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Tigers in the Trenches: The Clemson College Class of 1917 in the First World War

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The Clemson College Class of 1917 in the First World War

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Clemson University proudly proclaims that the Class of 1917 volunteered en-masse for service during the First World War, after President Woodrow Wilson sought a declaration of war from Congress in April 1917. A bullet stating the claim is the first on the Clemson Corps’ “Stories & Highlights inside the Scroll of Honor” web page, and the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) on campus trumpets this to incoming cadets. I personally remember hearing this as a young Cadet 4th Class from my ROTC instructor in 1998 and imaging the men who graduated sailing to Europe to serve beside one another in the trenches.

With this legend such a pivotal part of Clemson’s military heritage, the question arises, “What is the truth behind the myth?” When proposing this thesis, many professors were skeptical that the entire class volunteered. As the research came together though, a story unfolded that is more inspirational than the myth itself and gives more credit to these proud sons of Clemson than a simple statement, “they volunteered.”

April 1917

The weather was ideal, with temperatures warming and afternoon showers in the upstate of South Carolina, as the Class of 1917 looked forward to their June graduation. Of the 283 “Rats” who had entered Clemson in the summer of 1913, only 110 remained by that spring. Of those remaining men, they had been kept well aware of the situation across the Atlantic, and the

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1 Clemson University Website, Alumni Associations, Clemson Corps. [http://cualumni.clemson.edu/clemson-corps-scroll-of-honor-history](http://cualumni.clemson.edu/clemson-corps-scroll-of-honor-history), Accessed 10 Feb 2014
2 Pickens Sentinel & Keowee Courier, Multiple Issues, April 1917
3 TAPS 1916. Pg. 93
4 TAPS 1917. Pp. 20 – 74
patriotic voices of their leaders were appealing to the Southern sense of honor of their classmates in preparation for America’s entry into the war.

In a February 1917 *Chronicle* editorial, Cadet Carlos G. Harris, wrote:

“‘What will the United States do?’ is the question of the day…. There seem to be two great motives effecting the minds of the people of the United States. The first is, to avoid war at any price; which motive seems to me to be either the outgrowth of a false and erroneous imagination of honor and credit or the manifestation of the weakest and lowest principles one could imagine – that of utter selfishness. The second and higher motive that effects us is, that motive which prompts us, as a nation, to uphold our honor and prestige for which we have so often fought and bled to obtain. Which would be more honorable, to enter the war as the deciding factor of bringing about world wide peace, and uphold our nation’s rights, or sit by with weakness and patience, and afterwards suffer the less of our prestige, and hear the character of our nation ridiculed with indifference by all the world?”

Cadet Carlos G. Harris’ Taps quote was “Ad astra per aspria,” latin for ‘through hardships to the stars.’ Like many of his classmates, these yearbook statements would prove prophetic in the years immediately following their departure from Clemson College, although more literally so in Cadet Harris’ case.

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6 *Taps 1917*. Pg. 44
On the April 2, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson appealed to Congress to declare war on Germany in a powerful speech. In preparation for an exodus of Seniors headed towards the battlefront, the Trustees at Clemson adopted the statement, “that the faculty be authorized to graduate ahead of the usual time any members of the class of 1917, who may be called into the service of the United States between this date and Commencement provided the record of such student is satisfactory to the faculty.” Congress approved the Declaration of War on April 6. April at Clemson seemed to see patriotic zeal bloom with the spring flowers.

Once word reached Clemson Agricultural College, another great orator began to prepare for a pivotal, historic speech. Classmates described Cadet Stephen Wayne Graham as, “His orations on special occasions would bring tears to the eyes of an Egyptian mummy.” In the Sunday meeting of the Senior Class, Cadet Graham gave an impassioned appeal to his classmates that “the services of the Senior Class, as a whole or individually, be offered to the United States, to be used in any capacity that the Government sees fit.”

While awaiting for a response from the War Department, the Class of 1917 cadets continued with life as usual. While the prospects of a long war and the possible casualties definitely loomed over the cadets, their spirits remained high. The Easter Dance was held April

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7 Reel, Jerome V. *The High Seminary Volume 1: A History of the Clemson Agricultural College of South Carolina 1889 – 1964.* Pg. 203
8 *Taps 1917.* Pg. 42
9 *The Tiger.* April 11, 1917. Pg. 1
13. Everyone seemed to take advantage of the time they had, with the faculty dedicating additional time to martial training. The April 18th issue of The Tiger reported:

   “Instead of the regular encampment this year – on account of shortage of tentage and other reasons – the faculty is to allow the military department to take four days of military instruction. The annual inspection of the corps will be held Friday and Saturday, April 27th and 28th, and the four days of drill will be given before then….these days will be filled with problems in the field and close order in preparation for the inspection.

   “Realizing the present conditions, the corps is working especially hard and trying to get all the knowledge possible out of these six days.”

On May 2, The Tiger reported that “about fifty-four men are counting on going to [Camp] Oglethorpe at once” with the majority leaving by the end of the week. The decision had been made for undergraduates from across the United States to attend officer training camps and then form the officer corps of the American Expeditionary Force. Since Clemson, at that time, allowed applicants as young as 16 years old to enter the school, some of the senior class were not old enough for service in 1917. John Davis Blair noted on his Clemson Service Record, “Too young to enter the first R.O.T.C. camp with other members of my class. After induction in service was sent back to the Lanier High School for a detail with that unit (R.O.T.C.) for short time.”

10 The Tiger. April 18, 1917. Pg. 2
11 The Tiger. May 2, 1917. Pg. 1
12 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945
Festivities to send the new soldiers off in style began immediately. That evening, the Thalian Club held a dance in honor of the departing seniors. The cadets and their dates danced till 2:30 in the morning, in a hall “decorated with the National colors, with guns and swords hung upon the walls in various places. Conspicuous among the many flags which were hung around the hall were the large U.S. and S.C. State flags, one of which was draped at each end of the hall.”

It was reported to be the best dance hosted by the Thalian Club, despite only five days planning!

The next day was a Thursday, and after the afternoon “Pass-in-Review,” the faculty hosted a banquet in the dining hall in honor of the departing seniors. President Riggs was the “toastmaster,” and speakers laid many charges on the shoulders of the seniors. Professor Furman, a veteran of the Confederate Army, said, “the men of the ‘60’s thought the War Between the States was a great war, and it was, but the present war, the war where the entire world is taking part is incomparable with it in brutality, in numbers of men, in science and in every other sense.” Professor Barre stated, “Our alma mater is very, very young, the oldest graduate is just in the prime of his life. We have never had the opportunity to show what we can do as soldiers, but we have led in the business world. You men who are leaving for the army have the opportunity to make a great name for Clemson as a military college.”

