



# *The Black Sands*

PUBLISHED BY THE IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

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**Reunion and Symposium - 14 - 17 February 2013**

**Arlington and Quantico, Virginia**

**Reunion of Honor - 8 - 15 March 2013**

**Guam and Iwo Jima**

## **Dear Iwo Jima Veterans, Families and Friends,**

In May of this year I was elected President/CEO of the Iwo Jima Association of America. The outgoing President, LtGen Hank Stackpole, has become Chairman of the Board of Directors. LtGen Larry Snowden is now the Chairman Emeritus and will continue to give the IJAA the benefit of his experienced leadership. He will head the annual Reunion of Honor to Guam, Saipan/Tinian and Iwo Jima in 2013. LtGen Snowden will also have an active role in major Board decisions.

It is an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to help in accomplishing the IJAA's mission: historical and scholarly study of the Iwo Jima Campaign; education about its enduring importance to the Marine Corps; and the lessons of patriotism for all Americans. This mission is achieved through the teamwork of our Board of Directors, our administrative volunteers and, most of all, our faithful members.

My early review of the various committees has impressed me. The committee heads are joined by other dedicated and skilled Board members who all work exceedingly hard for the Association. It is

my belief that the IJAA will thrive and continue to meet the expectations of our present and future membership and that the membership will continue to support the IJAA with financial contributions and participation in our annual February Seminar and the March Reunion of Honor. I encourage and welcome your comments and suggestions, which will receive careful evaluation.

The Iwo Jima Association of America is strongly committed to the duty we all accept, which is to honor with respect, dignity and sacrifices of all Marines, Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen who fought in this savage and desperate battle. The history of this victory over a fiercely determined foe must be preserved, for we are even now faced with similar challenges.

Your continued support makes it possible to carry out a mission of vital importance to our nation's defense.

Norman H. Smith  
LtGen USMC (Ret)

**P.S. If you want to visit Guam and Iwo Jima with General Snowden in March 2013, please let us know as soon as possible. At this time it appears that only one plane will be available for the visits.**

## **SNAIL MAIL VERSUS EMAIL.**

Should you wish in the future to receive the IJAA Newsletter by email versus USPS, please send your email address to [Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org](mailto:Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org)

## LtGen Snowden Honored at Sunset Parade

IJAA Chairman Emeritus and retired Marine LtGen Lawrence F. Snowden was the Sunset Parade guest of honor July 3 at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va.

Gen Snowden served as company commander of Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division on Iwo Jima and also fought in the battles for Roi Namur, Saipan and Tinian. Wounded on Iwo Jima, he was evacuated to Guam and talked his way on a plane to return to Iwo Jima, where he resumed command of his company and stayed with it for the duration of the campaign.



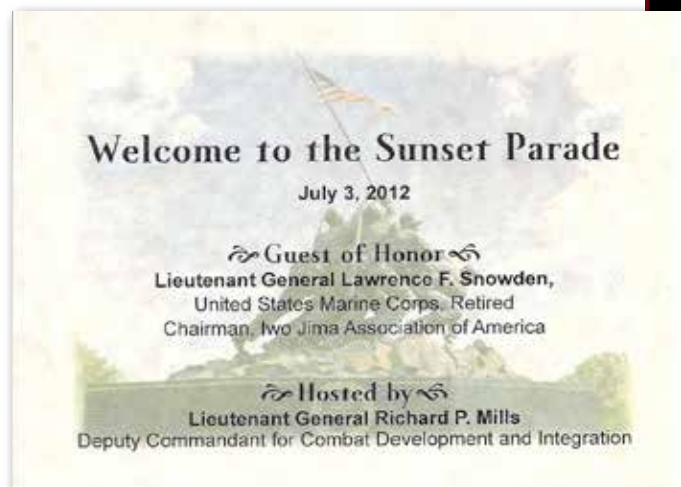
*L-R, retired U.S. Marine LtGen. Lawrence F. Snowden, the chairman of IJAA and Sunset Parade guest of honor; Marine Corps LtGen Richard P. Mills, the deputy commandant for combat development and integration and the evening's host; and Marine Corps Col Christian Cabaniss, the commanding officer of Marine Barracks Washington, salute during a Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, VA, July 3, 2012. Sunset Parades are held every Tuesday during the summer months. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Thomas DeMelo/Released)*

Prior to the Sunset Parade, in which musical and marching units from the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C., pay tribute to those Marines who have given their lives in defense of the country, Gen Snowden was honored at a reception held at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. Other dignitaries in attendance included Japanese Ambassador to the United States

Ichiro Fujisaki and Marine LtGen Richard P. Mills, the deputy commandant for combat development and the evening's Sunset Parade host.

"It was truly an honor," Gen Snowden said of the July 3 events. "I'm not sure I deserved it, but it was quite an honor to be there with all of those great young Marines on the parade field and those in attendance and the huge crowd. And I was very pleased that I could still wear my uniform."

Gen Snowden wore the formal dress Marine Corps uniform he retired in in 1979. "Still fits," he said with a smile.



Retiring after 37 years on active duty, Gen Snowden has remained active in honoring and remembering the sacrifices made by Marines and all servicemen and women during World War II. In June 1972, the general was stationed in Tokyo and served for three years as Chief of Staff, U.S. Forces, Japan, and began a long-standing relationship with the Japanese. In 1985, he attended a reunion for both Japanese and American veterans held on Iwo Jima in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the battle.

Gen Snowden later supported the efforts of fellow Iwo Jima veteran MajGen Fred Haynes, who founded the Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima (later changed to the Iwo Jima Association of America). By 1993-

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94, the group was mature and holding meetings. At one of them, knowing his relationship with the Japanese, Gen Snowden was asked to form the 50th anniversary planning committee.

It was then that concerns began circulating that the Japanese government would not welcome the return to Iwo Jima for another commemoration. So Gen Snowden and Col Warren Wiedhahn flew to Tokyo and met first with members of the Iwo Jima Association of Japan (IJAJ) to discuss a 50th anniversary ceremony.

They next met with then-American Ambassador Walter Mondale. Gen Snowden explained that the intention of the veterans, both American and Japanese, was to commemorate the great loss of “life and limb” that occurred during the ferocious battle and that this commemoration was not just for the living, but also for the families of those whose



*U.S. Marines participate in a Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., July 3, 2012. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Thomas DeMelo/Released)*

sons were still interred on the island.

Ambassador Mondale immediately called on the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the government of Japan removed any restrictions to the 50th anniversary commemoration in 1995. That agreement subsequently al-

lowed veterans of the campaign and others to return to the island one day a year and hold a ceremony to remember the battle and the sacrifices made by both American and Japanese troops.

In attendance at what was now called the “Reunion of Honor” in 1995 was Madam Yoshi-i Kuribayashi, widow of LtGen Tadamichi Kuribayashi, the Japanese commander of Iwo Jima who orchestrated the defense of the island that departed from the previous Japanese defense strategy



*L-R From left, Ichiro Fujisaki, the Japanese ambassador to the United States; retired U.S. Marine Corps LtGen Lawrence F. Snowden, the evening's guest of honor; and Marine Corps LtGen Richard P. Mills, the deputy commandant for combat development and integration and the evening's Sunset Parade host, pose for a photo during a Sunset Parade reception at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Thomas DeMelo/Released)*

of hitting the landing force at the beach.

This one-day event has continued every year since, except in 2011 when a major earthquake and tsunami prohibited the visit and U.S. Marines from the III Expeditionary Force on Okinawa, who would ordinarily be sent to Iwo Jima to escort the visitors around the island, were diverted to Japan to provide humanitarian aid.

