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MHQ

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL
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25th
ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

WORLD WAR I
**Air combat's
shock and awe**

BY MAX HASTINGS

202 BC
**The Romans
finally beat
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Israel Fights Back

Ariel Sharon,
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tank battles of
the 1973 War



MHQmag.com



25TH ANNIVERSARY Echoes of War

The best from a quarter century of *MHQ*. Plus—historians pick their favorite battles and generals

In the autumn of 1988, *MHQ* published its first issue, promising “to be the spearhead for a popular appreciation of military history.” One hundred issues later, we offer a sampling of some of our favorite stories from renowned writers and historians.

Battle of Jutland, 1916

A New Way to Die at Sea

The horrors that mechanized warfare visited upon the trenches in World War I are well known. But John Keegan showed the devastating effects at sea in his story on the clash between the British Grand Fleet and Germany’s High Seas Fleet.

THE CASUALTIES of ironclad warfare, as compared with those of wooden-wall warfare, were gruesome. The solid shot exchanged by the ships at Trafalgar dismembered or decapitated, and tossed showers of wooden splinters between and across

decks. But if the missiles did not kill outright, their victims retained a chance of clean and quick recovery, even under the hands of surgeons whose only tools were the probe and the knife.

The casualties at Jutland suffered wounds almost unknown to an earlier generation of naval surgeons: metal fragmentation wounds, scouring trauma by shell splinter, and, most painful and hardest of all to treat, flash and burn effects and flaying by live steam.

A British officer of the destroyer *Tipperary* described coming across a sailor “with a large portion of his thigh removed, probably the result of scouring by a shell splinter. ‘What can I do with this, sir?’” asked the torpedo gunner who was attempting first aid....I merely covered the wounds with a large piece of cotton wool and put a blanket over him. ‘Feels a lot better already,’ said the wounded man.” He was among the majority who drowned when the *Tipperary* foundered two hours later.

Both fleets, as they made their way back to harbor from their inconclusive North Sea en-



Sir John Jellicoe led the more than 150 warships of the British Grand Fleet during the Battle of Jutland in 1916.

counter, were encumbered belowdecks with “dreadful cases” that “cannot be written about.” The first—it was also to be the last—great clash of dreadnoughts had inflicted appalling human damage on their crews.

But the toll of casualties is not to be compared with the bloodlettings of the western front. Exactly one calendar month after Jutland, the British Expeditionary Force was to attack the German trench line on the Somme and suffer 20,000 killed in a single day of action. There had been such massacres before, and others would follow before the exhaustion of the combatant armies would bring the agony of trench warfare to an end. Set against the 5 million deaths

in action suffered during World War I by the British, French, and German armies alone, Jutland is small beer.

Harald Hardraade

The Brawn—and Brains—of a Viking

Harald Hardraade ruled Norway from 1046 to 1066, the last Viking king. Cecelia Holland wrote of his great feats before taking the crown—particularly in the late 1030s, when he gathered 500 men, sailed

MY FAVORITE GENERAL ♦ PAUL D. LOCKHART

Maurice of Nassau (1567–1625)

NO COMMANDER intrigues me more than Maurice of Nassau, sovereign prince of Orange from 1618 until his death. A soldier and genuine Renaissance humanist, Maurice—military leader of the Dutch Revolt against Spain—revived Roman notions of military discipline, introducing the first modern drill system to the infantry of the fledgling Dutch Republic. The result: true tactical flexibility, allowing large armies to change formation quickly and efficiently on the battlefield, and the first linear formations capable of delivering massed and continuous firepower. Everything about the tactics of modern land warfare in the Western world ultimately comes back to Maurice of Nassau and his reforms.



PAUL D. LOCKHART, professor of history at Wright State University, is the author of *The Whites of Their Eyes* and *The Drillmaster of Valley Forge*.

south to Constantinople, and joined the Varangian Guard, an elite unit of the imperial Byzantine army.

THE NAME HARDRAADE means hard counsel or ruthless. Harald was all of that. Vikings valued not only strength and bravery but also cunning and ambition. For all his size, courage, and strength, it was Harald's shrewd mind that won him advancement. He was always looking for ways to improve his lot. When Harald and his Varangians went into battle in support of other commanders, he always held his men back from the heaviest fighting, keeping them out of danger. When he and his men went to war in the vanguard, he drove them mercilessly, so that they got the glory and the best share of the loot. The result: The whole army believed that Harald protected his men, and also won them spoils and victories.