But, The Tiger reported the farewells were:

“The saddest yet most inspiring scene ever witnessed at Clemson…. Farewells in the form of handclasps and a pat on the shoulder was mainly the case, especially was this true between classmates for hearts were too full to speak. Those Seniors remaining were sad because they could not go; those going were sad because they hated to part with their old true and tried friends.”

13 The Tiger. May 9, 1917. Pg. 1
14 Ibid. Pg. 1 – 4
15 Ibid. Pg. 4
The following day, “Breakfast formation was the last assembly call that many of them answered at the grand old institution that we have all learned to love…. In the mess hall a very marked stillness existed, something that is foreign to those rustic walls.”16 After breakfast and goodbyes, forty-seven seniors boarded a train for Fort Oglethorpe, in northwest Georgia. “The adieus were expressed as good-byes, but with many of us it was only au revoir, for, the chances are, that a number of us will meet again on the battle lines fighting our common enemy and avenging the causes of humanity.”17

In the Encampments Stateside

After departing “dear, old Clemson,” the Class of 1917 found themselves at officer training encampments across the South. Lieutenant David Eugene “Gene” Monroe wrote a letter to The Tiger describing conditions at Fort Oglethorpe:

“They have divided the corps into fifteen companies and each company has four bunk houses. We have about 168 men in each company, so you can see how many we have in each house, which is only about 20 by 70 feet….Boy, it was some cold up here last night. I slept under one sheet, two heavy blankets, over coat, rain coat, and in all my clothes, and then woke up about mid night, almost frozen.

“They sure are working us hard up here – we get up at 5:15 central time have reveille, setting up exercises, and breakfast. We then drill until 11:30, stop for dinner, start back at 1:30 and drill until 4:30. Have supper at 5:30 and then leisure until 7:30. At this time we are marched up for lecture and study until 9:40, which is tattoo and 10:30 taps.”18

For many of the men, their service wouldn’t extend beyond the Camps for varying reasons. Private Archie Barron was selected as one of the first members to attend Fort

16 The Tiger. May 9, 1917. Pg 1
17 Ibid. Pg. 1 – 4
18 The Tiger. May 23, 1917. Pg. 1
Oglethorpe, but was medically discharged because he “failed to pass [the] draft examination due to irregular heart, could not get in any more service.”

The War Department placed high value on the military training of the Clemson cadets who reported to Fort Oglethorpe, as evidenced by the volume of Clemson alumni selected to be instructors for the various branches. Ensign Kenneth Hobbs began his naval career as a Chief Master at Arms and physical instructor at Saint Helena Naval Training Station in Norfolk, Virginia. Major Albert Norman, the highest ranking member of the Class of 1917 by the end of the war, was an artillery instructor at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. His remarks on his Clemson Service Record, while speaking highly of his students, didn’t neglect to offer a slight towards other institutions of higher learning:

“I came in contact with a large number of Officers both from the Regular Army, National Army and National Guard. All of the Officers were very eager to learn and tried hard. One thing I noticed more than anything was the lack of mathematical knowledge of so many College Graduates and a good many of them were from the larger universities and technical schools.”

Lieutenant Warren White though, probably summed up the wistfulness of the men who did not deploy with their combat bound classmates though in his remarks.

“Ask any man who happened to be tied to a Depot Brigade to train “Rookies,” and he can give you a number of good points – some very amusing experiences too. About a year of my time in the army was spent training recruits for some other organization to use. At last I was transferred to a fighting unit, (50th Inf.) and we were scheduled to sail Nov. 20, 1918 – but then the Armistice! …. The Army is a great life!”

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19 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945
20 Ibid.
21 Ibid.
22 Ibid.
Not all Clemson men remained stateside though, as enough were headed to the battlefields of Europe to ensure not only their high regard and courage, but also to cement Clemson’s military heritage as a world class source of U.S. military officers.

**Tigers in the “Big Red One” (1st Infantry Division)**

Second Lieutenant David Eugene “Gene” Monroe, Second Lieutenant Gerald Tyler and Second Lieutenant James B. Dick were three of the Clemson Alumni who were at Fort Oglethorpe’s first officer training camp. Lt. Dick was assigned as a Battery commander with the 7th Field Artillery. Lt. Gerald Tyler was assigned to Co. M, 28th Infantry Regt. Lt. Monroe was assigned to Headquarters, 16th Infantry Regiment.\(^{23}\) *The Tiger* printed an excerpt of a letter written by him in its February 13, 1918 issue:

> “My Regiment is supposed to be the best the United States has, so we expect to put up a good show. You need not worry about my being brave. I’ll have to [be.] When you have 40 men under you, you have to hold a stiff upper-lip. You would not put a man in a position that you wouldn’t hold yourself, and if you haven’t the confidence of your men, you are absolutely no good, so I will do the best I can, and I can do as much as the average man, I am sure. This regiment will probably see quite a bit of action, so I will be a veteran before long.”\(^{24}\)

These three men were also likely the first members of the Class of 1917 to enter into combat action, when the 1st Division relieved the French 1st Moroccan Division north of Toul in January 1918. The American 26th Division relieved them on April 3, 1918, with the 1st Division relocating to the Cantigny sector. Lt. Tyler served in the initial Division action at the Ansauville sector, while 7th Field Artillery was responsible for indirect fire actions in that sector.\(^{25}\)

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\(^{23}\) *History of the First Division During the World War*. Pg. 271  
\(^{24}\) *The Tiger*. February 13, 1918. Pg. 3  
\(^{25}\) *History of the First Division During the World War*. Pp. 42 – 68
The 1st Division moved to Cantigny, with the 16th and 18th Infantry Regiments relieving two French Colonial divisions along a 4 km long front extending from Cantigny to just south of Mesnil-St. Georges. The German offensive in March had created a salient, and the Division was tasked to hold the line against an anticipated subsequent German assault. From the start, the Division was under heavy artillery fire from 90 German batteries. On May 14th, the 26th Inf. Regt. relieved the 16th Inf. Regt. and the 28th Inf. Regt. replaced the 18th Inf. Regt. The 1st Division had received orders to commence a counter-offensive to recapture the town of Cantigny, which was inside the salient, with the 28th Inf. Regt. tasked with the main assault.  

Lt. Tyler, in 3d Battalion, 28th Inf. Regt. found himself on the jumping-off point at Bois-St. Elois. At 5:45 AM on May 28, 1918; the entire Division’s artillery, including Lt. Dick’s battery, opened fire with gas and high explosive shells to prepare for the attack. An hour later, the 75mm cannons began a rolling barrage with the infantry, including M Co. following behind.  

