

There is little in the universe to rival the majesty, mystery and mystique of the sea. Water is the most plentiful substance on Earth, covering more than two-thirds of its surface and sustaining all living things. But the mighty sea is capricious, and not easily tamed.

From the ancient days of Phoenician seafarers and the great fleets of Persia, to the myths of Poseidon and Neptune, and adventurous tales of St. Brendan, the Vikings, Captain Nemo and Captain Ahab, the sea has forever inspired man.

Effective sea power has always been essential for commerce, travel, security and defense. Meanwhile, the days of galley oars, billowing sails, steam and fossil fuel have been giving way to nuclear power. Massive Supercarriers are floating cities that can launch as many as 90 assault aircraft. Nuclear Submarines carry devastating weapons as they police the depths. Such massive power carries with it the need for well-trained leaders.

U.S. NAVY AND MARINE CORPS (1775)



There is a proud and time-honored tradition among men who go down to the sea in ships to serve their country. The U.S. Naval Services are no exception.

The U.S. Navy began as the Continental Navy on 13 October 1775, during the American Revolutionary War. It was joined a month later by its sister service, the U.S. Marine Corps, founded 10 November 1775 at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, PA. Initially, Marines repelled boarders and served as sharpshooters stationed high in the rigging of sailing ships. Now Marines are a multi-tasking first-strike force, and guard American embassies worldwide.

Both the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, report to the civilian Secretary of the Navy and serve on the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In 2009 the U.S. Navy was estimated to be larger than the 23 next-largest navies in the world in battle fleet tonnage. It operates nearly 300 ships and 3,700 aircraft in active service, with a force of 324,000 active and 109,000 reserve personnel as of 2014. The U.S. Marine Corps consists of 195,000 active duty personnel and 40,000 reservists. The combined complement of these services is 668,000: just over 2/3 of one million personnel.

The U.S. Navy and Marine Corps operate constantly and with vigilance around the globe, with fleet presence as a deterrent to aggression, and a force in readiness, in the Atlantic, Mediterranean, Caribbean, Bering, Pacific, Philippine, China, Arabian and Indian Oceans and Seas. The Naval services require competent, effective, mature, well educated and trained leaders: more than the U.S. Naval Academy can produce.

NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING

Before WWI devastated Europe (1914-1917), Navy and Marine Corps officer candidates attended the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD to earn their commissions. Then they entered specialized training programs and were assigned to command responsibilities.

The scope and challenges of World War I demonstrated the need to expand the naval service, and the number of its leaders, in spite of the prevalent isolationist sentiment in America after the Great War. The U.S. Naval Academy was unable to meet this need by itself, due to limited physical facilities and training staff. Expansion or duplication of the Academy was not practical. But thousands of facilities, and professional math, science and engineering professors, were available at American universities.

To overcome the predicted shortage of naval leaders, a program called the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) was established in the fall of 1926. The initial six NROTC Universities were Harvard, Yale, Northwestern, Georgia Tech, UC Berkeley and the University of Washington. These programs provided scholarships to enrolled, unmarried students who passed Navy physical and written entrance tests, earned the required university credits (including naval science), and demonstrated leadership abilities. Successful students were commissioned upon graduation as Navy Ensigns or Marine Corps 2nd Lieutenants, and went on to serve their required terms of active duty. Many from Marquette became career officers, achieving the ranks of Navy Captain or Marine Colonel.

NROTC programs expanded in the next 15 years to five more universities. In 1940 Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI became the twelfth U.S. university to launch an NROTC program. At that time it was the only private, and only Catholic, university hosting NROTC.

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

Marquette University is a private Jesuit Catholic University in Milwaukee, WI founded in 1881. Its enrollment has been in the range of 10,000 students in recent decades. Fall 2013 total enrollment was 11,782. It was named for pioneer French Jesuit explorer, linguist and missionary Pere Jacques Marquette, who accompanied Louis Joliet as translator on two expeditions to discover where the Mississippi led. Marquette is an apt inspiration for adventurous NROTC students. Marquette College became a University in 1917, when it absorbed the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Marquette's faculty leadership has always been strongly supportive of the American military defense effort. In the course of WWII, 825 Marquette students served in the U.S. Armed Forces. MU NROTC graduates have served in every major military action to this day, beginning with WWII.

