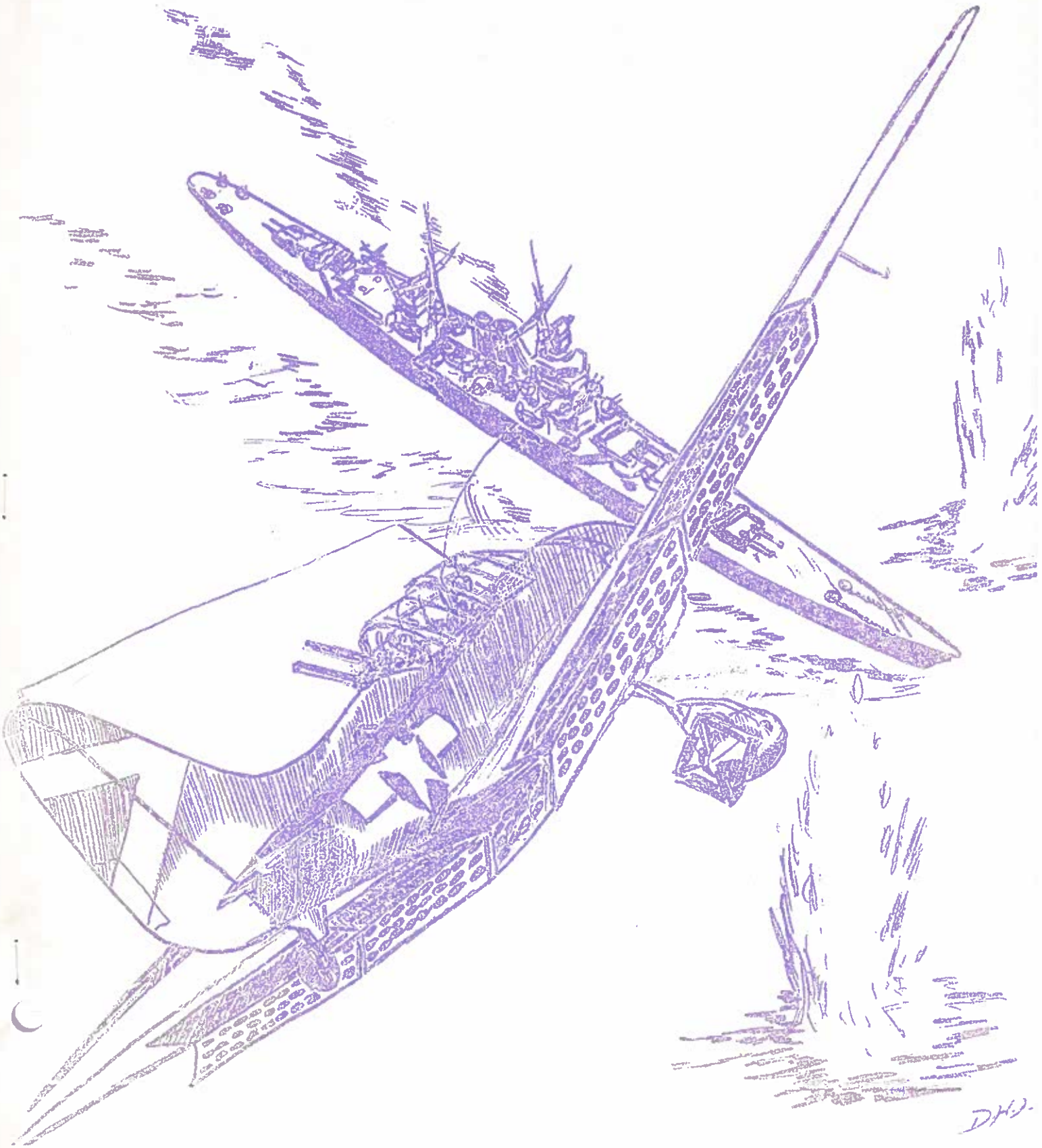
CMH Newsletter

VOL. I NO. 7 APRIL 1967

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the COLORADO MILITARY HISTORIANS



THE COLORADO MILITARY

HISTORIANS

will have their regular monthly meeting at--

T H E F O R T

Morrison, Colorado

Tuesday, 2 May
1967

The MEAL:

A terrific steak and trimmin's--$4.00

The TIME: 6:30 meal is served; 7:30 program

AGENDA:

Petition 4-7-67/24 for $8.18 additional Secretarial expense (E.Meyers)

Petition 4-7-67/25 Constitutional Committee Report (M. Kuhls)

Election of Officers!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

PROGRAM: "Blitzkrieg" 1920-1945 Dan Jones

Many thanks to all who have so ably contributed to the displays in the past. All would like to see your latest work, so bring it.