M Co. was on the right of 3rd Battalion’s advance and was to keep in touch with 2nd Battalion’s F Co. Lt. Tyler noticed F Co. lagging behind and the gap between the companies growing larger. Upon learning that Sergeant Sohnke, whom he had instructed to liaise with F

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26 History of the First Division During the World War. Pp. 69 – 77.
27 Ibid. Pg. 83
Co., was killed, he sent a runner to contact F Co. commander, Captain Anderson. The runner returned, and informed Lt. Tyler that all officers in the company had been killed. Realizing the precarious position the 28th Regt. was in, Lt. Tyler commanded his platoons into a “fan-shaped forward movement which caused me great alarm, because they were now occupying a frontage ordinarily held by two or more Companies.” The objective was reached by 7:20 AM, and the French artillery supporting the 28th Inf. Regt. shifted their fire from Germany artillery batteries to an anticipated German counterattack. This permitted the Germans to bring the front lines of infantry under indirect fire.

Upon reaching the point he believed was his company’s objective, Lt. Tyler ordered his men to dig in before “a French Captain who was with the tanks came to me and suggested I move my men about 200 meters farther forward as they could get a much better field of fire from there….The enemy’s shells were now falling among us and there were many calls for first aid men.”

“However, the men silently replaced their packs, picked up their rifles and entrenching tools and moved forward.

“The French Captain was enthusiastic about this and told me that it would never have been possible to persuade French soldiers to move forward under fire after they had been ordered to dig in.”

Small German counterattacks occurred at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 5:10 PM; and two companies from the 18th Inf. Regt. were brought from reserve positions to reinforce the 28th Inf. Regt. that night. On May 29 and 30, the 28th Inf. Regt. held the line against further German

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29 Ibid. Pg. 94.
counterattacks before being relieved by the 16th Inf. Regt.\textsuperscript{30} Lt. Tyler suffered a gunshot wound to the thigh on May 28th, and while recuperating was awarded the Croix de Guerre on July 14.

In July, the Division was assigned to the 20th Corps, 10th French Army, to take part in the Battle of Soissons – an attack on the flank of the Marne Salient – to halt the German advance.\textsuperscript{31} All four Infantry regiments would take part in the battle, and Lt. David Monroe had taken command of an F Co. platoon.\textsuperscript{32}

At 4:35 AM on July 18, the Division’s batteries opened fire to begin the attack. The division history records describes the battle as:

“On the right, the 16th Infantry and 18th Infantry, preceded by the French tanks, pushed forward, taking the enemy’s first line completely by surprise and capturing nearly all of its occupants. As the advance continue, the resistance stiffened. Machine guns from the wheat-fields in the vicinity of the Paris-Soissons road and artillery from behind Chaudun swept the line and men fell rapidly. One by one the machine guns were overcome and soon the enemy could be seen retreating.”\textsuperscript{33}

Lt. Monroe was directly responsible for overcoming one of these machine gun nests. His Distinguished Service Cross Citation reads, “His platoon having been halted by machine-gun fire, Lieutenant Monroe advanced alone against the nest and captured the gun and crew.

\textsuperscript{30} History of the First Division During the World War. Pp. 84 – 86
\textsuperscript{31} Ibid. Pg. 99
\textsuperscript{32} Military Times Hall of Valor Database, http://projects.militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/, accessed 22 Jan 14
\textsuperscript{33} History of the First Division During the World War. Pg. 117
Although wounded in this encounter, he returned to his platoon and led them on to its objective. His gallant conduct had a marked effect upon his men.”

By 9:00 AM, the 1st Battalion of the 16th Inf. Regt. had reached its primary objective, and the 2nd Battalion – including F Co – passed through their lines to drive on the assault. At the end of the day, the Germans had retreated to the high ground between Chaudun and the Chazelle Ravine. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Inf. Regt., was reported as having been almost annihilated, with the dead and dying everywhere and wounded overwhelming the first aid stations.

Lt. Monroe was erroneously reported as having been killed in the action, but later on September 13 did succumb to his wounds. Lt. Dick was promoted to Captain in September of 1918, and would serve with the 1st Division until returning stateside in June 1919 to serve as a Professor of Military Science at Harvard University. Lt. Tyler returned to the division after his wounds healed. He fought with the 28th Infantry Regt. at Saizerais, in the Saint Mihiel Offensive, and was taking part in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive when the Armistice was signed. He returned stateside in September 1919 and was discharged in October 3, 1919.

Tigers Among the Devil Dogs

While the Army relied on a draft to swell its ranks, the USMC relied on volunteers to form an elite fighting force; the best trained, best marksmen, and best warriors. The May 30, 1917 edition of The Tiger noted that seventeen men applied for commissions as Lieutenants in

35 History of the First Division During the World War. Pg. 118.
36 The State. October 6, 1918. Pg. 2.
37 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945.
the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) at Charleston, and four Clemson Alumni from the Class of 1917 passed the examination. Among the four men was James Pickens Adams who was described in *Taps* as “not cut out to be a military man, even though he has the appearance of one.”

Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) J. Wayne Hill wrote in his Army War College dissertation, “the 6th Marine Regiment is unique among other Marine Regiments and even other U.S. services. What made the 6th Marine Regiment special was its majority of college-educated men and its fusion of new recruits, seasoned officers and experienced noncommissioned officers … the men of the 6th Marine Regiment were possibly more physically and mentally equipped for what the war presented them than most recruits.”

Lieutenant James Adams would have fit this characterization perfectly. He ran track at Clemson from 1915 – 1917 and was Captain of the team his senior year. He played class football in 1914 and Varsity football in 1916 and 1917. Col. Catlin, Commander of the 6th Marine Regt., described the training as, “We taught them to shoot straight and to use the bayonet, we had them mopping up trenches and cutting wire, we hardened them with hikes and we got them to handle machine guns like baby carriages.” The training spanned from Parris Island, SC to Quantico, VA and finally to France. Once in France, the Regiment began training near the town of Bourmont, located near Verdun. When the 6th Marine Regt arrived in France, they were placed under the command of the 2nd Infantry Division, making up half the infantry forces under this division.

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39 *Taps 1917*. Pg. 20.
40 Hill, J. Wayne (LCDR, USN.) “A Regiment Like No Other: The 6th Marine Regiment at Belleau Wood. Pg. 4.
41 *Taps 1917*. Pg. 20.
42 Hill, J. Wayne (LCDR, USN.) “A Regiment Like No Other: The 6th Marine Regiment at Belleau Wood. Pg. 5.
LCDR Hill notes that when the 6th Marine Regt. moved to the front on March 12, 1918, “The 6th Marine Regiment would go into the fight with U.S. Army rifles and uniforms, first tearing off the buttons and sewing on their own eagle, globe, and anchor buttons, using a combination of French and Marine tactics, and French made machine guns.”

