



A 1989 patch commemorating the second annual Boy Scout Camporee at Norwich University.

Image courtesy of Diane Weggler.

### **A Tribute to the “First” Boy Scout Troop in the United States**

Local Boy Scout historian Steve Restelli is currently leading an effort to commission a piece of art conceived more than seven decades ago honoring Barre as the birthplace of the Boy Scouts. The project—a granite statue of a scout carrying a person on his shoulders—was started in 1941, but then stalled following the death of renowned Italian-born artist Carlo Abate. A master sculptor who trained generations of Barre granite artists, Abate was in the process of creating a plaster model for the statue when he passed away. Restelli is heading up a committee that seeks to finish the monument, to be carved out of the area’s signature gray granite by local artist Giuliano Cecchinelli II. The committee has applied for grants and set up a GoFundMe campaign with the goal of raising \$32,000 toward the cost of the monument. Restelli is hopeful that the project will be completed in time for the Green Mountain Council’s annual Veterans Day parade.



# #146 Pierson Mapes, Class of 1959, Propelled NBC to the Top

The son of an advertising executive, Pierson “Pier” Mapes grew up in Sterlington, New York, a hamlet 30 miles outside of New York City. While at Norwich, Mapes majored business administration, was in the Corps of Cadets, and joined Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He assumed many leadership roles across campus, including treasurer of Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity and president of Canterbury Club. In addition, he made the dean’s list two out of four years and took an avid interest in photography, participating in Camera Club and serving as a staff photographer for both the *Guidon* and *War Whoop*.

## Full story:

Following his graduation and commissioning in 1959, Mapes served in the Army for four years, becoming a captain in the Signal Corps. He then embarked on an eminent career in broadcast television that would span more than three decades. In 1963, he took his first position with NBC television, holding a variety of jobs in affiliate relations and sales before moving to a competitor for seven years.

He returned to NBC in 1978, and four years later became president of NBC Affiliates Group, comprising 200 stations nationwide. At the time, NBC’s ratings were well behind network TV competitors CBS and ABC. Within three years, NBC was in the number-one spot, propelled by iconic 1980s series such as *Cheers*, *The Cosby Show*, *Family Ties*, and *Hill Street Blues*. He remained with the network until his retirement in 1994.

Devoted to his alma mater, Mapes served Norwich generously throughout his life, notably, as chair of the highly successful Norwich Forever! campaign and as a significant benefactor of the school’s Communications Department. In 1990, he received a Distinguished Alumnus Award and an honorary doctorate from Norwich. He also served on the Board of Trustees and was a member of the Partridge Society. With his leadership and example, the Class of 1959 shattered class giving records for their 40th and 50th reunions. He passed away in 2015.

*“When Pier put his mind to something, he was on it. And he was going to bring it in. And he did.”*

– General Gordon R. Sullivan ’59, Classmate

*More information on Pier Mapes is contained in the Roll of Honor for Pierson “Pier” Mapes written by Jacque E. Day that appeared in the winter 2016 Norwich Record, and a posthumous tribute to him written by Erin Gats ’16 for the College of Liberal Arts newsletter.*

Top; Pierson Mapes '59  
Courtesy of the 1959 War Whoop

Bottom: Pier Mapes '59 and his legendary bugle. He served as president of NBC Television from 1982 to his 1994 retirement. Courtesy of Jennifer Langille.

# #147 Online Programs Continue a Legacy of Alternative Education

Norwich University has been awarding graduate degrees since the 19th century. But in the last few decades, innovative low-residency programs have placed it at the vanguard of higher education.

## Full story:

In 1981, Norwich acquired a low-residency graduate program from Goddard College in Plainfield, Vt. Goddard was a pioneer in non-traditional models of education. Known for being experimental where Norwich was steeped in tradition, Goddard may have seemed a strange bedfellow. But the acquisition of its graduate program set the stage for nearly 40 years of educational innovation at NU.

Initially dubbed the Goddard Graduate Program at Vermont College, it was geared toward adult learners, who would work with faculty to design an independent-study master of arts curriculum. There was also a more structured master of fine arts program in writing with a low-residency option.

Just one year after the Graduate Program and the MFA took off, a Department of Alternative Education was created to house those programs and another new one that would become a Vermont College signature: the Adult Degree Program. The ADP, as it was known, gave adult learners the opportunity to complete independent study bachelor's degrees in a variety of low-residency configurations. Learning centers in Brattleboro and later Putney, Vt. allowed students in the region to commute for weekend seminars in lieu of the nine-day residency option.

In the 1990s, with the consolidation of the traditional civilian and military students on the Northfield campus,

Vermont College's facilities were dedicated to the low-residency programs. The baccalaureate ADP was joined by another innovative program that marked a milestone in non-traditional education at Norwich: New College. This track was designed to translate the low-residency concept for traditional-aged college students. Notably, it was the first such program at Norwich to formally incorporate an online learning component.

Norwich took the full leap into online education in 1997 with the formation of the Online Graduate Program, the immediate predecessor to today's College of Graduate and Continuing Studies (CGCS). The first degree offered through that program was the master of diplomacy and military science, followed shortly by a master of business administration.

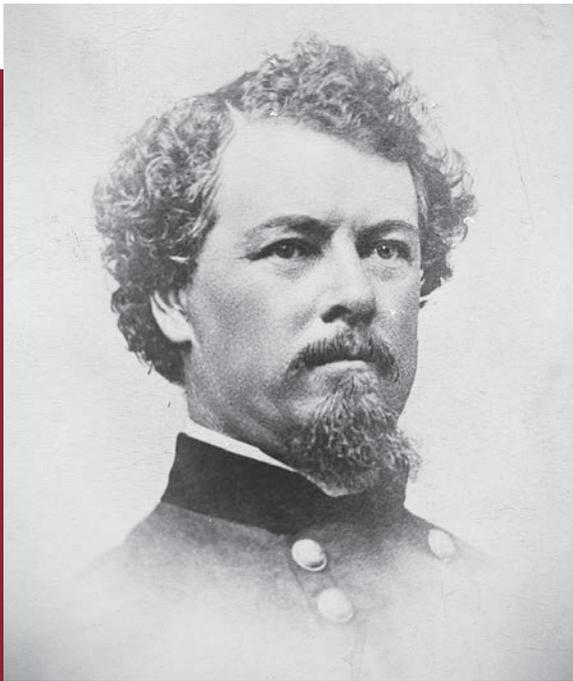
The sale of the Vermont College campus in 2001 turned all the focus of the low-residency learning toward the nascent online programs. With over 20 years of cutting-edge program development under its belt, and drawing on a rich legacy of educational innovation, the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies delivers online programs in a rigorous academic environment and builds on the nearly 200 years of university tradition.

CGCS offers master's degrees in a variety of areas; bachelor's degree completion programs; graduate certificates; and continuing education opportunities.



*CGC Residency students and commencement.*

*Image courtesy of the Norwich Office of Communications.*



Top: Horatio Wright, courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.

Bottom: Painting of the Battle of Beaver Creek, courtesy of the Norwich Office of Communications.

# #148 Horatio Wright, NU 1837: The Unsung Hero of the Battle of Cedar Creek

On the morning of October 19, 1864, more than 21,000 Confederate troops descended upon the Union Army of the Shenandoah a few miles south of Winchester, Virginia. It was an early-morning surprise attack meant to throw Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan's Union Forces off guard. The day before, Sheridan had left for Washington, D.C., for a meeting with General Ulysses S. Grant, entrusting his army of 32,000 to Maj. Gen. Horatio G. Wright, NU Class of 1837.

