



HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS.
COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

December 16, 1914.

My dear Joe:

I should have replied to your letter of November 25th much sooner, but you can imagine that we have been pretty busy here since the return of the men from Vera Cruz. We now have them about settled, and I have just received word as to the return of the 5th Regiment from Santo Domingo about Christmas, so that means I am busy again.

I think and hope that nearly everything has been settled with reference to San Diego, and hope that everything is going on smoothly with you.

In your letter you mention the winter field shade uniform: I have decided not to issue this, at least not for the present, if at all.

With reference to the naming of the camp at San Diego, I would, of course, consider it a great compliment to have it named for me, and I thank you for your courtesy in mentioning it.

You know by this time, of course, that the 4th Regiment band is to remain at San Diego, which, according to your letter, will be pleasing not only to the camp but to Mr. Davidson.

I wish we could send you more officers, but I have orders from the Department to keep up the brigade organization, and at the same time all the posts on the east coast will be increased to their normal strength, and it will be necessary to distribute the officers to their original stations, as all posts have been cut down to one, or at most two, since the marines went to Vera Cruz. If it is at all possible later on, I will send you some more officers. This will probably be possible when the class of second lieutenants at Norfolk are turned over for duty.

Everything is going on smoothly here. I was before

the Committee last week in reference to estimates for 1916, and found the whole committee very friendly disposed, but no one can tell what will come out of it. As you know, the Secretary recommended the construction of one new barracks at Norfolk and one at Mare Island, but they did not consider any other construction. I made a very strong plea before the Committee for both officers and men, and especially for brigadier generals, and, as I said above, I believe my recommendations were met by the Committee in a very friendly spirit - so I have some hope.

The records of target practice that you speak of are quite phenomenal, and I am greatly pleased to hear of them. I think they should be published. If you will send them to me I will give them to the Army & Navy Register and Journal.

I am very glad that Mr. Davidson has offered you suitable rooms for your headquarters offices, as I think that would be much better than having them in camp, and I am sure you will very much prefer having offices outside of camp.

Some of the articles asked for of the Quartermaster's department were of necessity not allowed at present, but I will keep them in mind and a little later on, if the condition of the appropriations warrant it, grant everything that is possible.

We are hoping that the designation of the Marine post at San Diego will arrange everything very satisfactorily with reference to commutation of quarters. I say we hope this because there may be a little question about it, but I see none whatever in reference to your case, as you will not be part of the camp.

I am very glad that you and Mrs. Pendleton are enjoying San Diego as much as heretofore, and no doubt you will continue to do so.

Mrs. Barnett joins me in kindest regards for you and Mrs. Pendleton.

Very sincerely yours,



Colonel Joseph H. Pendleton,
Commanding 4th Regiment.



Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps,

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Washington, February 12, 1915.

Colonel J. H. Pendleton,
Commanding Fourth Regiment Marines,
San Diego, California.

My dear Joe:

The General has today acted upon a request from Major McKelvy asking for a reconsideration of the decision rendered with regard to it being improper to give the officers attached to the battalion at the exposition, San Diego, commutation of quarters so long as they are at a temporary barracks and live under canvas.

In the letter, which will pass through your hands, you will note that the General has answered McKelvy paragraph by paragraph, and I think the answers given by him are conclusive. In my opinion, there is not a single argument advanced by McKelvy which would have the slightest effect upon the Comptroller of the Treasury, and furthermore, I do not hesitate to tell you, in fact, the General wants me to tell you in the strictest confidence that it is believed it would be a grave error, and one which might involve serious consequences, to ask for a decision of the Comptroller, because the gentleman who now occupies that chair belongs to your party, Henry George and the Socialists, and believes there is no reason why two or three families should not occupy one building. If he would restrict his opinion to the simple question as to whether or not the officers of the First Battalion are entitled to commutation of quarters, the General might risk it, but he is just as liable to extend his views and give some drastic opinion which would affect the service at large, and for this reason it is not believed that it would be good policy to ask for the Comptroller's decision.

The General asked me to write you this letter in the strictest confidence, but there is no objection to your letting the officers of your Regiment know, also in the strictest confidence, just why no action can be taken by these Headquarters looking towards a Comptroller's decision on the subject.

Send

6-1-10

You will doubtless remember, but if not, I can stimulate your memory by records of these Headquarters, that we knew nothing here with regard to any prospective barracks at San Diego until you and your friend, Mr. Davidson, started up the question of having a Marine Detachment at the Fair. If you have in your possession any information which will bear upon the fact that the Navy Department proposes establishing a permanent barracks at San Diego, I feel sure that the General will be tickled to death to get it, as we have none here.

George showed me a letter you wrote to him the other day in which you promised to write to me. If you have not done so, do it now.

Keep this letter, ^{confidential} as it is intended to be strictly personal and confidential.

George and the others here send kind remembrances, and with my very kindest remembrances and best wishes for Mrs. Pendleton and yourself, believe me always,

Very cordially yours,

Love
I have just read the story which suggests all I write a paragraph to the effect all the quarters right after the grant of the committee of quarters found while you request me - copy of some letter. He are a very thin ice + the Gen said the better. It would undoubtedly affect the pay of ~~all~~ officers who have been a recipient of a recent contract of quarters
AM



HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS.
COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

March 5, 1915.

Colonel Joseph A. Pendleton, U.S.M.C.,
Commanding 4th Regiment, Marine Corps,
Arts & Science Building,
Panama-California Exposition,
San Diego, Cal.

My dear Joe:

A representative of the Y. M. C. A., Mr. John S. Tichenor, was in to see me yesterday, and expressed the hope that they would be able to have a representative at the San Diego Fair during the Exposition. I told him that I would write to you and ask that you and the officers and men there lend him every assistance possible. The officers of the Y. M. C. A. have done so much for the marines at different barracks and posts, and especially on expeditionary service, I feel that we should assist them in every way possible; so I hope you will tell all of your officers and men of my desire in this line.

In the appropriation bill just passed we did not get the brigadier general and officers requested, but we did get \$200,000 for a barracks at Norfolk and \$200,000 for a barracks at Mare Island; also 10% additional pay for officers at sea and 20% additional pay for enlisted men at sea. While this is not all we wanted it is pretty good, and especially as to pay, which we have fought for for many years. We hope next session to get the brigadier general and additional officers necessary, and everybody, in my opinion, should concentrate their efforts to help out this plan.