When the Germans broke through French lines and began an advance towards Paris, French reinforcements were too far away. General Henri Pétain requested American help on May 30, and the 2nd Division and 6th Marine Regiment were tasked. The German offensive halted on June 5, when supply lines were strained and the German troops began to prepare a defensive line, and Belleau Wood around Chateau-Thierry was going to be the location of the battle where this campaign was decided. 4th Marine Brigade Commander, General Harbord was confident in his Marines, and asked “[for the Marines to] fight in our own way and we’ll stop them.”

Lt. Adams, a platoon leader with 78th Company, would implement a tactic the Marines had developed during their training at Bourmont, while under fire for the first time. The tactic called for the platoons to divide into “half-platoons,” one of which would be commanded by a lieutenant and the other by a gunnery sergeant.

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43 Hill, J. Wayne (LCDR, USN.) “A Regiment Like No Other: The 6th Marine Regiment at Belleau Wood. Pg. 43.
44 Ibid. Pg. 53.
45 Ibid. Pg. 42.
According to General Degoutte’s plan, the 2nd Battalion and 3rd Battalion of the 6th Marine Regt. were to be held in reserve during the attack. 5th Marine Regt. was the advance, with 1st Battalion tasked to take Hill 142 with 3rd Battalion supporting the attack on the left flank. When it was realized that this plan would leave Belleau Wood and the town of Bouresches in German hands, General Degoutte changed plans, mid-operation, placing the 5th Regt.’s 3rd Battalion under Colonel Catlin’s command. The new plan called for the 3rd Battalion, 6th Regt. to push through the southern end of Belleau Wood before moving on Bouresches.

At 5:00 PM the evening of June 6, the second attack began with the first wave of 500 men from each battalion of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Regt. and 3rd Battalion, 6th Regt. followed by successive waves. The assault in the woods was bloody, with many Marines pinned down in the wheat fields before the woods. Realizing the need for the flank to be secured, General Harbord ordered the 2nd Battalion, 6th Regt. to take Bouresches. LCDR Hill attributes part of the 6th Marine Regt.’s success in the battle to the junior officers. He wrote, “The situation at this time was beyond dire … What happened next, demonstrated the caliber of junior officers that led the 6th who adapted to a rapidly changing battlefield similar to the way that they would have adapted to a new football play or tackled an academic problem.”46 By 11:00 PM, the 2nd Battalion had secured the town of Bouresches, repelling a German counterattack on the morning of June 7 and a second attack on June 8. Despite the beachhead established in Belleau Wood, and the key terrain of Bouresches and Hill 142 secured, the gains had proven costly with 31 officers and 1,056 enlisted men killed, wounded, or missing.

On the morning of June 8, 80th Company augmented 3rd Battalion, and at 6:30 that morning with bayonets fixed, 3rd Battalion charged the German lines. Col. Catlin’s memoirs recorded, “Companies that had entered the battle 250 strong dwindled to fifty or sixty with a Sergeant or only a Corporal in command.” The 3rd Battalion was pulled off the line for rest on June 9 while Belleau Wood was bombarded by 200 artillery pieces. The 1st Battalion replaced the 3rd Battalion, and launched their attack on the June 10. This type of rotation would continue among the four Battalions under 6th Regt. until June 26, when Major Maurice Shearer sent the message “Woods now U.S. Marine Corps entirely.”

Lt. Adams was awarded the Silver Star Citation for gallantry in action at Chateau-Thierry between June 6 and July 10, 1918. He would later be awarded two Croix de Guerre medals, a second Silver Star Citation, the Navy Cross, and the Distinguished Service Cross, making him the most decorated member of the Class of 1917.

The Harris Men Leading the 371st Infantry Regiment

The First Provisional Infantry Regiment (Colored) would face challenges needing strong leadership. Hunter S. Harris was one of the men selected to participate in the first Fort Oglethorpe training camp, and was commissioned as a Captain on August 15, 1917. He was sent to Camp Jackson to be a company commander in the newly formed First Provisional Infantry Regiment (Colored.) The regiment was redesignated the 371st Inf. Regt. on August 31, 1917. Colonel Perry L. Miles assumed command of the regiment the following day, and all regimental officers were white. The arrival of recruits was delayed by the War Department for a month due to

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48 Ibid. Pg. 71.
49 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945
to a labor shortage, but by November 20 3,380 men were received by the regiment. Capt. Harris was initially commander of A Company before taking command of G Company.

Carlos G. Harris entered officer training at Fort Oglethorpe during a follow-on training cycle and was later commissioned a Lieutenant and assigned as a platoon leader in C Company, 371st Inf. Regt. Classmates when they described Lt. Harris spoke of “‘C.G.’s’ congeniality and the fearlessness with which he has discharged his duty have won for him many staunch and intimate friends.” He would need his congeniality to earn the trust of his subordinates, and his fearlessness would be proven on the battlefields of Europe.

The 371st Inf. Regt. arrived in France on April 23, 1918, only to find “colored” combat troops were unwanted by the American Expeditionary Force. After turning in their American equipment with the exception of their khaki uniforms, the regiment was issued French helmets, rifles, bayonettes, and packs. After several weeks of training under French officer instructors and interpreters, the 371st Inf. Regt. was assigned to the French 157th Division under General Goybet. The first several months of combat duty were holding the trenches around Avocourt and later Verrieres (northwest of Verdun.)

In September, the 157th Division was ordered to take part in the Meuse-Argonne campaign and was sent to the Vosges Sector. On the late-afternoon of September 27, 1918, Col. Quillet issued orders to execute a flanking maneuver and assault Bellevue Signal Ridge, securing it from the Germans. The 369th Inf. Regt. (the “Harlem Hellfighters,”) 371st Inf. Regt., and

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50 Scott, Emmet J. *Scott’s Official History of The American Negro in the World War*. Pg. 231
52 *Taps 1917*. Pg. 44
372nd Inf. Regt. would be the vanguard of the 157th Division’s attack. That evening, before making contact with German forces, the division dug in for the night.\textsuperscript{54}

On the morning of September 28, the 1st Battalion was tasked with making the initial assault on Hill 188. Major Pate, the battalion commander, made contact with the a French battalion commander of the 163rd Regiment, who informed him that the Germans on Hill 188 appeared to be retreating and would pose little opposition. At 6:45 AM the following morning, the 1st Battalion began their attack on the left half of the defenses on Hill 188. The 3rd Battalion of the 372nd Inf. Regt. would assault the right side of Hill 188.\textsuperscript{55}

The 1st Battalion came under fire from German artillery almost immediately, and to complicate matters, French artillery began falling short on the Americans. Initial German resistance from the defenses on Hill 188 was light. Captain Wharton’s C Co. had just penetrated the barb-wire in front of the German trenches when the Germans ceased fire and crawled onto the forward parapet with their hands in the air. Lt. Harris and the other platoon leaders believed the Germans were surrendering and ordered their platoons to move forward and take the German soldiers prisoner. As C Co. moved to within 100 meters of the German trench, a whistle sounded

\textsuperscript{54} Roberts, Frank E. \textit{The American Foreign Legion: Black Soldiers of the 93d in World War I.} Pp. 134 – 136
\textsuperscript{55} Ibid. Pg. 137
and the Germans jumped back into their trench and opened fire with machine guns, almost annihilating C Co. and injuring most of the officers while causing significant casualties among B Co. and D Co. Lt. Harris assumed command of C Co.