Contributed by COL Tim Donovan, USA (Ret.) '62, adapted from a longer one written and published in the Norwich Record.

## Full story:

Sheridan and Wright possessed vastly different leadership styles. Sheridan had earned a reputation for boldness and success in combat with Grant in the western theater along the Mississippi River. Flamboyant and colorful, he fully understood the power of good publicity. Wright, on the other hand, was understated and somewhat shy, but with a reputation of being solid, steadfast, trustworthy, reliable, and workmanlike. He was also highly effective on the battlefield.

The Confederates executed their carefully planned attack at 5:00 a.m., taking several Union units completely by surprise and causing them to desert their camps in confusion and chaos. One exception was the 8th Vermont Infantry Regiment. Like the granite from their home state, the Vermonters stood their ground. Fighting at close range, sometimes hand-to-hand, the courageous Green Mountain boys inspired the units around them, and by nine o'clock the Confederate advance had begun to ebb.

For five long hours, this pivotal battle raged under Wright's command. A topographic engineer, Wright had a trained eye for identifying key terrain, and he quickly ascertained areas where his confused and panicked troops could rally and reorganize. He established new positions and employed his cavalry to protect his flanks while strategizing a counterattack. Deliberately and without fanfare, Wright guided the Army into recovery.

During those first five critical hours of battle, Sheridan was en route from Winchester. By ten o'clock, in true Sheridan form, he "rides to the sounds of the guns" along the line of troops near Middletown on his warhorse, Rienzi, waving his plumed hat to build troop confidence. "Sheridan's Ride" has been immortalized in painting and in verse as the moment when the tide turned at Cedar Creek, but it was Wright who carefully selected terrain for the Union forces to reorganize and consolidate. Wright's experience as a Norwich-trained engineer paid great dividends that late morning.

By late afternoon, the Rebels were in full retreat down the Valley Pike toward Strasburg. What had been a brilliant and well-executed pre-dawn plan had resulted in utter defeat a mere 12 hours later. The Confederate forces were routed and all of its artillery was confiscated. Casualties were high, with almost 1,900 dead and nearly twice as many missing.

Wright's name faded into the background of the annals of Cedar Creek, but that may have better suited his self-effacing nature. He is said to have shied away from publicity and preferred not to see his likeness in a newspaper. His true aim was to serve, and he went on to a distinguished military career as the chief of engineers for the Army Corps of Engineers, leading Corps efforts in the building of the Brooklyn Bridge and the Washington Monument.

# #149 Admiral Dewey, Class of 1855, Naval Hero and Vermont Celebrity

George Dewey was born in Vermont's state capital of Montpelier in 1837. He attended Norwich for two years before entering the relatively new United States Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1858. He rose to the rank of lieutenant commander during his service in the Civil War. Continuing his naval career after the war, he became a national hero when he led his fleet to victory in the Battle of Manila Bay, a key battle in the Spanish-American War. A commodore at the time, he soon became the only person ever to be promoted to the rank of Admiral of the Navy.



## Full story:

In October of 1899, shortly after Dewey returned to the States, the entire state of Vermont came together to welcome their native son, who had achieved not only military victory abroad, but celebrity status at home. A huge patriotic parade was held in downtown Montpelier, with the state house festooned in red, white, and blue bunting. Admiral Dewey led the parade in full dress uniform, and a fireworks display that evening capped off a day of frenzied festivities.

Dewey's alma mater, Norwich University, was no less proud to honor the admiral. In addition to cadets marching in the Montpelier parade, during that same journey to Vermont, Dewey visited Northfield to lay the cornerstone for Dewey Hall. Ground had been broken for the building the previous spring—in fact, on May 1, the first anniversary of the Battle of Manila Bay.

The cornerstone ceremony was attended with great fanfare. Guards had to be posted to keep the crowd away from the admiral's train car at the Northfield

depot. Dignitaries in attendance included Vermont Governor Edward Smith, former Governor Paul Dillingham, and New York Senator Chauncey Depew. The cornerstone that was laid that day, inscribed "A. L. S. & M. A." on one side and "1899" on the other, remains a part of Norwich's oldest standing building to this day.

In years to come, May 1 would be celebrated as Dewey Day at Norwich. Cadets were given the day off and enjoyed the holiday with fishing trips and other leisurely springtime activities.

In October 1999, one hundred years after Admiral Dewey's heroic homecoming, the city of Montpelier hosted a centennial reenactment of the original Dewey Day parade. Norwich cadets once again marched with pride to honor their cadet brother and the highest-ranking U.S. naval officer of all time.



*Top: Portrait of Admiral Dewey.  
Bottom: Sailors on a ship handing onto a guard rail as one man points to shore on a background of ocean waves and another ship. Features Admiral George Dewey in center left with a gold accented suit.  
Images courtesy of the Sullivan Museum and History Center.*

# #150 “Norwich Forever” and “The Norwich Hymn”



Almost everyone affiliated with Norwich knows at least the first verse to the song “Norwich Forever,” and a good many know that the lyrics, sung to the tune of “True Blue,” were penned by Professor Arthur Wallace “Pop” Peach. But until now, only a handful of people knew the true story behind how that song came to be written. In 1928, Pop Peach addressed this very topic in a letter to the *Record*. Excerpts from his letter describe events which took place in the fall of 1915.

Contributed by Diana L. Weggler

## Norwich Forever

“I happened to be in the office in Old Dewey Hall, busy with some papers, while Heber [Shaw, NU 1916] and his orchestra were practicing in the Chapel. His flute-playing was a delight, so I opened the door slightly in order to follow the music a bit more effectively.

“When the music stopped, Heber came in. He asked me if I would not write some words to go with the tune—something that the fellows might sing, the next day, at the annual football battle with [the University of] Vermont.

“I asked him to play the tune a few times until I could get the swing of it. He and his orchestra played it over, and I scribbled off the first and last verses.

“I turned them over to Heber and he did the rest. The next day, at the Vermont game, the whole corps seemed to know the song, and it swept over the field, sung as only a Norwich ‘gang’ can sing when they mean business.

“I always associate “Norwich Forever’ with Shaw, for, as I have said, he suggested that the words be written;

and because I knew him to be fine, square, and dependable, and hence liked him, I was glad to try to do ‘my bit.’ So Norwich really owes the song to him.”

Shaw graduated the following spring and took a job as a designing engineer with Westinghouse Electric in Pittsburgh, where he continued to play the flute with various musical groups. In 1923, while still a young man, he died of complications from influenza, leaving behind a wife and child.

The three verses of the song are as follow:

- 1 *Norwich forever  
Queen of the hills,  
When far from thee,  
Still mem-o-ry thrills  
Recalling scenes and old friendships,  
Songs and old cheers,  
Mem’ries that fade not  
Through the changing years.*
- 2 *Norwich forever  
Through rain and shine  
Sunset and dawning*

Top: Arthur Wallace “Pop” Peach

Bottom: Heber Shaw ‘16

Images courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.

Norwich University 1819-2019

## Norwich Hymn

ARTHUR WALLACE PEACH  
VOICE. *Not too slow*

JOHN I. TWOMBLY, '24

1. We hail thee, Al - ma Ma - ter, fair - Be - neath thy north - ern sky - And

sing thy praise as have thy sons Thro' all the years gone by.

TENORS (Air in 2nd Tenor)

2. We shall keep bright, tho' far we roam On life's un - chart - ed ways, The  
3. And in de - feat or vic - to - ry, Our pledge we shall re - new, To

BASSES

mem - o - ry of com - rades old And good old Nor - wich days.  
stead - fast stand, thro' weal or woe, For love of old N. U!

Copyright, 1928, by Norwich University.