Besides the 67th Reunion and Symposium Gen Snowden attended in Washington, D.C., this past February, he also accompanied the tour to Iwo Jima in March, as he has for

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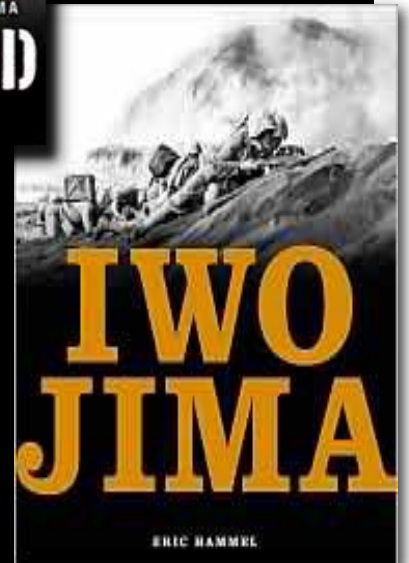
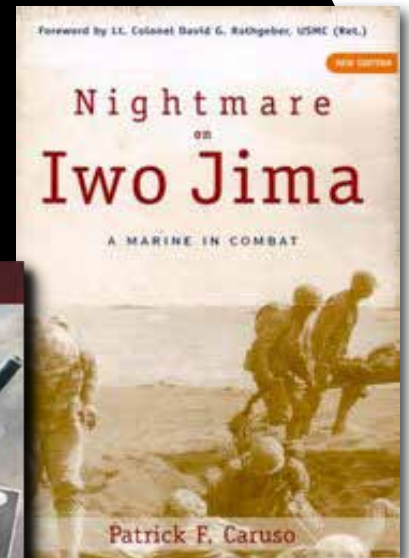
## *The Black Sands*

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years, and plans to make the tour again in 2013.

“That’s very special and emotional,” he said. “I can’t put my feet on the island in the black sands without thinking of all the men who gave their lives and wasn’t as fortunate as I was to survive.”

— Ray Elliott  
rayelliott23@att.net



*Radio King Orchestra*

## **IJAA 2012 Reunion & Symposium Continues Mission of Perpetuating the Legacy of Iwo Jima**

More than 100 Iwo Jima veterans, legacy offspring and others with an interest and a connection to the battle of Iwo Jima attended the 2012 IJAA Reunion and Symposium on Feb. 16-19 at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Va.

Attendees began arriving on the 16th for registration and a scheduled mid-afternoon annual meeting of the IJAA Board of Directors. The hospitality room opened at 6 p.m. and was active until the late hours with pizza, sandwiches and drinks.

This was truly an enjoyable event that was repeated on the night of the 17th. Clearly the hospitality room was an event highlight and hopefully will be repeated for the next scheduled reunion in 2013.

Thanks to Shayne Jarozz, Executive Director of IJAA, and his family for their efforts and hard work in organizing and providing the food and drinks for

this thoroughly enjoyed activity.

Scheduled events kicked off on Friday at 8:30 a.m. when attendees boarded the buses for Quantico for the annual trip to the Marine Corps Heritage Center. Shortly after arrival, attendees were ushered into the museum center. Colors were presented by the ceremonial platoon from MCB Quantico, and Chaplain LCdr Arthur Wiggins, USN, gave the invocation.

LtGen Lawrence "Larry" Snowden, USMC (Ret.) and IJAA Chairman, made the opening remarks and welcomed the attendees, who were joined by a contingent of VMI cadets from the VMI NROTC Unit. Gen Snowden also introduced Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki, who was in the audience and who took the opportunity to thank the U.S. Marines for the assistance rendered in the aftermath of the tragic earthquake and tsunami that struck northern Japan last

year. His expression of gratitude was moving and expressed the friendship and appreciation for the relationship our nation has with Japan.

The guest of honor was the current Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen James Amos, USMC, who was introduced by BrigGen John W. Bullard, USMC. The Commandant was just into what would be a most memorable speech, when the museum fire alarm sounded and interrupted his speech.

As he continued, the fire alarm again sounded. Many believed this was a fire drill gone bad; however, the third alarm sound was followed by a loud-speaker's voice which announced, "This is no drill; please evacuate the

building."

Surely, the interruption of a CMC speech by a fire

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*LtGen Lawrence Snowden, IJAA chairman emeritus, Gen Joseph F. Dunsford, Jr., assistant commandant of the Marine Corps and LtGen Hank Stackpole, IJAA chairman at the reception prior to the 67th Iwo Jima Symposium and Reunion Banquet.*

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was a once-in-a-lifetime event.

After about 30 minutes outdoors, the attendees along with the Commandant and his staff were given the all-clear and returned to the museum so the Commandant could complete his speech. It was a unique experience in which we learned that the CMC has a sense of humor and that some events in life are indeed unpredictable.

Thereafter, the CMC resumed his speech, whose theme was the perpetual maintaining of the spirit and values of the Corps represented by the legacy written in blood on Iwo Jima, at the Chosin Reservoir in Korea, at Khe Sanh and Hue in Vietnam, at Fallujah in Iraq, and currently in Helmand Province in Afghanistan.

The Commandant went on to say that retaining the spirit and values of the Corps was his most important task and that should be the same for all Marines. He added that the annual Reunion of Honor on Iwo Jima

more than overcame the interruption caused by the fire alarm and evacuation order.

Following the Commandant's speech, attendees were on their own to tour the museum and have lunch at Tun Tavern before boarding buses at 2 p.m. for the wreath-laying at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington Cemetery and returning to the Sheraton.

Activities for Thursday night continued at the hospitality room with drinks, eats and socializing though the late hours.

Saturday's primary activity was the symposium, which began with Colors presented by the Young Marines, which was followed with the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

Col Richard "Dick" Camp once again gave his superb Pre D-Day operation presentation and was followed by Capt Jeff Boroway, USN (CEC), and IJAA's own Diane Kuebler with a presentation on "The Seabees of Iwo Jima."

Closing the morning presentations was the panel of Iwo Jima veterans, including IJAA's Gen Snowden, who gave their personal accounts of the battle as remembered from so many years ago. The well-attended presentations were followed with question-and-answer periods.

Lunch was at 12:30 p.m., and the guest speaker was BrigGen Michael Rocco, Director Strategy & Plans Division, Plans, Policies and Operations, HQMC. Gen Rocco gave a comprehensive speech on the current status of the Marine Corps and the plans for the future as the Corps transitions from heavy engagement in Afghanistan and refocuses on its amphibious roots and on the Far East.

After lunch and Gen Rocco's speech, all attendees were on their own until 7 p.m. when the pre-banquet cocktail reception began. The Marine Corps Band provided a patriotic interlude beginning at 7:45 p.m. and continuing through the presentation of Colors. The Master of Ceremonies, IJAA's Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret.), introduced the head table and other special guests.

LtGen "Hank" Stackpole, USMC (Ret) and President of IJAA, introduced the Guest of Honor, A/Comm Gen

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*LtGen Lawrence Snowden with Col Richard "Dick" Rothwell at Banquet. Also, Gen Joseph F. Dunsford, Jr., IJAA board member Gene Bell and Mrs. Rebecca Rothwell.*

and the work and goals of IJAA indeed foster the continuation of the spirit of the Corps.

Gen Amos' speech, which included a historical journey from Belleau Wood onward was truly inspiring and



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Joseph Dunford Jr. USMC. Gen Dunford's speech focused on the legacy of Iwo Jima and its effect on today's Marine fighting in Afghanistan.

Music was again provided by the Radio King Orchestra, which played all the old tunes and brought out the hoofers, old and young alike. It was a lively dancing group of Marines and their families that closed out the last scheduled event of the 2012 reunion and symposium.