The three companies withdrew to reorganize, and about 11:00 AM, they moved forward to get into position for the final assault on the German positions. The remaining men of the 1st Battalion then began to drive the German gun crews from their positions. Maj. Pate describes the seizure of the German positions as “extremely gruesome as our men could not be restrained from wreaking their vengeance upon the enemy who had so shamefully entrapped their comrades earlier that morning.”56

Lt. Harris was wounded by an exploding shell on September 28, shattering his right hip. Despite his wound, he was cited for gallantry under fire for his leadership and maintaining the morale of the men of C Co. He was awarded the Silver Star Citation by the U.S. Army and the Legion of Honor by the French government. His shattered hip would cause him pain the rest of his life, and he would eventually die from complications of his wartime injuries on March 30, 1926 at the naval hospital in New York City, NY.

From Tigers to Wildcats (81st Infantry Division)

Six of the Clemson men from the first Fort Oglethorpe training camp were assigned to the 81st “Wildcat” Infantry Division. Lieutenant Thomas Buie was assigned to the 321st Infantry Regiment. Lieutenant Harry Harmon was assigned to the 322nd Infantry Regiment. Lieutenant Dean Crumpler, Lieutenant Arthur Caskey, and Lieutenant Edwin Bruce were

56 Roberts, Frank E. The American Foreign Legion: Black Soldiers of the 93d in World War I. Pg. 138
assigned to the 323rd Infantry Regiment. And Lieutenant Louis Ellis was assigned to the 324th Infantry Regiment.

According to Clarence Johnson, “Camp Jackson, on September 5, 1917, when the first men drafted arrived there was quite different in appearance from what it was a few months later….These training camps were built under government emergency orders, and the contractors left all the finishing touches, and much of the manual labor to the Rookies who were to be trained in them.” The Clemson officers spent their early days leading work parties digging up stumps, working roads, and even landscape gardening in order to prepare the camps for combat training!

The 81st Infantry Division would not see service until the latter days of the war though. The Division history describes this period as:

“Although the 81st Division was one of the first divisions to be organized, it was not to be one of the first sent to France. This was evident as early as October 12, 1917, when at least 50 per cent, of the men in the division were transferred to regular army divisions, principally to the 30th. For more than a month there were hardly enough men in a battalion to form a full company. A continual transfer of men from the 81st during the winter and spring of 1918 kept the ranks of the division depleted. It looked as though the 81st was destined to be a depot division.”

Lt. Buie noted in an autumn 1917 letter to The Tiger, “We have numbers of old Clemson men here, both officers and privates. I see new ones every day.” After training men soon transferred to units headed to the front, Lt. Buie offered this advice to the cadets at Clemson.

57 Johnson, Clarence Walton. The History of the 321st Infantry. Pg. 5
58 Ibid. Pg. 8
“Give more attention to the military work … you owe it to South Carolina and the United States to do all you can to fit yourself, so that when your turn comes you will be prepared.”  

The 81st Division spent 1917 and the early months of 1918 training in South Carolina at Camp Jackson outside Columbia and Camp Sevier in Greenville County. On July 14, 1918 though, the Division left on their long trip to the Western Front. By this time, Lieutenant John Brandon had joined the six “First Oglethorpe” alumni in the division, by joining the 318th Field Artillery. The Division sailed for England on 30 July, 1918 arriving at Liverpool on August 11 – 15. The Division spent two days in “rest camps” before they moved across the English Channel on August 18. 

The Division was put through an accelerated training schedule in France, and was then ordered to the front on September 14, 1918. Colonel Halstead offered the following speech to the men of the 321st as they prepared to move to the front:

“One month ago the Germans were marching on Paris with nothing to stop them. Two old regular army American divisions and the Marines who went out to meet them were met by the French and British, who told them the jig was up, the Germans had broken through on a 30 mile front, and the Americans told them, 'To hell with you,' and they stopped the Germans.…

“General Bailey wishes you a pleasant trip, and I also hope you will have a fine trip. I never say goodbye. When you get an order carry it out, but first understand it. You have to use your head. In the present fighting I understand it will be on a mountain, and we have the Germans on a down hill push. Goodnight, and I again wish you a pleasant trip.”

On September 19, the 81st Infantry Division moved into their positions in the Vosges Mountains. Companies were rotated to the front for 10 to 20 days on the front lines, with the

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59 *The Tiger*. October 17, 1917. Pg. 2
60 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945
62 Ibid. Pp. 30 – 34
Reserve positions behind a ridgeline. The reserve positions were sometimes shelled, but mostly secure from hostile fire. Lt. Buie found himself in his first combat action when the 321st came under attack on October 9, 1918. The German attack began with a barrage of 3,000 to 4,000 shells on the sector held by I Co. Two waves of infantry closely followed the barrage, equipped with one flamethrower. “Company I captured the liquid fire gun before it could be used. The fine way in which this attack was repulsed was largely due to the splendid work of Sergeants Sutherland and Yerbe and Lieutenant Schiletter.” Lieutenant William Schilletter was the son of “Shorty” Schilletter (a German immigrant in charge of the Clemson College dining hall) and had graduated from Clemson College in 1914.

On October 16, French infantry began to relieve members of the 81st Infantry Division and by October 19, the Division was headed to Rambervillers to undergo training and recuperation. After 10 days of training, the Division was ordered to take part in the final phase of the Meuse-Argonne offensive. Johnson describes the movement, “During our entire stay in France we have undergone no severer test of our endurance and morale than the marching between Sampigny and Verdun, via St. Mihiel, all of which had to be done under cover of darkness and in rain and mud.” The Division arrived in Verdun on November 3, and replaced the 35th Division in the offensive on November 6.