- Still we are thine,  
And in defeat or in victory,  
We shall acclaim  
Thy dauntless spirit and  
Thy deathless name.
- 3 Norwich forever,  
Hail, hail to thee,  
Bright is thy glory  
Won in the long years,  
And we pledge thee our future,  
Thee to adore,  
Till in the skies the stars  
Shall burn no more!

## Norwich Hymn

Inspired by a college football game he had witnessed in his youth, Peach was also responsible for writing the words to the “Norwich Hymn.”

“I remember from my own far off “prep” school days watching a famous university team go down to defeat—and then, as the game closed and the crowd streamed out, I saw the student-body rise as one man; and over the field through the swiftly gathering dusk swept the superb song, slow-moving, majestic, that the university sings at the close of football games, banquets, and similar occasions. It was a never-to-be-forgotten moment.”

In writing the song, Peach says he was thinking about how “our own student-body [supports] its teams, win or lose.” He imagined that the words might be used “on the Hill, at alumni gatherings, wherever Norwich men gather in the name of their college and their memories.” He explains that each stanza is intended to suggest “a loyalty that abides, near or far, no matter how many years of change may lie between graduation and later meeting of classmates and college friends.”

Peach recruited Cadet John Twombly '24, to compose the music, saying that the resulting melody was “exactly what I had in mind—a tune with long, full cadences, deep-voiced in the natural range of men’s voices, simply harmonized, without frills of any sort.”

- 1 We hail thee Alma Mater, fair  
Beneath thy northern sky,  
And sing thy praise as have thy sons  
Thro' all the years gone by.
- 2 We shall keep bright, tho' far we roam  
On life's unchartered ways,  
The mem-o-ry of comrades old  
And good old Norwich days.
- 3 And in defeat, or vic-to-ry,  
Our pledge we shall renew,  
To steadfast stand, thro' weal\* or woe,  
For love of old N.U!

\* well-being, prosperity, or happiness



Cadet John Twombly '24.

Left: the Norwich Hymn.

Images courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.



*NU Corps of Cadets*

*Images courtesy of the Norwich Office of Communications.*

# #151 Senior Military Colleges

The senior military colleges (SMCs) are institutions of higher learning that operate Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs under special requirements and privileges bestowed by United States law and Army regulation. The designation was created in 1996.

## Full story:

In addition to Norwich University, these six venerable institutions are The Citadel, the University of North Georgia, Texas A&M University, Virginia Military Institute (VMI), and Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech). Norwich is the oldest of these, and in ways big and small can be considered an ancestor of the other five. Norwich is also the only senior military college that is fully private.

Each senior military college is required to operate a uniformed corps of cadets beyond their ROTC unit, though only VMI still requires all students in all programs to belong to the corps. They must enforce military standards in lifestyle and discipline comparable to the federal service academies and immerse cadets in a military environment around the clock. Unlike typical ROTC programs, the Department of Defense is not permitted to terminate or reduce a senior military college's ROTC unit in wartime. The SMCs are also entitled to other privileges such as graduates who meet the criteria being eligible for commission.

When Norwich was founded in 1819, our nation's military was young, and there existed only one other military institution of higher learning, the

United States Military Academy at West Point. The other five SMCs were founded between 1839 (VMI) and 1876 (Texas A&M). Three of the five—Texas A&M, Virginia Tech, and the University of North Georgia—are land-grant colleges. They were established under the provisions of the 1862 Morrill Act, which advanced a national model of higher education inspired by Alden Partridge.

Partridge's influence also inspired the creation of a number of state-supported military institutions. While leading drill instruction and teaching a course on military science for students at the University of Virginia in the mid-1830s, he helped generate public support for military education in that state. And in late 1836 he was encouraged by Governor George McDuffie of South Carolina to offer similar instruction in Charleston. Partridge's efforts paved the way for the founding of VMI in 1839 and The Citadel three years later.

Thus Norwich is not simply the oldest of the senior military colleges. Without Norwich and the vision of Captain Alden Partridge, the other senior military colleges might not exist today.

# #152 Son of a Sea Captain: George P. Colvocoresses

At the tender age of fourteen, George Partridge Colvocoresses served as a captain's clerk aboard the USS *Supply* under his father, Capt. George Musalas Colvocoresses, NU 1831, who had named his son after the man who had adopted him as a young, Greek refugee. In late January 1862, father and son were onboard the vessel *Supply* when it captured the Confederate schooner *Stephen Hart*, which was transporting Rebel arms and ammunition south of Sarasota, Florida.



Top: George P. Colvocoresses

Bottom: USS Supply

Contributed by Diana Weggler, adapted from an article written by Norwich historian Gary T. Lord and published in the Norwich Record in summer 2006, and an article in the Waterbury Republican published in honor of the Colvocoresses' 50th wedding anniversary.

## Full story:

After witnessing scenes of war for more than a year, the younger Colvocoresses entered Norwich University as a member of the Class of 1866. At the end of his freshman year, however, he interrupted his studies to join his father once again as a captain's clerk, this time aboard the U.S.S. *Saratoga*. He spent another year sailing up and down the East Coast before receiving an appointment as a midshipman to the U.S. Naval Academy from Navy Secretary Gideon Welles, NU 1826.

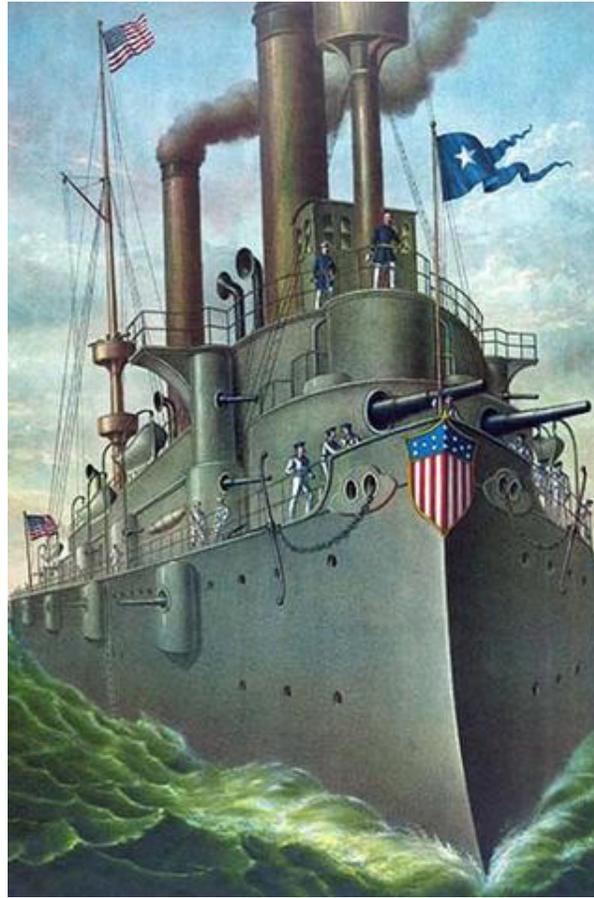
Upon graduating from Annapolis in 1869—and receiving his diploma from Gen. Ulysses S. Grant—Colvocoresses followed his father's example by embarking on a long and distinguished naval career. He spent 45 years in uniform, nearly half of it at sea, including deployments to Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Pacific waters. As his career progressed, Colvocoresses advanced through the ranks to lieutenant commander, and in 1897 was appointed executive officer onboard the U.S.S. *Concord*.

George Dewey on the bridge of the U.S.S. *Olympia* During the Spanish American War, Lt. Cmdr.

