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LIBERTY IN Washington, D. C., can be as frustrating as having a nickel in a candy store. There's just too much to consume at one time. A Marine probably knows this feeling better than the average tourist; for, to him, time, money and pleasure go together like a pack, rifle and landing net. In fact, many of the experienced war horses will admit (between sea stories) that the only way to enjoy Washington is to know beforehand the places you want to visit, and the things you would like to do. With this in mind, they feel confident you won't return to base feeling like a survivor of a 50-mile hike.

The capital has been described in many ways by many people, but it is most commonly known as a city of monuments, politicians, museums, and attractive girls. However, not as well known is the fact that D.C. also has its share of recreational centers, nightclubs, and restaurants. Which isn't at all bad when you consider that the capital has risen from an obscure swamp, once populated by mosquitoes and sand fleas, to an area now swarming with a different type of life . . . tourists. More tourists visit D. C. than any other spot in the country.

You might say all this started back in 1608 when Captain John Smith dropped in on the area. Although he was hardly what you could term a tourist, he did have something to do with laying the foundation for future visitors. He explored the Potomac River as far as the Great Falls. Nobody, however, seemed to become excited over his discovery until 1790. It was then that a compromise between North and South led to the location of the Federal District on the river, halfway between New England and Georgia. Following this move, the father of our nation, George Washington, chose the precise site for the capital at the head of the tidewater. He cleverly picked it far enough inland to protect against surprise attack, and yet had it accessible for ocean vessels. A year later, the President selected a Frenchman, Pierre Charles L'Enfant, to plan the capital, and as a sign of cooperation, the State of Maryland contributed 69 square miles, and Virginia 30, forming the District of Columbia.

L'Enfant immediately went to work on the blueprints and came up with a design making Capitol Hill the focal point of the city, with avenues extending like spokes of a wheel. Streets running east and west were named with the letters of the alphabet, and those going north and south had numbers. Then, due to a political disagreement, L'Enfant's plans lagged, and for the first half of the capital's history, D. C.

D. C. LIBERTY

The best way to tour the capital city is to know beforehand what you want to see and what you want to do. It can be a rewarding experience

by LCpl Dave Hull

Photos by

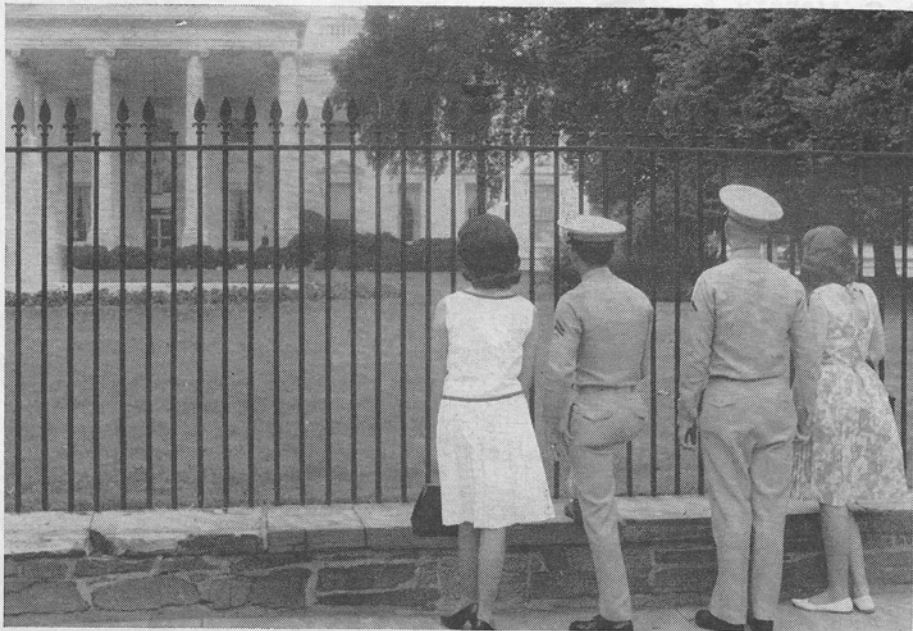
LCpl Edward J. O'Neill

remained a backward town, one of the slowest to grow in the entire country. Later, in 1909, L'Enfant was to gain belated recognition when his obscure grave was moved to its present site at the Custis-Lee Mansion in Arlington, Va., overlooking the great city he once shaped.