On November 8, the 81st was ordered to attack the German positions on the Woevre Plain the following morning. For a virtually unbloodied unit, they were being thrown against three veteran German divisions (the 5th Prussian Guards, 3rd Bavarian Division and 13th Landwehr Division.) The Woevre Plain had been held by the Germans since early in the war,

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63 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945  
65 Ibid. Pg. 40.
and had been significantly fortified, with pill boxes and extensive trenchworks. Due to the mud and a shortage of horses, the 81st Infantry Division’s artillery had not been able to make it to the front. The 60th Artillery Brigade of the 35th Infantry Division had remained in place to support the 81st Infantry Division.

At 8:00 AM on November 9, with the 322nd Inf. Regt. on the left and the 324th Inf. Regt. on the right, the 81st Infantry attacked along a front of 13 kilometers. The 322nd seized the village of Moranville while the 324th broke through the German lines seizing a key woods behind the lines.

On November 10, the 322nd Inf. Regt. seized Grimancourt and linked with the French 10th Colonial Division to assault the German main line of resistance. Lt. Dean Crumpler – still with the 323rd Inf. Regt. in reserve – was “slightly gassed” while serving with G Co., 323rd Inf. Regt. on the Metz-Verdun highway when his unit came under a gas attack. He was able to continue serving with the Army of Occupation until returning stateside on May 28, 1919.⁶⁶

The 321st Inf. Regt. and 323rd Inf. Regt. had been held in reserve until the morning of November 11, 1918 and been subjected to the indirect fire which had injured Lt. Crumpler.

For the 321st Inf. Regt., Johnson sums up the battle on the day the Armistice was concluded:

“November 11 was destined to be the most memorable day in the history of the 321st Infantry. This was probably true of every outfit that was in action on the morning of the 11th. But it was particularly true of the 321st, in that it was our first and only participation in a great battle which subjected us to a heavy artillery barrage, and a sweeping machine gun fire. There were three significant hours during this day for the 321st: 2:30 a. m., when the order came for us to move up and attack on the east of Moranville; 6:00 a. m., when we deployed and went "over the top" through a heavy barrage; and 11:00 a. m., when news of the

⁶⁶ Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945.
Armistice reached us as we were in the very act of taking the German main line trench into which the enemy had just been pushed from its front line positions."

The Clemson men in I Co. found themselves advancing through open marsh south of Grimaucourt, under machine gun fire from the right flank and front. Captain Jaeckle, with K Co., realized the precarious position I Co. was in and had maneuvered his company to support I Co. when the Armistice ended hostilities.

Caught in open terrain by German artillery, the 323rd Inf. Regt. took severe losses south of Bois de Manheulles, but continued the advance until the Armistice stopped the war. Lt. Edwin Bruce distinguished himself in the fighting that day and was awarded the Silver Star Citation for “coolly directing his men under heavy fire, and refusing to be evacuated” even though he had been badly gassed.

General John J. Pershing summed up the 81st Infantry Division’s contributions to the Meuse-Argonne Campaign in an April 13, 1919 letter to Major General Charles J. Bailey:

“It entered the line in this operation on the night of November 6, relieving the 35th Division as the right flank division of the First Army, and attacking on the morning of November 9 against heavy artillery and machine gun fire. The attack was continued November 10 and 11, and was resolutely pushed against strong enemy resistance, the advance covering five and a half kilometers.”

Flying Tigers

The airplane was likely the most captivating technology to be militarized during the First World War, since it permitted man to take to the air. Two articles in The Tiger boldly followed “The Making of an Airman” and “The Training of an Airman.” Like many young men who

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69 Johnson, Clarence Walton. *The History of the 321st Infantry*. Pg. 139
became these early aviators, Clemson’s more adventurous, exuberant students joined the Army Air Service.

Lieutenant Claude S. Garrett was described, “his life has been given up mostly to dancing and electricity – mostly dancing…. ‘Cush’ certainly holds some hand with the fair sex, as can be seen by his daily tramps across the campus.”70 His charm also held the imagination of the students left on campus, as updates on his career were frequently mentioned in both the Chronicle and The Tiger. An Alumni update in the February 13, 1918 issue of the Tiger read, “C. S. Garrett ’17 is with the 22nd Aero Squadron, American Expeditionary Forces.”71 The May issue of the Chronicle predicts, “If Claude makes as good a pilot as he is a dancer, we know that a number of Huns will make a quick flight to their graves.”72

Lt. Garrett was selected as one of 25 men to undertake flight training at Victoria College, Toronto, Canada with advanced training at Kelly Field in Texas. Once he arrived in France, he was assigned to the 8th Aero Squadron, and quickly was promoted to Flight Commander – a position typically filled by a Major.73

In September and October of 1918, his squadron was tasked with reconnaissance for the St. Mihiel salient. His final mission is described in A History of the Second Army Air Service:

“This is one of the longest strips, if not the longest, photographed by an American Observation Squadron on a single mission. One of the duties assigned was to photograph the whole Corps front to a depth of ten kilometers, an area of about six hundred square kilometers. Two of the officers of the squadron were brought down in flames while doing this work. This team, with three others, were attacked by twenty-six Huns, three of whom were shot down.”74

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70 Taps 1917. Pg. 39
71 The Tiger. February 13, 1918. Pg. 2
72 Clemson Chronicle. Volume: 1917 – 1918
73 The State. December 25, 1918. Pg. 1
Lt. Garrett’s aviation career captured the imagination of the cadets at Clemson until his death. His obituary in The Tiger ends, “From what we know of Claude we all know that he made a good aviator, and that he gave up his life gladly for his country.”

Taps states the height of Lorraine G. Hardin’s “ambition is to recline in the shade of a bamboo on the beach at Wakiki and to be lulled to sleep by the dreamy music of an Hawaiian girl fingering her ukulele.” But, after enlisting on July 30, 1917; Lieutenant Hardin found himself training with Lt. Garrett at Kelly Field in Texas. He was assigned to the 20th Aero Squadron, 1st Day Bombardment Group, 1st Army Air Service, and joined them at the front on September 1, 1918.

The 20th Aero Squadron arrived on the front at Amanty Airfield on September 7, 1918, but the unit had no bombs at their new airfield! Many new officers, like Lt. Hardin, arrived without time to train together. On the morning of September 13, bombs arrived and within seven hours the 20th was hitting German infantry positions near Conflans, France. Lt. Hardin served with the 20th Aero Squadron until his discharge on May 28, 1919.

Thomas Morris Jervey was one of the older members of the class of 1917, having first attended Clemson in 1905, before “he went out into the world, and was not seen again until he joined our ranks in ’14 as a wise Sophomore.” His sense of humor having won over his classmates, it appears it also made him a welcome addition among his squadron mates. The 91st Aero Squadron was in a three-month long period of training new observers in February 1918.