Colvocoresses took an active role in all operations in the Philippines involving the U.S. squadron under Commodore George Dewey, NU 1855. While commanding the *Concord*, he participated in the Battle of Manila Bay, sinking the Spanish vessel *Mindanao*. A superior who noted his actions wrote, "I am particularly indebted to the executive officer, Lieut. Commander George P. Colvocoresses, for the cool, deliberate, and efficient manner with which he met each phase of the action, and for his hearty cooperation in my plans."

For his "eminent and conspicuous conduct" at the Battle of Manila Bay, Colvocoresses was advanced five numbers in grade on the recommendation of Admiral Dewey and was awarded the Dewey Medal. In December 1898 he was transferred to Dewey's flagship, the U.S.S. *Olympia*, as executive officer.

Returning to his home of Litchfield, Conn. a year later, he was welcomed back with an elaborate reception, presenting him with a sword of honor and planting an oak tree named after him on the Litchfield Green.



In 1905, Colvocoresses was promoted to the rank of captain. Shortly thereafter he assumed duties as Commandant of Midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy. He was very familiar with Annapolis, having been assigned to the Department of Drawing at the Academy on three previous occasions in his career, during which he designed a memorial to the crew of the ill-fated USS *Jeannette*.

In 1907 he was transferred to the retired list with the rank of rear admiral.

In retirement, Colvocoresses remained involved with Norwich, and was awarded two honorary degrees. In 1909 he delivered the annual Commencement address, and ten years later, during the University's Centennial Celebration, he gave a talk on the life and work of Alden Partridge, whom he had known in childhood. Colvocoresses also wrote a detailed account of "The Battle of Manila Bay" for the History of Norwich University, Vol. I, (1911).

The Colvocoresses' family's deeply-rooted connection with Norwich continues into the 21st century. At the 2004 commencement ceremony, Gretchen Herrboldt Hahn, a nursing major with an Army ROTC scholarship, received her diploma from the hands of her great-great uncle, Alden Partridge Colvocoresses, grandson of George Partridge Colvocoresses.

Paintings featuring Colvocoresses and the USS Supply.  
Images courtesy of the Sullivan Museum and History Center

# #153 Origins of Memorial Day and Early Observances at Norwich

Several towns in the United States claim to have held the first ever Memorial Day observance; however, many historians trace its origins not to a town, but to a group of former slaves. Just after the end of the Civil War, a group of freedmen and women gathered on the grounds of an abandoned horse track (the former site of a Confederate prison) where more than 250 Union soldiers had died.

## Full story:

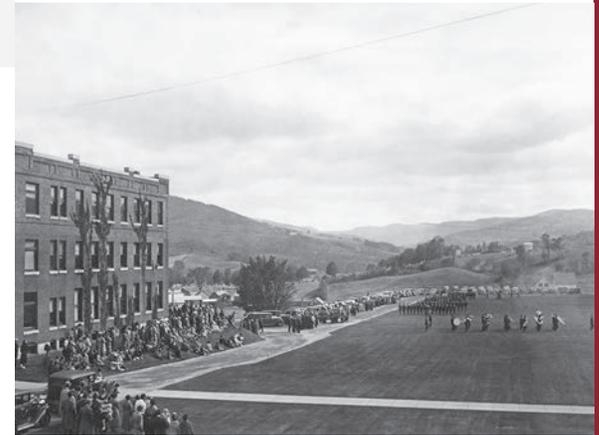
According to an article published in *Time* in 2009, they honored the dead soldiers by removing their bodies from a mass grave, interring them in individual, marked graves, and erecting a fence around the spot with an archway over the entrance. Shortly after, “On May 1, 1865, some 10,000 black Charleston residents, white missionaries, teachers, school children and Union troops marched around the [former race course] singing and carrying armfuls of roses. Gathering in the graveyard, the crowd watched five black preachers recite scripture and a children’s choir sing spirituals and “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Most historians agree that the annual observance officially began three years later, when Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, proclaimed May 30, 1868, Decoration Day, “designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land.” That year, Union Maj. Gen. James A. Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 citizens

decorated the graves of more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

According to the *Norwich Record*, Norwich University began observing Decoration Day at least as early as the mid-1880s. As L.B. Johnson, one of four graduates in the Class of 1888, recalled, “We had some activities back in those days. One of these was a Decoration Day excursion to Chelsea, the corps being conveyed in large teams. It formed the chief feature of the day’s observance and parade at the Orange county shire and resulted in a bit of good advertising for the university. Several students entered from Chelsea the following year.” By 1914, Memorial Day had become part of Junior Week festivities at Norwich, and included a procession “to the cemetery and a salute of three volleys and taps.”

After World War I, Decoration Day evolved from its roots as a day to commemorate Civil War fallen to one honoring American military personnel who died in all wars. Observances in Northfield became quite elaborate, and involved the participation of veterans (or the sons and daughters of veterans) from all wars and a grand parade led by the Norwich Band. This was followed by a program of exercises



Top: Grand Army of the Republic veterans at the annual Memorial Day Parade in New York City, May 1922.

Bottom: Memorial Day observances on the UP in 1936, courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.



Memorial Day Services at the grave, Elmwood Cemetery  
Northfield, Vt. May 30, 1929.



Memorial Day Parade, North St., Northfield, Vt.  
May 30, 1929.

town and at several cemeteries featuring prayers, readings, services, an address, and a salute. The day culminated in a dinner sponsored by Northfield's two American Legion posts, featuring music by an orchestra.

The earliest photographs of a Memorial Day observance involving Norwich cadets show a 1929 procession heading down North Street toward Elmwood Cemetery—where President Edward Bourns and Gen. Alonzo Jackman are buried—and an image of veterans and townspeople at the wreath-laying ceremony.

Because graduation now takes place two weeks before Memorial Day, Norwich students no longer have an opportunity to participate locally; however, according to the National Moment of Remembrance Act, which was passed in 2000 for the purpose of reminding people of the true meaning of Memorial Day, at 3:00 p.m. local time, all Americans should “voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to “Taps.”

# #154 Colonel Berton W. Sibley, USMC, NU 1900: Hero at the Battle of Belleau Wood and Original Devil Dog

At 6:00 p.m., May 30th, 1918, Major Berton W. Sibley, Commanding Officer 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment received the following orders:

*“Headquarters, Sixth Regiment, Marine Corps, A. E. F., France, 30 May 1918.*

*Contributed by Gary Appleby '90*

## Memorandum:

*Advance information official received that this Regiment will move at 10:00 p.m. 30 May by bus to new area. All trains shall be loaded at once and arrangements hastened. Orders will follow. Wagons when loaded will move to Serans to form train.*

*By Order of Colonel Catlin:*

*F.E. Evans, Major, U.S.M.C., Adjutant”*

These orders were the culmination of the last twenty-two years of Berton Sibley's life – twenty-two years that had led him to this moment – the beginning of what would become one of history's most storied battles and the birth of the modern Marine Corps. These orders would take the Marines to the front to blunt the German army's advance on Paris, only 50 short miles to the west. The coming clash would take place amongst the rocks and trees and the surrounding wheat fields of a small hunting preserve where the Germans had dug in. The name of this hunting preserve was Belleau Wood.