The capital received its first bloody nose in 1814, when British troops stormed into the city and burned the President's House, Capitol, and other important buildings. Only a torrential rainstorm saved the rest of D. C., and kept the fire from burning completely out of control. Yet, Washington somehow managed to survive, and to rebuild—even though 34 years later, it was reduced in area from 100 to 69 square miles, all of the land being on the Maryland side of the river.

With the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, things changed rapidly. Overnight, Washington became a center of barracks and hospitals. People described it as a place of high rents, bad foods, disgusting dust, and deep in mud. It was threatened by Confederate troops, (ironically from the North) and even President Lincoln came under fire while visiting front lines near the city. However, there were strong indications four years later that D.C. had thrown off its seedy look as Federal troops took part in the greatest parade of the capital's history.

In celebrating the war's end, men marched down Pennsylvania Avenue for two days and two nights, and it didn't take much thinking to realize that Washington was at last becoming the center which our first President envisioned it to be. This was illustrated six years later when the city went



Cpls Oscar De La Garza and Russ Hemmert, from Henderson Hall, visit the White House with their dates, Jean Adkins and Phyllis Callahan.

in debt \$20,000,000 to resurrect the L'Enfant Plan. Streets were paved, parks developed, and water, gas, and sewer mains laid. For the next 70 years the city continued to grow, and the population climbed steadily upwards.

During World War II, D. C. burst at the seams as thousands of war workers poured into the capital. During this period, the Pentagon (largest office building in the world) was built across the river in Virginia. Thirty-five thousand persons worked in this mammoth defense headquarters, which is a city in itself. Inside were built shopping centers, restaurants, telephone systems,

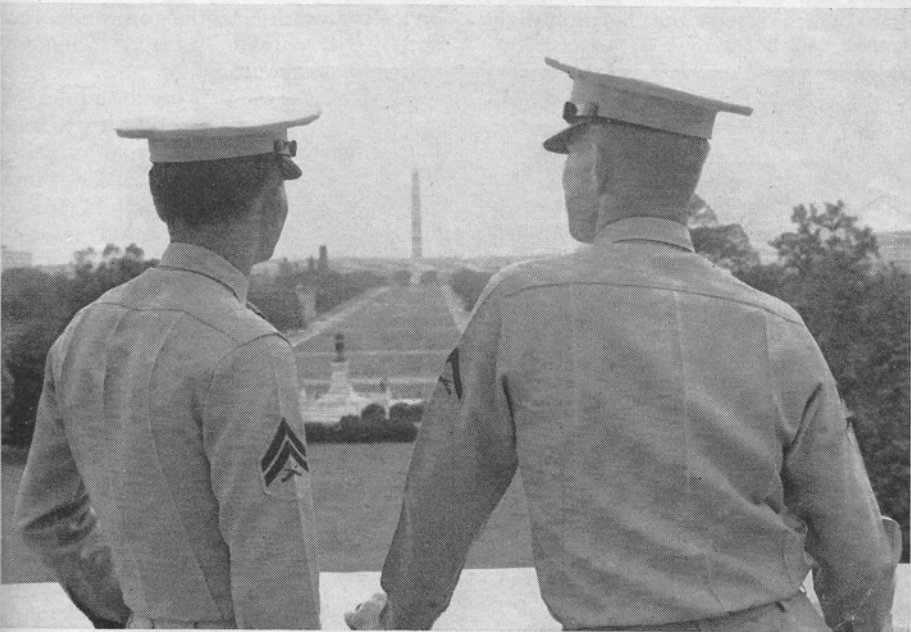
and all of the conveniences to equip a good-sized American town. There was even a joke that went around about a messenger who entered the Pentagon to deliver a telegram, and by the time he found his way out, he had been promoted to lieutenant colonel. And yet it is quite possible, and no joke, that one could live his entire life in this structure without ever having to leave it.