The Secretary is going to fill all of our vacancies this year from graduates of the Naval Academy, which, in my opinion, is another very great gain.

I hope that everything there is going smoothly, and that you are all happy, and that I may have the pleasure of seeing you some time during the summer.

With kindest regards for all, the officers, yourself and Mrs. Pendleton,

Very sincerely yours,

George Barnett

13-1-19



Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps,

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT,

Washington, March 17, 1915.

My dear Joe:

I have both your letters and am awfully glad to hear from you, and I know that Barnett, when he gets back tomorrow, will read them with a great deal of pleasure. I feel that we poor, working people in the Marine Corps must appreciate your writing to us, and I am wondering whether, after your service with the Fair at San Diego is finished, you will recognize any of us ordinary officers of the Corps proper now since you are hobnobbing only with royalty. I have discussed the matter with George and he, like myself, is doubtful, but we both have hopes that you may at least occasionally do us the honor of remembering that before you were elevated to the high social position which you now occupy you were friendly with us.

Before I forget, I want to tell you that you got me in a hell of a row the other day. When I received your last letter, in which you spoke of the furniture question, I immediately went to my friend, Colonel McCawley, and gave him hell for having treated you so badly in the matter. He expressed great surprise and said he could not understand what I meant, so I told him I had only that morning gotten a letter from you in which you commented upon the way the Quartermaster's Department treated you. He sent for Percy Archer and got out the requisition, and I found that they had given you everything you asked for. The only change they made was in your desks and chairs which they reduced in cost. As no officer at these Headquarters has a desk which costs beyond \$25., ~~and~~ McCawley thought he was rather liberal in allowing the Commanding Officer of the Fourth Regiment in the field \$30. for a desk, which is \$5. more than we subsidized high brows here are permitted to spend for such articles. Of course, our chairs cost more than yours, but as your office was only to be of a temporary character, McCawley thought that for that purpose chairs at \$5. apiece would at least support your friends, it not being understood here that they carry their wealth with them when they call on you. If that were the case, naturally the chair would not hold them. All nonsense aside, I do not think you have any grievance at all about the furniture, and I told McCawley so.

(J.H.P.-2)

George is away at Norfolk. He went down with the Secretary on the Mayflower to be present at the launching of the PENNSYLVANIA, and is spending today inspecting at Norfolk.

The Assistant Secretary left last night, joins the Vice President today at Chicago, and will probably be at San Diego on the 28th. I have no doubt that you will be nice to him, and you will find him a most pleasant and agreeable man. He is very friendly to the Marine Corps now and I feel sure that after he has met you he will feel more so.

I read to George your letter about the McKelvy matter, and perhaps you are right. If we had a broad-minded Comptroller, things would be different, but, as your friend, Grover Cleveland, once said, a condition and not a theory confronts us. We have not a broad-minded Comptroller.

We have absolutely no information here regarding the establishment of a permanent garrison at San Diego. I have no doubt that when Mr. Roosevelt made that statement he was dining with San Diegians, and was no doubt ingratiating himself with them, as I feel sure there is no present intention on the part of the Department to establish a permanent station there.

I am very glad to know that the late vice-president and Mr. Straus were so pleased with your command. When I see General Squires he will no doubt tell me all about it.

I know that you are too busy socially to read my letters. I will write you occasionally and briefly, so will not detain you longer now. Am very glad to know that Mrs. Pendleton is so well, and please remember me very, very kindly to her. I wish I could see my way clear to come to San Diego because the Lord knows I should like to.

I hope you treated my classmate, Uriu, well when he came to San Diego.

I will take up with George when he gets back your orders to San Francisco.

Please tell Captain Lyman how much I appreciate his kind remembrances, and remember me to him in return. With my very kindest for yourself, believe me, Joe,

Always your sincere friend,
Joe



HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS.
COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

September 30, 1915.

My dear Joe:

Your letter of September 14, 1915, arrived when I was down in Virginia on a few days leave. I appreciated it very much, and thank you for the same.

I was very glad to hear about the Marine Corps Day at the Tented City, and how nicely everybody was treated.

What you speak of with reference to a small secret service fund is practically impossible to get. The same subject came up with reference to Hayti, and the Secretary was very much opposed to granting anything for that even.

With reference to the Medical Officer, Longabaugh- he got leave, and I doubt very much whether it will be possible to get him ordered back there, as the Surgeon General is so short of medical officers that he has found it necessary to take one officer from each of seven battleships. I am quite sure he would pronounce it utterly impossible to send another doctor there.

Matters in Hayti are going on about as usual. We have had some casualties, as you have read. Things at present have quieted down somewhat, and it looks as though we would have peace there soon.

With reference to the official calls you spoke of: I have taken the matter up with the Department, and proposed a change in the Navy Regulations to cover that matter in the future.

I am returning to you herewith the card you received from Fullam. Of course we were all pleased at his new orders, and I think you will consider that sufficient trouble for him without taking his case any farther. I hope that in the future there will be no trouble, and I am sure there will not if the proposed changes are adopted in the regulations.

Please thank Davidson, Burnham, Bridges, and Mrs. Donaldson, McKenzie, and Sharp, for their kind messages. Say that Mrs. Barnett and I wish to be kindly remembered, as we do also to Mrs. Pendleton and Helen.

We are busy on the estimates now, but nobody can form any idea of what will be gotten. I really think we stand a fair show of getting some personnel legislation. I hope to get a couple of thousand men and the necessary officers, and two brigadier generals. Of course there is many a slip, so we can't tell definitely, but just at present it looks to be as favorable as it could. When Congress meets get busy and use any special influence you have with individual senators and representatives.

Please tell Mr. Kettner that when he comes to Washington it will be up to him to get busy with reference to the purchase of the proposed site for a marine corps station at San Diego, as I don't think otherwise that the Department would be inclined to take that matter up, as the estimates are for absolutely necessary reserve supplies of ammunition, new construction of ships, buildings, etc., and they will be about all that the Secretary will stand for.

Tell Kettner I shall hope to see him very shortly after he comes to Washington, and renew our very pleasant acquaintanceship both in Washington and at San Diego. Tell him also Mrs. Barnett wishes to be kindly remembered to him and Mrs. Kettner.

