

OUR CORPS

Saved Round

Compiled by R.R. Keene



ISMC

THE 1STMARDIV STAFF ON GUADALCANAL—"Whenever a work about the Guadalcanal operation is published, one of the pictures always included is that of Major General Alexander A. Vandegrift, 1st Marine Division commanding general, and his staff officers and commanders who posed for the photograph on 11 August 1942 (73 years ago), just four days after the assault landings on the island," wrote Marine Corps historian Benis M. Frank in 1992. "Besides General Vandegrift, there are 40 Marines and one naval officer in this picture, and each one deserves a page of his own in Marine Corps history."

Among the Marines in the photo, 23 were promoted to general officer and three became Commandants of the Marine Corps: MajGen Vandegrift, 18th CMC, and Colonels Clifton B. Cates, 19th CMC, and Randolph McC. Pate, 21st CMC. MajGen Vandegrift said the photo was taken after VADM Frank J. Fletcher was forced to withdraw his fleet from the area. Adding to the Marines' uneasiness was also the fact that they had been under almost constant enemy air attacks beginning shortly after their landing.

1. Col George R. Rowan	12. LtCol Frederick C. Biebush	23. Maj William Chalfant III	34. Maj Robert B. Luckey
2. Col Pedro A. del Valle	13. LtCol Edwin A. Pollock	24. Maj Horace W. Fuller	35. LtCol Samuel B. Taxis
3. Col William C. James	14. LtCol Edmund J. Buckley	25. Maj Forest C. Thompson	36. LtCol Eugene H. Price
4. MajGen Alexander A. Vandegrift	15. LtCol Walter W. Barr	26. Maj Robert G. Ballance	37. LtCol Merrill B. Twining
5. LtCol Gerald C. Thomas	16. LtCol Raymond P. Coffman	27. Maj Henry C. Buse Jr.	38. LtCol Walker A. Reeves
6. Col Clifton B. Cates	17. LtCol Francis R. Geraci	28. Maj James W. Frazer	39. LtCol John D. Macklin
7. Col Randolph McC. Pate	18. LtCol William E. Maxwell	29. Maj Henry H. Crockett	40. LtCol Hawley C. Waterman
8. CDR Warwick T. Brown, USN	19. LtCol Edward G. Hagen	30. LtCol Lenard B. Cresswell	41. Maj James C. Murray Jr.
9. Col William J. Whaling	20. LtCol William N. McElvay Jr.	31. Maj Robert O. Brown	
10. Col Frank B. Goettge	21. LtCol Julian N. Frisbie	32. LtCol John A. Bemis	
11. Col LeRoy P. Hunt Jr.	22. Maj Milton V. O'Connell	33. Col Kenneth W. Benner	

Four officers—BGen William H. Rupertus, Col Robert C. Kilmartin Jr., LtCol Merritt A. Edson and Col James C. Webb—were not in the picture.