Phone meal reservations to Dan Jones 429-7942

HEADQUARTERS: The Fort, Morrison, Colorado 4 April 1967

1-. The regular meeting of the Colorado Military Historians was called to order by President Dan Jones. Minutes were corrected to read #5 Kampf appears in 4 issues per year.

2-Treasurer's Report:
Receipts: $5.00 from dues Expenditures: $0.00 Balance: $56.33

3-Old Business:
Petition 3-6-67/23 to purchase easel for $3.50 (approved)

4-New Business:
Petition 4-4-67/24 additional secretarial expense $8.18
Petition 4-4-67/25 report of the Constitution Committee

5-Generals' Corner:

Bob Jones--Mankind a magazine of popular history. New naval books.

Austin Moore--Westland Shopping Center will welcome a display in June as part of their hobby display. Volunteers would have to man a booth.
Another a wargame of the Solomons is in the offing with better Jap rules.

Ray Freelove--Report on his trip to Ft. Union and the La Glorietta Pass battle site.

Bill Greer--New plates coming out on the Revolutionary War (U.S.)

Jim MacLachlan--Documents of the American Revolution $8.75; 6.75

Dennis Nimm--What about the Empire story????

Mike Kuhls--New rules for the Solomons campaign.

Ed Meyers--Display judging in four separate categories for the purpose of rating models rather than choosing three places.

PROGRAM: "Good-bye To All That!" 1914-1920
E. MEYERS & R. JONES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ray Freelove, Tom Herman, Dan Jones, Bob Jones, Mike Kuhls, Ed Meyers, Austin Moore, Dick Moore, Tom Richards, Dennis Nimm, Jim MacLachlan, Bill Greer. GUESTS included: Mr. Cohn, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ragsdale

THE HISTORY OF A CRUISER NAMED MOGAMI by Thomas Herman

The history of this ship corresponds to that of the Japanese Navy. The Navy and the Mogami had early successes in the war. In the Battle of Midway they both tasted their first defeat and the Battle of Leyte is where both died. This is the story of the Mogami.

The cruiser's keel was laid on 27 October, 1931 and she was completed on 28 July, 1935. Four ships of the Mogami were built and all of them mounted 15-6.1" guns. It wasn't until the Battle of Midway that the Americans found out this class of ships had been secretly rearmed and were carrying 10-8" guns.

In 1941 the Mogami, with her sister ships - Kumano, Mikuma and Suzuya - - was part of Japsn's Second Fleet, better known as the Scouting Force for the P.H. attack.

During the month of February of 1942 Mogami was in the Western Force, Covering Group assisting in taking of the Island of Sumarta in the South China Sea. While protecting the transports that were disembarking troops into the Banten Bay area, during the invasion of Java, Mogami drew her first blood. The transports were attacked by H.M.S. Perth and USS Houston. The Jap destroyers were the first to react to the attackers. The two attackers swept through the bay, sinking several transports which included the transport's flagship. Perth and Houston tried to escape, but were intercepted by Mogami and her supporting ships. The Mogami concentrated on the Perth and her sister ship Mikuma fired at Houston. Both allied ships were sunk.

We hear nothing about the Mogami until the Battle of Midway. She was part of the Midway Occupation Force - Close Support Group. On June 5, 1942, the Close Support Group was to complete the bombardment of Midway's air base installations, preparatory to landing. On 5 June, Admiral Yamamato canceled the scheduled bombardment and ordered the Close Support Group to join the main body.