Today, the momentum of the capital's progress continues, and a population of more than two million persons constantly grows.

One of the recent achievements of the District was the construction of the new Dulles International Airport. It is of modern design and built especially for jet traffic. Presently in the making are plans for a National Cultural Center. Thus stands Washington of 1963, a city which took some time to mature, and to earn the right to be called the "capital." It is also a city which has changed in a hundred years from a liberty hound's nightmare to a serviceman's dream.

Although D. C. is no New York, and can't compete with the nightlife or bright lights of that giant city, Washington does have a charm of its own, unlike any other community. Part of this charm stems from historical attractions such as the Capitol, White House, Supreme Court, National Archives, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, National Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institute, and Mount Vernon.

The most symbolic and representative building of the government is the Capitol. It is here each year that the U. S. Congress studies 18,000 bills, en-



The view from the Capitol building extends to the Washington Monument, directly ahead.

acts about 1,250 of them into permanent law, and appropriates \$100 billion to run the government. Tours run every 15 minutes, cost 25 cents, and take three quarters of an hour. If you make your visit during Congressional working hours, you can watch the House of Representatives and the Senate in session. During the first Monday in January the Congress convenes, adjourning sometime between July and September. The normal hours for the House and Senate are from noon on weekdays until late afternoon.

Moving on to the White House, you will see a landmark which has been home for every President since John Adams moved there in 1800. The five rooms now open to the public are the State Dining Room, and the Red, Blue, Green, and East Rooms. President Truman once said, "This (the White House) will last 500 years," and experts agree that it might.

In the Entrance Hall of the East Wing, official receptions take place, and it is here the Marine Band assembles to play "Hail to the Chief" while a two-man color guard carrying the Presidential and United States flags, precedes the President and First Lady down the grand stairway.

Another landmark of great tradition is the Supreme Court of the United States, the highest court in the land. It provides a unique vantage point from which an observer may learn about the judicial branch of our Federal government. You would be wise to time your visit during sessions, in order to see the Justices on the bench. If this is not possible, you can take a tour



In a setting similar to the era of ancient Greece, the couples pay a visit to the Lincoln Memorial, one of America's famous landmarks.

throughout the building when the court is not in session. Cases are heard from October to June, Mondays through Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., with a lunch recess from noon to 12:30 p.m. Since there are only 188 seats for the public, it is best to go early.

