

division redeployed to Japan. Between 1950 and 1953 just under 200,000 Marines passed through Camp Pendleton to the Far East.

After the Korean War, the Marines settled into their peacetime training routines, such as practicing landing from the Pacific Ocean with Naval and Marine Air support from El Toro Marine Air Station (q.v.). At other times the Marines went to the Mojave Desert to participate in nuclear tests. The base commanders during those years had responsibility for housing the First Marine Division and related units, the Infantry Training Regiment, several schools, and a replacement unit. Relations with the local communities improved. But construction money for new permanent buildings was scarce, and the Marines had to continue using many World War II temporary structures.

A conflict with the civilian community now arose over the open land that makes up so much of Camp Pendleton. The first major loss came in 1964 when political pressure forced the Marine Corps to yield 84 acres on the northwest waterfront corner of the post at San Onofre for a nuclear power plant.

By 1965 Marines at Camp Pendleton were training in both guerrilla warfare and counterinsurgency operations. After the First Division deployed to Vietnam, the Marine Corps reactivated its Fifth Marine Division at Camp Pendleton for duty in Southeast Asia on 1 March 1966. The base received appropriations for new construction during those years, and the Schools Battalion rapidly increased both its courses, faculty, and student output. The primary need in Vietnam was for replacements, not new units. The Staging Battalion was the funnel of the pipeline for new Marines going to Vietnam. The Battalion had fifteen days to process the men and give them intensive combat training, including mock Vietnamese villages, tunnels, and trails.

The Twenty-seventh Marines of the Fifth Division became the first combat unit to return to Camp Pendleton in September 1968. Other units followed, and in April 1971 the First Marine Division returned.

As the war in Southeast Asia wound down, President Richard M. Nixon began his program to transfer custody of excess federal land to other owners. He started by offering approximately six miles of Camp Pendleton's beaches and 3,400 inland acres to the state of California for parks. After lengthy discussion the state leased five and one-half miles of beachfront and 2,380 inland acres for recreational purposes. Even after that loss of land the Marines have had to defend their need for large amphibious training areas.

The war in Southeast Asia ended in April 1975, and thousands of refugees were evacuated from Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam to the United States. On 26 April Brig. Gen. Paul G. Graham, the base commander, was notified that Camp Pendleton was being considered as a possible temporary camp to house the refugees coming to the United States. On the morning of 28 April Washington told General Graham that the first refugees would arrive at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro the next morning. Both base staff and the First Marine Division and First Force Service Regiment turned out in a total effort to provide housing, feeding, medical, communications and other facilities to house 18,000 people,

very few of whom spoke English. The Marines erected the basic necessary facilities in six days. The refugee camp was established in an isolated part of Camp Pendleton, and the Cambodians and Vietnamese were separated. Over 25,000 refugees passed through the refugee camps before the program officially ended on 15 November 1975.

Tensions in the larger society were reflected at Camp Pendleton at least from the time of the war in Southeast Asia on. Various Marine units emphasized civil disturbance control training in response to outside riots or demonstrations. In November 1976 there was a small racial clash between black and white Marines, which resulted in the discovery of a Ku Klux Klan chapter on base. That chapter was quickly disbanded.

Through the years Camp Pendleton has become important as a major amphibious training base where both new and experienced Marines can practice. Its conservation and environmental programs have not only preserved a large natural area amidst major population growth, but created problems by making its land desirable to developers. Responsive to both combat and humanitarian crises, Camp Pendleton remains a valuable part of the Marine Corps heritage.

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SAN DIEGO, CALIF., MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT, 1914-

Several geopolitical factors came together in the early twentieth century to make the harbor of San Diego, Calif., of interest to military and naval planners. San Diego is only twelve miles north of the Mexican border. The United States, between the war with Spain in 1898 and the opening of the Panama Canal in

1914, discovered that it was both a Caribbean and a Pacific Ocean power. During those years the presidents and their advisers used naval forces in Panama, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Mexico, and China. Naval expansionists envisioned a chain of coaling stations around the world that included a Samoa-Hawaii-Lower California link. Indeed, San Diego was a convenient location for both southern and western directed trade.

Over the years the Marine Corps outgrew the base that those influences brought about, and today it functions as Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. It consists of a Recruit Training Regiment, a Weapons Training Battalion that uses facilities at Camp Joseph H. Pendleton, a Recruiters School, a Drill Sergeants School, and the Sea School to prepare new Marines for sea duty.