With kind regards to yourself and Mrs. Pendleton, I am

Sincerely yours,

George Barnett



Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps,

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Washington, October 13, 1915.

My dear Joe:

I trust your heart is in good condition, for otherwise it may be severely tested by your receiving an immediate reply from me. My reason for writing at once is that I find there is a lull in the labors of the day and I know of no more pleasant way to occupy my time than by writing to you, and also it will probably show you that I am not vindictive or ceremonious and wait for as long a period to elapse before writing you as you did me.

I am glad to know that things have quieted down somewhat as I have no doubt that a little calm will be a good thing for you. I was very much pleased day before yesterday to meet Mr. Davidson, who came to Headquarters to see George but, in his absence, came in to see me and stayed for some little time. I found him a most delightful gentleman, and as he was a friend of yours and spoke very nicely of you, I took rather kindly to him, but all the time I could not help but wonder how you fool people the way you do. I wish you would give me some pointers on the subject, for you know emulation is the highest art of flattery.

I took Mr. Davidson over to the Metropolitan and Army and Navy Clubs and yesterday he was good enough to take luncheon with me. I had George and Charley McCawley to meet him, and I feel that the luncheon was a success. I trust he enjoyed it as much as he said he did. He surely is a good friend of yours. He told me that he thought the Exposition would last for another year, and he was very anxious to retain the Marines there. In fact, he wants the battalion from San Francisco to be sent down when the fair at that place is over. George said he would take the matter under advisement, and if it is possible, I think it will be done. No doubt Mr. Davidson will tell you fully of his conversation with George on this subject. He will also tell you what we said to him about the land, etc., and what the Secretary said to him. The initiative will have to be taken by the people out there. Much will be done for preparedness this winter, and it will depend upon whether your friend can work this in under that head.

I wonder if you and Winslow didn't put up a job about that S.O.S. business as, due to that, you will notice, the command in San Diego was augmented. Of course the mere fact that they did not go on expeditionary duty makes no

special difference. I am glad that you think so well of Winslow; he is a fine fellow, somewhat of a bluffer, but I think you will like him. He is a man of a great deal of ability.

I will make a note of your remarks about Senator Stone, and I shall certainly look up your friend, Ketner, when he comes East. I will pump as much information into them as I possibly can, although I presume there will be very little left to do when you get through them.

Many thanks for your bringing to my attention the incorrect address on the endorsement prepared in this office. I think I have given instructions which will prevent a recurrence of this in the future. These errors will creep in no matter how careful one may be. All I can say is that I am very glad you brought it to my attention, and do not hesitate, should occasion arise in the future, to let me know about all such mistakes.

I have no doubt my friend Harry Bispham was very complimentary about your command, as he is a great friend of the Marine Corps, and then too, I know your command is deserving of commendation.

I read your letter to George and Lejeune and both were very much pleased with it. I am glad to know everything is O.K. with you. Keep up your missionary work. If there is anything I can do at this end of the line, you know very well it is always a great pleasure to me to be of service to you.

Please remember me most kindly to Mrs. Pendleton, and with my very kindest remembrances and best wishes for yourself, believe me,

Always,



Colonel J. H. Pendleton,
Commanding 4th Reg't Marines,
San Diego, Cal.



HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS.
COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

November 5, 1915.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

My dear Joe:

I trust that your heart action is good, because, if not, I fear that you will receive considerable of a shock by getting an immediate reply to your letter, which only reached me in the mail this morning.

I am very glad to know that your friend, Mr. Davidson, appreciates good men when he sees them. When Mr. Davidson was East he spoke to George about the possibility of the San Diego Fair being kept open for another year, and, in that event, the continuance of the battalion now at San Diego with the Fair, and also the question of sending the battalion from San Francisco to San Diego. George favors, upon the completion of the Fair in San Francisco, the transfer of that battalion to San Diego, but I very much fear that, unless strong pressure is brought to bear upon the Secretary, he will not look at it in that light. In fact, strictly confidentially, I understand that George has talked with the Secretary on this subject, and has suggested the advisability of establishing a permanent post at San Diego, to be known as the Marine Barracks, San Diego, as George feels there has been quite a hardship upon the officers of the first and second battalions in not being able to receive commutation of quarters; and, by the establishment of a permanent barracks, they would receive it.

As I stated above, confidentially, the Secretary does not feel inclined to send the battalion from San Francisco to San Diego, and has not yet taken up the question of whether he will permit the second battalion to remain at San Diego in case the Fair is continued another year. If we receive official information here that the Fair is to be continued, George will take up the matter with the Secretary, but, between ourselves, it would be well to prime the Secretary so that he may look favorably upon the suggestion.

I feel sure that, even if the Secretary should be willing to allow the marines to remain at San Diego for another year, George will object to said assignment unless the necessary orders are signed, making it a per-

manent post, so that the officers can receive commutation of quarters.

It has occurred to me to bring to your attention the following, therefore: Suppose the Secretary desires to keep the marines at San Diego, and does not approve of the creation of a permanent post at that place, do you think it would be at all possible for you to arrange with the Fair officials to pay to the officers an amount equal to their commutation of quarters? It seems to me that, as the marines are such a great attraction at the Fair, and so much a part of its success, the Fair authorities should be willing to do this. I would advise, therefore, that you think this matter over very carefully, and keep what I tell you in the strictest confidence, except that, of course, you should talk to Mr. Davidson about it, impressing upon him the necessity of keeping what you tell him as strictly between you two, and he ought to be also cautioned to be guarded in using any information which you give him. If he purposes taking any action, I should also ask him to give you notice thereof in advance, so that you may look at it from a purely service standpoint.

I believe that George can induce the Secretary to let the battalion remain there if the Fair is continued, but, as I said before, he will not give his sanction to their remaining unless arrangements can be made, either officially or privately, for the officers to obtain commutation of quarters, or a similar amount from some source from the Exposition people.

I know how deeply interested you are in this matter, and therefore I feel sure that this tip from me will cause you to take the matter up with your usual avidity, and I trust that you may be successful. I need not tell you that I feel that the greatest care must be exercised to consider this matter as strictly confidential.

Plain Arg.

There was a request received today for you to deliver a lecture in ~~Cheyenne~~, (I think it was) for some organization, and George was asked whether he would object to your going. He said that, on the contrary, he would be very glad to have you go, as he felt sure you were well qualified for the work which had been outlined for you. He suggests, therefore, as you are to discuss the question of national defense, to give you a tip to be careful, so that, in your enthusiasm, you do not knock any branch of the service. George's advice is, "Knock nothing; boost everything."