Under the observation of the U.S. submarine Tambor, the Jap commander ordered an emergency turn. Cruiser Mogami, last in the column, failed to get the word promptly and rammed the Port quarter of Mikuma, next ahead. Both were damaged, Mogami catching fire and smashing her bow so much that she was only able to do 16 knots, and Mikuma was trailing oil. The two damaged cruisers were left behind with two destroyers to screen them, while the Admiral retired with the two undamaged cruisers.

The sub tracked and identified the damaged cruisers. A Catelina sighted the Mogami and Mikuma identifying them as battleships. On receipt of this report Flying Forts were sent to attack. The Forts couldn't find their targets. Other planes were sent out. The cruisers were found and attacked by 6 SBD's and 6 Vindicators. Mogami and Mikuma threw up heavy and accurate anti-aircraft fire. that kept the planes from hitting their targets. Only Mikuma was hit by a plane that crashed on the after turre

On June 6 carrier Enterprise launched a reconnaissance flight which located the two crippled cruisers. Together carriers Hornet and Enterprise launched a total of 112 planes in three seperate attacks.

The two damaged cruisers were neat targets without air cover. In the first attack Mogami received two bomb hits, one which penetrated No5 turret and killed everyone inside; two more hits in the second attack started fires; and a third sealed up one burning engine room and killed over 90 men. Mogami apparantly had a charmed life. She managed to make Truk for temporary repairs but two years past before she was able to rejoin the fleet.

Nikuma was sunk and the two destroyers escaped. The Mogami and Nikuma had paid for sinking HMS Perth and USS Houston.

In November of 1943 Mogami was sent to Rabaul. Rabaul was attacked by carrier planes from the old Saratoga and the new light carrier Princeton. Mogami, who had just returned after the damage suffered at Midway, was now sent back to Kure to repair bad bomb damage.

19 June, 1944, Mogami was part of Mobile Fleet, Force B. While in Force B, CA Mogami and BB Nagato and eight destroyers were screening carrier Division 2

On 22 October, 1944 Mogami was in the First Striking Force - - Force C (van of South Force) which was sailing for Surigao Strait in order to strike at Leyte Gulf from the South in coordination with an attack from due north.

Mogami and three destroyers were sent ahead of the main force. They past the No. 2 PT Boat Section undetected. At the No. 3 PT Section the Mogami group was attacked by two PT boats. There was no damage to either side. The two halves of Force C reunited and proceeded up the Strait with Mogami as rear guard.

When Force C reached Sunilon Island it was attacked by five destroyers that fired 47 torpedoes. After the torpedo attack, the flagship Yamashiro, Cruiser Mogami, and destroyer Shigure were the only to continue towards the north. As the three ships continued to advance they were attacked by three more destroyers. The Japs replied with inaccurate salvos. Mogami exchanged shots with the three retiring destroyers; and at the same time she started to retire towards the south.

As Mogami was reversing course and heading south, the American Battle Line and Cruisers opened fire on the Jap ships.

Mogami took hits left and right, every size projectile from 6-inch through 16-inch came pouring into the unfortunate ship. Mogami gamingly returned fire, only scoring hits on the destroyer Grant. Mogami continued to withdraw.

Meanwhile the second Jap cruiser task force entered Surigao Strait. To the north was dense blanket of smoke. Ten minutes later the task force saw the burning Mogami apparantly dead in the water. Under the impression that there was a target, flagship Nachi turned 90 degrees to fire torpedoes at the enemy, which actually didn't exist. In turning Nachi crossed the path of the Mogami which was actually moving south at 8 knots. The heavy cruiser, Nachi, collided with the Mogami.

Mogami was burning like a city block but she managed to keep up with the other ships. Mogami was in the rear.

The Americans pursued the retiring cruisers and destroyers, but the American surface fleet couldn't catch the retreating Japs.

In the Mindanao Sea, planes from the southernmost of the Seventh Fleet escort carrier units attacked the remaining Jap ships. It was here that they stopped the die-hard Mogami, which the Japanese themselves sank after removing the crew.

A THUMBNAIL SKETCH OF ROBERT JONES

Graduated from Denver University just last June, Robert Jones majored in History. Originally from Chicago, Bob moved to Denver eight years ago when he was seventeen years old and is planning on departing early this summer to attend the Naval OCS at Newport, Rhode Island.