Berton William Sibley was born in Westford, Vt., on March 28th, 1877. In the spring of 1886, his parents made the short move to Milton, Vt. where

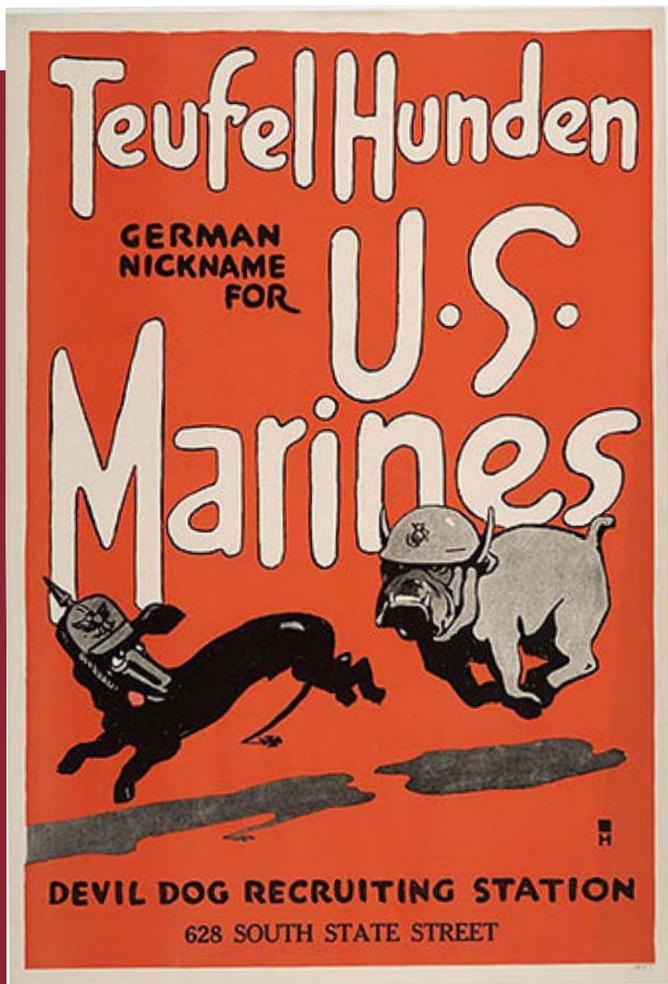
the formative years of his youth would prepare him for college. In the fall of 1896 he entered Norwich as a Rook and began his long journey of service to his nation. Active in the Corp of Cadets, Sibley studied Civil Engineering, was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity and held the ranks of corporal, sergeant, Captain of Company A. and eventually Cadet Major (Corps of Cadets Commander). Ever mindful of the potential need to serve his country, Sibley enlisted in Company G., First Vermont Infantry in May of 1898, in anticipation of service in the Spanish-American war. Promoted to corporal during his enlistment, he served until October of the same year. His service in the First Vermont Infantry undoubtedly enhanced his overall performance as a cadet. For this excellence, Sibley was rewarded with the Shuttleworth Saber award in 1899 and the honor of speaking at commencement in 1900. Now, the opportunity for a career dedicated to service had arrived.

After graduation, Sibley was commissioned as an Officer of Marines in July of 1900. Making his way to Washington, D.C., Sibley entered the U.S. Marine School of Application (precursor of today's Officers



*Top: Colonel Berton W. Sibley '00, courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.*

*Bottom: Georges Scott (1873-1943) illustration "American Marines in Belleau Wood (1918)" – originally published in the French Magazine Illustrations, courtesy of Gary Appleby.*



*United States Marine Corps (USMC) World War I recruiting poster. A Marine bulldog chases a German dachshund, taking advantage of the German nickname for Marines as "Devil Dogs."*

*Image courtesy of Gary Appleby.*

Candidate School) and finished his training in 1901. From there he made his way to the fleet. Sibley advanced through the company grade ranks during various assignments aboard ships like the U.S.S. *Kearsarge*, *Hartford* and *Texas*. During these early years of his career he also served in the Philippines and participated in the Cuban Pacification.

As America prepared to enter World War I in the early days of April 1917, Sibley had reached the rank of major and was serving as the Division Marine Officer and Aide on the staff of the Division Commander Battleship, Division 7, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Once the United States entered the war, the Marines needed to increase their numbers of trained men and form units for combat and they needed to do it fast. Sibley received new orders and was re-assigned as the Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines. In the summer of 1917, the 6th Marines mustered and organized in Quantico, VA.

Quantico, having only recently been chosen as the primary training location for all Marines preparing to depart for the Western Front, literally sprung-up out of the red clay of Quantico in a matter of days and weeks. This was possible because of the efforts of another Norwich Marine, Seth Williams '03 (200 Things About Norwich #110) Here, Sibley was joined by two other Norwich Marines that would serve under him. Captain Dwight F. Smith '08, was the commanding officer of the 82nd Company (India Company) and Smith's second platoon commander was 2nd Lt. Clinton B. Smallman '14. Once organized, 3/6 got to the business of training close order drill, skirmish drill (platoon and company), trench digging, barbed wire entanglements, signaling, rifle, and machine gun practice. Once training was completed, the move to take on the Huns was on.

In the early morning hours of October 24th, 1917, the Marines of 3/6 hopped a train for Philadelphia

and boarded the U.S.S. *Von Steuben* arriving in the port of Brest, France on the 12th of November. Once in France, the Marines of the 6th Regiment along with all other Marine units that composed the 4th Brigade, began their training in earnest. Over the next few months the Marines were trained in trench and open warfare. Scheduled training included long hikes, close order drill, additional rifle, and grenade practice. They learned how to storm trench systems, attack strong-points, and defend against gas attacks. Eventually, steel helmets, trench knives, and extra clothing were issued. By mid-March, Sibley's Marines would be heading to the front near Verdun for 30 days to participate in their first action—defense of the Toulon sector. At the end of their assignment, 3/6 was given new orders that would involve multiple movements over many weeks, each one bringing them closer to their date with destiny.

Having arrived at their destination in the early morning hours of June 1st, the battalion was able to rest for a while before they started the march to the front along the Chateau-Thierry-La-Ferte road. Completing their movement to the staging area, the Marines of 3/6 encountered a sobering sight—the French army was falling back and passing through their ranks. On the morning of June 2nd, Sibley reoriented his companies to better prepare for the fight ahead. On this day, German shelling along the Chateau Thierry front inflicted the first of many casualties the battalion would experience over the next three weeks. Over the next four days, German attacks were turned back repeatedly. But, eventually the Marines would have to go on the offensive and push the German's out of Belleau Wood.

At 5 p.m. on the 6th of June, the first major offensive involving the Marines of 3/6 began. Belleau Wood was a tactical nightmare. Wide, open wheat fields to the west led to thick vegetation, closely packed tangles of trees, and countless rock formations perfect for interlocking defensive machine gun positions. The

approach from the south was only slightly better with less open ground to cover. Dug in near the southern end of the wood, Sibley's 3/6 was flanked on the right by Major Thomas Holcomb's 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines in support (Holcomb would later go on to serve as the 17th Commandant of the Marine Corps). At exactly 5:00 p.m., Sibley and the Marines of 3/6 stepped-off the line and moved north into the woods while the 2nd Battalion 5th Marines on his left moved east across the open wheat fields. Immediately, the German machine guns filled the air "with red-hot nails", laying down a withering fire, giving 2/5 the worst of it as the open fields provided no cover. By 6:45 p.m., it was reported back to HQ that the machine gun fire in the southern wood had been virtually silenced and by 7:30 p.m. German prisoners began to come in. It was sometime during this attack into the southern tip of Belleau Wood that fellow Norwich Marine and platoon commander from the 82nd Company of 3/6 (India Co.), 2nd Lt. Clinton B. Smallman '14, was wounded and evacuated from the field of battle. By 9:00 p.m. word was received by runner that Sibley had attained his first objective, the eastern edge of the wood, having covered nearly a mile in less than four hours. The casualties on this day were the highest sustained by the Marine Corps in its history, up to this time. Approximately 31 officers and 1056 Marines became casualties.