When the imperial army stormed across Sicily in

1038, they carried everything before them. Town after town fell. According to the great Norse sagas, Harald's cunning made every victory possible. Encircling one town, strong and well supplied, his men made no headway until Harald ordered them to catch some of the little birds that flew back and forth over the town walls. On the back of each bird, they fastened woodchips and set them afire. When the birds were released, they flew straight to their nests in the thatched roofs of the town. Soon the thatches were ablaze, and the imperial army swarmed in.

Battle of Ticonderoga, 1775

Benedict Arnold, Meet Ethan Allen

Willard Sterne Randall, a renowned historian of the American Revolution, recounted how these two strange bedfellows joined forces to secure the colonists' first victory of the war.

ONLY HOURS BEFORE the attack on Ticonderoga was scheduled to begin, Ethan Allen's plans were almost wrecked by the arrival of Colonel Benedict Arnold of Connecticut, bearing a commission from the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. Arnold, all spit and polish, wore the scarlet uniform he had designed for the 2nd Company of Connecticut, which he had founded, armed, and bankrolled. He was a wealthy New Haven ship owner, ship's captain, and smuggler of luxury goods.

Arnold insisted that Massachusetts had authorized him to seize the cannons at Fort Ticonderoga and arrange to haul them to the makeshift lines taking shape around Boston. Arnold demanded that Allen turn over to him command of the Green Mountain Boys and all other recruits.

The two men faced off in front of Allen's men in a field on May 9. At first, Allen, nearly a head taller, seemed to cave in before the ramrod-straight Arnold, but it was only an act. Allen knew that he had no more and no less legal authority than Arnold, but he also knew that the Green Mountain Boys around him would follow only his orders.

In a loud, mocking voice, Allen announced that Colonel Arnold would henceforth command the Boys. If they followed Arnold, their pay would be the same \$2 a day. His tone—unusual for Allen—sent a signal to his men. Without a word, they drifted to the edge of the clearing and stacked their guns. To a man, they refused to fight under anyone

but the officers they had already elected. If they could not have Allen as their leader, they would club their muskets over their shoulders and march home. Arnold had no choice but to back down.

Allen's demeanor suddenly changed. He now proposed a joint command, with Allen leading the Boys and any Connecticut troops, and Arnold commanding any soldiers who showed up from Massachusetts. As a token of reconciliation, Allen lent Arnold a short brass blunderbuss. The impetuous Arnold had ridden off to war without a gun.

D-Day, 1944

Hitler's Fanatics at Caen

Williamson Murray's account of D-Day and the fighting that followed told of a particularly brutal Canadian-German clash at Caen.

NOT UNTIL MIDNIGHT on June 6–7 did the first troopers from the 12th SS Panzer Hitlerjugend arrive

in Caen, focusing the battle on that city for the next month and a half. Created from the elite of the Hitler Youth, it represented as ideologically fanatic a formation as the Germans fielded in the war. The next day Hitlerjugend's brigade under the baleful Kurt Meyer piled into the Canadians. In ferocious fighting, the Canadians came off second best against the well-trained, juvenile murderers; but supported by naval gunfire and artillery already ashore, they held.

Several hundred Canadians surrendered to the Germans, but many failed to reach prisoner-of-war cages. There is one testimonial in the Canadian archives to an incident in which the teenagers machine-gunned Canadian prisoners and then drove their tanks over the bodies. There is extensive evidence that the troops of Hitlerjugend followed a policy of executing large numbers of prisoners. About the best that can be said for justice is that most of the perpetrators were killed or mutilated in the fighting.

On the other side, Allied intelligence officers in some cases got some wounded SS prisoners to talk



George Washington has appeared on the *MHQ* cover five times—more than anyone else. This Spring 2008 issue featured a story about his troubled last years of the Revolution.



Troops from the Regina Rifle Regiment were among the Canadian forces locked in battle at Caen in 1944.

by threatening that if they did not, they would receive transfusions of Jewish blood.