He has contributed many diverse interests and ideas to the Club. He conceived our highly successful program for this year and has worked hard to accumulate and disseminate information of value to everyone.

Bob has worked at the KLZ television studios here in town for the past five years and currently serves there as a program director and as a cameraman.

His prime interests center on two areas of military history; all aspects of the Napoleonic era and the entire history of the British Army.

Bob feels that the Napoleonic period is the most colorful of all eras, not only because of the uniforms, traditions and deeds, but because of the roots of modern wars are found here and it was also the height of horse and musket warfare. The figure of the man who gave his name to this period also captivates Bob as the outstanding personality of all time.

He feels strongly that the future of the Club lies in becoming more active in publications, displays, conventions and other activities that would expand membership and further publicize the Club.

Bob hopes to continue his education in the field of Journalism after he " does his bit".

C M H to Man Booth at Hobby Shop

The Westland Shopping Center, 10405 West Colfax, will hold it's second annual Hobby Show on June 15, 16, and 17 this year. CMH has been given a booth at no charge but we must provide for at least one of our members to be available for those hours it is open to the public - Thursday and Friday June 15 and 16 from 12 noon to 9pm and from 10am to 5.30pm on Saturday June 17.

Austin Moore is coordinating this project for CMH and has requested that those interested in participating, either in supplying display material or in manning the booth, please contact him. Austin's phone is 794-6096

Participants are being urged to utilize the booth by using it as a hobby workshop for the three days as well as for display of finished crafts. Locked store room facilities will be made available for materials we wish to leave overnight.

We strongly urge all CMH members to take part in this project. With an effective booth we should be able to recruit "scads" of new members.

Members submitting Book Reviews have the option of including Ratings expressing their personal opinion on the quality of the book and it's suitability for other members. The Rating System is as follows:

* * * * *	Outstanding	- a must for everyone
* * * *	Excellent	- should be good reading for all
* * *	Good	- depends on your interest
* *	Fair	- marginal even if interested
*	Poor	- forget it!

Book Review by Austin Moore

THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE. A Military History by: Howard H. Peckham

This brief, concised history covers the land warfare campaigns and battles of the American Revolution. Economic, political and naval considerations are kept to a bare minimum and are mentioned only when they have a direct bearing on the land warfare. As a result of this, the reader is able to gain a unique insight into the emergence of the American soldier as a fighting man and how this ragged army was able to effectively negate the efforts of the world's strongest professional army and how their effectiveness finally lead to ultimate triumph. Even though the story has been told many times, the author keeps the book at a steady pace and in proper proportion. It is the author's contention that military history has not been accorded its proper place in our natural culture and that somehow this aspect of our heritage is thought to be out of the mainstream of American life and not as significant as embargos, trade, treaties and the hearth. Mr Peckham disputes this and presents a very strong case for the opposition. An excellent Bibliography is included without the cumbersome use of footnotes.

Book Review by Austin Moore

THE BATTLE OF COWPENS: THE GREAT MORALE- BUILDER by: Kenneth Roberts

This is a short account of the battle in South Carolina in 1781 that resulted in a decisive victory by Americans over a vastly superior British force. Although, outnumbered 1200 to 900, the Americans under General Daniel Morgan soundly thrashed the British in one hour and caused the loss of two-thirds of the British troops, their two cannon and all of their baggage and stores including 50 negro slaves. The British troops were all seasoned veterans and were led by the most capable and feared commander in the British service, Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton. This book tends to discount some of the facts about this battle that have been put forth by other historians. Better known perhaps for his historical novels such as Arundel, Northwest Passage and Rabble in Arms, Mr. Roberts must occasionally remind himself (and his readers) of the facts and to discount some of the suppositions. The events are dramatically portrayed, however, and this little book (104 pages) is just the ticket to fill in between more profound reading.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS TO THE C M H LIBRARY

PERIODICALS

THE VEDETTE : The journal of the Nationsl Capital Military Collectors of Washington DC.
Bimonthly Issues now available : Oct. 1966 Dec. 1966 Feb. 1967

We are exchanging publications with the N C M C and will receive all future issues of this excellent journal.

