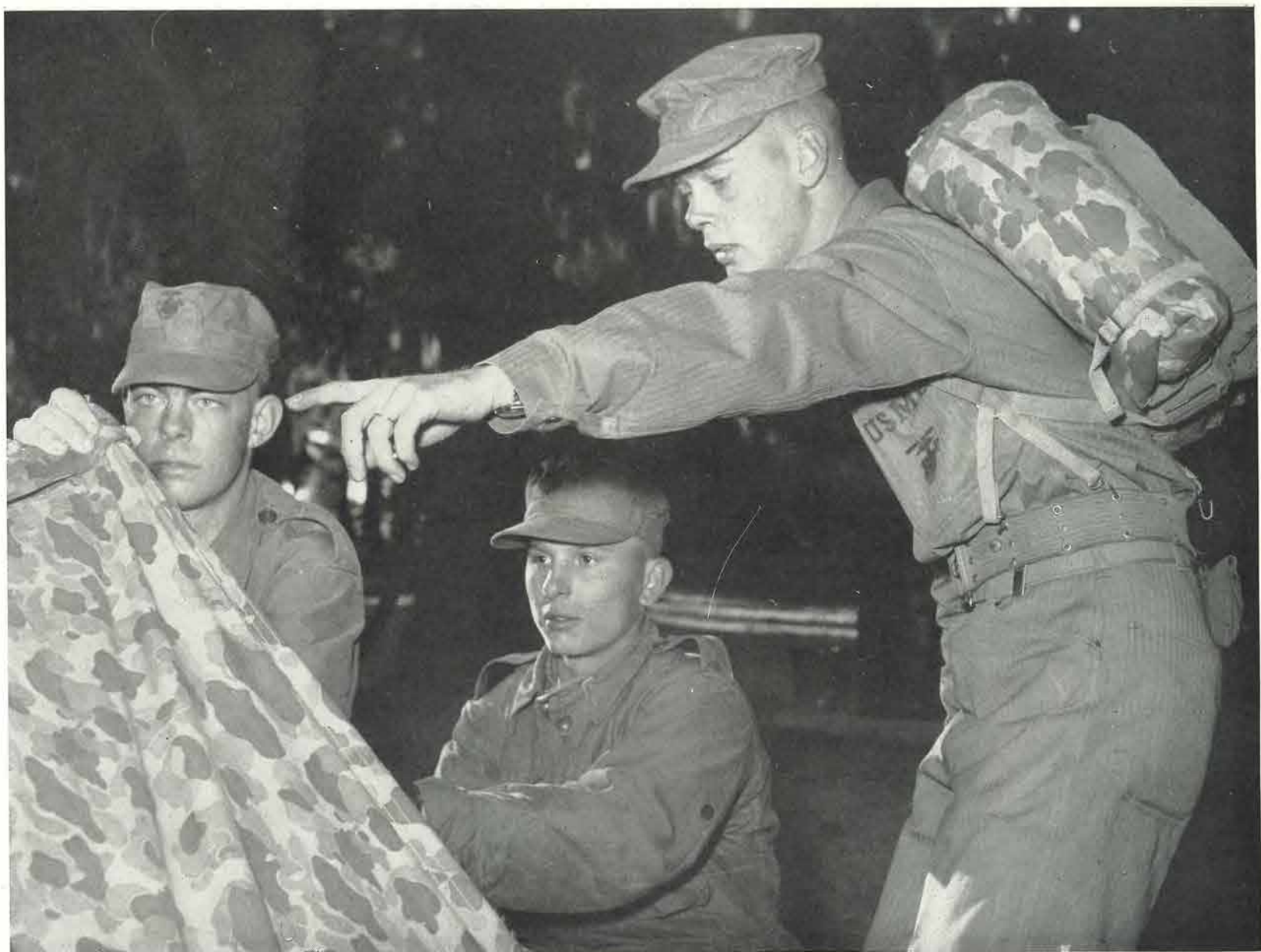


AT Elliotts Beach all recruits are taught the characteristics and effects of war gases, incendiaries and smoke, first aid treatment, methods of individual protection, effects and detection of biological agents used in germ warfare. This instruction includes the release of controlled amounts of gas in a chamber which recruits are required to pass through, wearing the gas mask. Proper wearing and care of the gas mask is also taught. Recruits

learn that of all forms of warfare, gas is the least deadly when there is good discipline; that its chief value is to make casualties, thereby taking great numbers of men out of action.

All facets of first aid are also taught all Marines there, particularly the three life-saver steps of: stop the bleeding, protect the wound from infection, and prevent or treat shock. Prompt and correct first aid not only speeds healing but often saves a life.





ELLIOT'S BEACH

THE Beach also serves to acquaint recruits with the rigors of living "in the field." Included in their stay there is instruction in the correct procedure for pitching, striking and ditching shelter tents, interior guard duty, and construction and use of individual emplacements. Messing facilities at the beach also coincide, as near as possible, with those that would be experienced in the field.





TO MOST recruits, the 15-day exam presents no great problem. A written review of all phases of training covered during the first two weeks, it is given to determine which recruits need additional or special instruction in order to continue with the platoon. Those found to be slower to learn are given special instruction so they may keep up with the level set by the remainder of the platoon and graduate on time.

15-DAY EXAM



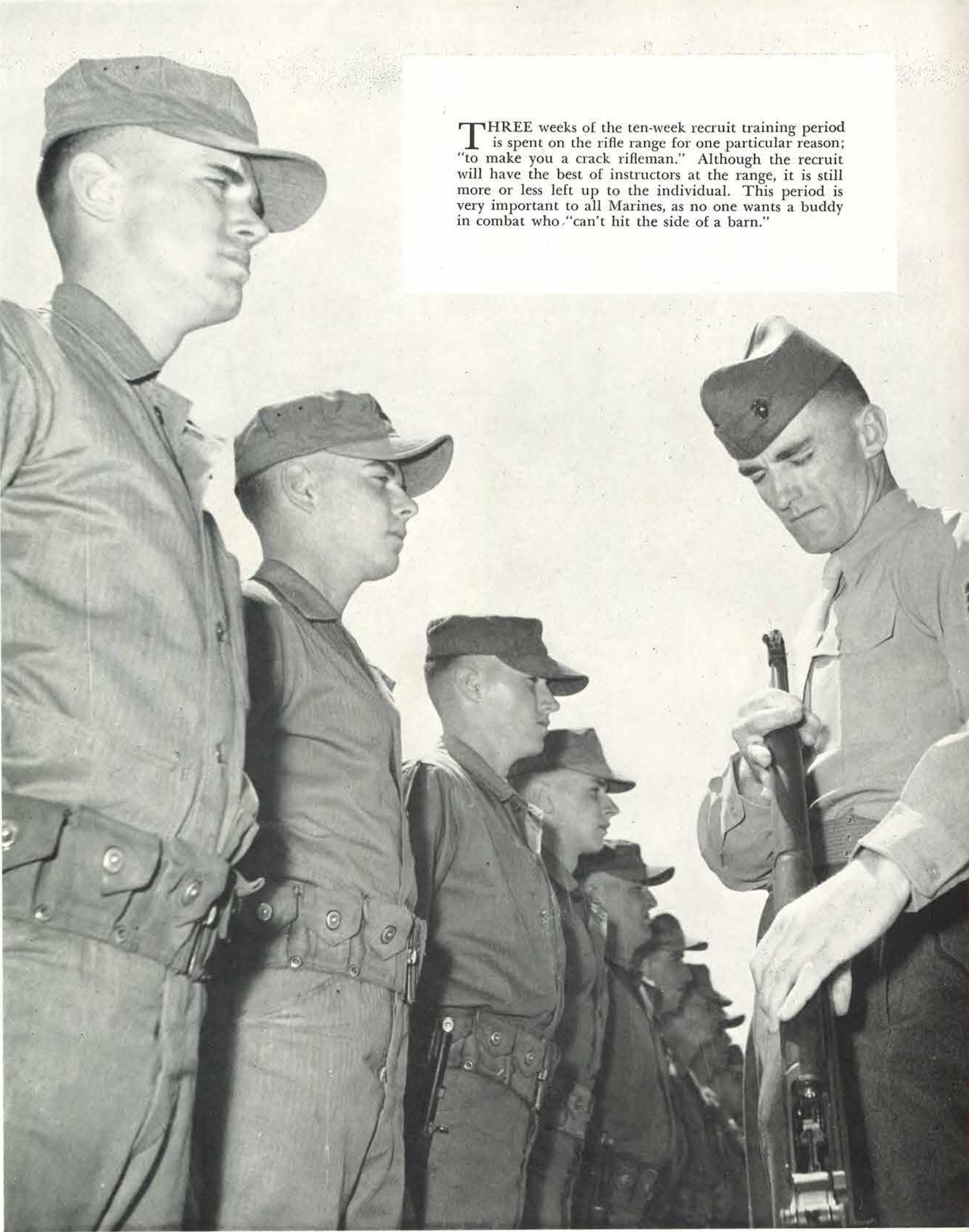
P. X. PURCHASES



POST Exchange privileges are afforded all recruits while undergoing training. A tight and rigorous training schedule, however, makes it impossible for them to visit the exchange at their leisure. While in training, recruits are required to visit the exchange with the platoon, at which time they may purchase toilet items, gifts, and magazines to last them until their next scheduled visit.

Post Exchange items, which are stocked for the use of Marines and their dependents, may be purchased by recruits at their convenience upon completion of recruit training. Since exchanges are operated for the express convenience of service personnel, all customers must have identification authorizing their purchases.





THREE weeks of the ten-week recruit training period is spent on the rifle range for one particular reason; "to make you a crack rifleman." Although the recruit will have the best of instructors at the range, it is still more or less left up to the individual. This period is very important to all Marines, as no one wants a buddy in combat who "can't hit the side of a barn."