Second Punic War, 216 BC

Cannae's Legacy

Scholar **Victor Davis Hanson** examined the enduring influence of the Roman and Carthaginian clash at Cannae.

CANNAE HAS EXERTED an almost narcotic spell on military men for two millennia. The fascination



Hannibal's victory at Cannae has been invoked by generations of military leaders and thinkers.

lies in the masterful diversity of Hannibal's tactics, the harmonious concern of such incongruous forces as skirmishers, missile throwers, horsemen, and infantry, all employed in feigned retreat, elaborate ruse, and open assault. Both desperate defender and emboldened attacker—be he Frederick the Great or Napoleon himself—have seen an opportunity for a similar masterstroke. It might take the form of a last cast of the die by desperate, outnumbered troops for a sudden reversal of fortune; or of a total annihilation of a stubborn, crumbling foe as he was baited and trapped.

In the 20th century, when the refinement of battlefield communications and intelligence should have made both the illusion and deception that was necessary for a Cannae more unlikely, and thus the art of encirclement inherently less feasible, there nevertheless has been a series of attempts—successful and otherwise—to surround the enemy and knock him out in one decisive blow. The Schlieffen Plan, Tannenberg, the Allied attempt to encircle the Germans at Falaise-Argentan, and the German one to pinch off the Kursk salient (which turned into the greatest tank disaster in history): All invoked Cannae in some way in the minds of their architects.

World War I

The Red Baron's First Trophy

In his profile of Manfred von Richthofen, **Robert Wohl** told how the German ace shot down his first enemy plane.

ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1915, cruising in his just-introduced twin-gun Albatros D.II, Richthofen caught sight of a group of seven British two-seat bombers crossing the German lines. He succeeded in getting behind one of the bombers, closed to the point where he was afraid of ramming the enemy machine, and fired a short burst. The British plane began to sway, the observer disappeared from sight, and the pilot brought his plane down at a nearby German airfield. Richthofen could not contain his joy. He landed close to the crippled aircraft, jumped out, and ran toward his fallen prey:

"The engine was shot to pieces, and both occupants were severely wounded. The observer had died instantly, and the pilot died while being transported to the nearest field hospital. Later I placed a stone in memory of my honorably fallen enemies on their beautiful grave."

That night, to celebrate, Richthofen wrote to his

jeweler in Berlin and ordered a silver cup engraved with the numeral 1, the type of aircraft he had downed, the number of its occupants, and the date of his victory.

He would eventually accumulate 60 such cups before Germany's shortage of silver forced the jeweler to interrupt the production of these trophies, 20 victories before the Red Baron himself ran out of luck.



Richthofen rewarded himself with fine silver cups.

Siege of Paris, 1590

Cannibals Along the Seine

During the French Wars of Religion, with Protestants and Catholics fighting for the crown, forces led by presumptive king Henri de Navarre joined with Huguenots and laid siege to Catholic-controlled Paris. Begun in May, the four-month siege failed, but as **Alistair Horne** wrote, nearly a quarter of Paris's 220,000 residents died from disease or starvation.

WHEN THE SIEGE began, bread was rationed at one pound per person a day. In June, bakers' prices began to soar. Several suspects, accused of subversion and of promising to open the city gates, were executed. The defenders attempted a sortie to get supplies but were repulsed, and Henri retaliated by putting to the torch all the fields surrounding the city.

Two batteries of cannons on the heights of Montmartre bombarded Paris indiscriminately. But the Parisians, according to contemporary accounts, just laughed. Henri's guns may have been a joke but hunger was not, and it began to gnaw more and more at their stomachs. "At nightfall," wrote one Parisian, "there were only to be seen men and women revealing their misery in words and actions, demanding bread with loud cries, and often refusing money that was offered them, because many had one and lacked the other."

Plates from the church were melted to fund provisions. In the streets, an Italian cardinal sent by the pope to shore up the Catholics set up cauldrons of bran and oat soup, while the Spanish ambassador distributed 120 écus' worth of bread daily—to shouts of "Vive le roi d'Espagne!" There were more religious processions of barefoot penitents with priests promising relief within days.

It did not come. Yet, in July, there was a minor miracle: The hot summer produced a premature ripening of the wheat, allowing an early harvest of the fields within the city walls. Nevertheless, this



Napoleon has graced the cover three times, including this one for an Autumn 2009 story about his failures at the 1807 Battle of Eylau.