TIMELINE: NROTC AT MARQUETTE

1. IMPACT OF WWI

PRE-1940 Only U.S. Naval Academy graduates could be commissioned as Navy or Marine Corps officers, except during the conduct of war.

28 JUN 1914 Assassination of Austrian Archduke Ferdinand initiated WWI. The U.S. was reluctant to become involved.



3 JUL 1917 First American forces landed in France to support Allies.

11 NOV 1918 Armistice between Allies and Germany ended combat in Europe.

28 JUN 1919 Allied victory & Treaty of Versailles established peace in Europe.

EARLY 1920s Horrors of five-year WWI led to isolationist attitudes in America. But American military leaders saw the need to expand U.S. enlisted manpower and officer leadership for future emergencies.

Secretary of Navy Edwin Denby reorganized U.S. Naval Reserve, easing requirements for activating enlisted men. He studied Army's WWI Reserve Officer Training Corps concept of training college men as future officers for use by the Navy.

BY 1924 Concept of ROTC based on Army system was accepted by the Navy.

1925 Navy Omnibus Bill enabled creation of NROTC at U.S. universities.

1926

2. FIRST SIX NROTC UNITS LAUNCHED

FALL 1926

NROTC funding was approved. Six initial NROTC units launched at Harvard, Yale, Georgia Tech, Northwestern, U.C. Berkeley & University of Washington. No more units were approved until 1940.

Original NROTC Naval Science Classes and Schedule:

Freshman (4th Class Midshipmen)

Fall: National Security Organization class, Naval Orientation lab

Spring: U.S. Navy History class, Naval Orientation lab

Sophomore (3rd Class)

Fall: Naval Weapons Systems class*, Communications lab

Spring: Air-Ocean Environment class, Seamanship lab

Junior (2nd Class)

Fall: Navigation class and lab

Spring: Navigation class and lab

Summer: Required Summer Training Cruise or Marine Training

Senior (1st Class)

Fall: Naval Engineering class and lab

Spring: Military Law, Leadership & Administration, Naval Management

*(1972) * By 1972 Naval Weapons Systems (Gunnery) class was obsolete, due to increasing reliance on electronics, missiles and laser guidance, all taught in post-grad schools. Gunnery was replaced by computer science; other minor changes occurred.*

This schedule set the standard for a Naval Science minor. It changed little over the years, but NROTC core curriculum and required majors changed substantially. Stress increased in coming years on hard science majors and post-graduate training. Of the original classes, Navigation was the most popular.

- Navy Option men take part in 4th and 3rd Class summer cruises, gaining hands-on experience with ships, weapons and the sea.
- The Marine Corps Option six-week summer program after junior year is a condensed version of enlisted Boot Camp, emphasizing physical and psychological conditioning and leadership.

Originally, NROTC students had to make their own way to these summer programs. In recent years these trips have been organized and funded by the Navy. There were longer cruises for NESEPs, who were enlisted active-duty students.

Note: After commissioning, NROTC Marine Corps 2nd Lieutenants must pass the six-month Officer's Basic School course at Quantico, VA. Officer Candidate School (OCS) students must also pass this program.

3. APPROACH OF WWII

- FALL 1928** MU enrollment: 2,932
- NOV 1928** Herbert Hoover was elected U.S. President, defeating Catholic candidate Al Smith, and replacing President Calvin Coolidge.
- FALL 1929** MU enrollment: 3,657 (record high); then stock market crashed.
- 29 OCT 1929** U.S. "Black Thursday" stock market crash began, causing the Great Depression. From 3 Sep 1929 to 8 Jul 1932 the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 90% of its value. Jobs and savings were lost. The Depression put college education out of reach for many. The stock market would not again reach its previous high until 23 Nov 1954: a span of 25 years.
- FALL 1930** MU enrollment: 3,437
- 1931** Marquette U. 75th Anniversary. Celebration was low-key.
- NOV 1932** Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected president over incumbent Herbert Hoover, whom the public blamed for the Great Depression. Roosevelt was elected a record four times as president, dying in office in 1945.
- FALL 1933** MU enrollment: 3,035. Only 636 women were enrolled at MU: typical of universities then.
- 12 DEC 1933** Prohibition ended. The Volstead Act, or 19th Amendment, banned alcoholic beverages in the U.S. for 24 years: from 18 October 1919 until the act was repealed by the 21st Amendment on 12 October 1933.
- 2 OCT 1935** Fascist Italy attacked and annexed Ethiopia.
- FALL 1936** Nazi Germany & Fascist Italy formed Rome-Berlin Axis.
- NOV 1936** President Roosevelt defeated Alf Landon in a landslide.
- 7 JUL 1937** Japan invaded China, launching WWII in the Pacific.
- 12 DEC 1937** Japanese air strike sunk U.S.S. Panay in Yangtze R., Nanking. This incident fed American anxiety about another war.
- 1938** Two new NROTC units were formed: UCLA and Tulane.
- MAR 1938** Germany peacefully absorbed German-speaking Austria.