With regard to the Ellis matter, I do not mind telling you, confidentially, that he has been selected as A. D. C. to George to take the place of Captain Breckinridge, who goes to sea. I do not blame you for wanting him with you, because he is a good man for the place.

I suppose this will reach you upon your return from San Francisco, where I have no doubt you had a good time. I wish I could make a trip from San Francisco to San Diego. I think Mrs. Pendleton is extremely brave to permit you to go alone. I fear the worst.

I showed your letter to George, and he was very much pleased with its contents, and especially to know that the San Diegans have not forgotten him.

I am glad you made the impression you did upon Mr. Ford, who, you know, is not in favor of militarism.

Nothing startling here. Good-bye, and with my very kindest remembrances to Mrs. Pendleton and yourself, believe me always,

Very cordially,

John
W. H. S. - [unclear]

Colonel Joseph Pendleton, U. S. Marine Corps,
Commanding Fourth Regiment,
San Diego, California.

*Photocopy Arizona
Nov 16, 1915 - J.C.*

The Secretary of the Navy League of the United States telegraphed me some days ago, asking me to make a speech before this assembly of noted men of Arizona on the subject of National Defense. I replied to him asking that some better equipped person be selected, and explaining that I did not wish to inflict unnecessary torture on any assembly, and particularly on one towards which I had none but the kindest feelings.

It seems, however, that some one connected with the Naval Service was wanted for this occasion, and I have gladly consented to do my best. I cannot, however, make a speech. Two or three attempts have proven that to me, and incidentally to my auditors. But I will talk to you as a member of the Service to men who are interested in the Service.

My only excuse for venturing to do even this, is that after more than thirty-seven years in the Navy and Marine Corps, I may be able to tell you something you have not known, or to tell you something you know, in a new way, and maybe from a new viewpoint.

I was graduated from the Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1882, and after two years service at sea in the old frigate, "Hartford", I was commissioned in the Marine Corps in 1884. All my service has been in connection with the Navy, afloat and ashore, in different parts of our country, and in different parts of the world; from Maine to California, from the state of Washington to Florida; in Alaska, the Philippines, and Guam; in Cuba; in Nicaragua; and on the waters of the seven seas.

During this time, I have seen the remarkable development of our Navy from the days of wooden ships with sail and auxiliary steam power, to the present day of ships such as your own magnificent namesake, the "Arizona" now nearing completion. She is a monster of steel, a magnificent structure of 31,400 tons displacement, filled with all the marvels of the latest ingenuity of invention, driving her immense bulk ~~six~~ through the water at a speed of 21 knots per hour, nearly twenty-five of your land miles, and ready to hurl her three quarter ton shells from her fourteen inch guns through the armored sides of the heaviest battleship now afloat, at a distance of half a dozen miles ; and all directed by a skilled crew of over a thousand officers and men. Eight of these first class ships we now have in full commission, and nine more are more or less completed. These magnificent engines of warfare are the greatest possible potential factors for peace. Give us such a fleet of these vessels as we should have, one for every state in our union, and rash indeed will be the country who tries to invade our shores.

Of course, with these first class ships we will require many ships whose function is to assist the mighty power of the battleship fleet. We must have submarines, destroyers, scout cruisers, store and repair ships, and other auxiliary craft, not forgetting hospital ships, and transports for those of our marines who are not serving at the time on the battleships and cruisers, but whom it is necessary to transfer to some

strategic point to land, and hold a base, where, in sheltered waters our fleet may coal, refit, renew their stores, and prepare after strenuous service on the high seas for renewed activities. Or these transports may convey these ubiquitous Marines on one of their periodic expeditions to deliver a much needed spanking to one of our semi-protégés, where to send the army on the same mission would be called "War". A brigade of Marines in Haiti is now performing this salutary duty.

There is some opposition in our country to the building program of our Navy Department, which program has been thought out, and prepared by the brightest and most experienced minds in our Naval service; but this opposition is mainly due to a lack of knowledge on the part of those who oppose, or to overconfidence in the ability of our great country to meet any emergency.

We have been very fortunate in the few wars in our history, when our ships as in 1776, and in 1812, made wonderful, and almost incredible success against a powerful foe. Ships in those days were built in a few months, and McDonough on Lake Champlain, and Perry on Lake Erie, in their hastily created little vessels, made glorious history. But things have greatly changed in these days. We must figure in years instead of months, and a war might well be decided before the vessels which we might then be willing to build and which might make possible a different decision in the war, could be ready to

(4).

go into action. Ships cannot be run up, armed with hastily cast guns, manned by an earnest, but unskilled crew, and taken out to fight their broadsides, muzzle to muzzle against an enemy similarly equipped and prepared. The man of war of today is a scientific creation requiring specialists of highest skill and training to handle its complicated machinery, to estimate the constantly changing ranges, to aim its enormous guns so that the masses of steel, which leaves its muzzles at a speed of 2600 feet per second, shall strike the desired mark, instead of wasting their energy, literally in a splash. Searchlights must be handled with skill, and trained experience, and the deadly torpedo must be launched, when the proper time comes, with the wonderful certainty that takes it unerringly to its target, at a greater range than the fifty guns of fifty years ago were effective. And we must have not only ships and guns, but we must also have great stores of ammunition, and stores of all kinds, and most of these are of such a nature, that time is needed for their manufacture, time which would not be available after the descent of an enemy on our coast.

One more important point. I have incidently referred to the need of trained men. This would be one of our greatest needs in case of a sudden appeal to arms. There is no doubt but we would have millions of eager, willing hands offered to help repel an enemy's attack, but without months of training

these men would be helpless to assist in the task.

This is true also of the Sister branch, the Army, and of our splendid little body of Marines, more trained men are needed, and stores of arms, of guns, big and little, of ammunition and of all kinds of military material are needed.

The Navy, however, is the first line of defense, and we must have an adequate force to prevent the possibility of any great Military ~~power~~ land power effecting a lodgement on our coast and with its Navy of greater strength than ours, giving to its transports of troops the freedom of the seas. We must have a Naval strength great enough to master that of any nation, with whom we might come in conflict, and which has a great trained Army, that they could throw onto our shores, should they be allowed to do so.