MY FAVORITE GENERAL ♦ MAX BOOT

Edward Lansdale (1908–1987)

ONE OF THE MOST intriguing and admirable generals never commanded troops in battle, but he nonetheless had an outside impact on history. Edward Lansdale, a CIA operative and U.S. Air Force officer, was an adviser of genius who helped suppress the post-World War II Huk Rebellion in the Philippines and later helped create the state of South Vietnam. His secret weapons were his empathy and his willingness to listen to locals rather than lecture them, as Westerners too often did then—and now. He was also armed with an unshakable faith in the principles of the Declaration of Independence, which he believed had appeal far beyond the United States. His life is a valuable study for anyone interested in learning how to be an effective military adviser—one of the most important, yet neglected, tasks a soldier can be assigned.



MAX BOOT, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, is a military historian and author of *Invisible Armies: An Epic History of Guerrilla Warfare from Ancient Times to the Present*.

HANS BURGMAR THE ELDER/BILDARCHIV PREUSSISCHER KULTURBESITZART RESSOURCE, NEW YORK

LEFT: AKG-IMAGES; RIGHT: U.S. AIR FORCE

MY FAVORITE GENERAL ♦ ELIOT A. COHEN

William Slim (1891–1970)

SLIM, WHO WAS COMMANDER of the British Fourteenth Army, is the best World War II general that you probably have never heard of. The title of his memoir—coincidentally, the best in its class—sums up his story. Called *Defeat Into Victory*, it describes how he led his troops out of Burma in 1942, then led them back in 1944 and 1945. His wisdom is on display in the tale of the rebuilding of the Fourteenth in India, as well as in the short accounts of earlier episodes of his career (he also fought in World War I) assembled as *Unofficial History*. He was modest, tough, humane, and superbly competent.



ELIOT A. COHEN is director of Strategic Studies at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies.

was not enough to prevent starvation. Donkeys, then cats, dogs, and rats began to disappear. The historian O. Ranum later noted that women protested to their husbands that “rather than die of hunger, they would eat all their children.” Bread rations were reduced to four ounces per day. One man reportedly ate candle tallow. There were, reputedly, experiments in milling bones harvested from the graveyards for flour, and there were accounts of cannibalism—one referring to “little children disguised as meat.” One mother was discovered to have eaten her two deceased children. Both were ostensibly interred according to Catholic rites, but a thigh was found in an armoire. After the mother's death, her maid confessed all. The extreme burdens of famine had driven many to desperate measures.

Cold War**A Cowboy in Berlin**

George Feifer described an eccentric American spy in Berlin in the 1950s—William King Harvey, the CIA station chief.

THE OUTSIZE 37-YEAR-OLD drank up to five martinis before raising a fork at lunch, and seemed

immune to criticism for sometimes making an afternoon spectacle of himself. The staff at Berlin Operations Base held him in half-admiring, half-nervous awe. He always kept loaded revolvers there: three or four in his desk and two on his person, rotated daily from among his collection. Racks of firearms lined the walls, and thermite bombs atop the safes would instantly destroy files within if the Soviets invaded, as expected. During his Berlin heyday, a beer hall waitress politely handed Harvey a pistol that had fallen from his pocket. He never checked his heaters in restaurants because “when you need ‘em, you need ‘em in a hurry.”

Ranking American visitors to BOB headquarters were buoyed by a rousing delivery of his signature speech about “protecting the United States against its enemies.” Startled Europeans tended to see the passionate lover of pearl handles and battle hyperbole as dangerously halfcocked: the archetypal anti-communist cowboy.

John Kennedy approved. Later, the young president and Ian Fleming fan would speak of pear-shaped Harvey, with his bulging eyes and froglike voice, as a kind of American James Bond. Harvey took pains to broadcast his relish for whiskey and guns. The son of a small-town Indiana lawyer cultivated his macho Texan image because he believed it helped him get results. Something clearly did. He was known as a superb case officer who combined astute hunches with careful legwork. More street-wise than academically analytical, he had a sure sense of the human frailties that often led people to involve themselves in spying.