Gen Dunford and his wife circulated among the crowd and visited with a number of attendees, including Col Richard "Dick" Rothwell, Iwo's oldest surviving veteran and one of three living battalion commanders who was in attendance with his wife, Rebecca, and son Charles. (Col Rothwell passed away on May 7, 2012, at age 99.)

On Sunday, an early-morning closing meeting of the IJAA and the board was held. Highlights of the meeting were the resignation of Gen Snowden, who will remain a consultant and coordinator of the Reunions of Honor as Chairman Emeritus; the naming of Gen Stackpole as Chairman and LtGen Norman Smith, USMC (Ret), as President; Gene Overstreet, former SgtMaj of the Marine Corps, was also appointed as a board member.

A number of proposals recommending how the IJAA may accomplish its objectives of educating the public and ensuring that the legacy of Iwo Jima endures were made. Bonnie Haynes made

some suggestions regarding marketing of the IJAA and its goals and will be tasked with developing those ideas.

Discussions were held on how IJAA may integrate its activities with organizations with Iwo Jima connections, including a group from Connecticut, which currently supports an Iwo Jima memorial park. Alternate sites for future reunions were also discussed, and proposed sites will be given some consideration, but for the interim it was unanimously agreed that the Sheraton National in Arlington.

-- John Butler,  
jbutler813@verizon.net



*Group photo of Iwo Jima veterans attending the banquet on the last night of the 67th Iwo Jima Anniversary Symposium and reunion.*



#### **About the Author**

John Butler, an IJAA board member and Marine veteran, is the son of LtCol John Butler, 1/2/27 battalion commander on Iwo Jima. Col Butler was killed on Mar. 5, 1945, and was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously.

## Japanese flag returned on Iwo 67 years later

Awhile after Fifth Marine Division Association Life Member Ernie Petersen (HQ/4/13) died in Jan. 2010, his widow, Ruth Steffens, contacted me about returning a flag she assumed he had brought home from Iwo Jima. By that time, the 2010 annual “Reunion of Honor” on Iwo Jima had been held in mid-March, where I knew flags had been returned to Japanese officials during past meetings of the two former enemies. Since we didn’t have information on the family of the soldier whose flag it had been, Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret.) and president of Military Historical Tours, whose company makes the annual trek to Iwo Jima, suggested hanging onto the flag until the 2011 “Reunion of Honor.”

Which I did.

Unfortunately, a 9.0 earthquake hit Japan in early March just as MHT was leaving Los Angeles for Guam and the one-day event on Iwo Jima with veterans and others to honor the sacrifices made by the men on both sides of the battle, and the resulting tsunami, cancelled the trip to the island. Members of the Marine Expeditionary Force, III MEF, were immediately deployed to Japan (rather than to Iwo Jima to assist with the ceremony and tour of the island) to provide supplies and humanitarian assistance to the Japanese-led relief efforts following the earthquake and tsunami that struck northern Japan on Mar. 11.

So I brought the flag home. This year, LtGen Lawrence Snowden, USMC, (Ret.), company commander of F/2/23, Fourth Marine Division during the battle for Iwo Jima, presented the flag to Yasunori Nishi, son of Baron Nishi, the 1936 Olympian equestrian champion killed on Iwo Jima on Mar. 22, 1945. Nishi, president of the Iwo Jima Association of Japan, reportedly took a keen interest in the flag. And at a regularly scheduled ceremony at the Yasukuni Shrine, located in Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan, a large number of people who are members of the association but didn’t go to Iwo Jima, examined the flag and were told of its history and how it was returned.

Which was great to hear and reinforced the effort to return the flag. But there was a twist.



*LtGen Lawrence Snowden, chairman emeritus IJAA, and Yasunori Nishi, president of the Iwo Jima Association of Japan, with flag returned on Iwo Jima Mar. 14, 2012.*

According to Dan King, Japanese linguist and historical consultant who had translated the writing on the flag, “They say the Japanese soldier whose flag this once belonged to didn’t die on Iwo Jima. The name ‘Kenzo Matso’ is not found on their Iwo Jima war-dead roster.”

Ruth Steffens, who had found the flag after Ernie’s death, knew nothing about it before and had married Ernie after both of their spouses had died. She said as far as she knew he was not in any other island campaign during the war. That was later verified.

Ruth said Ernie was in Nagasaki during the Occupation and had “a couple of albums of photos of the bombing sites.” So it is possible that he got the flag in Japan during the Occupation. Ruth had also sent two flags (one pictured above) that she suggested be kept by the Fifth Marine Division Association. Checking the names on the flags, I found only one of Ernie’s buddies (Charles Doyle Sr. in HS/4/13) in his outfit on Iwo Jima and in the Occupation in Japan who was a member of the Fifth Marine Division Association.

Charlie Doyle lived in Yermo, Calif. I spoke to to his son and learned that his father had died in January 2012.  
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## The Black Sands

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The son said Ernie had visited some 10 years ago, that his father also had a flag and other items but knew nothing about where the flags had been picked up. So the flag could have come from the Second Division men listed on the flags, since the division was in other battles.

Back to Dan King: "On Kenzo Matsui's battle flag there is a signature by a LtGen Shoushou, but the name of the high-ranking officer is so beautifully handwritten [in Japanese] it is hard to read, but I could make out the rank. That might give the Japanese a clue where he came from, if if the officer was a relative."

Then Dan received information from a friend in the IJAJ who told him that "they were able to read the name of LtGen Tomotoki Kobe (1890-1983), mistakenly listed in some English websites as Hiroshi Kobe."

"We are not sure of the connection between LtGen Kobe and the flag's owner, Kenzo Matsuo. Basically, it seems Kobe has no direct connection to Iwo Jima. Kobe was a colonel as the commander of the 11th Infantry Regiment in Burma until he was promoted in August 1944 and given command of the 54th Infantry Brigade also in Burma Theater. He survived the war and died in 1983. Because Kobe signed the flag with the rank of lieutenant general we know the flag dates sometime after 1944."

Ruth later e-mailed that she had received a letter from the Japanese Office of Foreign Affairs, thanking her for returning the flag, but advising her that they couldn't find out to whom the flag belonged.

Then Yasunori Nishi wrote, "After we returned to Tokyo,

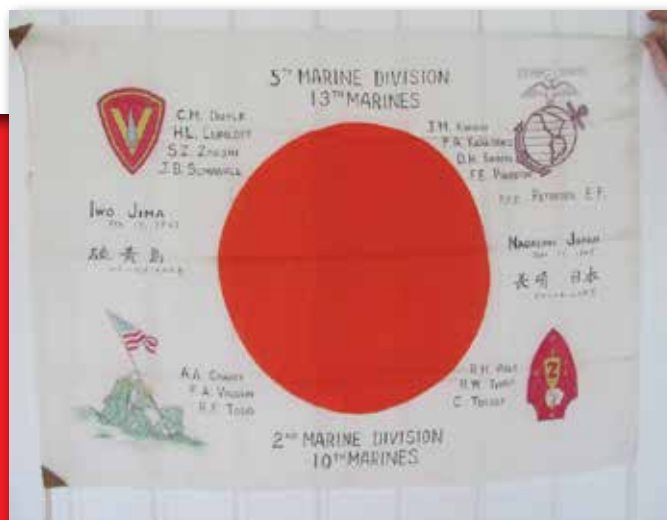
we started search for the family of the original owner of the flag referring our data and list of the war dead on Iwoto. Unfortunately, we could not find the name Mr. Kenzo Matsuo who should be the owner of the flag anywhere in the list. So we came to think that the flag was obtained, not on Iwoto but somewhere else, such as Guam, Saipan, Tinian, etc. Therefore, we requested on April 27 the Social Welfare and War Victims Relief Bureau, Ministry of Labor, Health & Welfare, to continue the search for Kenzo Matsuo. Then on May 14, we received the note from the Ministry that they were also unsuccessful to find the name after going through their own data materials and sending inquiries to all prefectures.