Several specific events led to the establishment of a major Marine Corps installation in the port of San Diego. In reaction to the revolutionary turmoil in Mexico beginning in 1910, the U.S. government organized provisional Marine Corps forces on both coasts for shows of force off the coast of Mexico. The Fourth Regiment of Marines (provisional) was organized at San Francisco and stationed on North Island in San Diego Bay from March to June 1911. More troubles in Mexico in 1914 brought a new Fourth Marines to cruise off the west coast of Mexico. In July, that regiment, Col. Joseph H. Pendleton commanding, landed at North Island. The regiment's First Battalion went on to San Francisco.

In December 1914 San Diego commemorated the opening of the Panama Canal with the Panama-California Exposition in that city's Balboa Park. The regiment's Second Battalion set up a model Marine Corps camp at the exposition. That camp marks the beginnings of a permanent Marine Corps presence in San Diego. On 19 December 1914 that camp was activated as Marine Barracks, San Diego, Calif., the future recruit depot.

The Fourth Marines became a permanent organization stationed in San Diego for two reasons. First, the regiment might again be needed for expeditionary duty. Second, changes in naval technology and American foreign policy created the need for the Marine Corps to have fairly large forces in readiness to seize and hold advanced bases for the Navy. Now dependent upon coal, the Navy needed secure areas, possibly on hostile shores, where it could refuel itself. In turn, those new Marine Corps forces needed permanent bases from which they could embark with the fleet. The Navy was considering establishing the West Coast base at San Diego.

But two local influences also helped determine San Diego as the site of a new permanent base. First was the election of William Kettner to the House of Representatives in 1912. Kettner was a pork-barrel minded businessman whose goal was more federal money for San Diego. Second, Colonel Pendleton thought San Diego was the ideal location for his regiment and for the establishment of a permanent base. The exposition in 1914 and later troubles in Mexico merely enabled Kettner and Pendleton to focus presidential, congressional, and naval interests on the development of Marine Corps and naval installations in San Diego Bay.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt visited San Diego in 1914 and 1915 and was impressed with the naval potential of the harbor. In 1915, he directed Maj. Gen. George Barnett to go to San Diego to choose a site for the future Marine Corps base. Once again events influenced the choice of San Diego. Troubles continued in Mexico, and the city of San Diego offered free several hundred acres of tidal flats to the Marine Corps for its base. By January 1916 the Navy's General Board and the Secretary of the Navy agreed to establish a new permanent Marine Corps installation in San Diego.

The Marine Barracks formally separated from the Fourth Marines in June 1916. The regiment was ordered to occupation duty in the Dominican Republic minus three officers and fifty men left behind to form the Barracks Department for the new Marine Barracks. Congress appropriated \$250,000 to buy the 232 acres that General Barnett had selected for the Marine Barracks and the city of San Diego donated an adjacent 500 acres. The Navy Department took possession of the land on 15 June 1917.

The plans called for a large base that could accommodate 1,700 Marines. The dredging and filling necessary to make this land usable went forward during World War I. Groundbreaking for the first permanent construction occurred on 15 March 1919. Having prepared the organizational groundwork, now-Brigadier General Pendleton returned to San Diego from commanding the Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S.C. (q.v.), to activate the headquarters of the Second Advanced Base Force on 1 October 1919. Meanwhile, the Marines remained in their Balboa Park quarters.

Probably on 1 December 1921 the Marines commissioned and occupied the new post. Construction continued until 1924, when the postwar reduction in naval budgets halted the work. But General Pendleton's emphasis on a Spanish-style architecture continued to influence construction there. He had argued that the thick walls, arcades, and careful siting he was demanding from the Navy construction officers would result in a post that was both attractive and practical.

In August 1923 the Marine Corps Recruit Depot for the western half of the United States moved to the Marine Barracks from Mare Island, San Francisco. At first just another tenant activity, the recruit depot eventually crowded out almost all other activities. Reflecting its size and the tenant advanced base force units, on 1 March 1924 the Barracks was renamed Marine Corps Base, Naval Operating Base, San Diego, Calif. Shortly thereafter, his work to establish the Marines in San Diego well underway, now-Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Pendleton retired on 2 June 1924.