India vs. Britain, 1799**Tiger on the Loose**

The Tippoo Sultan, ruler of the state of Mysore and a fierce fighter, was the chief roadblock for British control of India. **Bernard Cornwell** wrote about the



This life-size wood carving of a tiger mauling a European soldier was made for the Tippoo Sultan.

legendary “Tiger of Mysore” just before the sultan's death at the 1799 Battle of Seringapatam.

THE TIPPOO was then 50 years old. A short, plumpish man, he did not look particularly fierce or warlike, but he was, nevertheless, a considerable soldier. In 1782, during the second Mysore War, the Tippoo had gained a famous victory at Pollilur, where he trapped a force of 4,000 British troops, kept them isolated while his father brought up reinforcements, fought them to a standstill, and then accepted their surrender.

It was the worst defeat the British had suffered in India, and the battle is commemorated by a fine mural that can still be seen at the Tippoo's summer palace just outside Seringapatam.

By 1799, the Tippoo had more than a thousand pieces of artillery, many of very small caliber, but still an awesome weight of metal with which to defend his city. Many of the cannons had tiger-mask muzzles, for the tiger was the Tippoo's totem. His troops wore a tiger-striped uniform, his banner had a field of tiger stripes, and his throne was the extraordinary Tiger Throne—a platform, some 8 by 5 feet, made of ebony and covered with a sheet of gold. Oddly, this throne was never used. The Tippoo took an oath that he would not climb its silver-gilt steps until the British were defeated. Instead, the British captured the throne and cut it into fragments, the most substantial of which are now in the royal collection at Windsor Castle.

Tet Offensive, 1968**Grabbing the Enemy by the Belt**

Christian G. Appy collected firsthand accounts of Ho Chi Minh's surprise Tet attacks on hundreds of targets in South Vietnam. This one is from Tuan Van Ban, an infantry lieutenant in the North Vietnamese Army whose first combat experience came in his battalion's strike against a U.S. Marine base in Quang Tri Province.

AROUND MIDNIGHT we moved as close as possible to the American perimeter. Uniforms can snag on barbed wire so we just wore shorts and covered our bodies with dirt for camouflage. When everyone was in position, we all dug foxholes and waited. Some guys were even able to sleep. However, many of the men had, like me, just come from the North and had no combat experience. We were too excited to rest.

We did a lot of careful planning before the battle. Weeks earlier, as part of a small reconnaissance team, we had crawled and cut our way through the mines and barbed wire to get a close look at the base. In preparing our troops, we made sure they understood the importance of fighting as close to the enemy as possible. We wanted to take the battle right into the enemy bunkers and grab the Americans by the belt.

We launched the attack at 5 a.m. First we fired a flare. That was the signal to detonate the dynamite that blasted holes in the perimeter. At the same time our mortar men and machine gunners began firing into the base at their targets. Within seconds we blew a bugle and whistles to signal our troops to advance. All 400 of us moved forward screaming, “Attack! Attack! Attack!”

Just five minutes after we began to move, artillery



Viet Cong soldiers battle in the Quang Tri Province, site of fierce fighting during the 1968 Tet Offensive.



World War II stories have fronted the magazine on 20 occasions.



Mao Zedong is among the many historical figures who have appeared on the cover just once. Others include: Adolf Hitler, Stonewall Jackson, the Prophet Muhammad, and U. S. Grant.



The Spanish Armada's invasion of England in 1588 ended in disaster; it began with poor planning by King Philip II.

fire started falling. Fortunately, by that time most of us had penetrated the perimeter and the shells landed behind us.

With a few other men, I raced through the opening and tried to make it to the communications center. It was very dark and incredibly chaotic. It was nearly impossible to see where you were going or what you were firing at. Bullets were flying in every direction.

We knew we couldn't maintain a dragged-out battle. Enemy forces throughout the area were very strong and that base itself had enormous firepower.

So we just destroyed as much as we could and gave the signal to withdraw. We were in and out before daybreak.