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75 The Tiger. November 13, 1918. Pg. 1
76 Taps 1917. Pg. 43.
79 Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945.
80 Taps 1917. Pg. 50.
when, “About the only events to break the monotony were the arrival of 1st Lt. Thomas M. Jervey, O.R.C., as armament officer, and Kenney’s crashing in the woods when the motor died after taking off…”

Lieutenant George Kenney became a career military officer, rising to the rank of General and commanding Air Forces in the Pacific during World War II.

Lt. Jervey despite his position as the unit armament officer and a member of the Ordinance Corps, volunteered for a mission on July 22, 1918 in order “‘to do a little lookin’ and a little shootin,’ as he expressed it. He first officially crossed the lines on July 22nd with [Lieutenant] Schaffner, and this trip started a career of which any observer might well be proud.”

On September 14, 1918, “[Lieutenant] Mose Guilbert and Tom Jervey fought off eighteen Fokkers in a running fight all the way from Conflans to St. Mihiel.” On October 30, 1918, Lt. Jervey’s pilot shot down a German aircraft while Lt. Jervey flew his first photographic reconnaissance mission bringing back thirty-four images for exploitation.

Lt. Jervey featured prominently in the *History of the 91st Aero Squadron, Air Service, U.S.A.*, and from his exploits it seems he could have been recognized for any number of actions against hostile German aircraft. But, on October 31, 1918, Lt. Jervey volunteered once more to be an observer on a mission from Ontedy to Longuyon, 25 kilometers behind enemy lines. Despite being engaged by 14 German fighters, “Lieutenant Jervey, regardless of the fact that his plane was badly shot up, and that his hands were badly frozen, continued on the mission,

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81 *History of the 91st Aero Squadron, Air Service, U.S.A.* Pg. 3
82 Ibid. Pg. 7
83 Ibid. Pp. 11 - 15
returning only upon its successful completion." He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in 1919 for that mission. The squadron history notes that Lt. Jervey engaged in combat eleven times with three confirmed aerial victories.

**The Legacy of the Class of 1917**

While the Class of 1917 does not live up to the legend of every man serving in World War I, 79 of the 110 men who volunteered that April day put on the uniform during a time of war. Their service record speaks for itself; at least 22 saw combat service in France, no less than three confirmed air to air victories by Class of 1917 aviators, three Distinguished Service Crosses, one Navy Cross, four Silver Star Citations, one French Legion d’Honneur and at least four French Croix de Guerre.

More telling though is how these men left their fingerprints on some of the most enduring legacies in the U.S. military. Lt. John Adams is not just a part of the Marine Corps legacy as one of the “Devil Dogs;” but as Lieutenant Commander Hill states, “These men would set the precedence for not only their time, but the future Marine Corps as well.” Lt. Gerald Tyler’s leadership directly impacted the 28th Inf. Regt.’s reputation, and designation today, as the “Lions of Cantigny.” Lt. Claude Garrett is not just commemorated on the Clemson University Scroll of Honor, but is remembered by the U.S. Air Force’s 8th Special Operations Squadron – which traces its lineage to the 8th Aero Squadron – as an early hero of the unit. The leadership of Capt. Harris and Lt. Harris directly impacted the reputation of the 371st Inf. Regt., a legacy described by Capt. J. Leo Collins as, “The 371st was the first draft regiment to sail from this country ….

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and the first draft outfit to take the trenches …. the fighting qualities and courage of our boys won the admiration and most profuse praise of the French. Citations were showered upon the valorous boys for their unflinching conduct in the face of withering machine-gun fire….86

The Class of 1917 took Professor Barre’s challenge to make a name for Clemson as a military leader to heart. Not only does that legacy endure today, and those who served played their part in the perception of the U.S. military as a global, expeditionary force in the 20th Century.

86 Scott, Emmet J. Scott’s Official History of The American Negro in the World War. Pg. 233
## Appendix 1: Class Roster & Service Information of the Class of 1917

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87 *Taps 1917*. Pp. 20 – 74.

88 Multiple Sources.
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<td>Long, Elmer Walter</td>
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<td>McCord, Arthur Stephenson</td>
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<td>McDermid, George</td>
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<td>72.</td>
<td>McHugh, Fred</td>
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<td>Private First Class</td>
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<td>75.</td>
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<td>Patjens, Andreas Adolph</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Reaves, George Henry</td>
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<td>Richards, Abram Jones</td>
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<td>Rivers, Elias Lynch</td>
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<td>Singley, Leslie Keeley</td>
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<td>Willis, Horace Harold</td>
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<td>Worthy, Hood Crawford</td>
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Appendix 2: Valor Awards of the Class of 1917

Distinguished Service Cross

Name: James P. Adams, 1Lt, U.S. Marine Corps
Unit: 78th Company, 6th Regiment, 2d Division American Expeditionary Forces

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant James P. Adams (MCSN: 0-1846), United States Marine Corps, for extraordinary heroism while serving with the Seventy-Eighth Company, Sixth Regiment (Marines), 2d Division, A.E.F., in action near Blanc Mont Ridge, France, 3 October 1918. Voluntarily leading four soldiers through a heavy barrage, Lieutenant Adams attacked and killed a machine-gun crew, which was enfilading his company first line. His willingness, fearlessness, and great courage made possible the cleaning out of many more machine guns, which were holding up the advance of his company.

General Orders: War Department, General Orders No. 35 (1919)

*****

Name: Thomas M. Jervey, 1LT, U.S. Army Air Service
Unit: 1st Army Observation Group (Attached,) American Expeditionary Forces

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant (Air Service) Thomas M. Jervey, United States Army Air Service, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with 1st Army Observation Group (Attached), U.S. Army Air Service, A.E.F., near Longuyon, France, 31 October 1918. Assigned to the 1st Army Observation Group, Air Service, armament officer, Lieutenant Jervey volunteered as observer on a photographic mission from Ontedy to Longuyon, 25 kilometers into the enemy lines. In combat with 14 enemy aircraft which followed, one enemy aircraft was destroyed. Lieutenant Jervey, regardless of the fact that his plane was badly shot up, and that his hands were badly frozen, continued on the mission, returning only upon its successful conclusion.

General Orders: War Department, General Orders No. 16 (1919)

*****

Name: David E. Monroe, 2LT, U.S. Army
Unit: 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Division, American Expeditionary Forces

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to Second Lieutenant (Infantry) David E. Monroe, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Division, A.E.F., south of Soissons, France, 19 July

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90 Ibid.
In 1918. His platoon having been halted by machine-gun fire, Lieutenant Monroe advanced alone against the nest and captured the gun and crew. Although wounded in this encounter, he returned to his platoon and led them on to its objective. His gallant conduct had a marked effect upon his men.