RIFLE RANGE

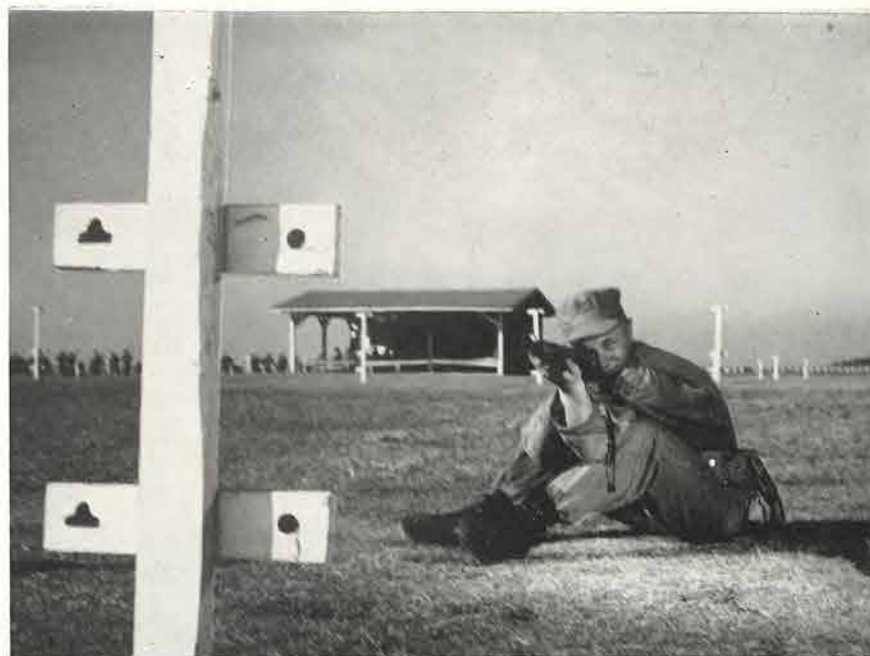
SNAPPING IN

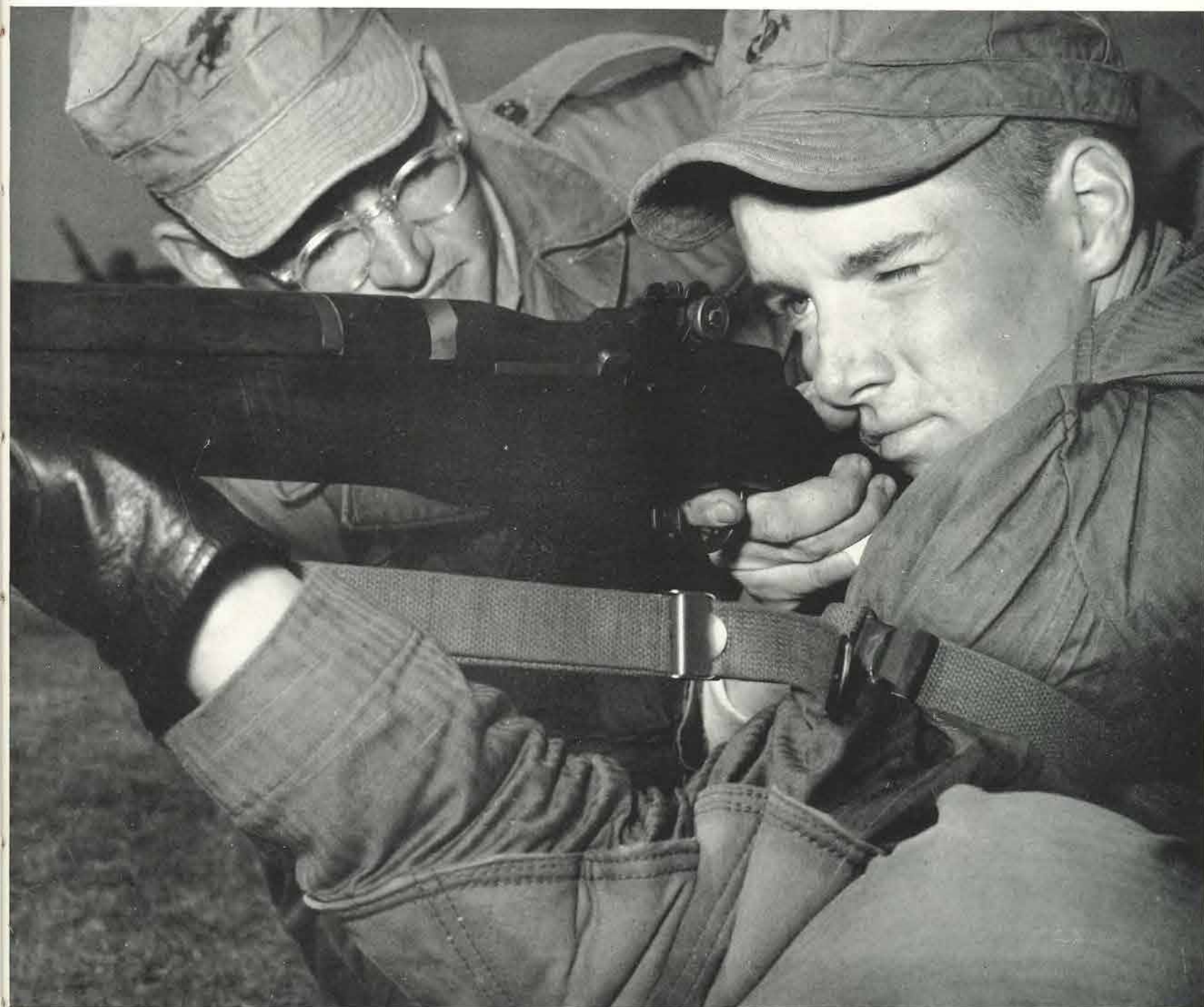
SNAPPING-IN, Marine terminology for "practice," begins with the first day of the three-week period spent at the rifle range and continues until record day. Believing in an old saying "practice makes perfect," snapping-in occupies much of the recruits stay at the range. Of the four positions used by all Marines in firing the range, three are rather uncomfortable and much practice is needed to assume them to the best advantage of the shooter.

Known by some as "dry-firing," snapping-in is one of the greatest assets toward improving one's firing. Various types of aiming stakes and devices are used during the snapping-in period to acquaint the shooter with the proper method of aiming and aligning his sights to hit the bull's-eye.

Shooters operate the bolts of each others rifles while dry-firing in the rapid-fire positions to become familiar with their most stable position and to overcome the habit of "bucking" the shots.

Proper sling adjustments, trigger squeeze, use of the score book, safety rules, proper firing positions, use of the score board on record day and instructions on "pulling targets" for other shooters are also part of the snapping-in period.

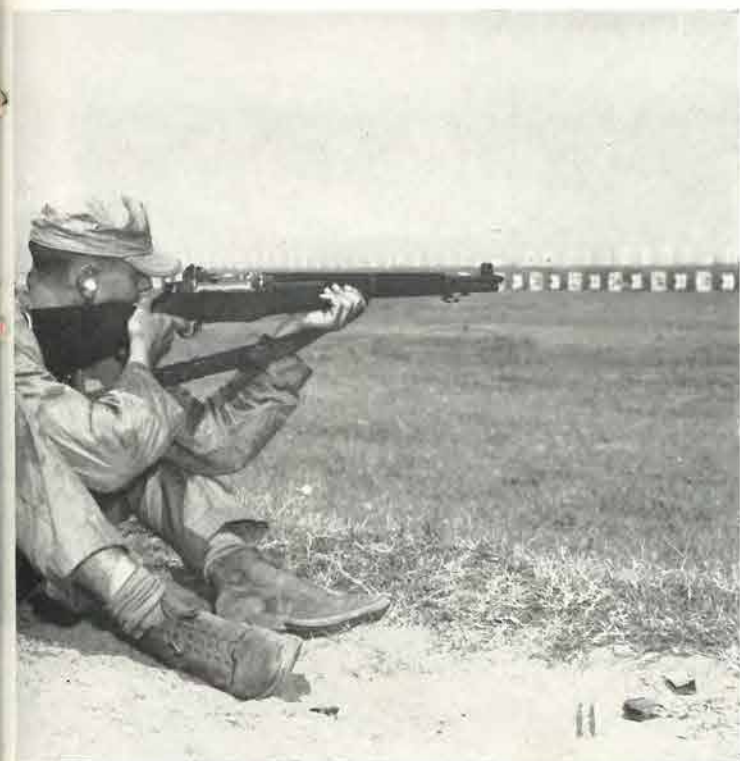




RANGE FIRING

FOLLOWING the first week of the three-week period spent on the rifle range, recruits experience their first firing with live ammunition. Firing an abbreviated course for the second week, recruits begin their live firing by "zeroing in" their rifles. Zeroing in is accomplished by each recruit so that he will know how much elevation and windage must be used on his sights to get him in the bull. Some men will require more than one day to get the proper "dope" on their weapons so as to insure firing a better score. Following the zeroing-in period, recruits continue to fire the abbreviated course for the second week, assuming