Spanish Armada, 1588

A King as Armchair General

Preparing to invade Queen Elizabeth I's England, the Spanish king Philip II asked for battle plans from his two most senior officers: the marquis of Santa Cruz,

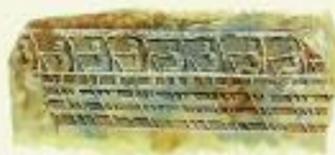
MY FAVORITE BATTLE ♦ BARRY STRAUSS

Salamis, 480 BC

SALAMIS WAS ONE of the toughest tests a democracy has ever faced. To save their country from Persian invasion, the Athenians agreed to spend their resources on a new fleet and to evacuate nearly the entire population. They risked everything on the fleet, which was based on Salamis, a nearby island. To set up the battle took diplomacy and deception aimed not only at the

enemy but also at their unruly allies. That along with courage, cohesion, and local knowledge won the day. It's an epic story that never disappoints in the retelling.

BARRY STRAUSS is a professor of history and classics at Cornell University. His books include *Masters of Command* and *The Battle of Salamis*.



Trireme galleys such as this won the day for Athenians.

and the duke of Parma. Geoffrey Parker explained how the king ultimately chose to use not one plan but both.

SANTA CRUZ sent in his plan in March 1586. It called for a full-scale invasion from Spain, in the summer of 1587, in overwhelming strength and with sustained logistical support. There were to be two strikes: first against some point in southern Ireland, in order to draw off Elizabeth's forces, and then (some two months later) a second surprise attack on some point on the south coast of England, now (so the marquis hoped) denuded of defenders. The king was clearly impressed, and orders went out in April 1586 to start collecting the 286 ships, the 60,000 men, the copious supplies, and the major train of heavy artillery envisaged by Santa Cruz.

But then, late in June, a courier arrived from Flanders bearing details of another plan, devised by Parma. This was quite different: It proposed, in effect, a blitzkrieg. Some 30,000 troops from Flanders, led by Parma in person, would slip aboard a fleet of barges one dark night and sail in secret to the coast of Kent, whence they would march at top speed upon London, there to capture (if possible) the queen and her ministers unawares. Since Parma thought the crossing could be achieved in 12 hours, and the march on London within a week, there was no role in his plan for a fleet from Spain except—and this was only added as an afterthought—in the event that an invasion army became bogged down in Kent. Then Santa Cruz and his fleet might be needed to bail them out.

Now here was a serious dilemma: two excellent strategies, both highly recommended, both carefully researched, both apparently feasible. Which was the king to choose?

Surely only an armchair strategist could have hit upon the solution actually adopted: to attempt both strategies simultaneously! In July 1586, after due deliberation, Philip resolved to continue with the mobilization of an enormous fleet in Spain, and he held to his decision to launch it first against Ireland and only later against southeastern England.

Jeb Stuart

The Confederate Knight

Civil War historian Gary W. Gallagher profiled the Rebel cavalryman James Ewell Brown Stuart.

ONE OF THE MORE flamboyant commanders in either army, Jeb Stuart cut a striking figure when

fully decked out. A scarlet-lined cape covered his shoulders, golden spurs set off boots that reached his thighs, a bright yellow sash and gauntlets of white buckskin added contrast to his gray uniform, and a hat crowned with a long plume completed a memorable ensemble.

His retinue, surely one of the noisiest and most picturesque of any Civil War general, radiated energy and eccentricity. Samuel Sweeney played



Jeb Stuart was known for his style and his lively retinue.

TOP: © IMAGE ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD/ALAMY; BOTTOM: PETER CONNOLLY/ANG-IMAGES

CORNELIUS HANKINS/THE UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY, VIRGINIA DIVISION, ON DEPOSIT AT VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (1946.52)



Two covers have featured paintings of the 1940 Battle of Britain, including this one, *MHQ's* first issue.

banjo on the march and in camp. The convivial Prussian Heros von Borcke, British soldier of fortune George St. Leger Ommanney Grenfell, and Irishman Redmond Burke—all of whom served as staff officers—added an element of Old World professionalism and dash. John Pelham's boyish good looks and hard fighting as the cavalry's ranking artilleryman enchanted Southern women and won encomiums from Robert E. Lee and others.

Korean War, 1950

MacArthur's Pirate

Before General Douglas MacArthur's daring amphibious attack on Inchon, U.S. Navy lieutenant Eugene Franklin Clark was asked to lead an intelligence mission to reconnoiter the beaches, waters, and Communist defenses around the port city. As long-time American military historian **Thomas Fleming**

wrote, *Clark and his men set up base on an island near Inchon.*

OFFSHORE, in the Flying Fish Channel, the water route to Inchon, Clark saw numerous sampans under sail. He boarded the one-lung motorboat he had christened *The Flagship* and, with his two Korean interpreters and a couple of other men, set out to capture a few of these slow-moving craft.