**General Orders:** War Department, General Orders No. 35 (1920)

**Navy Cross**

**Name:** James P. Adams, 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps  
**Unit:** 78th Company, 6th Regiment, 2d Division American Expeditionary Forces

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to First Lieutenant James P. Adams (MCSN: 0-1846), United States Marine Corps, for extraordinary heroism while serving with the 78th Company, 6th Regiment (Marines), 2d Division, A.E.F. in action near Blanc Mont Ridge, France, 3 October 1918. Lieutenant Adams voluntarily lead four soldiers through a heavy barrage and attacked and killed a machine-gun crew which was enfilading his company's first line. His willingness, fearlessness, and great courage made possible the cleaning out of many more machine guns which were holding up the advance of his company.

**General Orders:** N/A

**Silver Star Citation**

**Name:** James P. Adams, 1Lt, U.S. Marine Corps  
**Unit:** 78th Company, 6th Regiment, 2d Division American Expeditionary Forces

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 9, 1918 (Bul. No. 43, W.D., 1918), First Lieutenant James P. Adams (MCSN: 0-1846), United States Marine Corps, is cited by the Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces, for gallantry in action and a silver star may be placed upon the ribbon of the Victory Medals awarded him. First Lieutenant Adams distinguished himself while serving with the Sixth Regiment (Marines), 2d Division, American Expeditionary Forces at Blanc Mont, France, 1 to 10 October 1918.

**General Orders:** Citation Orders, 2d Division, American Expeditionary Forces

********

**Name:** James P. Adams, 1Lt, U.S. Marine Corps  
**Unit:** 78th Company, 6th Regiment, 2d Division American Expeditionary Forces

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 9, 1918 (Bul. No. 43, W.D., 1918), First Lieutenant James P. Adams (MCSN: 0-1846), United States

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92 Ibid.
Marine Corps, is cited by the Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces, for gallantry in action and a silver star may be placed upon the ribbon of the Victory Medals awarded him. First Lieutenant Adams distinguished himself while serving with the Sixth Regiment (Marines), 2d Division, American Expeditionary Forces at Chateau-Thierry, France, 6 June to 10 July 1918. (SECOND Citation)

**General Orders:** Citation Orders, 2d Division, American Expeditionary Forces

*****

**Name:** Edwin C. Bruce, 1LT, U.S. Army

**Unit:** Company L, 323rd Infantry Regiment, American Expeditionary Forces

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 9, 1918 (Bul. No. 43, W.D., 1918), First Lieutenant (Infantry) Edwin C. Bruce, United States Army, is cited by the Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces, for gallantry in action and a silver star may be placed upon the ribbon of the Victory Medals awarded him. First Lieutenant Bruce distinguished himself by gallantry in action while serving with Company L, 323d Infantry, American Expeditionary Forces, in action south of the Bois de Manheulles, southeast of Verdun, 19 November 1918, in coolly directing his men under heavy fire, and refusing to be evacuated although badly gassed.

**General Orders:** GHQ, American Expeditionary Forces, Citation Orders No. 7 (June 3, 1919)

*****

**Name:** Carlos G. Harris, 1LT, U.S. Army

**Unit:** Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 9, 1918 (Bul. No. 43, W.D., 1918), First Lieutenant (Infantry) Carlos G. Harris, United States Army, is cited by the Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces, for gallantry in action and a silver star may be placed upon the ribbon of the Victory Medals awarded him. First Lieutenant Harris distinguished himself by gallantry in action while serving with Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment, 93d Division, American Expeditionary Forces, in action on Hill 188, on 28 September 1918, Vosges Sector, France, and by his brilliant leadership.

**General Orders:** GHQ, American Expeditionary Forces, Citation Orders No. 2 (June 3, 1919)

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94 Ibid.
95 Ibid.
Legion d’Honneur (France)

Name: Carlos G. Harris, 1LT, U.S. Army
Unit: 371st Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces\textsuperscript{96}

Croix de Guerre (France)

Name: James P. Adams, 1LT, U.S. Marine Corps
Unit: 6th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Brigade, American Expeditionary Forces\textsuperscript{97}

Name: James P. Adams, 1LT, U.S. Marine Corps (Second Award)
Unit: 6th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Brigade, American Expeditionary Forces\textsuperscript{98}

Name: Carlos G. Harris, 1LT, U.S. Army
Unit: 371st Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces\textsuperscript{99}

Name: Carlos G. Harris, 1LT, U.S. Army (Second Award)
Unit: 371st Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces\textsuperscript{100}

Name: Gerald R. Tyler, 1LT, U.S. Army
Unit: 28th Infantry Regiment, 1st Division, American Expeditionary Forces\textsuperscript{101}

\textsuperscript{96} Carlos G. Harris Obituary. Find-a-Grave, \url{http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=94357872}, accessed 15 April 2014

\textsuperscript{97} The Daily Notes. July 15, 1938. Pg. 11

\textsuperscript{98} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{99} The Tiger.

\textsuperscript{100} Carlos G. Harris Obituary. Find-a-Grave, \url{http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=94357872}, accessed 15 April 2014

\textsuperscript{101} Clemson University Student Military Service Records, 1894-1945
### Appendix 3: Class of 1917 Alumni Reporting to Fort Oglethorpe on May 4, 1917

| 5. Baxter, Clifford Lawton           | 29. Lightsey, Oliver Perry         |
| 7. Bonner, Wofford Cringle           | 31. McDermid, George Chalmers      |
| 8. Bruce, Edwin Curtis               | 32. Meares, Walter Avery           |
| 10. Caskey, Arthur, Judson           | 34. Norman, Albert Iasertell       |
| 11. Chapman, Hugh Robinson           | 35. Parker, James Estes            |
| 12. Crumpler, Dean                   | 36. Patjens, Andreas Adolph        |
| 13. Derham, John Pickens Jr.         | 37. Reaves, George Henry           |
| 16. Fain, Porter                     | 40. Shearer, William Alvin         |
| 17. Freeman, Walter Townsend         | 41. Singley, Leslie Keeley         |
| 18. Garrett, Claude Stokes           | 42. Spratt, Tom                    |
| 19. Garrison, Eugene Hutchinson      | 43. Tyler, Gerald Rudolph          |
| 20. Gee, James Gilliam               | 44. Walker, Heyward                |
| 23. Harris, Hunter Sells             | 47. Worthy, Hood Crawford          |
| 24. Hobbs, Kenneth Ordway            |                                         |

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Works Cited

Primary Sources


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Secondary Sources