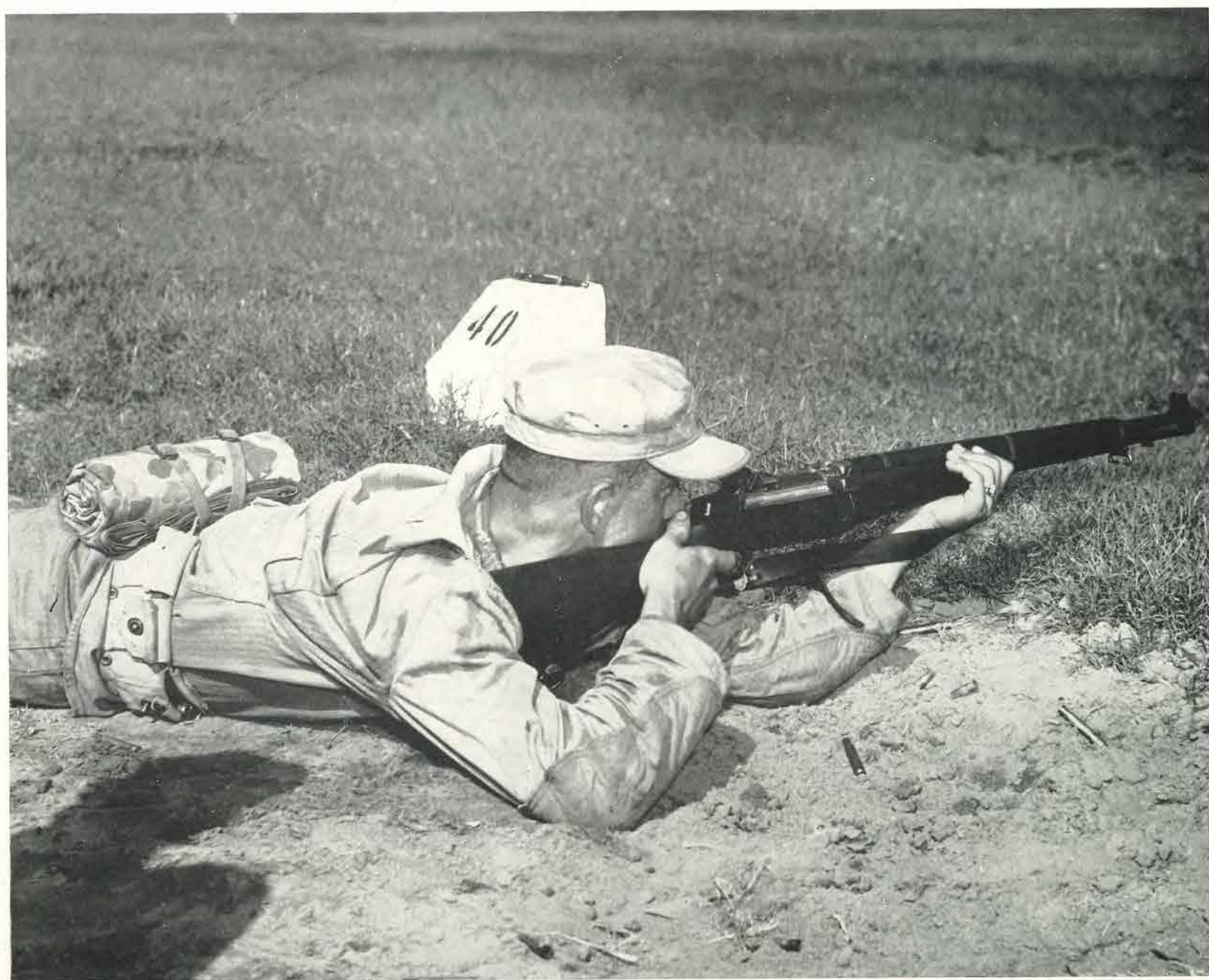




the four regulation positions used in record firing. Beginning with the third and final week the full course of fifty rounds with a possible score of 250 is fired. The first position fired from is 10 rounds off-hand slow fire at 200 yards. Second, 10 rounds sitting, rapid-fire, 200 yards; third, 5 rounds sitting, slow fire, 300 yards; fourth, 5 rounds kneeling, slow fire, 300 yards; fifth, 10 rounds, prone, rapid-fire, 300 yards; and sixth, 10 rounds, prone, slow fire, 500 yards.

Beginning preliminary day, the day previous to record day, tension builds up among the shooters as they speculate on which of the three rifle badges they may possibly win record day.

The three badges are Marksman, Sharpshooter and Expert. In order to qualify and be eligible for the Marksman badge men must fire 190 out of the possible 250 points. To be eligible for Sharpshooter a score of 210 is required. The top badge, Expert, is for 220 or better.

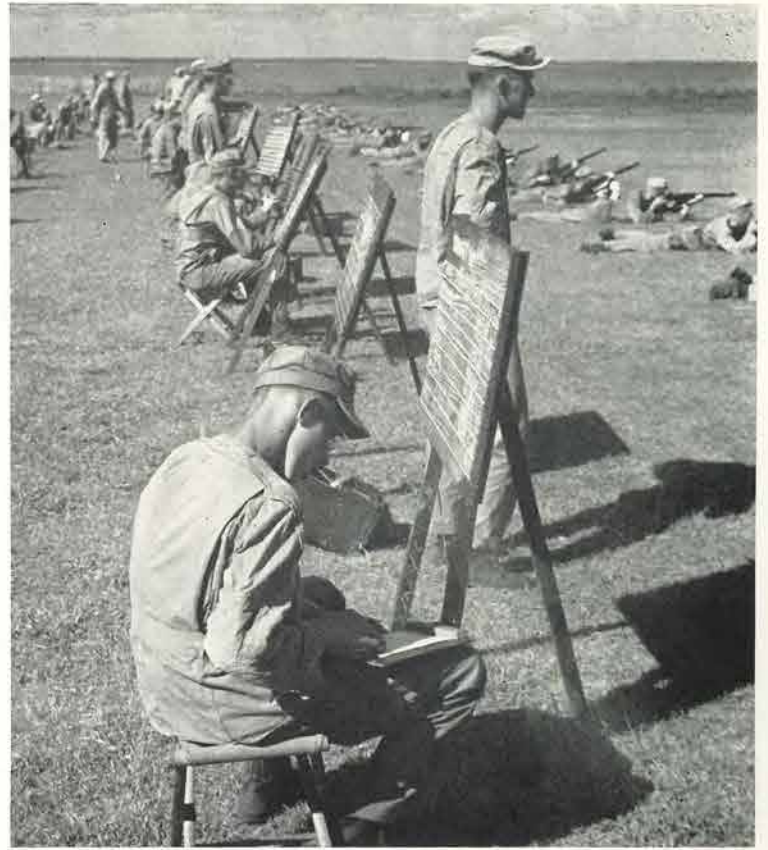


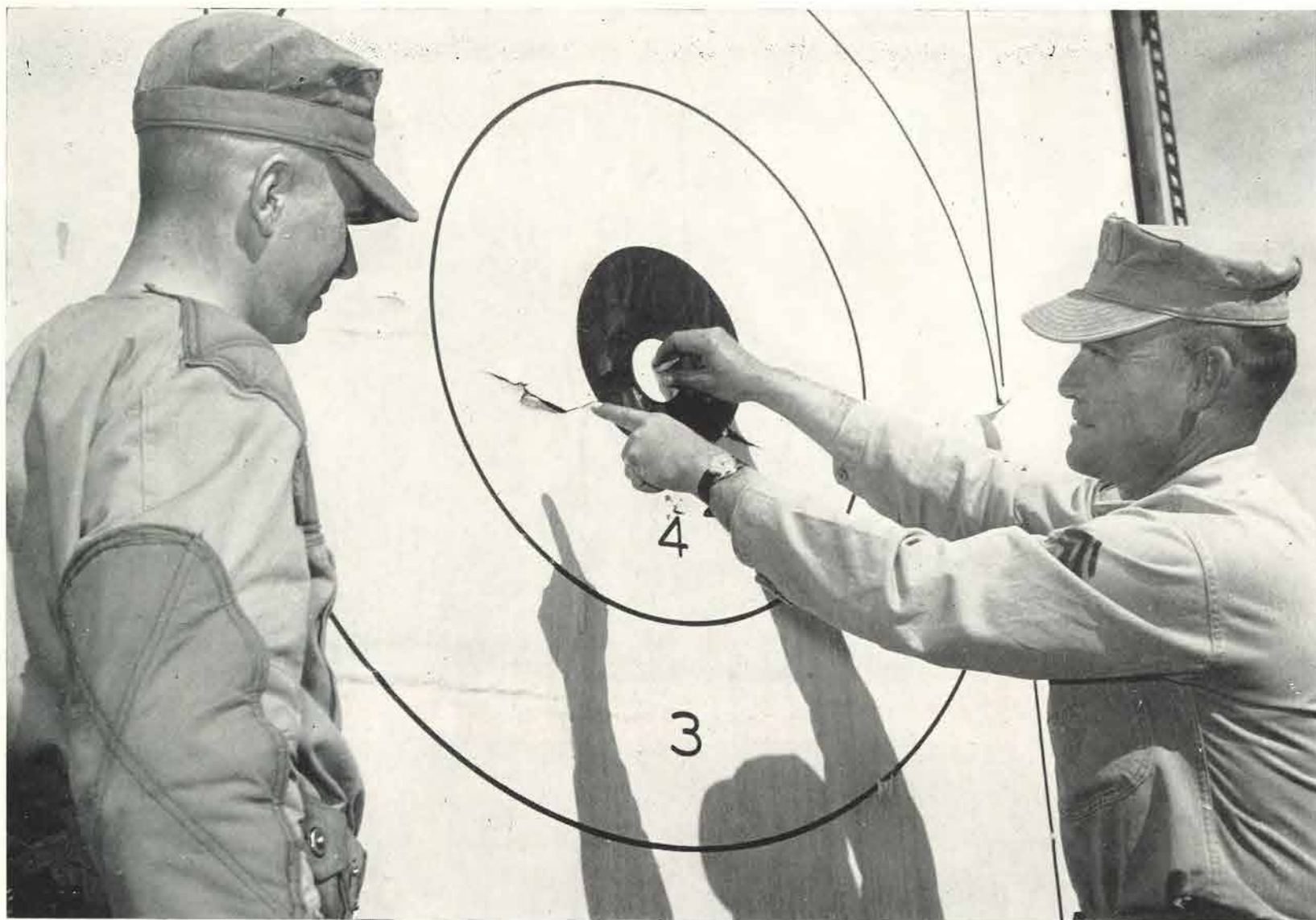


RECORD DAY

RECORD day at the range is an eagerly awaited day by the recruit undergoing training. This is the day that determines how well he has mastered the art of handling his weapon. It also settles the friendly arguments with his buddies as to who is the better marksman. Record day also causes much worry, thought, and even silent prayer for some, as to what kind of weather will prevail for this long awaited day—will it be cloudy, dark, overcast, rainy, or worst of all, windy? These climatic conditions have lots to do with what score shooters will run up during the day.

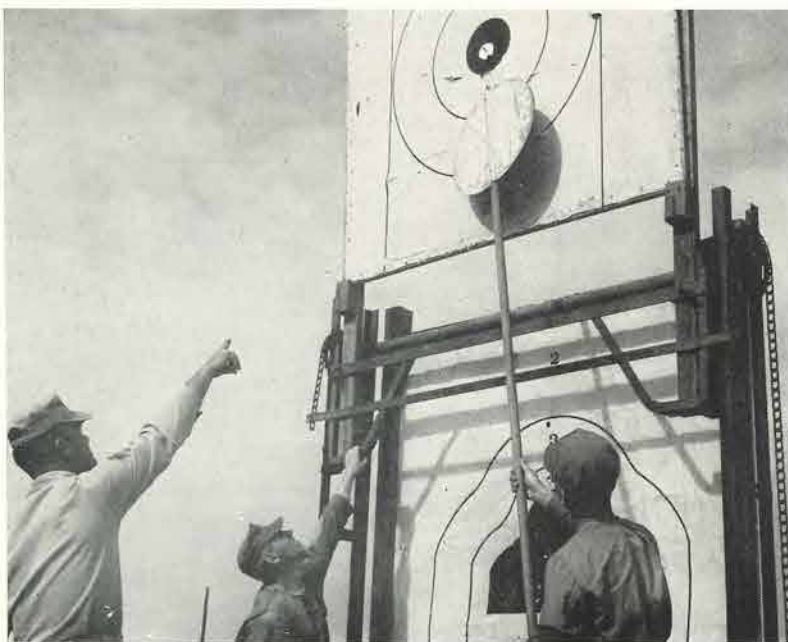






TARGET DETAIL

DURING the three weeks recruits spend at the rifle range they become very familiar with the targets used and procedure for marking the shots of shooters. They learn that the "A" target is used for 200 and 300-yard slow fire, the "B" target for 500-yard slow fire, and the "D" target for both 200 and 300-yard rapid fire. Use of the discs denoting 2, 3, 4 or 5 points, the red flag for a miss, and the 3 and 5-inch black and white spot-ers almost become a habit during an assignment to a target detail.