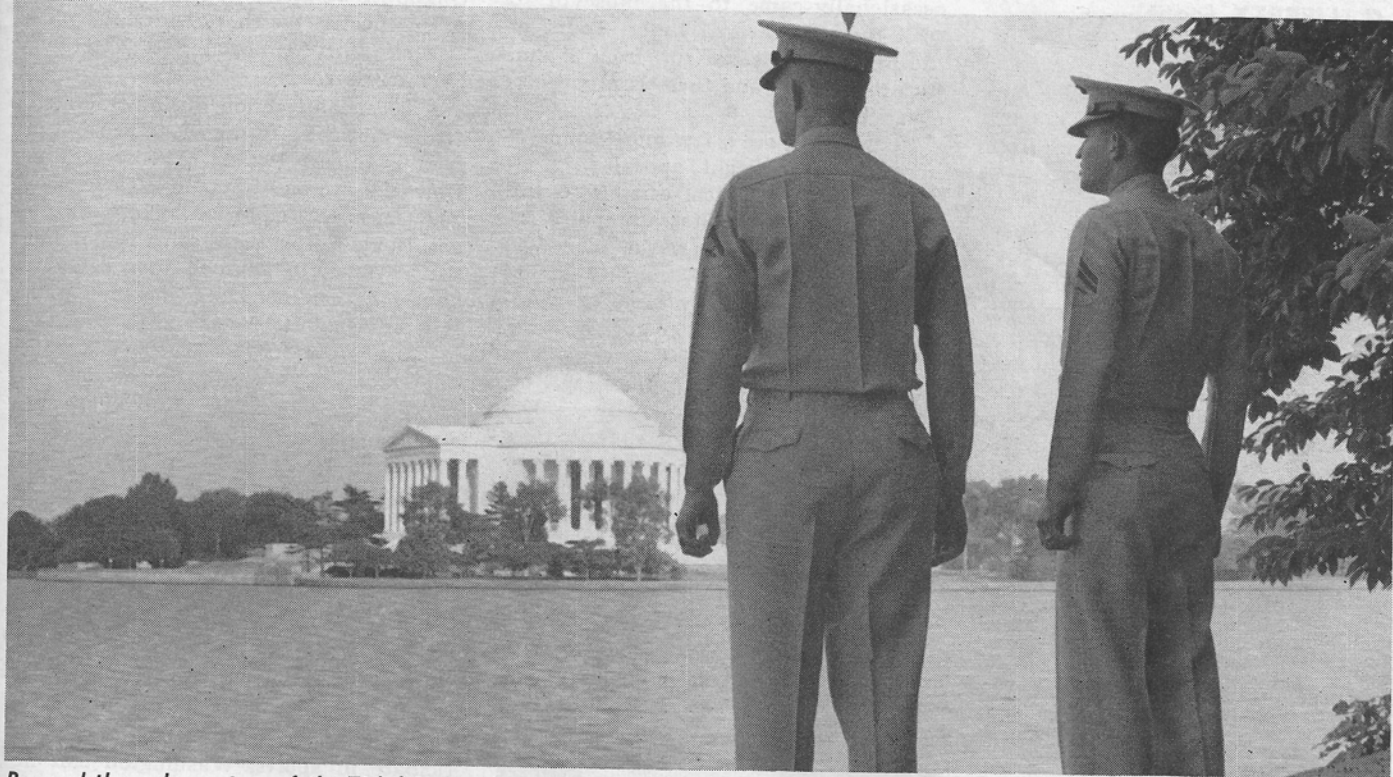
The National Archives is the building which houses the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. All are protected by helium, which has been pumped into their bronze and glass cases, and by special filters which screen out harmful light

rays. When these documents are not on display, they are lowered into a fire-proof and bombproof vault. Among the many exhibits is one depicting the Civil War. It contains nearly 350 documents, including maps, photographs, sketches, and works of art. Visiting hours at the National Archives are from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m.

The Washington Monument, a marble and granite structure, is the tallest stone masonry in the world—555 feet high. It costs 10 cents to take a 70-second elevator ride to the top, or if you



Beneath the pensive President's statue, a guard answers the visitors' many questions.



Beyond the calm waters of the Tidal Basin glisten the white pillars and dome of the Jefferson Memorial. During cherry blossom season, thousands of tourists visit this spot.

are energetic, you may have the satisfaction of climbing its 898 steps. Windows at the peak provide an excellent view of Washington and the surrounding country, and since the monument is open from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., you'll have plenty of time to fit it into your schedule.

Another inspiring sight is the Lincoln Memorial, a powerful and striking statue of the President sitting pensively in a chair. Two rows of columns flank the statue, and on the walls behind the columns are inscribed Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address and his Gettysburg speech. Due to its Greek design, the Memorial doesn't appear as tall as a nine-story building, but it is that high. Visiting hours are from 8 a.m. to midnight, and there is no entrance fee.