"Thus, the result of the investigation was no one on our side was successful to find the family of Kenzo Matsuo. So we decided to enshrine the flag, which made it home 67 years after the war at the War Museum (Yushu-kan) of Yasukuni Shrine. Through the good office of Chief Priest Ichihashi, it became an official part of their collection on May 23, to tell the story and give lessons of war forever.

"Although it took a while since we received the flag on Mar. 14, please convey our gratitude for and the homecoming of the flag that was kindly returned to Japan.

— Ray Elliott  
rayelliott23@att.net

*One of the flags Ernie Petersen brought back from Japan*



## The Parzini Iwo Jima Model

Tucked away in the heart of New York City sits a piece of the history of the United States Marine Corps. The former Rochette and Parzini Foundry, a bustling center of industry from 1904 until 1967 which produced sculptures for famous installations throughout the United States (such as the Smithsonian Institute, the Senate Building in Washington, the World's Fair, St. Patrick's Cathedral the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart and the Fuller Building ) is now an intimate studio of art and music welcoming visitors as they enjoy the performers, lecturers and exhibits from around the globe. Here at this site, amidst all these social arts events, stands watch a sculpture of the Flag Raising at Iwo Jima. The plaster casting, measuring 46" x 33," was signed by Parzini himself and was created as a modello/maquette for the Times Square presentation which took place on Feb. 22, 1945. Rochette and Parzini were commissioned to create this statue by the Committee of the Motion Picture Industry who along with the U.S. Department of Treasury raised money for World War II. The February fundraiser was legendary in its achievement and contributed to the swift and successful conclusion of the War.

By the late 1970s the Rochette and Parzini Foundry had closed and was left to ruin. Much of its beautiful and patriotic artwork had been left inside the building. When newly immigrated Hungarian photographer and film-maker, Clara Aich, first saw the foundry, she fell in love with it, especially the assortment of reliefs, sculptures and artwork which had been left behind. Among those sculptures was the maquette in commemoration of the heroic flag raising by our valiant men on Mount Suribachi.

During the course of purchasing this property, Ms Aich had the honor of meeting the renown sculptor, Archie Parzini, who himself showed Ms Aich through the foundry pointing out the maquette and his own signature at its base. Upon purchasing this important building and contents, Ms Aich was then determined to preserve its historic

and esthetic value, sparing no expense to save both the structure and its sculptures.

For many years while the foundry was Ms. Aich's commercial photography studio, she carefully researched the history Rochette and Parzini as well as the history of the Iwo Jima maquette. Having experienced communist rule in her native country, she was deeply moved by this representation of the struggle for freedom.

Contact: Michela Musolino  
(973) 744-1262  
(973) 930-1110



*Currently, the artist's original plaster model of the Flag Raising on Iwo Jima, made by the Rochette and Parzini Foundry in New York City, is available for sale by its owner. It is currently displayed in its original location at the foundry where it was produced in 1945 as part of the bond effort. The statue is signed by the artists.*

**Searching for 13th Marines who served on  
Iwo Jima**

I have enjoyed your web site for some time. I attended the reunion dinner at Camp Pendleton this past weekend as I have for about 12 years.

My dad, Frank J. Curry, was a forward observer with the 13th Marines, K Battery on Iwo. Unfortunately he passed away in 1995 but had to go out with a bang — he passed on 2-23-95.

He had to be waiting for that date.

I met several gentlemen at the Pendleton reunion that were FO's with the 13th, batteries H and L and obtained an email address from one of the men but haven't heard back yet. My question is do you have any specific information or contacts from the 13th Marines?

My dad put marks next to about ten names in his Spearhead. If I could make contact with one of them or a son/daughter, I think it would be an honor.

My dad came from the Bronx, NY and was born of immigrant Irish parents who settled in the Bronx. Any help is greatly appreciated and thanks for your excellent preservation of this battle.

Thanks again!  
Semper Fi!

Kevin Curry  
kevincurry1@cox.net

Editor's Note: Who are the ten Marines your father had marks by in his Spearhead? And how about joining the IJAA and coming to Washington in February 2013 for the 68th Iwo Jima Reunion and Symposium?

I am assisting a friend in locating information on her father, George Edward DOSCH. DOSCH retired at the rank of Major in the reserves, but it appears he was either a gunnery sergeant or lieutenant while on Iwo Jima. He received the Silver Star for his actions on 24 FEB 1945. The Silver Star citation states that DOSCH was a Machine Gun Platoon Leader of Company G, Second Battalion, Twenty-first Marines, Third Marine Division. George Edward DOSCH died in 1967.

Do you have any suggestions on how I can locate any fellow Marines that served with DOSCH on Iwo? Is there a roster available to his daughter or some other method of connecting with his fellow Marines or their families?

Thanks you very much for your assistance.

With Respect,

Ron

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## Farm boy from Earle a 'one man regiment'

Doug Watson was probably the least likeliest person you would suspect of having earned the nation's highest military honor.

He was slight of build, weighing in at only 140 pounds. He was quiet and unassuming and somewhat of a loner.

He certainly did not fit the image of a hero, not for a Marine anyway. But for the men who were with him on Iwo Jima in 1945, Watson, a lowly private, was a "one man regiment."

The farm boy from Earle, Ark., single-handedly knocked out two Japanese pillboxes and killed over 60 enemy soldiers by the time his platoon finally reached him, an act of heroism which earned him a Medal of Honor.

Wilson Douglas Watson was born on Feb. 18, 1921, in Tuscumbia, Alabama, one of 10 boys in the Charlie and Ada Posey Watson family. Charlie Watson farmed and ran a saw mill in the Barton community where a young Doug worked alongside his father starting at the age of 11. Charlie Watson later moved the family to a farm in Earle in 1938 where they sharecropped.

Doug attended school through the seventh grade and was inducted into the Marine Corps in Little Rock on Aug. 6, 1942. After completing basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Watson became a member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 9th Regiment of the 3rd Marine Division. The unit underwent intensive amphibious training at Camp Elliott in San Diego. Before being reassigned to the 3rd Marine Division, the unit was assigned to the Amphibious Corp, Pacific Fleet. He was sent overseas on Jan. 24, 1943, and participated in the invasions of Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Guam and Iwo Jima as an automatic rifleman.

Watson's division initially remained afloat off Iwo Jima in reserve. It was hoped that the 3rd would not be needed and would be available for the upcoming Okinawa campaign. The battle for Iwo Jima was entering its sixth day

when Watson and his comrades landed on the beach at Iwo Jima around mid-morning on Feb. 25, 1945.

The 3rd Division faced stiff enemy resistance. The terrain was a nightmare – ravines, ledges, and ridges heavily fortified by pillboxes, caves and covered artillery emplacements. Progress was slow and casualties heavy during the first few days of fighting. G Company pushed through the debris and skirted pillboxes and shell holes to move up the slope of the Iwo beachhead to the perimeter of the first Montoyama airstrip. The airstrip was by now securely in American hands but only after the men of the Fifth Marine Division fought off a carefully planned and executed Japanese counterattack down the main runway.

The Japanese were still raining down mortar and artillery fire as Watson and the Ninth Marines settled into their foxholes for the night, a noise that made it nearly impossible to get any sleep. The platoon had orders to move out in the morning.