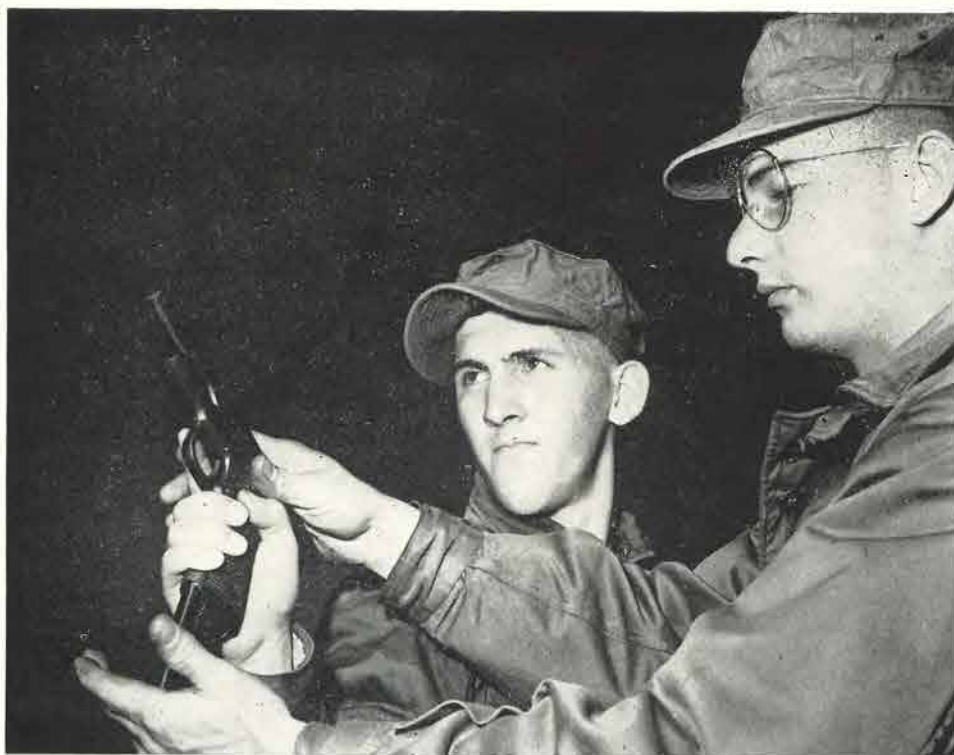




THE cleaning racks are where you will find the shooters after the day's firing is over. Realizing that the majority of rifles that become unserviceable do so from lack of care and cleaning, recruits make every effort to see that their weapons are well cared for. The drill instructor is there to remind them.

CLEANING RACKS



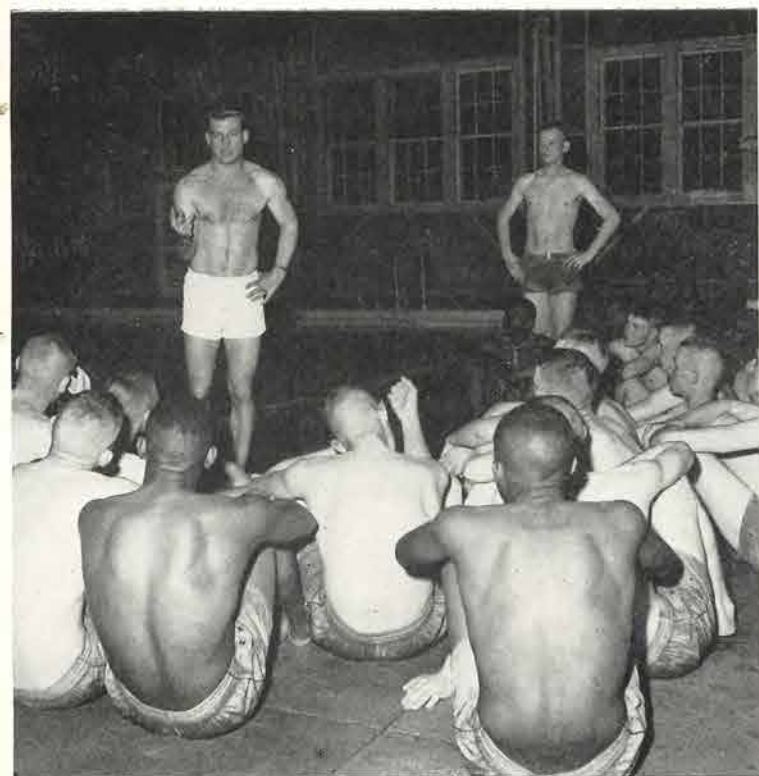


ALL Marine recruits, even though not normally armed with the .45 caliber pistol, fire a qualification course with the pistol during their three-week period at the range. A similar course, but not for record, is also fired with the .22 caliber pistol. Safety precautions, functioning, care and cleaning are also part of the course of instruction on

PISTOL



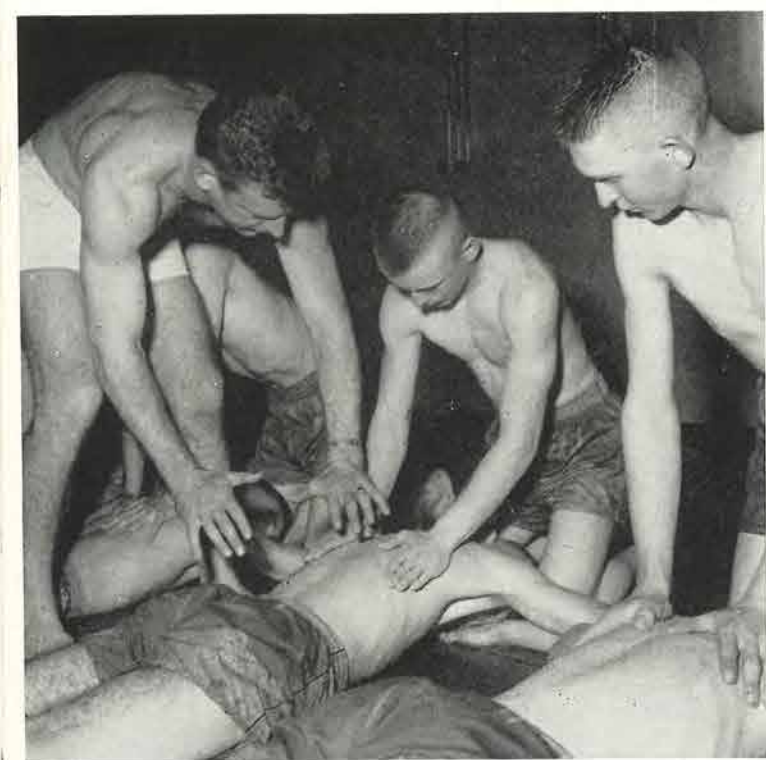
the pistol. This course also makes for keen competition among recruits as they look forward to adding a Sharpshooter Pistol or Expert Pistol leg to their Marine Corps Basic Medal. Only officers and Master Sergeants are normally armed with the .45 caliber pistol; however, men of lower rank may be armed with it in the performance of guard duty or various other duties where carrying the rifle would interfere with the performance of their regularly assigned jobs.



SWIMMING for Marines, whose primary role in the Armed Forces is amphibious operations, is an important phase of each recruit's 10 weeks of training. This training is accomplished during the 3-week period at the rifle range. Those recruits who have not learned to swim prior to enlistment are taught to do so, given time to practice, and all are given a swimming qualification test. Those who fail to qualify are not held back in their training, but an entry to that effect is made in their service record book. The test includes swimming one hundred yards, using any desired style of swimming, treading water for thirty seconds using arms and legs if necessary; and floating on the back using hands and feet as auxiliary support. Lectures, demonstration and application on artificial respiration are also given, along with life-saving methods and techniques.

Many methods of survival are taught that have been learned by the Marines in past experiences, such as when their ships have been sunk by torpedoes, mines or shell fire by enemy vessels.

SWIMMING





MESS DUTY

MESS duty is more or less a necessary evil in the eyes of most Marines. However, all Marines, at one time or another, have probably pulled a period of mess duty. Popularly misconceived as being a means of punishment for some wrongdoing, mess duty is as important as any phase of the normal daily routine of a military organization. The wisdom of the old saying that "an army travels on its stomach" has been borne out many times when entire military units were rendered ineffective by being cut off from their source of food supply. In view of this accepted truth, persons serving on mess duty can well say that they are contributing to the maintenance of morale in the unit.

Mess duty is normally performed by men of the rank of Private First Class, with some Corporals as Chief Messman to supervise the messmen.