Col Albertus W. Catlin, Commanding Officer of the 6th Marine Regiment, had a very high opinion of Sibley, summarizing his observations of Sibley's leadership and military bearing in Chapter 9 of his book, *With the Help of God and a Few Marines*. Some of his comments follow:

*"Major Burton William Sibley is one of the most picturesque characters in the Marine Corps. He is a short, swarthy man, wiry and of great endurance. He is one of those men whose looks are no indication of their age; he might be anywhere from thirty-five to fifty. I fancy that is why he is affectionately known as "the old man."*

*"Sibley is particularly thorough in everything that he does and has never been known to get rattled. His men love him and would follow him anywhere. He is as active as a boy, and it was he who, on foot and fighting as desperately as any of them, personally led those two companies of Marines into the death-haunted labyrinth of Belleau Wood. They followed him as warriors of old followed their chieftain, and he pulled through and won the first stage of the battle that was to put the strength of our brigade to the acid test. Staunch veteran of Marines that he is, he deserves all the praise that can be heaped upon him for that night's work."*

*"With Sibley at the head (of the advance into the wood on the evening of June 6th), nothing could stop them."*

The coming days and weeks would see numerous, violent actions into the Wood and surrounding areas. The 8th of June was a particularly ferocious day of bloody combat. Early on that day, another Norwich Marine, Capt. Dwight F. Smith '08, commanding officer of the 82nd Company (India Co.) and 2nd Lt. Smallman's '14 company commander, was strafed by a German machine gun taking a round to his ankle and putting him out of action. The Battle of Belleau Wood would eventually be won on June 26th.

In the weeks and months that followed, the Marines of 3/6, along with the rest of the 4th Marine Brigade and the 2nd Army Division, would continue their effort to destroy the German army. Actions in places known as the Soissons and Marbache Sectors kept 3/6 occupied through late August until early September when the battalion prepared for offensive action in St. Mihiel. It was here, on September 16th, 1918, that now Lt. Col. Sibley was wounded by shrapnel from enemy artillery and burned by mustard gas taking him out of action for the remainder of the war.

Sibley would slowly, but never fully, recover from his wounds. He made his way back to the United

States, was medically retired and entered business in La Jolla, CA. Sibley would be promoted by special order to Colonel during his retirement. Eventually, the world would find itself marching toward another world war and Sibley's sense of duty caused him great anxiety, knowing full well he was not fit to be recalled to duty. In 1939, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant General Thomas Holcomb, fellow battalion commander in the 6th Marines who fought beside him at the Battle of Belleau Wood some two decades prior, wrote Sibley personally assuring him that his sacrifice and service in the Great War was all his country should ask of him and that he would not be recalled to active duty.

For his actions during the Great War, Sibley was awarded the Navy Cross and four Silver Stars. His citation for his Navy Cross reads:

*"Major Berton W. Sibley, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines: Commanded his battalion in its attack upon enemy machine gun positions from June 6th to 8th, personally leading the attack on June 8th at a critical time in the engagement. Confronted by the tremendous odds, his excellent judgment and personal bravery inspired his men to redouble efforts. When all the officers of Company I had been wounded he advanced with that company and displayed fine courage and dash throughout the action. He led his men superbly under most trying conditions against the most distinguished elements of the German Army, administering to those organizations their first defeat."*

Colonel Berton W. Sibley died February 22, 1944, aged 66. He is buried in Greenwood Memorial Park, San Diego, Calif.

# #155 Four Men Defined Norwich History for Generations

William Ellis, Grenville Dodge, and Robert Guinn shaped our understanding of Norwich's legacy with their work on the university's published histories. To mark 200 years of that legacy, Alex Kershaw will join their ranks.



William Ellis, NU Class of 1897

Image courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.

## Full story:

"The annals of such an institution, may, therefore, very properly be called heroic, and will be found faithfully recorded in the historical section of the book."

So a notice in the student newspaper, the *Reveille*, described the initial 1898 edition of William Arba Ellis' master work, *Norwich University: Her History, Her Graduates, Her Roll of Honor*. This first volume took him three years to research and a year to write. He would spend well over a decade meticulously gathering information for the three-volume set.

Ellis was a member of the NU Class of 1897. Early in his career as a cadet, he took an interest in the university's history. In 1894, while editor of the *Reveille*, he began gathering stories and sources for the monumental work that would occupy nearly 20 years of his life. Most of the initial research and writing was done while he was still a student. By November 1897, only five months after he graduated with a degree in engineering, the proofs had already been sent to a printer in New Hampshire.

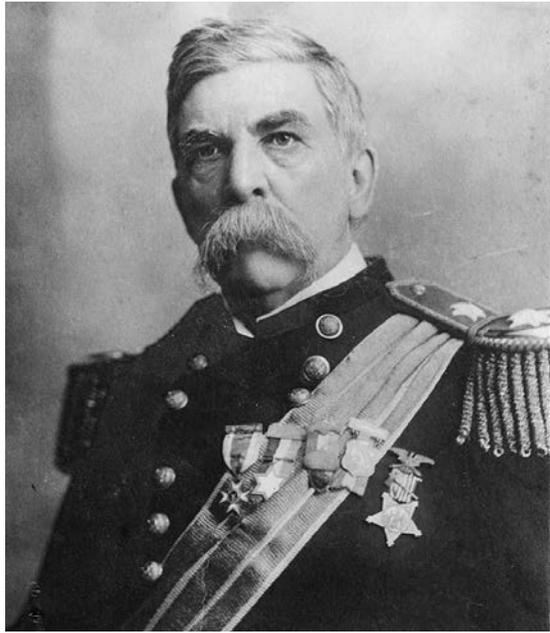
After the 1898 edition of the new university history was released (and much energy was put into recovering its printing costs), Ellis set his meticulous mind to the work of librarian at his alma mater. He was rewarded for the impressive work he had already

completed as university historian with an honorary master's degree in 1902.

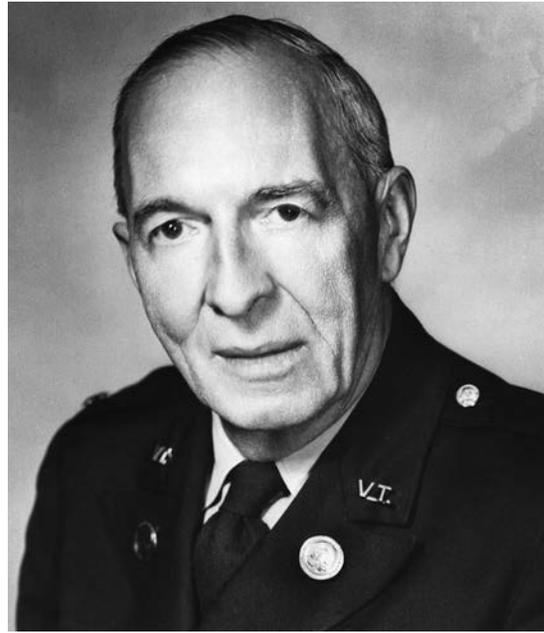
But it turned out that his work had only just begun. In 1908, Grenville Dodge, one of the university's most venerable and influential alumni, expressed interest in expanding the work to include biographical sketches of as many alumni as possible. Ellis thus resumed his duties as historian.

He spent years tracking down alumni and their families around the world and asking them to submit their own biographies and photographs. In total, over 600 alumni, including both graduates and non-graduates, were profiled in the final product's 2,000 pages. Grenville Dodge was credited as the publisher of what would often be referred to as the Dodge-Ellis history. The effort took a toll on Ellis' health, and he died of pneumonia before the age of 50 in 1918.