THE GUIDON : Miniature figure collectors of America, Rutledge, Penn.
Quarterly Issues now available: None

The M F C A have agreed to exchange newsletters and the GUIDON will be sent to our library beginning with the next issue.

ORDINANCE : Journal of American Ordinance Association
Bimonthly Issues now available : 1958 - 1966

Donated by member Jim Maclachlan

BOOKS

Donated by Member Dick Moore

The First and The Last The Rise and Fall of the German Fighter Forces, 1938-1945 Adolf Galland, Ballantine, N Y 1954

Panzer Leader Heinz Guderian, BLllantine N Y 1957

Black Thursday Martin Caidin, Dell Books N Y 1960

The Battle for Guadalcanal Samuel B Griffith II Ballantine Books 1963

Old Soldiers Never Die Frank Richards Berkley N Y 1966
Red Badge of Courage Stepehen Crane Pocket Library N Y 1894
Erckmann - Chatrian Novels Charles Scribners Sons N Y 1898
The Invasion of France
Waterloo
The Blockade of Phalsburg

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CMH NEWSLETTER
Editor: Richard T. Moore 798-6575
Asst. Editor: Thomas Herman
Art Director: Dan Jones
Production Manager: Edgar Meyers 429-5628
Executive Secretary: Moya Moore

Articles for publication must be submitted by the 15th of the month preceding publication date.
Type or neatly write your material and please double space.

HEADQUARTERS: The Fort, Morrison, Colorado 7 March 1967

1-The regular meeting of the Colorado Military Historians was called to order by President Dan Jones. Minutes of the previous were approved as read

2-Treasurer's Report:

Exp-stationary	$10.23	Recpt-$20.00 dues	Balance	$51.33
Tradition	$12.00	Newsletter balance		$ 5.00

3-Old Business

2-7-67/21 Constitutional Committee for quorum, elections, budget (approved)
2-7-67/22 Amendment for Officers to assume office in May (approved)

4-New Business

3-7-67/23 Petition to buy easel for $3.50 (@ Moore)

5-Generals' Corner

Dick Moore: History of the Confederate Flag. Library donations and method of checking out books.
Tom Richards: write your Congressman concerning proposed gun laws.
Bob Jones: J.F.C. Fuller, The Conduct of War 1789-1961 excellant book. Featherstone's Newsletter (Wargamer) "Wellington and Seige Guns on the Peninsula."
Austin Moore: Christmas trip included Vicksburg (know the area before you go!) USS Alabama BB at Mobile, Ala. Hope to get emblem tie-clasp made up.
Ray Freelove: Public Service Building has AAf painting exhibit.
Tom Herman: Kampf--battle magazine $5 yr. (6 issues) 8512-5th Ave, Brooklyn, NY U.S.Naval Institute Magazine. International Armaments 2 vol. weapons book
Jim MacLachlan: Topographical maps of U.S. battlefields can be purchased from the Federal Center.
Ed Meyers: Martin Caidin, The Ragged, Rugged Warriors good book on the South Pacific air war.
Mike Kuhls: Strategic/Tactical naval game in the South Pacific: 60 mi/in.scale
Dan Jones: Alexander Seversky to speak Thurs. at Goodwill Banquet. Newsletter needs series articles and more material.

6-Members present:

Ray Freelove	Tom Herman	Dan Jones*429-7942	Bob Jones
Mike Kuhls	Ed Meyers	Austin Moore	Dick Moore*
J.C. MacLachlan	Tom Richards*		5060 So. Meade
	8615 W. 54th Pl.		Littleton,
	Arvada		798-6575
			781-7701 business

Visitors:
C.L.Cohn
Wayne Kaez

*changes to made in roster

7-Program:
Man and the Machine "Mad-dogs and Englishman" 1815-1914
Richard Moore asst. Austin Moore and Jim MacLachlan

Respectfully submitted
E. D. Meyers
E. D. Meyers, Secretary

"Good-bye To All That!"

