

intensity war with relentless dismounted patrolling.

We can augment the light infantry organization to make it more self-sustaining without greatly increasing the number of C141s required to move it. The ceiling of 10,000 men and 500 C141 sorties is no longer sacrosanct. We must in-

stead look at making the light infantry division more powerful. By making these relatively small changes to improve its sustainability, its communications, and the tactical flexibility of its key weapons, we can greatly increase the light division's usefulness across the entire spectrum of war.

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**Lieutenant Colonel Martin N. Stanton** served in the 2d Battalion, 87th Infantry, 10th Mountain Division, in Somalia. He previously served in the 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry, at Fort Lewis, and is now assistant J-5, U.S. Central Command. He is a 1978 ROTC graduate of Florida Technological University.

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## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN HISTORY

May-June 1946

By the late spring of 1946, the political lines of demarcation that had been taking shape since the end of World War II had become even clearer. In China, Nationalist and Communist factions had clashed openly in spite of intensive international efforts to establish a unified and lasting government. The question of Korean unification also remained a matter of debate, as the Soviet Union insisted upon conditions that would lead to a Korea whose government was dominated by the Communists. In Germany, divergent political interests among the former Allies continued to hamper efforts to reestablish commerce, while in California, United States Marines were called upon to suppress a prison riot.

These and other highlights of the postwar years have been provided by Mr. Bud Hannings, in preparation for his upcoming chronology of the Korean War.

- 1 May** The joint United States-USSR Commission is unable to decide which Korean organizations should be included in the formation of a provisional government. Only the Communists support the proposal—surfaced at the Moscow Conference—that a five-year trusteeship governed by four powers be set up. The United States calls upon the United Nations to discuss the issue during a future session.
- 2 May** President Harry Truman sends Major Albert Arsenault and a contingent of Marines to Alcatraz prison to reinforce civilian police who are attempting to quell a prisoners' riot. The riots are stopped, at a cost of five dead and fourteen injured.
- 26 May** The Allies are unable to arrive at a mutually acceptable plan to permit commerce among the four zones of occupation in Germany. The U.S. Secretary of State finally proposes a plan that will permit the Americans and the British to integrate their zones for purposes of commerce, although the French and the Russians have chosen not to participate.
- 28 May** Special Representative George C. Marshall reports that Nationalist Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek appears to have accepted the Communist occupation of Manchuria, and that he may be willing to permit a team of observers to oversee Peiping, now also in Communist hands. Chiang Kai-shek later meets with his general at Mukden and rejects any such compromise.
- 6 June** The Marine garrison on Guam assumes responsibility for the discipline, care, and feeding of the Japanese who have been imprisoned there as convicted war criminals. Some prisoners who have been sentenced to death are executed by the Marine garrison.
- 7 June** Marshall is able to persuade Nationalist and Communist Chinese forces to agree to a temporary cease-fire of 15 days in Manchuria. In spite of many threats and counter-threats, the truce is extended for an additional 8 days.
- 15 June** The Korean Department of National Defense is renamed the Department of Internal Security, in response to Russian concerns over the term "national defense." The Bureau of Armed Forces and its subordinate Departments of the Army and Navy are abolished and replaced respectively by the Constabulary and the Coast Guard.
- 25 June** Major General Edward M. Almond arrives in Japan. He will eventually serve as Chief of Staff, Far East Command, under General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, and will command the U.S. X Corps during the Korean War.