Watson's platoon took place in the line around 0730 hours. They were to begin their attack at 0930 and push over the ledge of a 15-foot high bank which ringed the southern tip of the second Montoyama airstrip.

Withering rifle and machine gun fire poured over their heads as they scrambled up the embankment. The first Marines of the Ninth Regiment who led the advance were cut down in a deadly hail of bullets from Japanese pillboxes which seemed to belch death from every little knoll.

Watson and his comrades were hit hard, barely managing to advance 15 yards. Just ahead and slightly to the right was the pillbox that kept them pinned down. Watson half crawled and half ran around the flank of the pillbox and rushed the enemy bunker, spraying the aperture with bullets from his Browning Automatic. He then moved closer to the entrance until he was close enough

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*(Continued from page 12)*

to hurl two grenades inside, killing four Japanese soldiers and taking out two machine guns.

Two and a half hours had passed since the platoon had first advanced. They had barely moved 50 yards and casualties had been heavy. Around sunset, acting on orders from his company commander, 1stLt Paul F. McClellan of Lantry, S.D. who had taken over when Capt Francis Fagan was hit, Watson then methodically cleaned out another pillbox, making two for the day. He ran to the rear of the pillbox and killed two Japanese soldiers who tried to flee after Watson had tossed a grenade into their dug out, killing the rest of their companions.

The next morning, the Ninth Marines were directed to take a hill which had been directing a murderous artillery and mortar barrage on the advancing American troops. Watson's platoon advanced following a coordinated artillery barrage by Navy guns and rocket-firing aircraft, but were soon pinned down about 20 yards from the crest by Japanese defenders who were concealed in their concrete defensive positions. When the artillery barrage lifted, Watson, with his assistant gunner, scaled the jagged incline under fierce mortar and machine gun fire. With his right hand on the trigger and stock of his BAR and with the left hand balancing the barrel, Watson stood up and fired from the hip as he dauntlessly charged up the slope.

Fighting furiously against Japanese troops attacking with grenades and knee mortars, Watson stood his ground and held the hill under savage fire for fifteen minutes, killing 60 Japanese before his ammunition ran out. Finally, the Leathernecks broke through and lunged over the summit. It came in the nick of time. Watson had only two rounds left in his BAR.

Watson stalked another pillbox and killed its two occupants. Then he attacked another position that had pinned down four Marines and wiped it out. He was leading a squad against another bunker when mortar fragments hit him in the shoulder. Not seriously wounded, he continued to fight until his captain ordered him off for treatment. Watson was shot seven times in the attack. He said later that he didn't even know he was hit until he looked down and saw that he was bleeding.

Watson was later evacuated from Iwo Jima after he was shot in the neck on Mar. 2, 1945. In two days of fighting on Iwo Jima, Watson single-handedly killed 90 Japanese and



*Doug Watson receiving Medal of Honor from President Harry Truman*

became known as the "one man regiment" of Iwo Jima. He was presented the Medal of Honor at the White House by President Harry Truman on Oct. 5, 1945. According to his citation, Watson's "courageous initiative and valiant fighting spirit against devastating odds" allowed his platoon to advance.

Watson's division began preparing for the invasion of the home island, but Japan surrendered in Aug. 1945. The 3rd Marine Division was deactivated on Dec. 28, 1945 at Camp Pendleton. Doug returned home where the town of Earle threw him a big parade, complete with the Budweiser Clydesdales that were brought all the way from St. Louis to welcome their hero home. The local Rotary Club presented him with a 12 gauge shotgun in appreciation of his actions.

After his enlistment expired, Watson joined the Air Force in 1946 where he was stationed at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, then re-enlisted in the Army as a private, where he worked as a mess hall cook. He was known for his fabulous looking cakes.

*(Continued on page 14)*

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Doug Watson never said much about his time in the war. Carl Hurst, who worked with Watson in the mess hall at Fort Rucker, Ala., back in 1962, thought his buddies were joking when they told him that Watson had won the Medal of Honor. The Doug Watson he knew wouldn't hurt a flea. Hurst was at the post library one afternoon and ran across a book about World War II Medal of Honor winners and sure enough, there it was. The citation read: "Wilson Douglas Watson, Oct. 5, 1945, 'for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Automatic Rifleman serving with the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, Third Marine Division, during action against enemy forces on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, 26 and 27 Feb., 1945.'"

Not letting on that he knew, Hurst asked Watson about it one day. "I didn't tell him I saw it in the book," Hurst recalled in a 2011 interview. "I saw him and said, 'Watson, somebody told me you have a Medal of Honor. Is that right?' He said matter-of-factly, 'Yeah, I got one.' I said 'Well you're a real hero. I'm glad to meet you.' He said, 'No, I'm not a hero. I just did what I had to do. There were probably 100 Marines on that beach that day that deserved the medal more than I did. They just weren't seen by the right people.'"

When he asked him what happened, Watson told him: "I was just running on adrenaline. The only thing on my mind was that I knew we had to knock out those machine gun nests or they were sure to kill us all."

Still a private in his 40s, Watson got into hot water with the Army in 1962 when he went AWOL. Hurst remembered Watson being a heavy drinker who every once in a while would go AWOL for a few days around pay day. "It was kind of a joke in the company," Hurst said. "Everyone would laugh and say, 'Well, Watson's gone again. But he'll be back when he runs out of money.'" Paul Watson said in 2011 that his brother never did have a whole lot of respect for authority: "He would do that once in a while. Sometimes he just decided that he would go home and not go back."

Watson was arrested and charged with desertion. The incident garnered national attention in the press. Watson called his wife and told her to call the newspapers

to tip them off that he was in jail. An Associated Press photo which appeared in newspapers across the country shows Watson awaiting Army disciplinary action in the Crittenden County Jail in Marion, Ark. He admitted to being AWOL, but thought it only natural to go to his wife when she was ill – with or without the Army's permission. He also expressed his displeasure about being relegated to a cook in the peacetime Army. He was a man of action. The Army didn't like the notoriety of arresting a Congressional Medal of Honor winner. Watson was busted back down to private.

Watson retired from the Army in 1966 with the rank of staff sergeant. He came back to Arkansas in 1969, settling in Clarksville, where he worked as a game warden and indulged his love of hunting and fishing in his spare time. Doug Watson died on Dec. 19, 1994 in Russellville, Ark. at age 73.

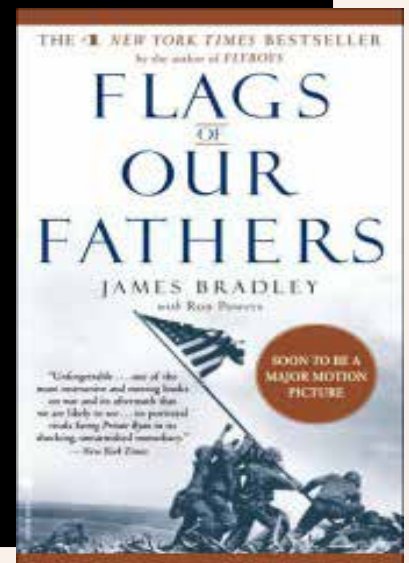
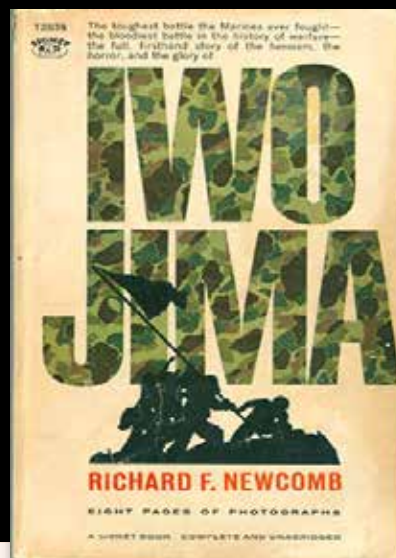
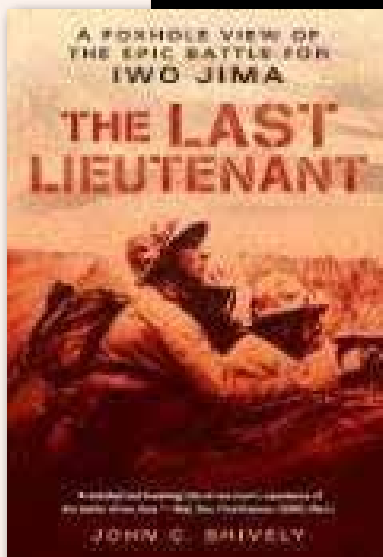
### **About the Author**