- 29 SEP 1938** Germany peacefully absorbed Germanic parts of Czech Republic.
- 1939** Three new NROTC units opened at Universities of Minnesota, Michigan and Oklahoma, for a total of 11 units.
- 1939** Faced with the possibility of war, the U.S. was short of capable pilots. Congress authorized the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) to create a Civilian Pilot Training (CPT) program with the help of colleges. Elementary course was 72 credit hours in CAA-chosen subjects; secondary course was 108 classroom hours. Flight training would be done at local airports in at least a 50 HP plane, for 35 hours of flight training (10 hours solo), using CAA texts and equipment.
- APR 1939** Italy invaded and annexed Albania.
- 1 SEP 1939** Nazi Germany invaded Poland, beginning WWII in Europe.
- 1940** Marquette University, with no endowment, suffered low enrollment due to 1930s Depression. With war looming, enlistments further reduced enrollment. MU President Raphael J. McCarthy, S.J., sought donations and acquired property to expand the university, and thus capitalize on the defense buildup.
- 18 JUN 1940** CAA approved was granted for an MU CPT unit on campus and at Curtiss-Wright Airfield, NW of Milwaukee (Hwy. 41.) MU Engineering Dean Franz A. Kartak, Merle Zuehlke of Milwaukee Airways, Inc. and Fr. McCarthy submitted the proposal. As a result, MU initiated aviation training.
- A 15-student class in elementary aviation began in summer 1940; 30 elementary and 10 secondary students took part in fall. MU NROTC staff later conducted some CPT classes.
- SUMMER 1940** Frs. McCarthy and Bartholomew J. Quinn initiated lobbying for MU ROTC units. MU proximity to L. Michigan & Great Lakes Naval Training Center, and the strong engineering program at MU, helped in the case of NROTC.

JUNE 1940

Standard four-year NROTC program was deemed too slow by the Navy for approaching wartime needs. Special temporary programs were created, called "V" for Navy and "M" for Merchant Marine. They were in effect between 1940 - 1946. These programs provided the Navy with college instructors' expertise in math, science and engineering, and well-educated officers. Out of eight such programs, not including NROTC, four eventually operated at MU:

- **V-1: Naval Reserve Officer Candidates.** These single men 17-19 who passed tests could complete two years of college at their expense, and were draft exempt; some transferred to V-5 or V-7 programs.



Fr. McCarthy



Fr. Quinn



Capt. Kelly

V-5: Naval Aviation Cadet (NavCad) Candidates. These were single men 19-25 with at least two years of college who passed tests and took 18 months of training (Naval Flight Prep, Pre-Flight, Preliminary Flight); then Basic at NAS Pensacola & Advanced.

- **V-7: Naval Reserve Midshipman program (Engineering & Deck).** These were single men 19-27 with two years of college, college degrees, or V-12 college curriculum or equivalent. They were given a month of indoctrination and three months at Midshipman school, and commissioned as Ensigns. Training was held at U.S. Naval Academy; U.S.S. Illinois (BB-7), NYC; Columbia; Cornell; Northwestern; and Notre Dame.

V-7 was separate from NROTC programs. Applicants were commissioned as Naval Reserve Ensigns without necessarily graduating college. Some transferred to MU. Many returned after active duty on the G.I. Bill to complete their degrees.

This program produced 4,600 officers nationally in 1940, but weakness in math caused 2,600 others to fail. Requirements were raised to four years of college and at least two semesters of math.

