Marines

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Marine Corps Today

Royal Marines

Ancient Marines

Marine Corps History

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The first documented use of Marines as a class of soldier in a standing army belongs to the Greeks and Romans. Themistocles, leader of the Athenians, issued a decree that his navy "enlist Marines, twenty to a ship" to turn back a Persian attack. Rome had special legions of "Milites Classiarri" or "soldiers of the fleet". Roman Marines served through out the remainder of the empire's life, not only at sea but also on land.

During the Dark Ages, Vikings performed many ship to shore raids. Although not as orthodox as their predecessors, their amphibious tactics would qualify them as Marines.



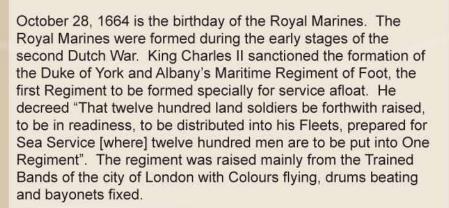


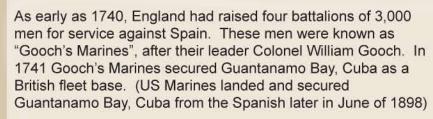












Another name associated with Gooch's Marines is Admiral Edward Vernon. He was taken by a young Marine officer in the regiment for a home he built at Little Hunting Creek, Virginia; he called it "Mount Vernon". "The officer was Lawrence Washington, and upon his death the home passed to his younger brother, our first president.