Mark Randall has been an award-winning journalist for 13 years and currently works as a reporter for the Evening Times in West Memphis, Ark. He has taught history classes at Arkansas State University and holds a bachelor's degree in history from Northeastern University in Boston, Mass., a master's degree in broadcast journalism from Syracuse University, and a second master's degree in history from Arkansas State University.





## The Black Sands



## ONE BEACH – FIRST WAVE: TWO MARINES

“Thirty-six days ... I only wish. The Corps had me stay one extra ... ’til day 37!” John Lauriello (A-1-27) said, laughing, at the IJAA’s 67th Iwo Jima Reunion in February.

Lauriello, not the only Marine who had to overstay his “reservation” on that fateful island, realized the humor in his statement. Thousands of other Marines, such as fellow IJAA member George Alden, (A-1-27) also had their own battle service on Iwo.

However, their tenure there would be much shorter: wounds and death would see to that. Despite the length of their service, long or short, few of the invasion Marines would share the distinction of landing on any of the beaches in the first wave that first day. For these two Marines, Lauriello and Alden, it was a fateful landing on Iwo Jima’s Red Beach Two on the morning of Feb. 19, 1945, in the First Wave.

When LtGen Todamichi Kuribayashi, the commander of Iwo Jima’s Japanese forces, surveyed Iwo’s potential landing beaches in anticipation of the American invasion, even he could not imagine the strength of the Marine assaults that would cross those black sands.

The assault on beaches Green, Red One, Red Two, Yellow One, Yellow Two, Blue One and Blue Two would total 30,000 Marines from the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions ashore by the end of the first day. These beaches would also become the starting point for close to a total of 40,000 more U.S. Marines by the end of the battle in March.

Two of these Marines, Alden and Lauriello, would not meet each other in person for another 67 years, although they would serve within yards of each other and advance over Red Beach at the same time that February morning. Also, despite being in the Iwo Jima Association of America for years, until the most recent reunion in Washington they did not realize their common connection of Red Beach Two – First Wave or even of each other’s existence.

For Lauriello, “Wireman” would become his MOS on Iwo because his electronic repair skills would not be

needed for this invasion. He would endure 36 combat days on Sulfur Island. While his injuries involved being bashed, slammed, torn, and his own helmet flipping forward and almost smashing his front teeth out, there was no direct enemy combat wound.

“Thankfully,” John related, “I was one of the lucky ones.”

Sgt Alden, on the other hand, led his men ashore on Red Beach and advanced through the initially quiet sands. However, by D +3 he was wounded in combat and soon evacuated.

These two members of the IJAA were that close to each other on the first day in the first wave on Red Beach Two and would remain unknown to each other until an IJAA associate member read both of their inscriptions on a photo of Rosenthal’s flag-raising that they signed for him at the conference. Alden wrote, “A-1-27-5th Div. – 1st Wave, Red Beach 2,” while Lauriello signed, “5th Marine Div. 27th Reg., 1st Wave, Red Beach.”

In casual conversation later, when asked where they were both positioned relative to one another during the initial Feb. 19 assault, Lauriello answered, “No idea; never met him [Alden].”

At the Saturday evening IJAA banquet, Alden more or less related the same story, noting that everyone he served with that morning “was now gone; none left.” Later in the evening, with both of their sons present, the two seasoned Marines were coaxed out to the hotel’s banquet reception area to meet for the first time after hitting Red Beach decades ago.

Said Alden to Lauriello: “I know why we never met – they [the Japanese] got me on Day 3, and I was evacuated.” Replied Lauriello, “Well, I stayed a bit longer.”

Smiling for a photo together some 67 years later as comrades in arms who had stormed one hellish beach in that determined first wave stood two grateful, venerable Marines.

*(Continued on page 17)*

(Continued from page 16)

— Warren Mason  
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### About the Author

Warren Mason is a Professor of Business at Plymouth State University in New Hampshire. His uncle was a Marine during the Korean War era, and his father served as an enlisted Marine in the Pacific Theater during WWII with Marine Bomber Squadron 443. He is an Associate Member of the Fifth Marine Division Association and the Iwo Jima Association of America.



*(L-R), Iwo Jima veteran John Lauriello (A-1-27), IJAA Associate member Warren Mason and George Alden (A-1-27). Mason introduced the two at the February IJAA 67th Iwo Jima Reunion and Symposium. The two landed on Red Beach on Feb 19, 1945, in the First Wave, had never met before, even though were only yards apart and in the same company.*



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# The Japanese Amulet

Mrs. Teruko Abe (The-ROO-koe AH-beh) is the only Japanese WWII war widow to visit Iwo Jima year after year. She was an army nurse during the war in China where she met her future husband, a wounded army corporal named Tadashi Abe. After his discharge, they were married and had a family. But as the war situation worsened, he was recalled.

He was in the Nishiyana Platoon, 1st Company (HQ), 20th Independent

Mortar Battalion, 2nd Mixed Brigade, 109th Division, under Gen Tadamichi Kuribayashi, Japanese commander on Iwo Jima. The 20th Mortar Battalion had six of the heavy Type 98, 320 mm "spigot" mortars, which were used with deadly accuracy and skill on Iwo Jima. His

remains were never recovered. Mrs. Abe never remarried, but raised

their daughter alone and worked as a nurse long in to her 70s.

Mrs. Abe is now 96 years old and spends several months making amulets by hand, including the envelopes, to be

given to Americans who visit Iwo Jima in the hopes we will all strive to ensure our two nations never go to war again. The amulets are made from silk kimono material and are called "kai awase" (kye ah-WAH-say), which means "two halves of a clam shell coming together." It symbolizes the peaceful union of two sides coming together to make up a whole, like two hands folded in a prayer.

The amulet is believed to prevent illness while bringing good fortune because it is imbued with the good will of the amulet's creator.



*Teruko Abe (left) with Cpl Tadashi Abe, 1939*

—Dan King

[squidninja2000@yahoo.com](mailto:squidninja2000@yahoo.com).

## About the Author

Dan King, author of *The Last Zero Fighter*, is a historical consultant who has worked on several movies. [www.historicalconsulting.com](http://www.historicalconsulting.com)



*Mrs. Abe's brother, Kiyoshi Kageyama with Abe. Kiyoshi died in the invasion of Wake Island on Jan. 23, 1941*



# Remembrance

"Iwo Jima was the most savage and the most costly battle in the history of the Marine Corps," LtGen Holland M. Smith acknowledged. When the battle ended, 6,821 Americans had been killed and 19,000 wounded.

At the base of Mount Suribachi, a little south of Motoyama Airfield No. 1, thousands of young men lay buried in the cemeteries of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Division. Row upon row of white crosses and stars were seen by the troops as they regrouped to leave the island.