The Thomas Jefferson memorial is a circular building with a low, graceful dome, surrounded by columns. The statue of Jefferson is 19 feet high, weighs five tons, and stands on a black granite pedestal six feet high. Visiting hours are from 9 a.m. to midnight.

The National Gallery of Art, a building which stretches for 782 feet, or the equivalent of six city blocks, has more than a half million square feet of floor space, and ranks among the world's finest museums. Works by mankind's greatest painters are on exhibit here, and a guided tour is strongly recommended if it is your first visit. It takes only 45 minutes, but you can learn more from this than if you simply browsed. The building is open from 10

a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

Another fine area for history and exhibits is the Smithsonian Institute. Situated here are six museums ranging from zoology to modern history. A person can see everything from John Glenn's space capsule to the skulls of early cave dwellers. But don't try to see everything in one visit. It has been estimated that if you spent one minute, day and night, looking at each object on exhibit, at the end of 10 years you would have seen only 10 per cent of everything on display. More than 55 million objects are on hand, and they increase at the rate of a million a year. The Institute is open from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. each day of the week.

The last place on our tour for the day is Mount Vernon—George Washington's estate on the Potomac. This is probably the most visited shrine in the United States. More than a million persons come here each year. The buildings and grounds are fine examples of an 18th-century plantation, and, surprisingly enough, the view from the veranda overlooking the river remains much as it did in Washington's day.

If you don't have other transportation, you can visit the estate by taking the S. S. *Mount Vernon*, which leaves Pier Four on Maine Avenue, and "N" Street, S. W., from April to September. There are 15 daily trips leaving at 2 p.m., returning at 6:40 p.m. A round-trip ticket costs \$2.75.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is an intriguing place. Sixty-minute tours show the F.B.I. organization, the gangster era, the use of fingerprints for identification (half the U.S. population has fingerprints on file here) and the solution of some of the difficult cases. The visitor sees the F.B.I. laboratories while actual work is going on, and at the end of the tour, spectacular target shooting is featured by an F.B.I. agent, demonstrating both the pistol and the Thompson sub-machine gun. The building is open to the public from 9:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

Another fascinating building is the Lincoln Museum, or the old Ford's Theater, where the President was assassinated. The museum's collection of exhibits deals with the life of Lincoln, and it is probably the most complete ever assembled. Many of his letters, clothes, and inventions are on display, as well as a life mask, plaster casts of his hands, and some of John Wilkes Booth's (the assassin) personal items. The building is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Monday through Saturday, and 12:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is a dime.

Just across the street from the museum is the Petersen House, where Lincoln was brought after he was shot. The sofa in the small, simple front parlor occupies the place where Mrs. Lincoln maintained her all-night vigil, and the bedroom to which the President was taken has also been restored. The price

D. C. LIBERTY (cont)

of admission is also 10 cents. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday.

One of the most interesting buildings is the Medical Museum of the Armed Forces. Its wide range of exhibits covers every aspect of medicine and appeals to both laymen and doctors. The skeleton of Able, (a monkey recovered alive after a 1,500-mile trip through space in a missile) is one exhibit of current medical events. There are also examples showing the effect of nuclear radiation on survivors of the atomic blast at Nagasaki, Japan.

A most remarkable display is contained in a case on the second floor of the museum. This is a Union general's leg bone which was crushed by a 12-pound cannon ball at the battle of Gettysburg. It is reported that the general became so attached to this exhibit he

occasionally came to the museum to "call on" his severed limb. Tours at the Medical Museum run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, and there is no admission fee.

Here briefly, are a few more points of interest which might appeal to you: The Voice of America, where you will see how the United States prepares radio broadcasts for the world. The Wax Museum, where more than 40 scenes from American history have been recreated. The National Zoological Park, home for more than 3,000 animals, and where more than two million visitors come each year. The Commerce Department, which houses an aquarium in the basement, and features North American sport fish. The Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, the largest statue of its kind in the world, dedicated to all Marines who have given their lives for their country. The Arlington National Cemetery, the resting place of past dignitaries and members of the military. Also, here is the Tomb of the

Unknown Soldiers, and the Memorial Amphitheatre, which provides the official site for Memorial and Veterans' Day services.

