

General Robert Everett Cushman, Jr.

(1914–1985)

Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps

VITA

Born in St. Paul, Minnesota; graduated from Naval Academy (1935) and attended Marine Officer's Basic School, Philadelphia Navy Yard; 4th Marines and 2^d Marine Brigade in Shanghai (1936–38); naval shipyards at Brooklyn and Portsmouth (1938); Marine detachment, New York World's Fair, and Marine Barracks, Quantico (1940–41); in command of Marine detachment, *USS Pennsylvania*, at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; battalion executive officer, 9th Marines, San Diego (1942); commanded 2^d Battalion, 9th Marines on Bougainville, Guam, and Iwo Jima (1943–45); instructor, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico (1945–48); headed amphibious warfare branch in Office of Naval Research (1948–49); staff member, Central Intelligence Agency (1949–51); assigned as amphibious plans officer to commander in chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleet, London (1951–53); student and faculty member, Armed Forces Staff College (1953–56); commanded 2^d Marine Regiment (1956–57); assistant to the Vice President for national security affairs (1957–61); commanded 3^d Marine Division, Okinawa (1961); assistant chief of staff both for intelligence and for plans, operations, and training at headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (1962–64); commanding general, Camp Pendleton, and 4th Marine Division headquarters nucleus (1964–66); organized and commanded 5th Marine Division (1966); commander of III Marine Amphibious Force and senior advisor, I Corps Tactical Zone, Vietnam (1967–69); deputy director of Central Intelligence Agency (1969–71); 25th Commandant of the Marine Corps (1972–75); died at Fort Washington, Maryland.



U.S. Marine Corps Museum

Portrait by
Albert Murray.

Another of our institutional responsibilities is the development of joint doctrine, tactics, techniques, and equipment for landing forces in amphibious operations. . . . the Marine Corps has made numerous innovative contributions to military doctrine, tactics, and hardware that have proven useful to all of our Armed Forces—and to our allies as well. Significantly, many of these contributions have provided “missing links” between the dimensions of warfare of primary interest to the larger services.

—Statement by Robert E. Cushman, Jr., before
Senate Armed Services Committee (March 1975)