Let us see what it would mean to lose the mastery of the sea to a foe possessed of a great ~~strength~~ army of thoroughly trained ~~men~~ and equipped soldiers; men who have been trained and disciplined along the most modern and progressive lines; officered by thoroughly taught and experienced men; equipped with all the most modern weapons and instruments of war; rifles nearly as good as our own (for you know the latest model of our Springfield rifle is a ^{little} ~~little~~ the best military rifle in the world) with field guns, field and seige howitzers, bomb-throwers, searchlights, field telegraph, telephones and wireless; with transportation of all kinds, armored and unarmored, field hospital equipment, aeroplanes and dirigibles, and all the needed field engineering ~~+~~

(6).

equipment. With the seas open to these transports, and energetic foe could seize a point on our coast; rush a great force to hold it; intrenching them against attack from our small and unprepared land forces- pour in his re-inforcements undisturbed, and in a space of time that most of our people believe to be inpossibly brief, could start an enormous army of invasion to any spot of our country he might choose.

Imagine the lives of our countrymen that would be needlessly sacrificed and the billions of property destroyed and seized while we should be scurrying about trying to raise and equip a force to meet the enemy. Then, too, consider the possibility of our country being invaded through or by way of a neighboring country - Once established in such a position with our fleet driven from the sea, the enemy could despatch his troops and his stores by every bit of sea transportation at his disposal, and could strike across our boundary at any chosen point with an army, organized and equipped, ready for a great drive against any of our helpless cities. To meet these possible contingencies, we must *have* a large mobile army, a regular force of respectable size; and large numbers of trained men ready to be called to the colors at a moments notice, with great stores of arms and ammunition, and military equipment of all kinds. These regular troops and the great supplies of stores should be placed at strategic points where the reserves could be mobilized; their organization being carefully prepared in advance - and from these points the armies would be transported

to the point of danger - whether on the coast or ^{or} interior boundary. Without this preparation, an enemy, such as I have spoken of, would have our whole country at his mercy. And though I do not believe that our American people will ever submit, permanently, to the domination of any foreign ruler, whether he calls himself King or Kaiser, Emperor or Mikado, still we would suffer enormous losses in lives, in property and in self esteem.

There are several ways in which this force can be prepared. One would ~~be to~~ have all first enlistments in all branches of the military service - Army, Navy and Marine Corps, of one year's duration. This would result in many men in civil life with one year's useful military training ready to answer a call. Another would be to have a thorough military training a part of the course in all our public schools. Another would be an increase in numbers and in training of our National Guards. While still another might well be the formation of a real national reserve of men who could be given the elements of military training in military camps where they might serve for some weeks each year, for three or four or five years.

It takes more time nowadays than formerly to train a soldier, as it does much more to develop a man-of-war's-man.

There are many more things for them to learn. In 1776, nearly all our citizens were partially trained soldiers - and partially equipped. When the frontiersman stepped out of his cabin door he was ready to take the field - he knew how to take care of

himself in field or wood or wilderness - he had his rifle and he knew how to use it. What portion of our citizens today have a military rifle, or know when to get one - or who knows how to use one? The minute man only needed training in discipline, and training in combination and co-ordination to make him a soldier. Modern methods, arms and material, need far more knowledge, skill and practice.

In the Revolutionary days, the men from our coasting and fishing vessels, were almost ready to fight their ship when they stepped they stepped aboard of her. Now, a Naval Seaman must know and do a hundred things to one that the old tar found necessary.

Therefore, I say, with the ships and the guns, with the military equipment that we ask for, give us also men to use them.

Our country does not want conquest. We are not, in any way a warlike, or war loving people, though the years from "61 to 65" did show that there is certainly "fight in the family". We do not wish to transgress the rights of others or needlessly to offend, but we are stern to resent insult or injury, as a great patriotic people should be. And should the time come when we find a resort to arms necessary, we will find that military and Naval preparedness has been a very inexpensive form of insurance, saving many, many lives, and much treasure. The fact of our preparedness will never make us aggressive toward, or unjust to others, but it may, and doubtless will, encourage others to a decent regard for, and respect for our rights.

Lest us then calmly and thoroughly prepare ourselves for defense; prepare ourselves for an eventuality which we pray may never come; ready to defend our rights and our honor, showing a front of strength that will warn off any possible invader of our sacred soil; so that peace and prosperity may be our peoples joy and our posterity's heritage; and so that the glorious banner, which our forefathers, and we ourselves, have, so far, faithfully guarded from harm, may continue to wave o'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave. Long may it wave over a peaceful, just people, over a home-loving, a patriotic, and prepared nation.

STEPHEN M. SPARKMAN, FLA.,
CHAIRMAN.

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COMMITTEE ON RIVERS AND HARBORS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 6, 1915.

Col. J. H. Pendleton,
Fourth Regiment U. S. Marines,
San Diego, California.

My dear Colonel:

I found your good letter of the 20th ult., enclosing card for the Army and Navy Club, on my arrival in Washington a few days ago, and appreciate your thoughtfulness in this matter very much. I will take advantage of the privilege extended in a few days as soon as I get caught up with the accumulated correspondence in my office.

I am sorry to hear of your being ordered to Mexico, and hope you will be back in San Diego in a short time. Rest assured that I am going to leave no stone unturned to work out your naval defense program, and, if we succeed, the people of San Diego ought to erect a monument to you. Let me have the benefit of your advice at all times, and bring any matters to my attention which you think I ought to know about and which will aid in the plan. It is a rare pleasure to have you back of me and to be working with you along these lines or any other in which you are interested.

No. 2.

Mrs. Kettner, Miss Peak and Miss Sullivan
all wish to be remembered to you.

With kind regards, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William Kettner". The signature is written in dark ink and features a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

p

HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS,
Washington, January 8, 1916.

From: Major General Commandant.
To: Commanding Officer, Fourth Regiment, U.S. Marines,
U.S.S. Buffalo. (bu-Bav).
Subject: Marine Barracks, San Diego, Cal.

1. The following order of the Department is quoted for your information:

Washington, January 8, 1916.

From: Secretary of the Navy.
To: Major General Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps.
SUBJECT: Marine Barracks, San Diego, California.