REVIEWS

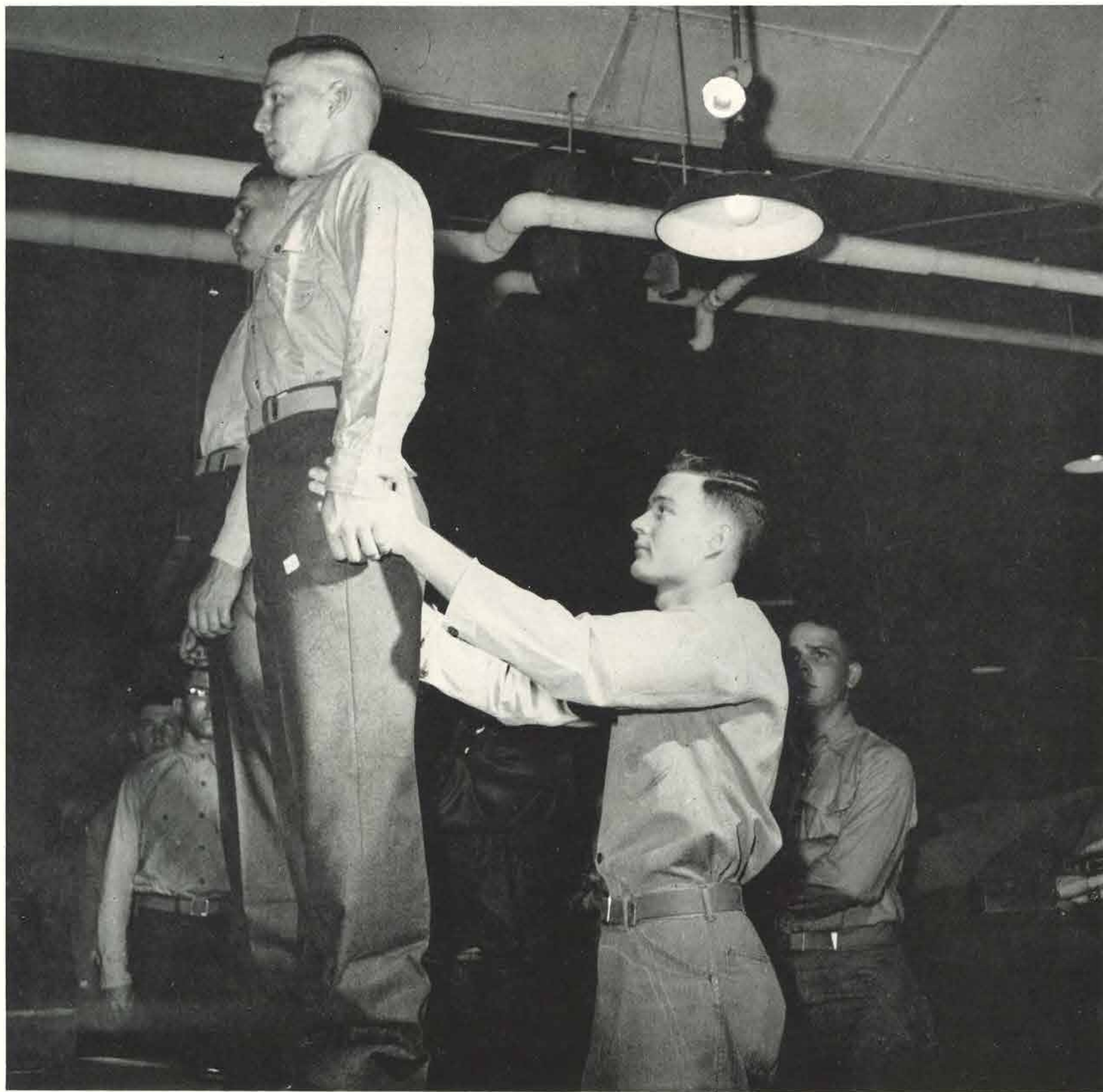
REVIEWS, parades, and other ceremonies honoring dignitaries, officials, and individuals become second nature to Marines who, recognized as one of the world's smartest and most military organizations, are consistently called upon to participate. Recruits undergoing training become acquainted with reviews and parades early in their training as they are called upon to participate in weekly parades. Instructions on parades, reviews, and guard mounts are given all recruits during their training with the view that during their enlistment they will possibly be called on many times to participate in a parade or ceremony. On such occasions as Armed Forces Day, most posts and stations throughout the United States furnish one or several detachments of troops to participate in parades and ceremonies sponsored by cities and veterans' organizations.





UNIFORM ISSUE

ON discarding their civilian clothing upon arrival for recruit training, recruits begin drawing their uniforms. Only dungarees, shoes, socks and underclothing are issued them at first. Neither khaki, tropicals, blues, nor greens are necessary then, as all training is done in dungarees. Later in their training schedule, recruits, as a platoon, visit the clothing issue section and are fitted for these uniforms. Khaki, tropicals and greens are issued them, and should they want them, they may buy dress blues. All clothing is thoroughly checked for fit and any alterations required will be made at no cost to the recruit. Later in the training schedule this altered clothing is picked up by each recruit.





BAYONET TRAINING

THE cold skill of effectively wielded bayonet-tipped rifles in hand-to-hand combat produces a vastly demoralizing psychological effect on enemy troops.

At Parris Island, the Marine Corps instills this battle-proven precept into every recruit in an aggressive and advanced program of instruction taught by combat veterans. All movements of bayonet fighting—the stance, the parry, short thrust, slash, smash, withdrawal, butt strokes and whirl—are taught the recruit in a spirited and cleverly designed manner, to dispatch an opponent in the quickest time possible.

The recruit begins his instruction in the classroom where he is indoctrinated with the principles and psychological factors behind the employment of the bayonet in combat. Then he moves to the outdoor bayonet course where practical application sharpens his reaction and agility and develops aggressiveness, all under the watchful supervision of his ever-present instructor.

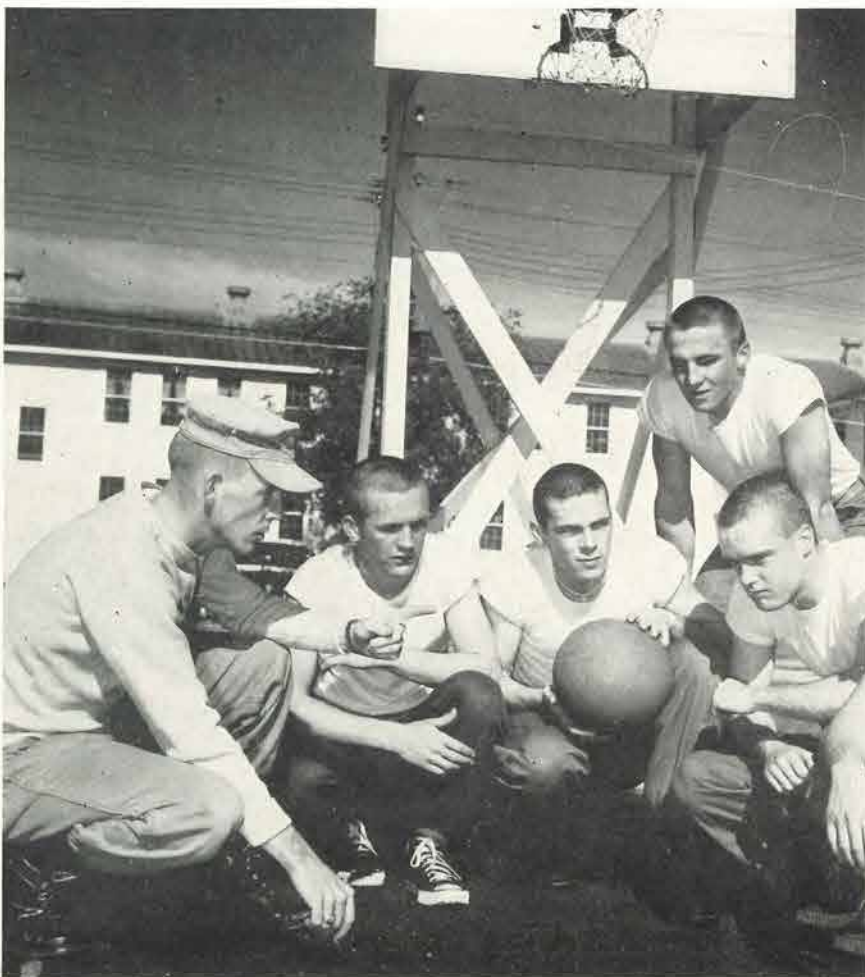
This training makes the marine one of the world's most deadly and skillful bayonet fighters.

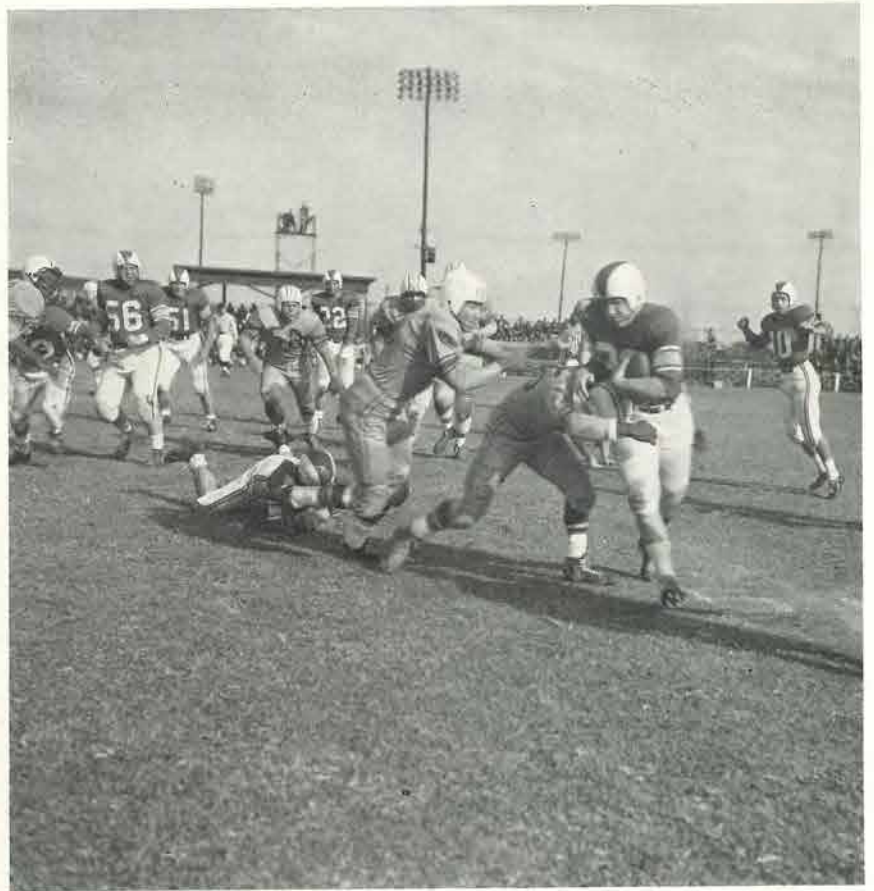






RECREATION





RECRUIT training, contrary to popular belief, is not all work and no play. All forms of athletics and organized recreation from Indian wrestling to football are afforded recruits during their training schedule and off duty hours. Team competition between platoons, companies or even battalions serves to break the monotony of the constant strain of training. The Marine Corps is, and has been for many years, noted for its excellence in

most forms of sports. Competition between posts and stations throughout the Corps, with the other Armed Forces and college teams is a continuing thing in the Corps' athletic program. Some of the outstanding personalities in many sports began their climb to prominence in the Corps or have served their required military service with the Corps. Competition makes for perfection in all walks of life, and that is what the Corps constantly strives for.



WHILE at Parris Island the recruit is given every opportunity to attend the church of his choice. Each Sunday there are Roman Catholic, Jewish and Protestant services held on the depot. The recruits are encouraged but not required to worship their God.

IN REPLYING
REFER TO NO.



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
OFFICE OF THE DEPOT CHAPLAIN
MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT
PARRIS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

Dear Friends:

The Marine Corps recruit leads a busy life. Every hour of his duty as a recruit is carefully planned. He studies and practices an amazing number of subjects. Ten weeks of Marine training change him in many ways.

It is the intent of the Marine Corps that your Marine should return to you, not only a different man but also a better one, than he was when he arrived here. That is why when your recruit receives moral training as well as instruction in marksmanship and firing his weapon. Moral education is a part of the Marine's regular instruction. The chaplains give instruction on such subjects as moral principles, citizenship, marriage and family life and moral responsibilities. This is known as the Character Guidance Program.