A special attraction during Summer, (from mid-May to mid-October) is the famous Sunset Parade held at Marine Barracks, 8th and I Sts., in Washington. This features the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps, the Marine Band, and the Silent Drill Platoon in a brilliant hour long ceremony starting at 9 p.m. It is advisable to reserve seats by calling LI 3-1601, or LI 3-9400 ext. 239, one or two days before the parade.

Washington has its full share of sports and outside recreation. During the Summer, baseball is played by the Washington Senators in the modern D. C. Stadium, one of the finest in the country. In late Summer, and through the Fall, the Washington Redskins football team entertains the fans. And there is horse racing at Laurel and Bowie, in nearby Maryland. Harness racing also has a big following at Rosecroft, Md., only 10 miles from D.C.

If you enjoy exercise and like to participate in sports, Washington can fit this bill, too. You can go horseback riding at the Edgewater Stables at Rock Creek Parkway, or, a short distance away, you can play golf on a fine 18-hole course. If you're a water enthusiast; sailboats, canoes, rowboats, and outboards can be rented at various spots throughout the city. For tennis fans, there are many courts in the Washington area; one of the best centers is at Wisconsin Ave, N. W., where there are nine clay courts. In Summer, swimming is popular, and in addition to the beaches outside the city, there is an excellent pool for Marines at Henderson Hall, only 15 minutes by bus from downtown D.C. In Winter, ice-skating rinks are abundant. The largest, the Washington Coliseum, has 16,000 square feet of skating surface. Another rink is located at Pentagon City, a large recreation center in Arlington. Here also are bowling alleys, pool tables, and a restaurant with nightclub entertainment.

The heart of the entertainment area is at 14th St. and New York Ave., and here you'll find the main clubs. Music ranges from honky-tonk piano and Turkish ballads, to rock-'n-roll and hill-billy.

One of the best places for dancing is at Henderson Hall on week ends. On Friday the club for privates and lance corporals pulls back the rugs, and on Saturday the corporals and sergeant E-5s bring in their dates. Also on Saturdays there are regular dances at the USO at 719 Madison Place N. W. in Washington. These are open to all members of the services, with food and



Phyllis and Russ examine the space capsule of astronaut John Glenn at the Smithsonian Institute.

soft drinks sold at reasonable prices. Restaurants in Washington are plentiful. An estimated 50,000,000 meals are served each year to visitors, in addition to the local population. You can get anything from a 15-cent hamburger at the small restaurants which dot the city, to a full meal at the numerous hotels and higher priced spots.

Actually, it might be smart to begin your day at the USO, for here you'll receive maps of the city, recommended restaurants, special tours, and even a recommended tourist home if you decide to stay the night. Another outstanding place in this regard is the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen's Club, at 1015 L St., N.W. The club is popular with Marines, and has a library, television lounge, and recreation room.

If you plan your day right, and take advantage of the servicemen's facilities in Washington, you can be like the fellow in the candy store. You'll get a lot more for your nickel . . . **END**



The couples are dwarfed by the huge bronze figures of the Iwo Jima statue, a monument which honors all Marines who have died for their country.



The sightseeing tour comes to a close with a quiet dinner in a local restaurant. After walking untold miles, they make plans to go dancing that night.









VISITING HOURS
10AM TO 12:30PM
CLOSED
SUNDAYS AND MONDAYS
ENTRANCE





LOUNGE DINNERS
Dancing Nights











HOUSE WHERE LINCOLN DIED

ADMISSION 10¢
CHILDREN 18 YEARS OF AGE OR UNDER FREE
WEEKDAYS 9AM to 5:30PM
SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS 12:30 PM to 5:30 PM

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