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Marines Get Two 'Firsts'

British Unit Graduates 2 U. S. Officers

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London, (Delayed)—Today was a historic day in two ways for the United States marine corps.

For the first time in the records of either service, an officer of the United States marine corps took the salute and delivered the address at graduation ceremonies of the Royal marines.

Also for the first time—two enlisted men of the United States marines completed the officer-training program of the Royal marine military schools, and it was announced that on the basis of work done in these schools they had been granted commissions as second lieutenants in the United States marine corps.

The ceremonies took place in southwest England, where Col. William T. Clement, U. S. M. C., of Lynchburg, Va., attached to the staff of Admiral Harold T. Stark, commander-in-chief, United States naval forces in Europe, took the salute.

One Is Iowan

Among troops marching smartly past the reviewing stand were the newly-commissioned officers, 2d Lts. Paul Emerson Cramer of Columbus, O., and Walter D. Pickerell of Chariton, Ia.

Col. Clement told the newly-commissioned officers the historic "firsts" were "indicative of the close tie between our corps, and the mutual confidence that we have in each other."

Born in Chariton

Pickerell was born at Chariton, August 6, 1916. He attended Chariton Junior college and then studied for two-and-one-half years at the University of Iowa, where he played football and tennis. He enlisted in the marines at Des Moines September 4, 1940, served at San Diego before joining the embassy detachment in London in 1941. He wears expert bayonet and pistol marksmanship medals.

Both men were made "honorary sergeants" by the Royal marines early in their training course. They were corporals in the United States marines when their foreign training began. Both made the rugby team of the Royal marine military school, where their American-style ideas on low tackles made history.

Naval Selection Unit to Be Here

Commission 2

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