No major construction took place on the base, however, until 1939. The Fourth Marines returned from the Dominican Republic on 25 August 1924. In October 1926 the Marines of the Fourth were called out to mount guard over the U.S. mails after a series of robberies. The robberies stopped after the armed Marines began riding the mails and guarding strategic locations. But they were soon relieved of that duty to prepare for work in China. In the spring of 1927 the Fourth Marines were sent to China, never to return to their original home in San

Diego. Over 4,000 Marines staged through the base for this operation, leaving it short of personnel for some time thereafter.

With the withdrawal of Marines from Nicaragua in 1933 and the reorganization of the advanced base units into the new Fleet Marine Force, new life came to the base. In 1935 the headquarters of the Fleet Marine Force were transferred from Quantico, Va. (q.v.), to San Diego. Also that year the units of the Sixth and Tenth Marines stationed at San Diego with Aircraft Two were organized into the Second Brigade.

Meanwhile recruit training continued at the post. The eight-week course of 1932 was divided into basic indoctrination, practice on the rifle range, drill with the bayonet, guard duty, and various advanced subjects. Selected Marines went on to the Sea School, also on base, for specialized instruction in the duty of ships' detachments. Manpower problems were so severe that at times few of the Marines in the school could complete the four-week course before being assigned to sea duty.

Marine recruit training quickly overflowed the base. The installation could not grow physically because of the Naval Training Station, airport, city, and tidal flats that surrounded it. The base maintained a rifle range, first named the Marine Rifle Range, several miles north for recruit training. In 1942 the range was renamed Camp Calvin B. Matthews after a Marine marksman. In 1964, because of urban pressures, the range relocated to Camp Joseph H. Pendleton, and the old site became the land used for the University of California at San Diego.

In 1934 the Marines rented additional land from San Diego twelve miles northeast of the city for a machine-gun and artillery firing range. Named Camp Holcomb, the base was used extensively by Marines, with rapid expansion after the start of the war in Europe in 1939, when it was renamed Camp Elliott. Larger units than the Marine Base could accommodate trained there. The San Diego base was needed for recruit training. (The flow of this training from the base to Camp Elliott to Camp Pendleton is discussed under Camp Pendleton.)

In September 1939, the month war started in Europe, an enlargement program started on the base. Storehouses, barracks, mess facilities, medical buildings, and several schools were all added between the winter of 1939 and February 1943.

The base proved too small to conduct more than specialized advanced training in a few areas such as the Sea School, Signal School, First Sergeant's School, and the Motor Transport School. A rough division of responsibilities between the southern California installations resulted in the Marine Corps Base administering basic training to all recruits and offering some specialized training. Camp Elliott trained individual replacements for combat units, and Camp Pendleton primarily trained entire units going overseas. This distinction remained in the larger Marine Corps of the post-World War II years. The base was redesignated 1 January 1948 as the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, and it conducted basic recruit training and a few specialized schools. Advanced individual training

for Fleet Marine Force duty and unit training were done at Camp Pendleton. The same distinction between individual and unit training marked the work of the depot between 1944 and 1947 in demobilizing World War II veterans. At the base the West Coast Reclassifications and Redistribution Center handled returning individuals, while Camp Pendleton demobilized units returning as a group.

The training work at the base diminished after the war. But it increased again after the restoration of the draft in 1948, when the number of recruits rose to about 1,500 per month.

The Korean War started on 25 June 1950. Immediately the depot had to expand from three training battalions of twenty-five platoons of seventy-five recruits each to eight battalions and reduce its training cycle from ten to eight weeks. That increase started a new wave of construction. After the Korean War recruit training again dwindled. It is periodically reorganized in reaction to tragic incidents, such as the death of a recruit either at San Diego or at Parris Island recruit depots.

In 1966 the Signal School outgrew the Recruit Depot. Lack of space combined with radio interference from the nearby municipal airport, Lindbergh Field, to force its move. Then named Communications Electronics School, it moved over several years from the depot to the Marine Corps Base, Twentynine Palms (q.v.).

There was no new construction at the depot to house the expanded recruit population of either the Korean or Vietnam Wars. Instead cantonment type tents were used. But the tents proved inadequate as housing and insufficient in number. A construction program was begun in 1967 to build new barracks for 4,500 and a new mess hall that could feed 4,000 at one time. Medical, dental, recreational, and drill facilities accompanied the construction program.

In 1971 the Marine Corps moved its Recruiters School from Parris Island to the San Diego Recruit Depot and the Parris Island Sea School was consolidated into the West Coast school in 1976. Between 1971 and 1974 a Marine Corps Human Relations course and Institute trained specialists in human relations. That function was later transferred to the Marine Corps Education Center, Quantico, Va.