- **V-12: Navy/Marine Officer Candidate “holding” program.** It began at MU in July 1943 and concluded in June 1946. U.S. Navy paid for tuition, books, dorms, messing, pay, and uniforms, and ran physical training, for qualified candidates - including recommended enlisted men and NROTC Midshipmen. (Some transferred to V-5 or V-7 programs.)

After graduation, V-12 men went to Midshipman School (or Marine Boot Camp and Officer Candidate School, Quantico, VA.) Men in this program were enlisted and considered on active duty. Their regimen paralleled that of the U.S. Naval Academy.

MU also conducted Merchant Marine, and Army and Air Force enlisted reserve programs.

The Navy “V” programs impacted Marquette’s NROTC Unit: common branch of service; sharing of drill field and gym; transfers from “V” into NROTC; peer-group spirit; NROTC instructors teaching V-program classes; and NROTC Midshipmen training V-students in drill.

- JUL 1940** Approval of Army ROTC at MU was denied.
- AUG 1940** Approval of Navy ROTC at MU was denied, but lobbying continued.
- 10 SEP 1940** A Navy Bulletin listed steps for college CPT aviation students to join the Navy Reserve, with an obligation to serve if needed.
- 11 SEP 1940** MU gained approval for an NROTC unit, the 12th in the U.S., though effective lobbying. Seven more units were approved in 1940, for a total of 19 NROTCs prior to 1941.

Capt. Frank H. Kelley USN became the MU NROTC Unit’s first commander. Fr. Quinn became Naval Coordinator: liaison between the NROTC Unit and University. Out of 250 freshmen applicants, 140 were accepted after passing tests for mental alertness, physical fitness, high moral character and leadership potential.

NROTC Requirements: a four year bachelor degree program in an approved major; Naval Science courses and drills every semester; and a summer cruise or Marine training after junior year. Candidates had to be unmarried, immunized U.S. citizens under age 24 who had completed trigonometry.

- Mid-OCT 1940** A new MU engineering building was constructed in 1940. That freed Canisius Hall, formerly the engineering library, to become housing and classrooms for NROTC Midshipmen. Uniforms, books and a stipend were provided.
- 31 OCT 1940** Battle of Britain ended: Britain's RAF defeated Nazis in air war.
- NOV 1940** President Roosevelt defeated Wendell Willkie in the presidential election, ignoring the unwritten rule of "two terms only."
- 25 NOV 1940** NROTC Club, which became the Anchor & Chain Society, was formed under its first president, Robert Engesser.
- DEC 1940** "The Porthole" was launched by the NROTC Club as a twice-a-year newspaper. In 1945 it became a yearbook.
- 30 NOV 1940** First MU NROTC Navy Ball entertained 60 Midshipman couples.
- MAY 1941** Marquette enrollment was 4,000, with 25% registered for the draft. From 1941-43, male student population dropped 39%.
- 11 MAY 1941** Five MU NROTC Midshipmen were chosen to attend the U.S. Naval Academy.
- Late MAY 1941** Unit C.O. Capt. Frank Kelley, USN was transferred, and replaced on 30 June by Capt. L.O. Alford.



Capt. Alford

- JUN 1941** Navy V-7 program was supplemented by the V-1 program. V-1 men age 17-19 were recruited to attend college for two years at their expense and begin naval training.

Some entered the V-5 aviation and V-7 naval reserve programs. After sophomore year, V-1s were subject to being called to active duty. Some were moved to V-5 aviation after two years, and others to V-7, in which they were able to finish college.

- SUMMER 1941** Fr. McCarthy arranged for the area north of the gym to be paved both for tennis courts, and for use as the NROTC parade ground. The NROTC rifle range was built in the gym basement, and in December an excellent NROTC Rifle Team was formed.

- FALL 1941** MU enrollment: 4,303 (new high.)



With 72 new NROTC freshmen and nine new sophomores, the Midshipmen cadre rose to 203. The unit moved from crowded Canisius Hall to two-story Bellarmine Hall, previously the engineering college, which housed new NROTC offices & classrooms. University bookstore occupied the basement.

1941

Eight more NROTC units were approved, for a total of 27 units.

NOV 1941

New V-1 program recruited men age 17-19 to attend college two years at personal expense, with guaranteed deferment until then. As juniors they would begin naval training and could be called to active duty.

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