1. My approval having been given to a recommendation of the General Board that a force of Marines should at all times be stationed in southern California, and as San Diego is considered in all respects well fitted for such a purpose, you will take the necessary steps to establish on a suitable site in San Diego a permanent Marine Corps post which will be designated as the Marine Barracks, San Diego, California.

2. You are directed to assign for permanent duty at this station such forces of the Marine Corps as are now, or may hereafter become, available on the west coast of the United States.

3. To carry out the provisions of this order, you are authorized to make such expenditures as may be necessary for the proper establishment of this post, including the quartering of the forces mentioned.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS."

2. The Marine Barracks, San Diego, California, will be the permanent station of the organizations constituting the Fourth Regiment, U.S. Marines .

3. Until such time as suitable quarters may be provided for the accomodation of the officers attached to the Marine Barracks, San Diego, California, they will be allowed commutation therefor.

4. When the organizations of the regiment under your command now employed on temporary expeditionary duty have completed that duty, orders will be issued to each officer attached thereto assigning him to permanent duty at the Marine Barracks, San Diego, California.

George Barnett.

A TRUE COPY:



1st Lieut., U.S.M.C.

HEADQUARTERS

U. S. MARINE CORPS.
COMMANDANT'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1916.

Major W. N. McKelvy, U. S. Marine Corps,
Commanding Marine Barracks, San Diego, Calif.

My Dear McKelvy:

The General has this day signed a Marine Corps Order publishing to the Marine Corps a copy of an order from the Secretary of the Navy establishing a permanent post at San Diego, California, to be designated as "Marine Barracks, San Diego, California." Orders to the officers now stationed there have also been sent. The remainder of the Fourth Regiment, upon its return from Mexican waters, will take permanent station at these barracks, at which time Colonel Pendleton will be assigned as commanding officer of the barracks, in addition to his other duties.

The Secretary has taken the action mentioned above on the urgent representations of the General that the status of the officers on duty at San Diego should be so fixed as to put them on a commutation status as to quarters. It is hoped that this matter will work out satisfactorily, and there will be no hitch in regard thereto. Each officer now on duty at the barracks should present proper vouchers for payment supported by the individual order this day transmitted. No claims for commutation of quarters prior to the date on each order will be entertained, and the General would be compelled, in case such claims were put in, to take the same ground as he has already done in other cases. Each officer should apply to you for quarters in accordance with the accountability instructions, and you should state in reply that there are no quarters available. Furthermore, all reference to the fact that the troops are located on what were formerly the exposition grounds should be eliminated from the headings of your letters. All communications should be headed, "Marine Barracks, San Diego, California", and the communication should be, "From: Commanding Officer, Marine Barracks San Diego, California." It is hoped that San Diego may have a bright future ahead of it as a Marine Corps post/ and that, as time goes by, appropriations may be obtained for the purchase of land and the erection of buildings thereon, so that the Marine Corps may have a creditable post at that place.

If it has not already been done, arrangements should be made to lease the comp site from the park commission at the annual rental of one dollar, which it has been reported here was the amount which the park commission was willing to agree on. It will be necessary for the expeditionary stores of the entire regiment to be stored at San Diego, and this matter should be taken up, and the Quartermaster's Department communicated with in regard thereto. It is the intention, as you no doubt know, to order the marine detachment of the OREGON ashore at San Diego.

[10 JAN 1918]

It has been recommended that it be kept intact and used as a nucleus of the signal company. Please send me your recommendation by radio in regard thereto.

With kindest regards for Mrs McKelvy, and best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours

(Sig) John A. Lejeune.



Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps,

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Washington, January 11, 1916.

My dear Joe:

I know that you were very much tickled to get the radiogram about the establishment of the Marine Barracks, San Diego, as that was one of your pet hobbies, and especially as it fixes without question your status which is a very important matter, especially as you are desirous of remaining on the Coast and, being the junior, would have had to give way to the others. This gives you an independent command where you want it and in the manner in which you want it. I hope that you will be able to leave the BUFFALO in the more or less near future and take up your new command, which will be a very nice one.

I have seen very little of Captain Lyman since he came east as he never did me the honor of paying his respects to me at all. I called upon him, but did not see him. I do not understand why he did not at least pay his respects to me as we have always been good friends, but one can never tell these days.

In picking out the site for the camp at San Diego, I would keep in mind that we may, and probably will, ultimately get the money for building a barracks and quarters. Lejeune has gotten out the orders for the establishment of the barracks, the orders to the officers being such as will give them commutation of quarters. Similar orders will be issued to you and your officers when you leave the BUFFALO.

I tried to see Mr. Ketner, but he is away on indefinite leave owing to illness in his family.

Lejeune and I have been working on the Personnel Bill and are getting it pretty well in shape. I hope we will have a meeting with the Assistant Secretary toward the end of the week. The principal features we purpose introducing in the Bill are: That the enlisted strength of the Marine Corps shall always be twenty per cent of the authorized enlisted strength of the Navy; that for each 100 men there shall be 4 commissioned officers; that the enlisted men are to be distributed in the various grades of noncommissioned rank as may be determined by the Secretary of the Navy; that the commissioned officers are to be distributed in the various grades in the proportion of 1 general officer (including the Major General Commandant and brigadier generals) to 4 colonels to 5 lieutenant-colonels to 14 majors to 37 captains to 62 first and second lieutenants; that for the purpose of equalizing promotions, all officers of the line and staff are to be placed in one list, taking

rank in each grade in accordance with the dates of their present commissions, and, prior to June 30, 1921, all promotions shall not be in accordance with seniority in said list, but shall be in accordance with the relative seniority of the line and staff officers in the line at the time of the transfer of the staff officers from the line to the staff, except that brigadier generals shall be selected by the President from the colonels of the Marine Corps; that subsequent to June 30, 1921, all promotions to be by selection by merit, the terms of which will be fully set forth in the bill as soon as we formulate it; that the staff of the Corps shall consist, as it does not, of the Adjutant & Inspector's, Quartermaster's and Paymaster's Departments, and to be in strength eight per cent of the total number of officers authorized, to be divided one-fifth in the Adjutant & Inspector's, one-fifth in the Paymaster's and three-fifths in the Quartermaster's Department; that there shall be no more permanent appointments to the staff, and all vacancies therein to be filled by details from the line; that any officer of the present permanent staff who desires to return to the line shall be so transferred and shall be recommissioned and placed in the list, taking rank in the position which he would have occupied had he not been transferred to the staff; that all vacancies in the Marine Corps shall be filled, first, by appointments from the graduates of the Naval Academy, second, from worthy noncommissioned officers who have served not less than one year in the Marine Corps, and third, from graduates of such military and technical schools and other colleges as may be designated by the President, appointments from civil life to be between the ages of 20 and 24 years; that the age in grade for transfers to reserve list shall be for captains, 45 years, majors 50 years, lieutenant colonels 55 years, colonels 60 years; establishment of the grades of warrant officers.