Clark soon demonstrated that he had, in the words of a man who had served with him during World War II, "the nerves of a burglar and the flair of a Barbary Coast pirate." He headed his boat straight at the nearest sampan and blasted a few rounds across its bow from a grease gun. One of his Koreans shouted, "Drop your sails!" They quickly captured three boats and towed them into a cove where the crews were interrogated.

While Clark's days were busy, his nights were harrowing. The North Koreans began sending infiltrators to his island hideout as soon as darkness

fell. Some were shot down by the sentries posted with .50-caliber machine guns, but most reached the island and went looking for Clark and his team. Clark worried about what would happen if the Communists captured him; he knew the exact date for MacArthur's invasion. He began carrying a hand grenade on his person wherever he went. "A grenade is a lot more certain way to kill yourself than a pistol," he later said.

Chinese Civil War

Mao's Single Spark

In his profile of Mao Zedong, historian **Geoffrey Perret** argued that the Chinese leader was fairly ordinary as a young man. His love of military strategy and tactics, Perret said, bloomed in the 1920s when he was fighting with the Communists against the Nationalist government forces.

AT FIVE FEET TEN, Mao was markedly taller than most Chinese. Impressed by accounts of the rigorous physical regimen of Theodore Roosevelt, he had devised a similar program for himself. The result was a young man who was tall, muscular, and strong. Lacking the money to go to one of China's few universities, he obtained a job as a library assistant at Beijing University. Mao had a typical student's interests—books, poetry, politics, and girls.

Mao gained his military experience in three Chinese civil wars, the conquest of Tibet, two wars with India, a war against the United States in Korea, and finally a war against the French, the South Vietnamese, and the Americans in Vietnam. There have been few people in the 20th century with greater experience in war than Mao—or who gave more thought to the subject.

In the mid-1920s, Mao organized a peasant insurrection against the property owners, warlords, and Nationalists in Hunan, his home province, but the better-armed, better-trained Nationalists routed the Communists. Mao ever after claimed he had been taken prisoner but escaped before the Nationalists could execute him. He rounded up the survivors and led them into the mountains.

Mao's failed insurrection convinced him that for the party to survive, it needed a trained army. Putting his ideas on how to wage and win a guerrilla struggle into a pamphlet titled "A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire," he produced the prototext of his most influential military idea, the doctrine of protracted war. He also formed a partnership with an

MY FAVORITE BATTLE ♦ GARY W. GALLAGHER

Chancellorsville, 1863



At Chancellorsville, the ever-cautious Army of the Potomac met the Rebel army of the bold Robert E. Lee, with a bloody yet intriguing result.

CHANCELLORSVILLE always has captivated me. It showcases the importance of cultures of command, offering a stark contrast between George B. McClellan's risk-averse model, which still held sway in the Army of the Potomac even though McClellan himself was no longer in command, and Robert E. Lee's audacious model, exemplified by T. J. "Stonewall" Jackson and many other generals in the Army of Northern Virginia. The Confederate assaults on the morning of May 3 completed the process by which Lee and his soldiers forged an unequalled bond among Civil War commanders and their troops, and the entire campaign played out against hugely important political events relating to emancipation, conscription, and the rise of the Copperhead movement advocating a peaceful settlement with the Confederates.

GARY W. GALLAGHER is a professor of history at the University of Virginia. He is the author of many books on the Civil War, most recently *The Union War* and *Becoming Confederates*.

able professional soldier and Communist, Zhu De. Together they created the Red Army. He and Zhu devised a 16-character military guide that even an illiterate peasant could understand—and not even Sun Tzu could have improved upon:

Enemy advances, we retreat.
Enemy halts, we harass.
Enemy tires, we attack.
Enemy retreats, we pursue.

They would rely on the tactic of the guerrilla down through the ages—the ambush, which Mao called "the short attack." **MHQ**



U.S. Marines storm ashore at Inchon, an attack keyed by daring and dangerous intelligence work.

S. SGT. W. W. FRANKUS. MARINE CORP/NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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