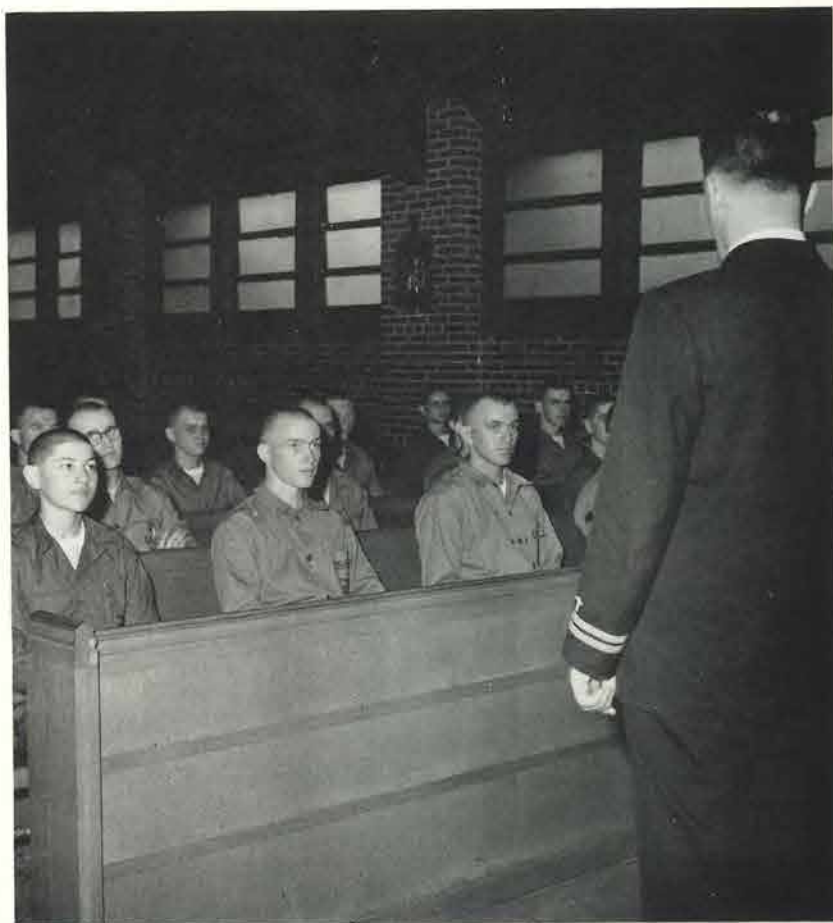
Furthermore, all recruits are encouraged to attend Divine Services of their own choice. More than 30 services of worship -- Protestant, Catholic, Jewish -- are conducted every Sunday at this Depot. Catholic men may attend confession weekly, Protestant men may receive Holy Communion according to the practices of their own churches, several Jewish recruits have become bar mitzvah at Parris Island. Every Sunday night many hundreds of Marine recruits attend religious instructions in the teachings of their own faiths, to prepare themselves for baptism, confirmation and Holy Communion.

It is a pleasure to assure you that the Marine Corps actively supports the ministry of its chaplains. If your Marine has been brought up in a church or synagogue, you may be sure that he will receive every opportunity at Parris Island to practice the faith of his fathers. I extend to you, on behalf of the chaplains of Parris Island, our warm greeting, and pray that God's blessing will be upon you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Depot Chaplain

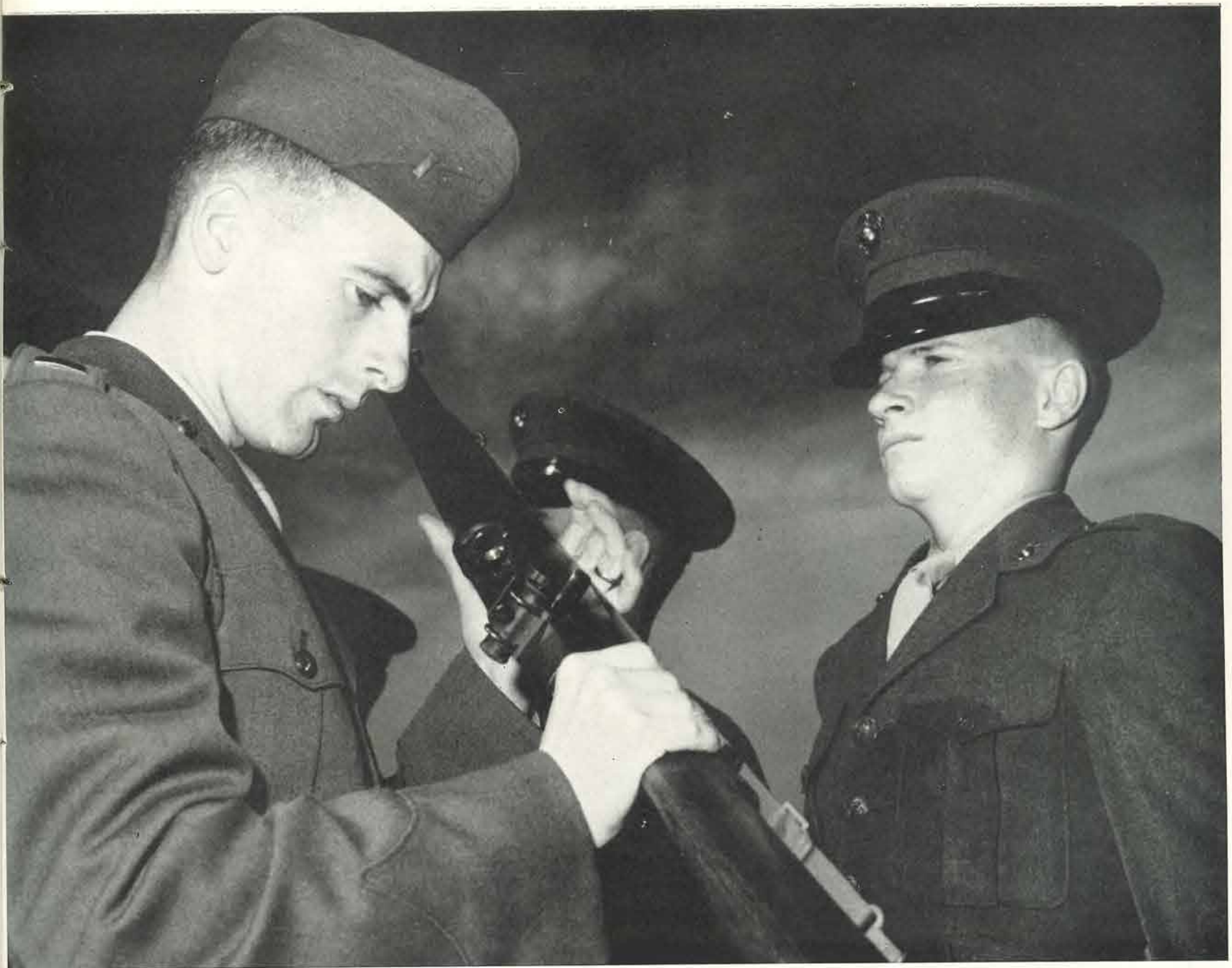






FINAL FIELD INSPECTION

THIS is the day on which both the drill instructors and recruits try to "put their best foot forward," as this inspection will determine which platoons will be designated Honor Platoons. The inspection may include any phase of the training taught during the 10-week recruit training period, and the drill instructor and his recruits must be capable of conducting or performing the particular movement or act commanded. With a definite list of items to be checked such as uniforms, drill, rifle inspection or the manual of arms, the inspecting team will allow points for or against the manner in which they are performed. After all platoons have been inspected, the platoons exceeding a certain standard will be designated Honor Platoons. This designation carries visible significance for the platoon so designated, as it is presented the scarlet and gold guidon bearing the words "Honor Platoon."



GRADUATION



GRADUATION day is the big day for each recruit on Parris Island. This is the time they reap the rewards of ten weeks intensive training. They have undergone vigorous training and felt sometimes they weren't going to make it. But now as they stand at attention, a cold chill moves up their backs as they realize this is the day they have been waiting on for ten weeks. The day when they will be called Marines and know that now they are truly men. The whole platoon is tense as they wait for the Company Commander to give the order "prepare for graduation." Finally the waiting is over and the command comes. The 60 or 70 men move as one, as they have been trained to do. The movements are sharp and precise. The Battalion Commander, or in many cases the Commanding General of the Depot, is there to congratulate them and pass out awards. To the recruit who has been the outstanding man in the platoon goes a certificate signed by the Commanding General. To the high shooter goes another certificate signed by the Commanding General. Recognition is given to any man in the platoon who has excelled in leadership during recruit training.

When your Drill Instructor gets the command to dismiss the platoon, you know the big day is over and you look forward to a big ten days at home and then to a new base for more training as a United States Marine.





TURNING IN GEAR

AFTER 10 weeks of cleaning, washing, scrubbing and caring for the many items of "company property," recruits are more than happy to part with it at the end of their training. This, like all the rest of their training, is done on schedule and there are certain preparations necessary before it is turned in. The drill instructor inventories each recruit's individual equipment prior to turning it in to make sure none is left behind and to verify what, if any, has been lost. Any equipment lost through the recruit's own negligence must be paid for by him either in cash or through checkage of his pay. All individual equipment is turned in at this time with the exception of those persons who have been assigned to duty at the recruit depot. Those remaining at the depot will retain their rifles and draw individual equipment from the organization to which they are assigned for use in their daily duties.





TICKETS HOME

PROBABLY one of the happiest days of the recruit's 10-week stay at the recruit depot is the day when he is given the opportunity to make arrangements for transportation home on "boot" leave. Recruits, as a platoon, are marched to the ticket office where their orders are read to them individually and they are informed as to what means of transportation is available to them. No one is allowed to influence the recruit in doing business with any specific transportation agent as it is their privilege to arrange for transportation using any recognized means available to them. Any and all questions relative to their transportation will be answered by the person in charge of the ticket office. Recruits who are not taking leave will have orders and transportation requests issued to them directing them to report to their new duty stations.



SHIPPING OUT

CLIMAXING 10 weeks of the hardest living they have ever experienced, to hear them tell it, is the recruits boarding of the bus to go "outpost." With all the tension, rush and hurry behind, they board with broad grins and friendly jests. Most are going home for 10 days' leave with their family and friends; others, not taking leave or whose assigned duties will not permit them to do so at the moment, are on the way to their new duty stations. Most of them, now that basic training is over, look back on it as

a tight, rapid and trying period come to a successful end. They are proud of the uniform they are now entitled to wear and look forward to wearing it and telling their friends and family about it at home. Too, they realize now that it is necessary to maintain the tight schedule and rigorous training in order to build a good sound basis for learning new military terms and techniques. They are also aware now that the more you put into the training, the more you get out of it.