Nearly 50 years after the completion of *Norwich University: Her History, Her Graduates, Her Roll of Honor*, it was announced that longtime Norwich professor and dean Robert Darius Guinn would enter retirement in order to focus on the project of writing an update to Ellis' work. He began his career at Norwich in 1925 as a professor of modern languages and had been eyewitness to many of the



Grenville Dodge, NU Class of 1851  
Image courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.



Robert Guinn  
Image courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.



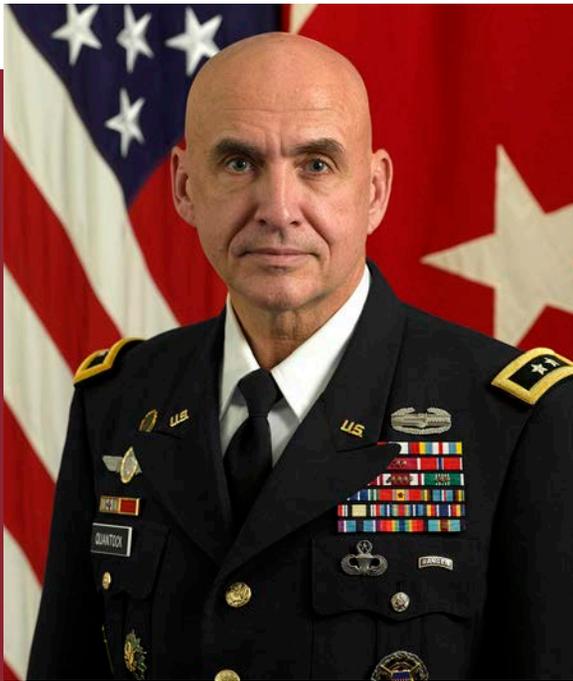
Alex Kershaw  
Image courtesy of Alex Kershaw.

events he would write about.

The result was a slimmer volume titled simply *The History of Norwich University, 1912-1965*. It chronicled in broad strokes the events at the university since Ellis' time, including the impact of two world wars and eight university presidents. Guinn's work was considered to be Volume IV of the university's history, a continuation of Ellis' ambitious project begun in 1894.

It has been more than fifty years since the previous chapters of Norwich's history were written. As part of the bicentennial commemoration, the university

commissioned Alex Kershaw, renowned military historian and *New York Times* bestselling author to bring 200 years of history to life. He spent 18-months researching and writing an authoritative account of Norwich's legacy from its founding to the present, highlighting the accomplishments and many contributions of the institution and its alumni in the development of the nation. Norwich University Archives and Special Collections, and the Sullivan Museum and History Center provided support and resources throughout the project. The book, titled *Citizens & Soldiers: The First Two Hundred Year of Norwich University*, was released at Homecoming 2018.



# #156 Lt. Gen. David Quantock, Class of 1980, the Army's "Top Cop"

David Quantock '80 initially had no intention of making a career out of the military. After he was passed over for aviation due to colorblindness, he wanted something that would give him options when he got out. He decided to join the Military Police.

*Contributed by ori Duff, adapted from an article in the May 2012 Norwich Record.*

## Full story:

It was during the Cold War, and what he didn't anticipate was that he would end up guarding a nuclear weapons site in "middle of nowhere" Germany. It was the start of a career that would take him around the world: to Grenada (Operation Island Breeze), Haiti (Operation Uphold Democracy), Egypt (Bright Star 2000), and Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program). It would also see him command the 16th Military Police Brigade out of Fort Bragg, N.C., and lead the United States Army Military Police School in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

In 2003 he was gearing up to go to war. Operation Iraqi Freedom was just beginning, and Quantock's soldiers at Fort Bragg were next in line to deploy. As part of his preparation, he did a site visit to Abu Ghraib prison, 20 miles west of Baghdad.

Built in the 1960s under Saddam Hussein, the facility had been a cesspool of inhumanity. Mass executions, rape, beatings, hangings, electric shock, castration, and mutilation were all routinely practiced at the site, which held as many as 15,000 inmates. Months before the U.S. invasion of Iraq, Saddam declared amnesty for all prisoners, leaving the prison empty when U.S. forces arrived. The Americans seized control and began using the facility to hold detainees. The site ultimately became the focus of America's own abuse

scandal, when photos of U.S. soldiers tormenting naked Iraqi detainees exploded in the media.

During Quantock's pre-deployment visit, those pictures had not yet come to light, but Quantock's sixth sense was already up. The place was filthy, with raw sewage and human bones left from the Saddam era. Operationally, it wasn't faring much better.

"You could tell discipline, standards were awful...I mean, I was looking at folks who looked like they had been defeated. There was no leadership. I said, 'God, we've got to instill some desire in these folks.' Everybody seemed to be in different uniforms," he says. "It was a disaster down there. And so it was ripe for something bad to happen."

The investigation was just starting in January of 2004 when now Colonel Quantock came back for his tour. One of his myriad duties was to take over Abu Ghraib from BG Janis Karpinski in what Quantock describes as the "12 toughest months" of his life.

He began by working to clean up the prison: providing oversight, establishing standards of behavior and discipline, instituting interrogation procedures, and making sure that detainees were treated humanely and with dignity.

*Top: Lt Gen David Quantock '80*

*Bottom: Quantock in Iraq.*

The tour put him face to face with countless soldiers risking their lives in service. “It was inspiring because of what I got to be a part of—so many great Americans out there doing their business, just doing the best they could. The kids inspired me every day. I probably aged 30 years in that one year but it was worth it.”

In 2008, when Quantock was tapped for yet another move when Gen. David Petraeus chose him to become the Deputy Commanding General (Detainee Operations)/Commanding General of Task Force 134 in Iraq.

At that time, the United States still had 22,000 detainees in custody, and as head of the new task force it was up to Quantock to orchestrate the release or transfer of thousands of detainees in U.S. custody from prisons like Camp Bucca in the south to Camp Cropper, near Baghdad, or Taji in the north. According to the security agreement signed in December 2008, he needed an arrest warrant or a conviction to hand a detainee over to Iraqi authority; otherwise he had to let them go.

The task was daunting. He and his soldiers had to find evidence and sift out the good from the bad. The detainees ranged from hard-core criminals, al-Qaeda fighters, Sunni insurgents, former Saddam gunmen, Mahdi Army fighters, and a growing mob of semiliterate unemployed young men who drifted to the various factions out of economic need or quasi-religious fervor.

They labored with intensity, setting up a web portal to gather evidence from the field, putting cases together to be tried in front of an Iraqi court, getting arrest warrants and detention orders in accordance with the security agreement.

In the meantime, they created educational programs, vocational training, and Islamic discussion groups for the detainees. They learned valuable skills — reading and writing, computer literacy, and math.

Along the way, Quantock says they also learned that Americans weren’t so bad.

“There were some hard-core individuals that could be there for 100 years and not change their mind. But even those you treat with dignity and respect. That is what we stand for as a country.”

By the end of the task force, the team had enough evidence to transfer 8,000 prisoners to the government of Iraq, and in January of 2010 they handed over control of all Iraqi prisons to the Iraqi government.

Upon his return to Fort Leonard Wood in May 2010 he became the first non-engineer Commanding General of the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence. In his short tenure there, the base came under fire for a lengthy list of pending court-martial cases for sexual assault.

But, as with all his previous assignments, Quantock dealt with these challenges in preparation for the next job he would be given. In September 2011, he was named the Provost Marshal General/Commanding General of the United States Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID) and the Army Corrections Command overseeing policy and procedures of law enforcement in the Army, criminal investigations, and all Army jails.