Joe Rosenthal's photograph of the raising of the American flag on Mount Suribachi provided the image of that horrible battle, but the words of Lt Roland Gittlesohn, CHC, USNR, furnished its meaning. Lt Gittlesohn was the first Jewish rabbi assigned to the Marine Corps and he, like his fellow chaplains, ministered to all faiths in combat. The rabbi knew the horrors of war and the toll it took on the men.

At the Fifth Marine Division Cemetery dedication on Mar. 21, 1945, Division Chaplain Warren Cuthriell asked Rabbi Gittlesohn to deliver the memorial sermon at a combine Protestant, Catholic and Jewish service. Chaplain Cuthriell wanted a single, nondenominational ceremony to honor the men of different races and religions united as Marines. It was not to be; the Protestant and Catholic chaplains objected to the idea of a combined service and a rabbi preaching over mostly Christian graves.

Sammy Bernstein of Massachusetts remembers the incident well. Bernstein was a 20-year-old corporal who had been asked by Rabbi Gittlesohn to be his helper. The two shared a foxhole for two nights on Iwo before the cemetery dedication. "My job was to man the machine gun and protect him; sometimes I'd steal him some coffee," Bernstein recalled. "I didn't know it at the time, but that must have been what the rabbi was writing in the foxhole."

Bernstein was at Gittlesohn's side at the bottom of the steps leading to the platform where the service would be conducted and heard the chaplains tell the rabbi that he would not be giving the eulogy. Rabbi Gittlesohn accepted this but asked Bernstein to bring a jeep around and pick him up immediately after the ceremony. The rabbi also asked Bernstein to gather up the Jewish boys and send them to a certain area of the cemetery. A few minutes after the main ceremony, Gittlesohn delivered his original eulogy to Bernstein and the 25 or so gathered there.

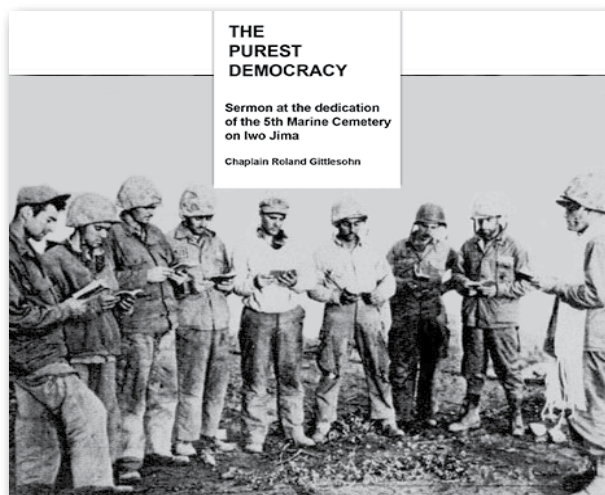
Several Protestant chaplains, angered at the attitudes of their colleagues, attended the service. Unknown to the rabbi, thousands of copies of the sermon were later circulated among the troops who then sent them home for the families to read. Gittlesohn's eulogy appeared in hometown newspapers and coverage spread even further when excerpts were published in Time magazine. The entire sermon was later inserted into the Congressional Record.

Rabbi Gittlesohn's words remain powerful and timeless. Here is an excerpt:

"This is perhaps the grimmest, and surely the holiest task we have faced since D-Day. Here before us lie the bodies of comrades and friends. Men who until yesterday or last week laughed with us, joked with us, trained with us. Men who were on the same ships with us, and went over the sides with us as we prepared to hit the beaches of this island. Men who fought with us and feared with us.

*(Continue on page 20)*

(Continued from page 19)



“Somewhere in this plot of ground there may lie the man who could have discovered the cure for cancer. Under one of these Christian crosses, or beneath a Jewish Star of David, there may rest now a man who was destined to be a great prophet... to find the way, perhaps, for all to live in plenty, with poverty and hardship for none. Now they lie here silently in this sacred soil, and we gather to consecrate this earth in their memory.

“It is not easy to do so. Some of us have buried our closest friends here. We saw these men killed before our very eyes. Any one of us might have died in their places. Indeed, some of us are alive and breathing at this very moment only because men who lie here beneath us had the courage and strength to give their lives for ours. To speak in memory of such men as these is not easy. Of them, too, it can be said with utter truth: ‘The world will little note or long remember what we say here. It can never forget what they did here.’

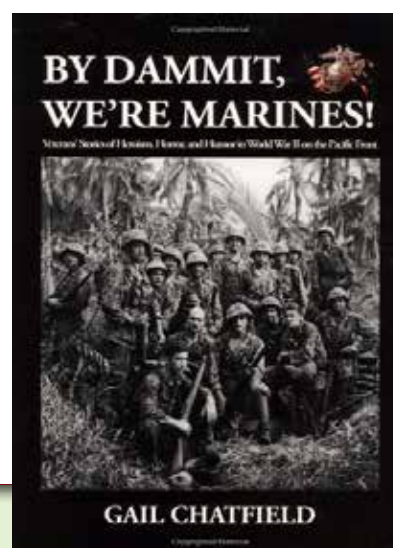
“Thus do we memorialize those who, having ceased living with us, now live within us. Thus do we consecrate ourselves, the living, to carry on the struggle they began. Too much blood has gone into this soil for us to let it lie barren. Too much pain and heartache have fertilized the earth on which we stand. We here solemnly swear: this shall not be in vain! Out of this, and from the suffering and sorrow of those who mourn this, will come—we promise—the birth of a new freedom for the sons of men everywhere. AMEN”

The cemeteries are no longer on Iwo Jima. The return of the American dead buried in foreign cemeteries was provided for by Congress in 1947. Those buried on Iwo Jima were either re-interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Hawaii, or returned to their families for burial. While the American Graves Registration Service recovered most service-men killed in the campaign, an estimated 250 service-men are still listed as missing.

In 1968, the United States returned Iwo Jima to Japanese jurisdiction. In June, 2007, at the urging of its original inhabitants, Japan changed the island’s name back its prewar Iwo To. The 48-star flag in Joe Rosenthal’s photograph is on display at the United States Marine Corps Museum at Quantico, Virginia.

On the 67th anniversary of the Marines landing on Iwo Jima, we remember the men who fought and died on that volcanic island and the legacy they left for today’s Marines.

-- Gail Chatfield,  
gchatsan@gmail.com





# Col Richard "Dick" Rothwell

## 1912-2012

Col Richard "Dick" Rothwell, the oldest known living Iwo Jima veteran and one of the last three surviving battalion commanders died May 7 in Catonsville, Md., where he lived with his wife, Rebecca Guthrie Rothwell.

A memorial service for the colonel was held June 15 at the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial Chapel in Quantico, Va., with his two sons, Col Richard "Rich" Rothwell USMC (Ret.) and Charles Rothwell, and fellow Iwo Jima veteran LtGen Lawrence "Larry" Snowden USMC (Ret.) each providing eulogies.

Speaking without benefit of notes or prepared script, Rich Rothwell thanked the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen James Amos, the IJAA and its executive vice president, Col Warren Wiedhahn USMC (Ret.) for helping make the service possible and thanked friends for attending the service in Quantico that the family had not planned to hold, initially.

"I think my father would have been pleased, but sur-

prised to know of this ceremony," Rothwell said. "As a family, we had planned a simple service in San Diego before laying his ashes next to my mother's (Phyllis) at Fort Rosecrans. Some people have told me that this ceremony is appropriate because my father is a hero of World War II.