This is just a general outline. There are, of course, all sorts of details, but this will give you a working idea of what we are doing. I hope to be able to send you a copy of the bill itself in the near future.

Congress has as yet done nothing to give us any intimation of what it purposes doing about preparedness. I am not as optimistic as I was, as I fear your friend Billy Bryan is getting in his licks.

Everything is running smoothly at these Headquarters. We have just gotten the Secretary to approve the regulations which fix our status on board ship and ashore when we have brigade organizations with regard to senior officers present. I know that you will give the regulations your hearty approval and feel that we have gained a big victory in the right direction.

I hope that you and Mrs. Pendleton are well and that everything is running smoothly with you. Please remember me most kindly to her, and with my kindest remembrances and best wishes for yourself, in which I am joined by the people here at Headquarters, believe me always,

Your sincere friend, 

Marine Barracks,
San Diego, Cal.

Jan. 17, 1916.
Dear Colonel:—

I have spoken
to Mr. Pendleton of the Park
Board and shall draw up
the lease for the remainder
of the fiscal year, also one
for five years in accordance
with the Park Board's letter, a
copy of which Mr. Pendleton said
he would send you. He also
said that you knew about it
and had helped to draft it. —

I have planned for the officers'
mess bungalow and expect to

put it up. I would like to
have everything ready for you
when you come ashore although
I want you back right away.
I have tried and shall try
some more to get a building but
the States wanted money and
Kansas and Washington sold
their buildings to Madame Tingley
and the Natural History Museum.
New Mexico is to remain a person
and Montana also. Utah is
holding on and will probably
stick another year. Somebody
wanted Regimental Headquarters
but didn't get it. —
I shall keep you informed
of developments. We are
now waiting for the rain

to stop.

with best regards,
Sincerely yours,
M. Kelly



HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS.
COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

January 25, 1916.

My dear Joe:

Your letter of January 16 received in due time, and I was very glad indeed to hear from you. By this time you have probably heard of the establishment of the permanent barracks at San Diego, and I am very glad indeed to tell you now that the thing has been unofficially presented to the officials of the Treasury Department, and I have no doubt that it will go through all right as to the payment of commutation of quarters. This I consider a very fine ending of the controversy, which has worried me a great deal, because I felt that the officers were decidedly entitled to such commutation, but, as long as the post was counted a temporary one, such commutation could not be paid.

I went to the Secretary and told him frankly my views in the case, and told him just why I wanted the orders issued. In fact, I played absolutely fair with him, and he agreed with me that it would be an undue hardship on the officers to continue them longer on such duty without allowing them commutation of quarters. I told him that I would strongly oppose leaving any part of the regiment in San Diego any longer unless such arrangement could be made.

I am glad to hear that the Indian affairs in Mexico seem to be improving, and I have been hoping for some days that we might get word from Admiral Winslow that the services of the regiment on the West Coast were no longer necessary in Mexico, so that you could be returned to San Diego. I still hope that this may soon be accomplished.

In reference to your statement that you think it would be a good thing for the BUFFALO to go to San Francisco from San Diego, and then return to San Diego, I quite agree with you, and if it can be arranged that will be done; but, of course, it depends entirely on the Navy Department.

I have seen Mr. Kettner and have given him all the

dope possible on the question of the acquisition of land on San Diego harbor, and I hope that the result may be good. He assured me that he would push his bill as much as possible, and seemed to have hope of getting it favorably considered by Congress. Personally, I rather doubt this because the subject of preparedness will take so much money, if passed at all, that I do not think Congress will be inclined to give any money for the acquisition of new stations; but I still hope. If this proposition does not go through, you should take up with the officials of San Diego, or residents thereof, the question of a site to camp on after the Fair is over. I think, personally, it would be much better if they could stay in the Park where they now are, but that, of course, is something that will be developed by future considerations.

I am glad to have good news of Mrs. Pendleton, and hope that she will continue well both until and after your return.

No one can tell what Congress will do in the personnel way, but I fully expect to get something; in fact, I rather hope to get more than was allowed to go in the estimates. If we get anything, I think we will undoubtedly get one or more brigadier-generals, but, of course, about this no one can tell. I am sure that everyone in Congress is quite as much inclined to do something for the Marine Corps as for any other branch of the military or naval service. They have done good work in Haiti, as they did in Vera Cruz, and everyone seems to appreciate it very much. I am surprised always to find how many people now know of marines who never knew of them before or took any interest in them; and this helps.

All at Headquarters join me, as does Mrs. Barnett, in very kindest regards and best wishes for you and all your officers and men.

Very sincerely yours,



Colonel Joseph H. Pendleton,
 U. S. Marine Corps,
 Commanding Fourth Regiment,
 U. S. S. BUFFALO, Guaymas,
 Care Postmaster, San Diego, Calif.

C_O_P_Y

February 25, 1916.

Mr. George H. Thomas
Editor of The Sun
San Diego, California

My dear Mr. Thomas:

Your letter of February 19 with enclosure received.

I should not care to answer the article in the Labor Leader, because, if I undertook to answer such articles, I should have very little time to spare for the legitimate work of my district.

However, I shall give you the facts, which are as follows:

In the first place, there never was any mention made by any Department or any Committee that there would be, under any circumstances, another naval base on the Pacific Coast at the present time; but the "Leader" or the City Council may have been misled for the following reason:

On my return from Washington last March, I talked with Col. Pendleton, who remarked that San Diego was the logical place for a marine base. This started me in an investigation, and I took up the matter with Mr. G.A. Davidson, President of the Exposition, Mr. Carl Heilbron, then president of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. John Urquhart, of the Wide-Awake Club, and dozens of others, who agreed that, as San Diego was the first American port and any trouble would naturally come from south of us, San Diego was the place for a marine base; and finally decided that the site on the Dutch Flats was ideal, as deep water could be developed there.

