



The ASC History Newsletter

This
MONTH in
military
history ...

- 1620: Peregrine White born
- 1817: 1st Seminole War began
- 1823: Monroe Doctrine proclaimed
- 1863: Gettysburg Address
- 1864: March to the Sea began
- 1899: Battle of Tirad Pass
- 1924: USS Langley, 1st US aircraft carrier sailed
- 1941: 7 Dec. Attack on Pearl Harbor, next day President Roosevelt delivered the "date that will live in infamy" address to congress
- 1943: US attack on Makin and Tarawa
- 1945: Nuremberg Trial began
- 1950: First Marine Division near the Chosin Reservoir
- 1963: President Kennedy was assassinated
- 1969: SALT talks began
- 2004: VBIED killed over 100 Iraqi National Guard queuing outside recruiting station at FOB Headhunter, Baghdad

100th Anniversary of World War I:

Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand



In June 1914, Archduke Ferdinand was heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire and inspector general of the army. In that latter capacity, he agreed to attend a series of military exercises in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Austria-Hungary had just annexed these provinces a few years earlier against the wishes of neighboring Serbia, which likewise coveted them. Upon learning of Ferdinand's upcoming visit, the Young Bosnians, a secret revolutionary society of peasant students, began plotting to assassinate him. In May, Gavrilo Princip, Trifko Grabez and Nedeljko Cabri-

novic traveled to the Serbian capital of Belgrade, where they received six handheld bombs, four semi-automatic pistols and cyanide suicide capsules from members of the so-called Black Hand, a terrorist group with close ties to the Serbian army. After practicing with their pistols in a Belgrade park, the three men journeyed back to Bosnia-Herzegovina, receiving help from Black Hand associates to smuggle their weapons across the border. To this day, it remains unclear whether the Serbian government participated in the scheme. Young Bosnians fanned out along the Appel Quay, a main avenue in Sarajevo running parallel to the Miljacka River. The first attempt against the Archduke and his wife failed, wounding two army officers. Instead of returning immediately to home, the Archduke attended a gathering at city hall. After the meeting, he was on his way to visit the wounded military officer in the hos-

pital, when the second attack occurred. As the motorcade made a wrong turn, it ran accidentally into Gavrilo Princip. Princip approached the car and fired twice, killing both Ferdinand and his wife Sophie. With tensions already running high among powers of Europe, the assassination precipitated a rapid descent into World War I. First, Austria-Hungary gained German support for punitive action against Serbia. It then sent Serbia an ultimatum, worded in a way that made acceptance unlikely. Serbia proposed arbitration to resolve the dispute, but Austria-Hungary instead declared war on July 28, 1914, exactly a month after Ferdinand's death. By the following week, Germany, Russia, France, Belgium, Montenegro and Great Britain had all been drawn into the conflict, and other countries like the United States would enter later. Overall, more than 9 million soldiers and nearly that many civilians would die in the fighting that would last until 1918.

ASC Mentoring Program

Mentoring - (noun) meaning a wise and trusted counselor, teacher, an influential senior sponsor, or supporter. Mentoring is not a new concept but has been around throughout antiquity. Likewise, mentoring has taken many forms throughout the years. Despite the use of mentoring in ancient times, it was not incorporated in the Continental Army until the soldiers were freezing and starving at Valley Forge. Born a commoner in 1730, Baron von Steuben would provide much needed mentorship when he was appointed the Drillmaster of Valley Forge. Throughout the bleak winter months, he drilled Washington's army and improved its ability to deploy on the battlefield. Because of his contributions to the revolutionary cause, Americans did not question his pedigree. Steuben's abilities were apparent whether he was of noble birth or not. Upon Washington's recommendation, Congress appointed Steuben as a Major General and Inspector General of the Continental Army. After accepting his appointment, Steuben formed a model company of soldiers and trained them to march, use the bayonet, and execute orders quickly on the battlefield. In turn, this company trained all the able-bodied soldiers at Valley Forge. In addition, Steuben worked with Alexander

Hamilton and the Marquis De La Fayette to create a training manual for the Continental Army. This manual would be known as the Blue Book, which would guide the American army up until the end of the War of 1812. When the Continental Army finally marched out of Valley Forge in June 1778, Washington sent Steuben to assist Nathanael Greene in the South. As recognition for his faithful service to the cause, Washington entrusted Steuben with the command of a battalion at Yorktown. The respect cemented at Valley Forge between Washington and Steuben would continue throughout the war. In 1783, George Washington wrote his final letter as a military commander to General Steuben. In the correspondence, he thanked the Baron for his "faithful and meritorious" service to the American War of Independence. In 1794, Steuben died an American citizen. The morale to this story is: you never know where you are going to find a mentor. A mentor who can facilitate change in your life and the lives of others. If you have ever had a mentor, wanted a mentor, or have even been a mentor and want to give back to the people around you, now is the time. Now is the time to share a piece of yourself with others. In

this manner, the command can improve the proficiency of its employees and ensure that future leaders are being set-up for success. The ASC Mentoring Program is a formal program geared toward the civilian workforce. The mentoring program is administered over the course of a year and only requires an hour a month of your time to meet with your mentee. In return, the mentee is asked to read and discuss two leadership books from the G3 Training library. Official kickoff will be 12 Jan 17: Please contact the G3 Training division, POC: Cris Arduser, ext. 2224, to see what you can do to become a mentor.