FOURTH BATTALION PLATOON 68



LT. COL. C. J. MABRY
Commanding Officer
Fourth Battalion

Form Date: 27 February 1956

Graduation Date: 5 May 1956



T/Sgt. B.R. Herman
CDI



S/Sgt. R. C. Benfatti
SDI



Sgt. D.E. Horton
JDI



Cpl. B.L. Clark
JDI

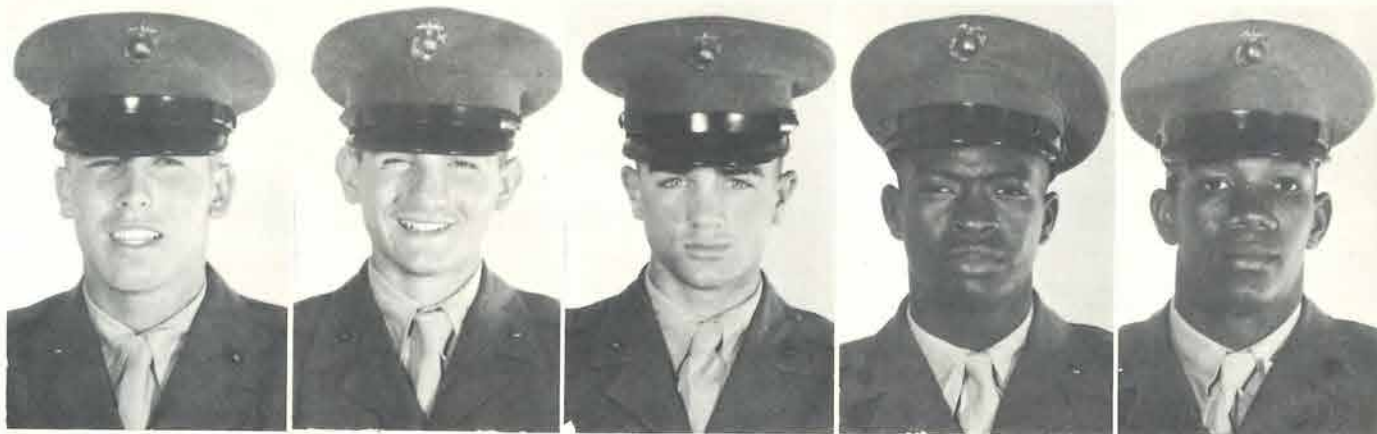


Donald Jerome Adams
Ismeal Anthony Arroyo
William Bailey, Jr.
Nicholas Gerald Barbieri
Frank Robert Barral, Jr.



Harry William Batley
S. S. Berenbaum
Richard Allen Besset
Robert Franklin Boggi
Acie Bone

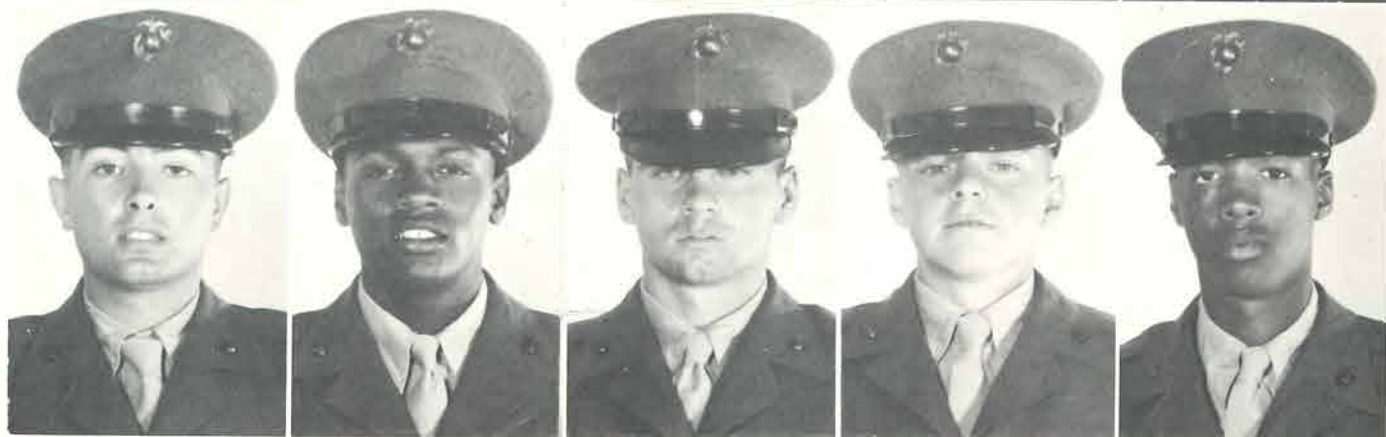
Daniel Charles Bumsted
John Burzo, Jr.
Rosario John Censi
Howard Corley
Charles Gary Crawford



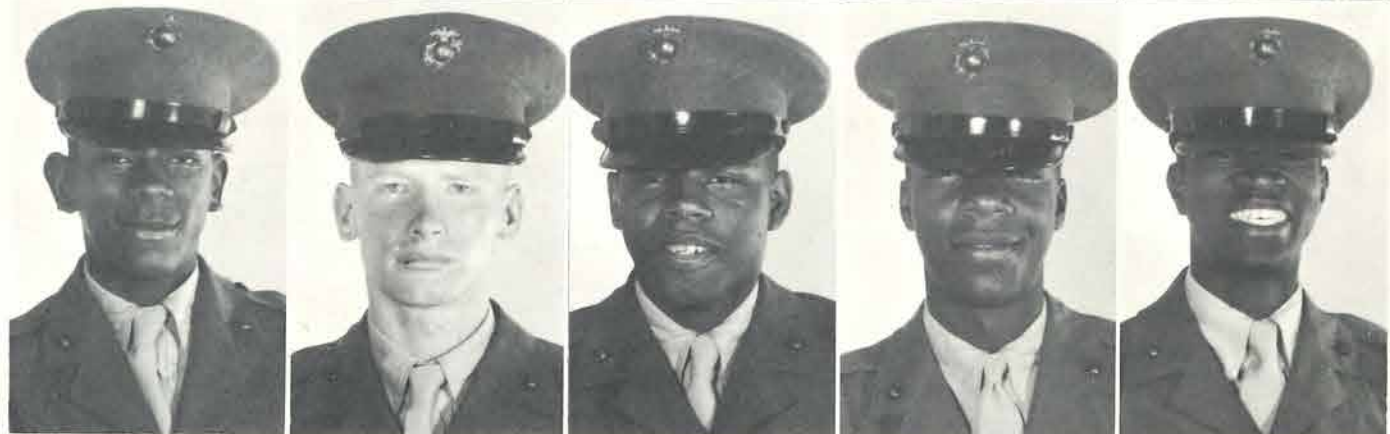
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Arthur DeBose, Jr.
Constantine George Drivas
Raymond Dutton
Kenneth Raymond Edgell



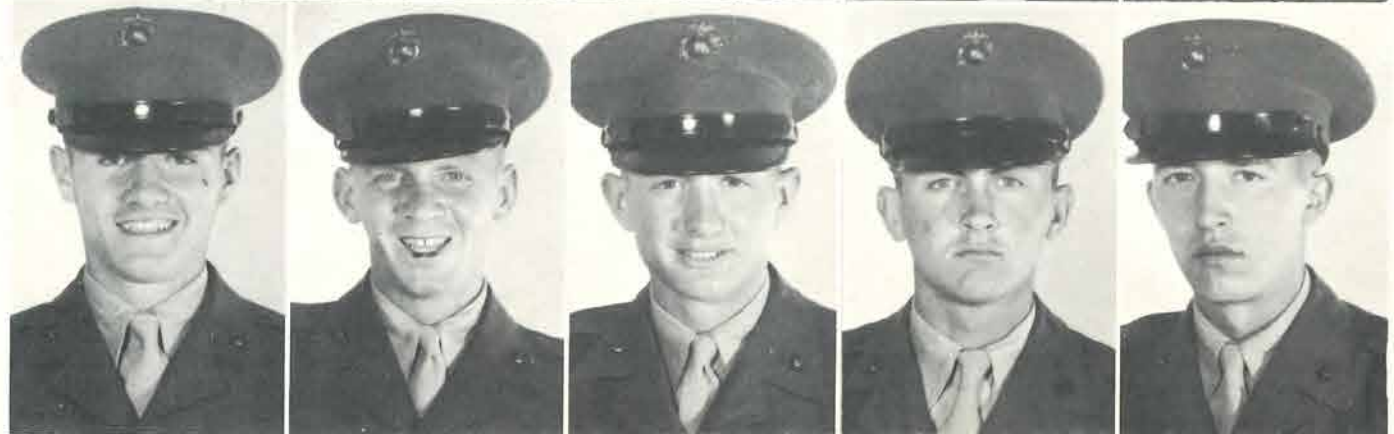
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Frederick Leroy Glover
Peter Guercio
Salvatore Guzzone
Arnold Harris



Robert Gordon Hawkins
Richard Edward Hennessey
Walter Franklin Jackson
Herman Jenkins
Richard Joe, Jr.