The Man and Machine of WW I
1914-1918

I-The Man

1A-Society of 1890-1914
2A-Political clashes: Agadir (Morocco) 1911; Balkan Wars 1912, 1913

II-The Machine

1A-The Method
1B-Foch
2B-Bloch
3B-Schlieffen

2A-The Means
1B-Immobility
1c-railroad
2c-rifle & spade (treches & barbed wire)
3c-artilery
4c-machine-gun
5c-internal combustion engine
6c-wireless telegraphy
7c-naval
1d-surface fleet
2d-mines
3d-U-Boats
8c-aircraft
2B-Mobility
1c-strategy of evasions
2c-poison gas
3c-strategy of attrition
4c-tanks
5c-inner front

III-The Morass

1A-Wilson and the Peace Conference

2A-Bolsheviks and Poland

3A-The New German Army

4A-The New European Society

General Works:
American Heritage, History of World War I
Brig. Gen. Vincent J. Esposito, ed. A Concise History Of World War I
A.J.P. Taylor, A History of the First World War
J.F.C. Fuller, The Conduct of War 1789-1961

Opening of the War: Barbara Tuchman, The Proud Tower; The Guns of August
General Staff: Correlli Barnett, The Swordbearers
Sideshows: Alan Moorehead, Gallipoli
Americans: E.M.Halliday, The Ignorant Armies; Laurence Stallings, The Doughboys
Aircraft: Arch Whitehouse, The Years of the Sky Kings
Tanks: Arch Whitehouse, Tanks
U-Boats: David Lewis, The Fight for the Sea
The Footsoldier: Pierce B. Fredericks, The Yanks Are Coming, Robert Graves Good-bye to All That, Erich Maria Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front Leon Wolff, In Flanders Fields

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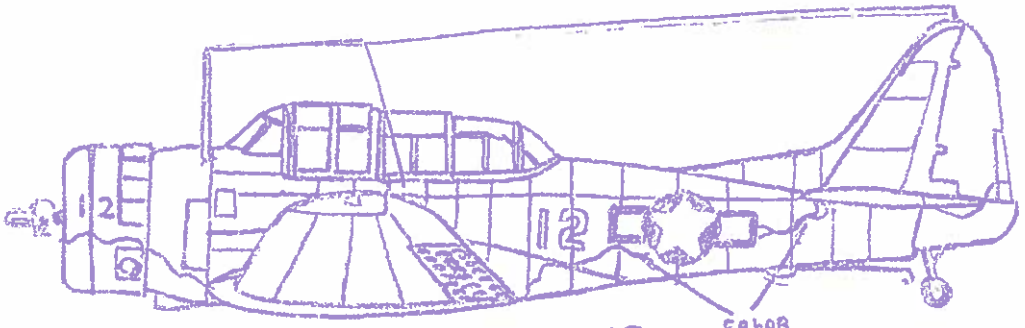

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AURORA	AIRFIX	REVELL

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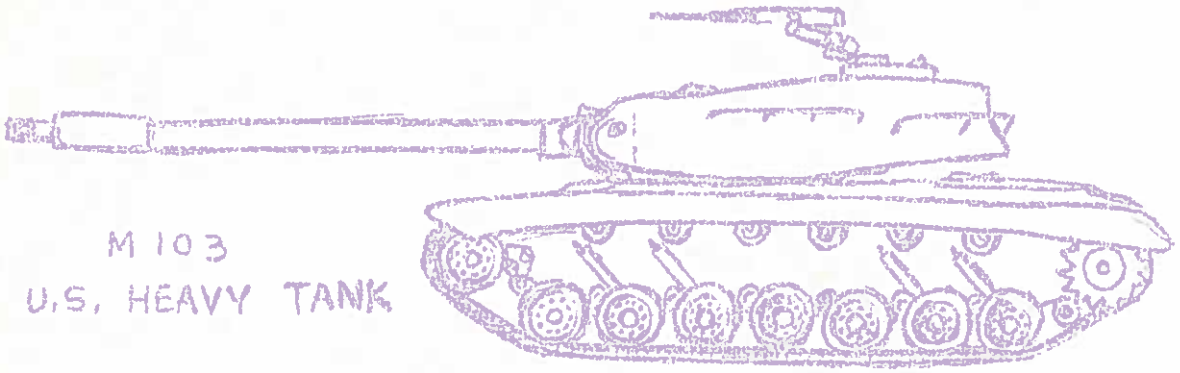
IMPACT	L.S.	HELLER