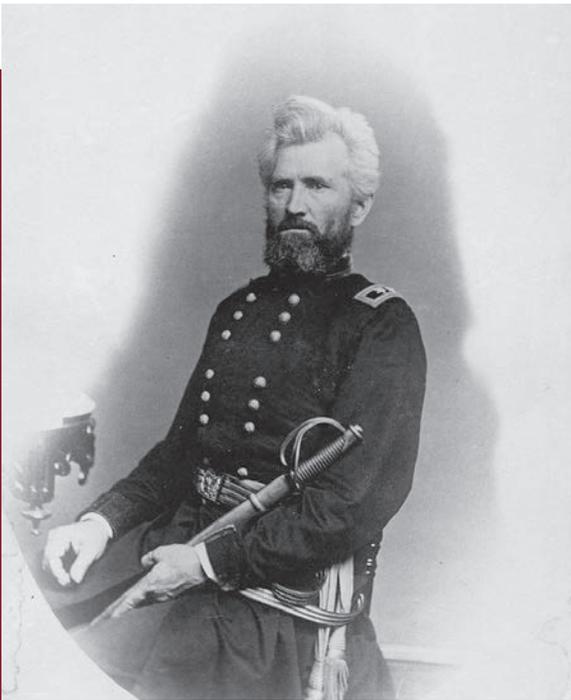
“When you are in that position...it can get you down,” Quantock said. “You start wondering for periods of time, ‘Is there anyone doing anything good out there?’ But then you have 30 years of experience to lean on that says 99 percent of the folks out there are doing unbelievably great things.”

In 2014, Lt. General Quantock culminated his distinguished career as The Inspector General, Office of the Secretary of the Army. He retired earlier this year, after 37 years of service to the nation. Representative Elise M. Stefanik (R-NY) honored



CAMP SABALU-HARRISON, Afghanistan—The leadership of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command visited the Detention Facility in Parwan, April 4, 2012. The purpose of the visit was for the command group to gain an understanding of detention operations in Afghanistan and to meet with soldiers. The tour was guided by the DFIP commander, Col. Robert M. Taradash, Commander, Task Force Protector and Brig. Gen. Dash Jamieson, Deputy Commander, Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435. CJIAITF 435 oversees all detainee operations in Afghanistan. In this photo, Maj. Gen. David E. Quantock, Provost Marshal/Commanding General, United States Army Criminal Investigation Command, with the assistance of an interpreter, awards a commander coin to an Afghan Nation Army operations officer for his efforts in the transition and partnership of the DFIP.

Quantock, saying “he upheld the office’s longstanding legacy as a fair and impartial organization. In all of his diverse assignments, LTG Quantock’s dedication, integrity, and leadership had an immeasurable impact on the Army and our nation’s allies.”



General Robert H. Milroy, NU 1843

Image courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.

# #157 General Robert H. Milroy, Class of 1843, Set the Stage for Gettysburg Through Defeat

Robert Huston Milroy was born on a farm in Indiana in 1816, just three years before Captain Partridge founded his academy in Norwich, Vt. Milroy entered the recently chartered Norwich University in 1840 at the age of 24. Though the university had started evolving toward a four-year baccalaureate curriculum, it was not uncommon for students to be older or younger than today's standard.

## Full story:

Milroy graduated in 1843, class valedictorian and distinguished for his athletic ability. Captain Alden Partridge would resign as president amid disagreements with the Board of Trustees just months after Milroy graduated, making Milroy one of the last Norwich students to receive instruction personally from Partridge himself.

Milroy first called upon his Norwich training when he served as a captain during the Mexican War. The conflict lasted from 1846 to 1847 and famously claimed the life of second Norwich president Truman Ransom in the Battle of Chapultepec. After the war, Milroy attended law school at Indiana University—an institution nearly as old as Norwich—and practiced his profession in Indiana.

During the Civil War, Milroy led the 9th Indiana Volunteer Infantry and performed service in West Virginia under Generals McClellan and Rosecrans. In June 1863, Milroy's men were attacked by the forces

of Confederate General Richard Ewell, who were on their way to Pennsylvania as part of the Gettysburg Campaign. The Second Battle of Winchester was a painful defeat for the Union, resulting in the capture of thousands of prisoners under Milroy's command. Milroy himself controversially retreated to Harper's Ferry, along with his staff and a small number of troops.

Milroy never held another field command, but a court of inquiry exonerated him of any wrongdoing in retreating from Winchester. Some believed that the way the battle unfolded was a key precursor to Union victory at Gettysburg some three weeks later.

Later in life, General Milroy served as a trustee of the Wabash and Erie Canal Company, and as an Indian agent in Washington State. He had seven children with his wife, Mary Jane, whom he married in 1849. He died in 1890 and was buried in the Masonic Cemetery in Tumwater, Wash.

*The Norwich University Archives is home to a small collection of General Robert Milroy's personal papers, including notes from military lectures given by Captain Alden Partridge.*

# #158 Paul Revere Andrews, Long-serving Trustee and Publishing Giant

Paul Revere Andrews—“Andy” to his classmates—graduated cum laude from Norwich in 1930. On the Hill, he served as captain of C Troop and treasurer of Theta Chi fraternity, while double-majoring in English and economics and earning varsity letters in track and polo. He held a reserve commission in the U.S. Cavalry for nearly a decade after graduating from Norwich.

## Full story:

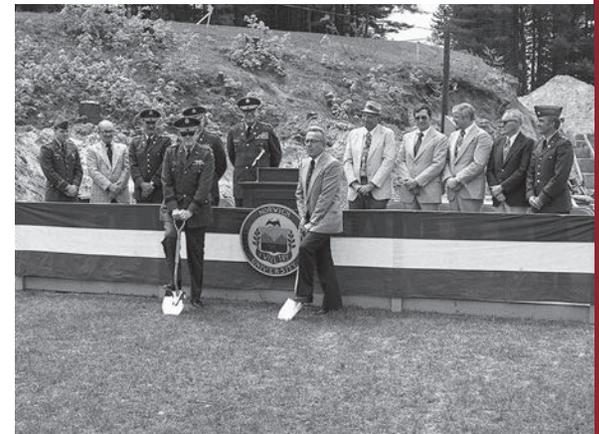
Beginning in 1935, Andrews spent 41 years with the educational publishing giant Prentice Hall, starting as a traveling salesman and working his way up to president in 1965. He retired in 1976 after serving for five years as chairman.

Andrews served on the NU Board of Trustees from 1958 until 1982, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Literature in 1966. From 1972 to 1982 he chaired the NU Development Program, raising more than \$9 million.

Andrews' loyal service and hard work on behalf of the university made a lasting impact. The Paul Revere Andrews Scholarship was established in 1975. Andrews Hall opened in 1981 as the Norwich University Sports Center. A year later it was dedicated in Andrews' honor.

The five Andrews children have also done their part to further the Norwich legacy. The youngest and the only son, Paul R.P. Andrews, graduated from Norwich in 1973. In 1980, he established the Virginia Ettinger Andrews Scholarship in honor of his mother. His sister, Gail Andrews Whelan, is a Norwich Trustee Emerita.

Paul Revere Andrews passed away in 1983. Though he had lived for many years in Greenwich, Conn., he was buried in here in central Vermont, where he had spent much of his childhood, many summers throughout his life, and of course his unforgettable time at “Old N.U.”



Top: Paul Revere Andrews '30.

Above: Breaking ground of Andrews Hall.

Left: Andrews' son, Paul R.P. Andrews, commemorating the revealing of Andrews Hall.

Images courtesy of the Norwich University Archives.