Few significant construction or organizational changes have occurred at the Recruit Depot in recent years. However, it and its larger spin-off, Camp Pendleton, have vindicated the vision of General Pendleton that to be effective in the Pacific the Marine Corps needed bases in southern California.

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SAND POINT, ALASKA, NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR FACILITY, 1942-1945

Sand Point (55°20'N., 160°30'W.) is on Popof Island in the Shumagins, just off the southwest coast of the Alaskan peninsula. After the Japanese bombed Dutch Harbor (q.v.) in June 1942, the Navy believed that Sand Bay would be important as a patrol station and as a stopover point for Kodiak-Dutch Harbor seaplane traffic. Named a section base in July, Sand Point was an operating base for a squadron of Fleet Air Wing 4 and a few inshore patrols. In April 1943 it became an auxiliary air facility in the Kodiak (q.v.) subsector but was decommissioned a few months later. It continued to serve as an auxiliary aerological station until the end of the war.

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SAND POINT, SEATTLE, WASH., NAVAL AIR STATION, 1922-1970

The site selected by the Navy for a naval air station at Seattle lies on the west shore of Lake Washington, an extension of Admiralty Inlet, which leads northward to the Straits of Juan de Fuca. It is twenty miles east of Bremerton, ninety-five miles from the Canadian border, and ninety-eight miles from the Pacific Ocean.

During World War I, Seattle was visited by a group of Army aviators on a Liberty Loan drive. Forced by the lack of facilities to land on the municipal golf course, they drew the attention of the local citizenry to the need for an air station in the Pacific Northwest. In May 1917 members of the Rear Adm. J. M. Helms

Shore Establishment Board visited Sand Point and found the commissioners of King County anxious to establish an airfield in what was then a heavily wooded picnic area. On 14 June 1920, the commissioners acquired 268 acres of land and planned its development as an airfield. The Boeing Co. was also interested because it had a contract to build 200 aircraft for the Army but had no field on which to test them. Once a runway was built, Boeing could test its planes and the city of Seattle would have a municipal airport.

On 11 September 1920, the Navy Department asked the Commandant of the Thirteenth Naval District about the suitability of Sand Point for a projected Northwest Pacific air base, and a congressional committee inspected the site. With both reports being favorable, on 17 January 1921 the Washington State Legislature asked Congress to accept deed to the land, provided it be developed as a naval air station. When the appropriation bill for such a station failed in the House of Representatives, the Army took the site over and built a hangar on it. Not to be outdone, on 30 January 1922 the Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics, Rear Adm. William A. Moffett, described for the Commandant of the Thirteenth Naval District the advantages of the Sand Point site, adding that the King County contract with the Army called for the Army to get out if the Navy wanted it. On 13 July 1922 Col. Theodore Roosevelt, as acting Secretary of the Navy, and Moffett signed a temporary lease for 268 acres at \$1 per year. On 30 December the lease was extended to ten years and Congress made an appropriation of \$800,000 to begin development of a station to be used jointly by the Army and Navy. By late spring 1923 the Navy had completed its first hangar and the Army had acquired one plane, which was used mostly by ROTC cadets from the University of Washington in Seattle. Navy pilots originally flew JN Curtiss *Jenny* training planes.

During the summer of 1924 the air squadrons of the Battle Fleet were based at Sand Point, and the facility was used by the Army pilots who on 6 April 1924 took off on their famed round-the-world flight. On 11 May 1925 the CNO authorized the establishment of a naval air reserve station that would be used by the Naval Reserve Aviation Division of Seattle and also by Army Air Reservists, but it was not until 17 November that the first Regular Navy commanding officer, Lt. John H. Campman, USN, came on board. He would serve until 14 May 1928, when he was relieved by Lt. Comdr. John Dale Price, USN, who would later fill prestigious billets at the Navy Department. After Congress finally accepted deed to the now 400 acres, on 4 March 1926, prisoners were used to clear land for a landing facility while aviation cadets were housed in what had been a chicken house, and administration proceeded from a farm building called the "White House."

On 22 November 1928 the Secretary of the Navy changed the name of Sand Point from Naval Reserve Air Station to NAS Seattle, and in 1929 the Navy announced plans to spend \$7 million to develop the station. Real development, however, was not forthcoming until the days of the New Deal, even though beginnings were made for building a hangar, barracks, a spur line from the