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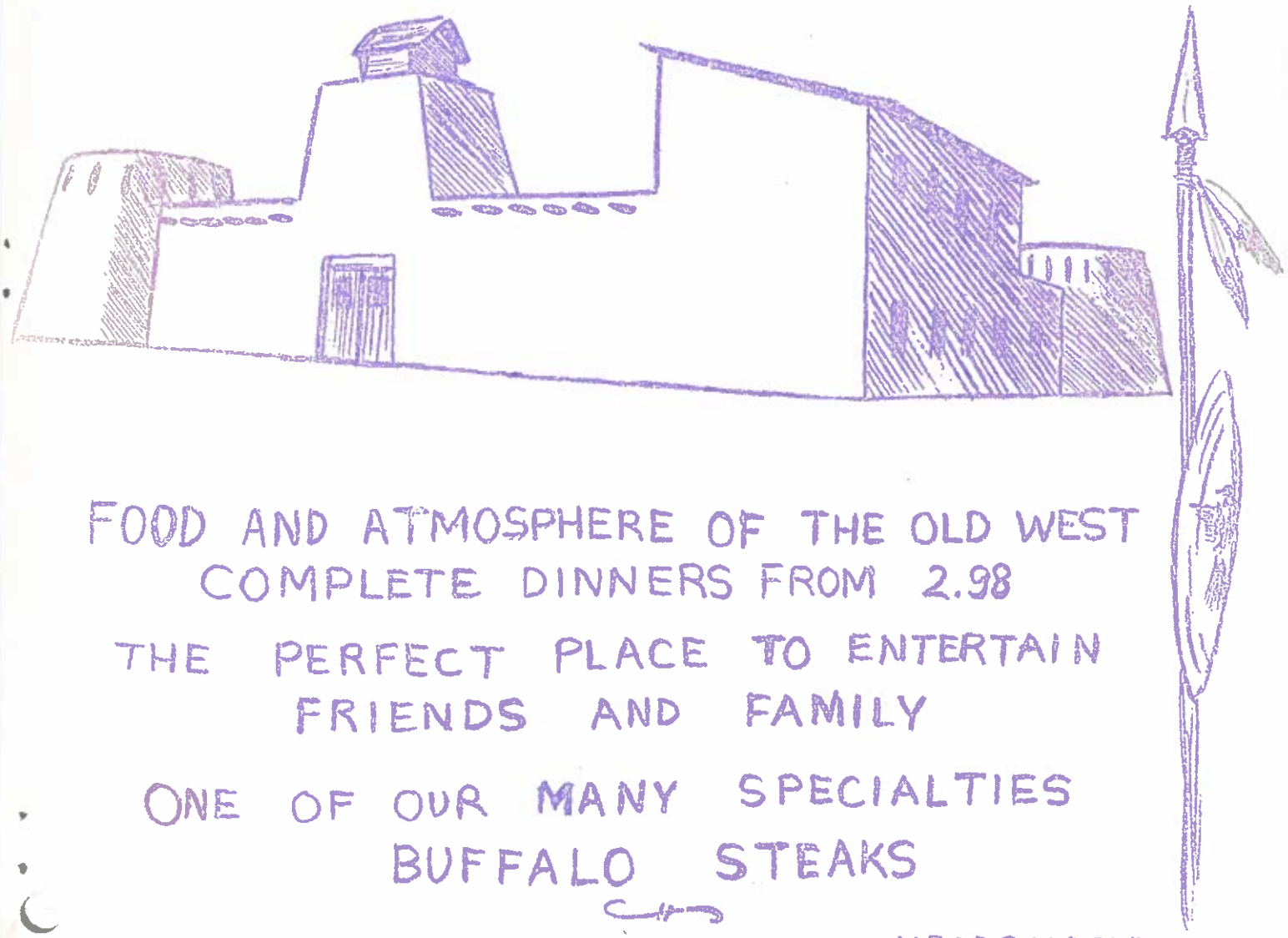
APRIL 1967
NEWSLETTER

The FORT

IN MORRISON COLO.



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THE FORT IS THE OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS
OF THE COLO. MILITARY HISTORIANS

MEETINGS ... FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH ... 6:30 P.M.