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Investigation showed that the city owned the water front and a private corporation owned the higher land, suitable for buildings, officer's quarters, etc. I went over the matter with the Mayor, Mr. Capps, explaining that the government would need the water front -- if this site were considered favorably by the Department officials -- as well as the higher ground, because of the parade grounds that could be developed by filling in with dredged material; but had an understanding with him that the Council would not act until we were all agreed upon a proposition that could be submitted to the Department. I was quite a little surprised when he was absent from the city one day and the Council passed a resolution offering to donate the tide lands to the government for a naval base. However, I have made good use of this resolution. Since my return to Washington, I have secured the endorsement of General Barnett, Commandant of the Marine Corps and Asst. Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Roosevelt, and assisted in having Secretary Daniels issue the order declaring San Diego an advance marine base. I then introduced the bill, which was the next logical step for the Government to purchase a suitable tract of land on or near the Bay of San Diego. Before the Committee, I am submitting the report of General Barnett and presenting the fact that, if this site is decided upon, the city will give the tide lands in front of this land, which is accessible to railroads, street cars, gas and electricity.

I have also succeeded in having the Engineers report favorably on the removal of 1,000,000 yards of dirt at the foot

#3

of Broadway, so as to permit vessels of all sizes to land at our public wharves and piers, and am using every energy toward having this passed by Congress in the Rivers and Harbors Bill.

This million yards of dirt, I am showing the Committee, can be dumped on this land, at a very slight expense, provided they make the necessary purchase of the additional tract of higher ground, in order to make the site suitable for the marine base.

I hope I have made myself plain. There never was a word said by me about a naval base, now could we get one, as the Committee have made all arrangements to enlarge the plant at Mare Island.

You understand that this would make the Dutch Flats, which are very unsightly now, one of the beauty spots of Southern California, besides meaning a permanent payroll of from 1500 to 2000 men.

My bill for the purchase of an aviation site simply provides, as all bills of that character do, for the purchase of ground for an aviation site near San Diego and does not state where it would be located.

I thank you for your kind interest in my behalf and assure you that I appreciate it.

Yours very truly
William Kettner (Sgd.)

KK J

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

April 26-1916

Col. J. H. Pendleton,
Commandant San Diego Marine Barracks,
San Diego, California.

My dear Colonel;

Be assured that I was more than delighted to receive your very kind letter of the 21st inst., which arrived this P. M. I deeply appreciate the enclosed letter of introduction to Col. Rauchheimer which is typical of one of whom "there are only a few of us left."

I arrived here Monday morning at 8:26 and went right to work, not on our proposition however, because "Billy" has that well lined up, but on the appropriation of \$200,000.⁰⁰ for dredging a channel, or completing same, to our municipal pier. It will have a hearing before the Senate Commerce Committee tomorrow morning at 10:30, but there seems to be very little

[26 APR 1916]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

hope of getting any new project into the bill. The maps and data did not come from the printer in time to get it into the House bill therefore we are making a strenuous effort to get the Senate Committee to insert it, but as I said before there is very little prospect, for they have already passed a resolution not to insert any new project whatever. If, however, we fail at this time you may rest assured that "Billy" will get it through at the next session which will delay it only about five months.

You have been advised by this time, thru the Associated Press dispatches, that the \$250,000⁰⁰ for a Marine Base Site has been reported out favorably by the sub-committee of the House and "Billy" has the matter so thoroughly in hand that it looks most favorable for ultimate success.

Now if we succeed in securing the \$220,000⁰⁰ item for dredging it will mean that the dredged material will at once be deposited on the Dutch Flats and in that

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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WASHINGTON

way actual development and improvement of the Marine Base Barracks will have started.

He called on Secy Daniels and Secy Baker this morning; they appear to be very friendly. Secy Daniels certainly spoke very nicely of you and it didn't take "Billy" and I very long to say "me too."

I have not yet had time to call on General Barnett but will do so immediately when we have this other matter out of the way which cannot be delayed a moment.

We have worked every minute from morning till midnight since the moment I arrived and if I were obliged to keep the pace set by this Congressman of ours for one month I would be worn to a frazzle. I never saw such a perpetual motion machine, — and every move counts: He is as busy as a cow's tail in fly time from sun up till the wee sma' hours.

You can imagine how pleased I was to receive your letter, for it was the first word from home since I left one week ago today. I also deeply appreciate your

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

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Coming to the train the morning of my departure, I feel that I am especially fortunate in having such loyal friends and trust that I may always be worthy of their friendship; for friendship is indeed a supreme force and life without it would be an empty void.

Well it is now 9.30 and I must crawl under the counterpanes early tonight so as to act at least half way intelligent when we appear before the Senate Committee tomorrow morning.

With kindest personal regards to both yourself and Mrs Pendleton in which "Boulder Bill" and Mrs Kettner join, believe me, as ever,

Very sincerely yours
Geo. S. Durban

P.S. Please be kind enough to call up Mrs Durban and tell her I am feeling fine.

GD



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS,

MARINE BARRACKS.

San Diego, Calif.,
March 28, 1917.

Dear General Pendleton:-

The Exposition authorities having requested the removal of the furniture which was in your office in the Federal Building, I have done so and placed the desk, etc., in another building which the Board of Park Commissioners have kindly let the Marine Corps use.

Also I have taken the liberty of going through this desk and have looked over some of the papers which it contained. A great many of them, apparently of no use, I have destroyed, but those of which I am in doubt are being forwarded to you under separate cover.

Under an agreement which I engineered between the Marine Corps and the Board of Park Commissioners, to whom all Exposition Buildings have now reverted, we are now in control of all the State buildings contiguous to the camp; viz: Montana, New Mexico, Washington, Kansas and Utah. Our agreement calls for a rental of \$1.00 per year. The buildings are in excellent condition and are proving of immense value to me as offices and store houses for Government property.

Except the above there is no news of any interest in or around San Diego other than such affairs as may be in progress at Coronado, of which I presume Mrs Pendleton or Mrs Cole keep you informed. My health is now, so far as I can see, about as good as it has ever been in my life and I believe that in six months or a year from now, I will be ready for service in any part of the world. Everything is a little on edge in view of the German situation but I for one hope that it will go no farther than this country becoming prepared in every way for any eventuality that war might bring.

Hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you before very much time passes and that I may again serve under your command, I am,

Your friend,