Richard Francis Kane
Edward Francis Kelly, Jr.
John Edward King
Stephen Michael Konawal
Marion Michael Kondas





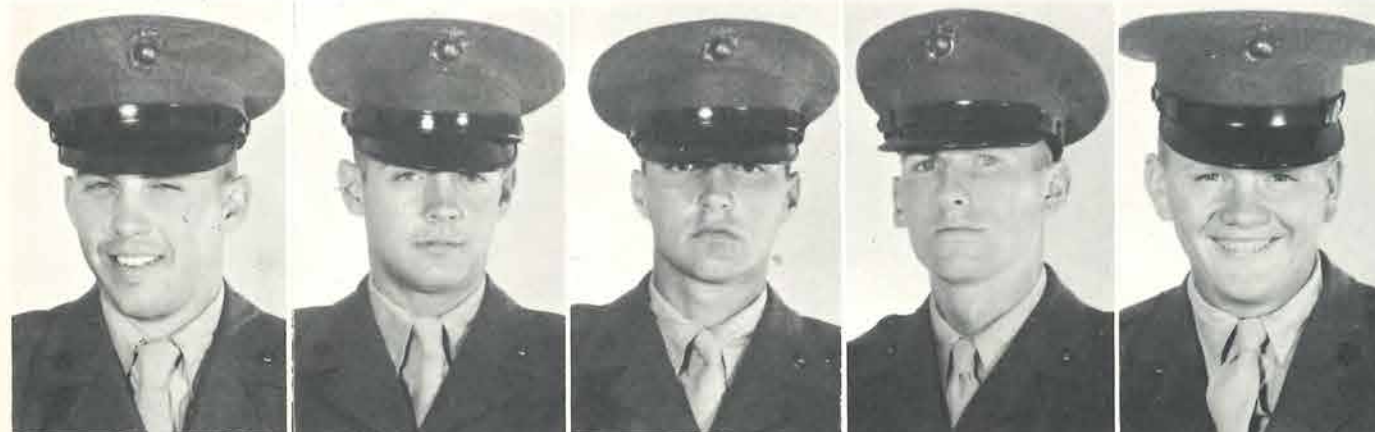
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Robert Frank Larsen
Garrett Tolker Leahy, Jr.
John Cope Livingston, Jr.
Salvatore John Macaluso



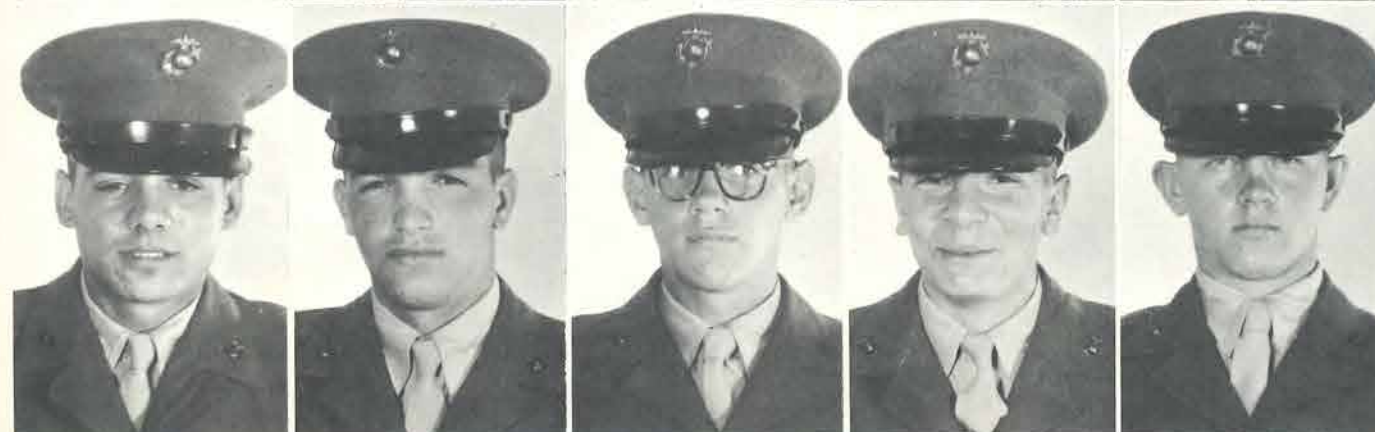
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Edward McLoughlin
John Horace Montgomery
Frederick Douglas Murray



Lewis Neace
George Pagan
Anthony Frank Pagnoni
P. G. Pappas
L. Peters

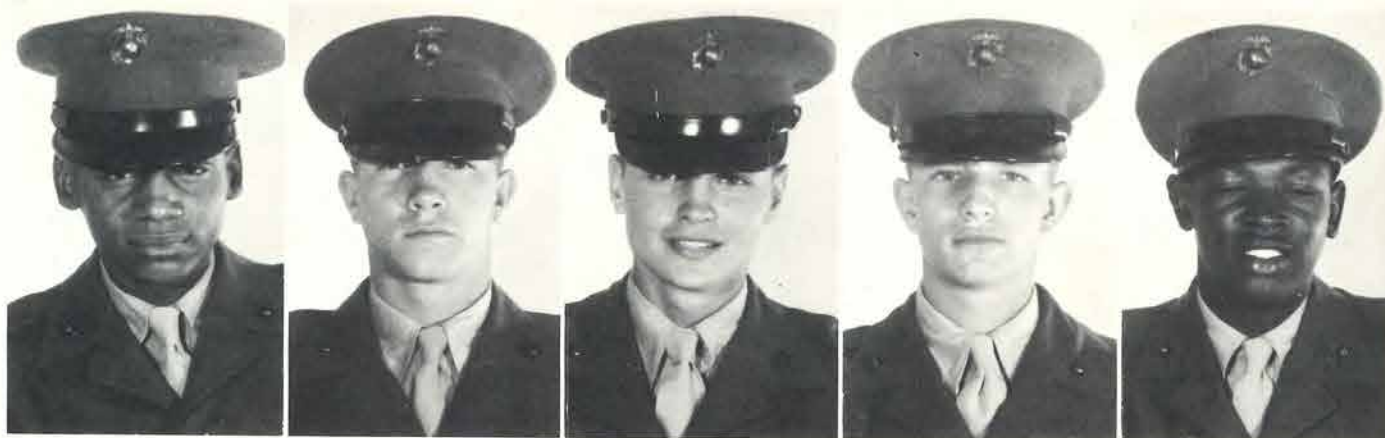


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Edward Kent Pierce
William Leo Piser
Donald Jack Powell
Franz Joseph Redanz

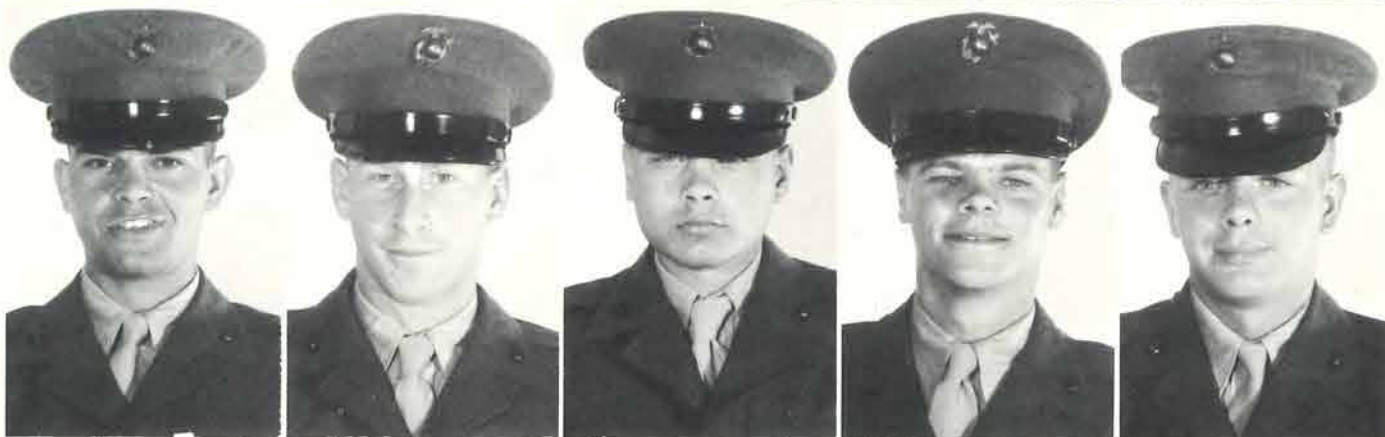


R. G. Reinhart
A. Ruggiero
Donald Richard Ruth
John Serino
Arthur Paul Smith

H. Snowden
 Nicholas Squillace
 William Stewart
 Robert Joseph Storms
 Donald Richard Stroman



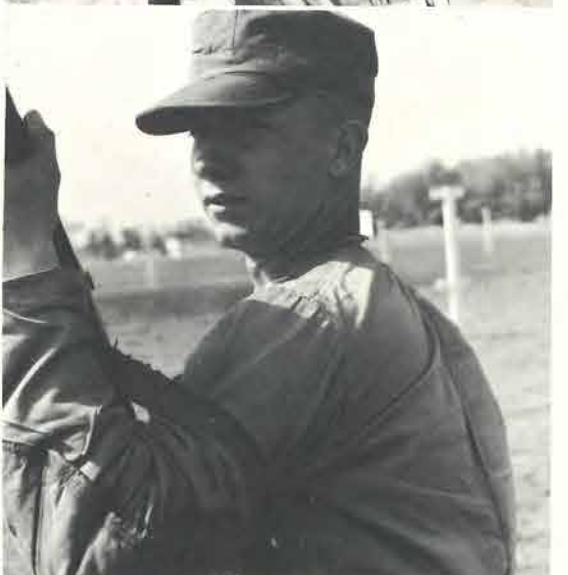
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 Richard Henry Tofte
 J. E. Tossie, Jr.
 Thomas Gerard Trainor



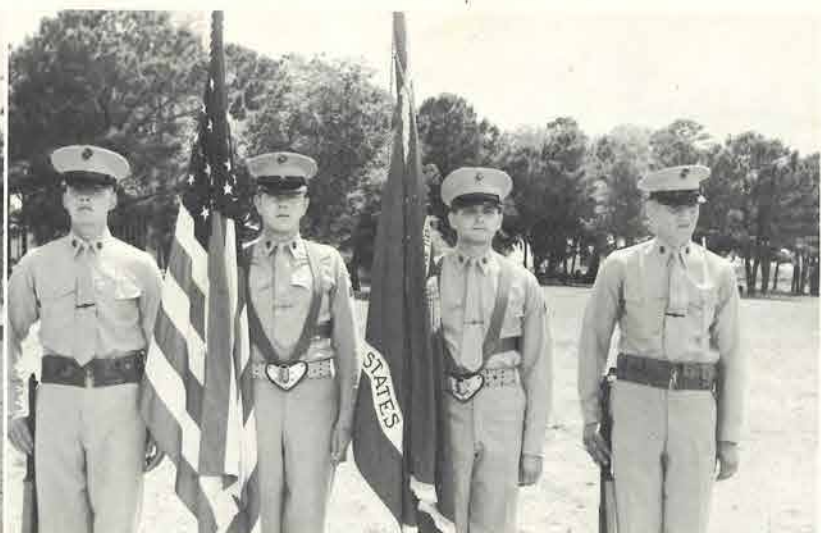
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 Raymond Henry Walke
 Benjamin Arthur Weiner

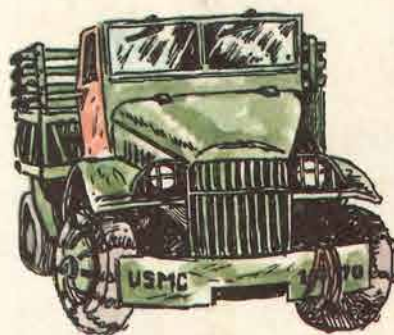












make your choice...
then do your best