"I don't think of my father as a hero," Rothwell continued. "I think he would agree with me. He would simply say he did his duty and that this ceremony is not a remembrance of his personal contribution to Corps and country; it is recognition that he is a symbol of a generation of Marines who served their nation so valiantly in time of great need and who now are, ever more rapidly, slipping away. As thousands of Marines have done before and since, my father did his duty. It just so happened that the demands of duty on his watch were extraordinary."

Among some very poignant images of a father-son relationship was a lasting one of the two of them attending the first "Reunion of Honor" on Iwo Jima for the 40th anniversary of the battle on Feb. 19, 1985. After "a moving reunion in an outdoor amphitheater," the two took box lunches and moved away from the group with an old battle map to find, as nearly as they could determine, Yellow Beach 2 where the elder Rothwell had landed on D-Day as commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines.

"It was a surreal experience," Rich Rothwell said

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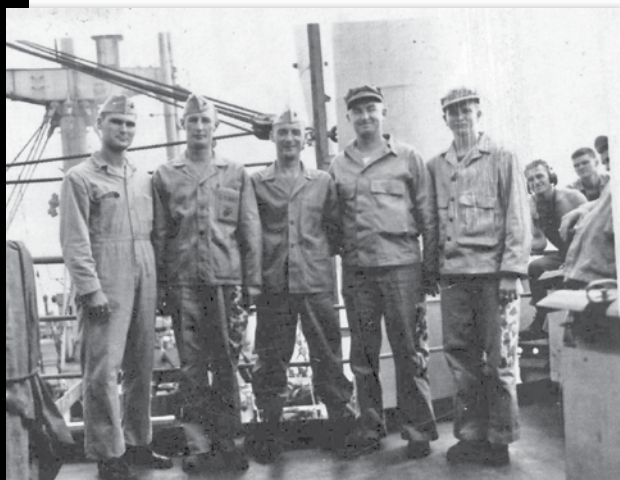
*Col Rothwell after being awarded the Silver Star.*

## The Black Sands

*(Continued from page 21)*

about the two of them sitting on “coarse, black volcanic sand looking out to sea” and talking about those days 40 years earlier and the flag on Mount Suribachi. The elder Rothwell hadn’t seen it go up because he was otherwise occupied and had only heard about it on the radio and saw it as something less than “a symbol of heroism and victory in the Pacific as millions of Americans saw Joe Rosenthal’s photograph of the second flag raising” because “the patrol that raised the flag reached the summit without enemy contact ... and there were 25 days of intense, bitter fighting yet to come.”

So it was hardly a heroic event in the elder Rothwell’s eyes. Thousands more Marines, sailors and Japanese defenders would die before the fighting stopped on



*On ship waiting to go on land on Iwo Jima. L-R, Maj Roland E. Carey, Maj CC Berkeley, Jr.; Lt. Col Richard Rothwell Jr, Lt ; Capt. J Mc Carthy; Capt WJ Ridlon*

March 26.

“While my father never dwelled on the battle, looking back on our conversation, he was probably so close to it that he saw Rosenthal’s photograph as a literal picture of an event rather than as the hugely important symbol of heroism and victory that it is.

“Perhaps, too, I am so distant from the battle that I see my father as a symbol of his generation rather than as a hero, which he most certainly was.

“I guess it’s a matter of perspective.

“I will stop here, leaving you with an image of two Marines, father and son, sitting on a beach, while sharing a lunch ... and memories.”

Charles Rothwell echoed his older brother in praising his father as a good father, a gentleman and one who was able to act bravely and do what he had to do as a Marine in combat when he was called on to do so.

Iwo Jima veteran LtGen Lawrence “Larry” Snowden echoed the Rothwell brothers in remembering the life of a fellow Marine who had landed on Yellow Beach 2 in reserve the afternoon of D-Day because Snowden’s Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment had suffered so many casualties that (Rothwell’s) 2nd Battalion was ordered to land and pass through the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment to “continue toward the objective of capturing the first airfield.”

The late Col Rothwell had received the Silver Star for the job he did as battalion commander. Back in Hawaii after the campaign was over, Gen Snowden recalled telling Col Rothwell: “I just might be alive because (you) came in and took the battering I had been receiving all day long.”

“Glad to be of service,” Rothwell replied.

“Dick Rothwell was one of those Marine officer heroes who set the high performance standards which young Marines of our Corps today seek to emulate,” Snowden concluded.

Had he lived until Nov. 23, Col Rothwell would have reached his 100th birthday. Born in Washington, D.C., in 1912, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1936 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of Marines. He first served in the Washington Naval Yard, then became a China Marine in 1938 in Shanghai with the 6th Marine Regiment.

Back in San Diego only a short time, he met and married Phyllis Elizabeth Bowlby and received orders for Naval Station, Cavite Naval Yard and was later transferred to Marine Barracks, Olongapo, Philippine Islands, where Richard was born. Next, the colonel went back to Shanghai with the 4th Marine Regiment.

During World War II, the colonel served at Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, for two years before being assigned to the 4th Marine Division and served with the 2nd Battalion, 24th Regiment from its initial activation,

*(Continued on page 23)*

## The Black Sands

*(Continued from page 22)*

serving as battalion commander after the Roi Namur operation and commanded the battalion on Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima until the division was de-activated after the war.

Following World War II, Col Rothwell served in various posts throughout the Marine Corps and retired in 1961 while he was a member of the National Security Council staff in Washington, D.C.

For 16 years after retirement, the colonel lived in Massachusetts and worked with AVCO and Raytheon Corporation. Then he and his first wife, Phyllis, moved to her hometown of San Diego and lived there until her death in 1998. In 2003, Col Rothwell married his second wife, Rebecca, and moved back to the East Coast.

In addition to wife Rebecca and sons and Richard (Ann) and Charles (Sandi), four grandchildren, (Bo, Betsy, Patrick and Phyllis) and five great-grandchildren (Thomas, Kelly, Matthew, Breanna and Julia) also survive.

A reception was held at The Club following the memorial service at Quantico. On July 27, the family then had the memorial service at MCRD Chapel in San Diego as initially planned. Following the service, the colonel's ashes were laid to rest beside his wife in Fort Rosecrans Cemetery with a ceremonial missing man flyover and a 21-Gun Salute.

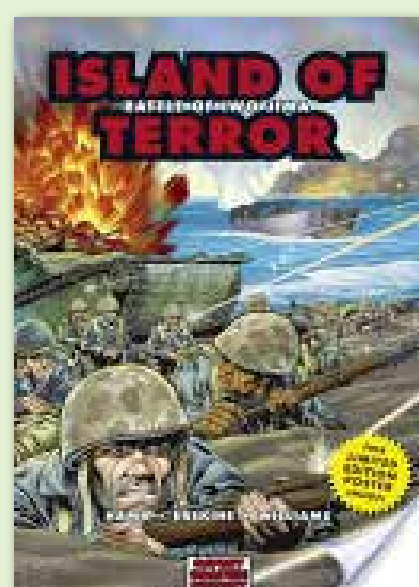
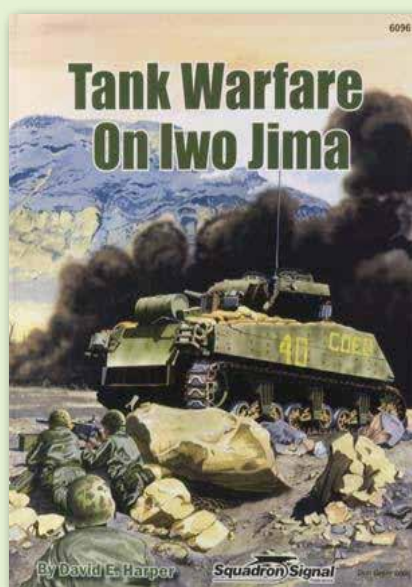
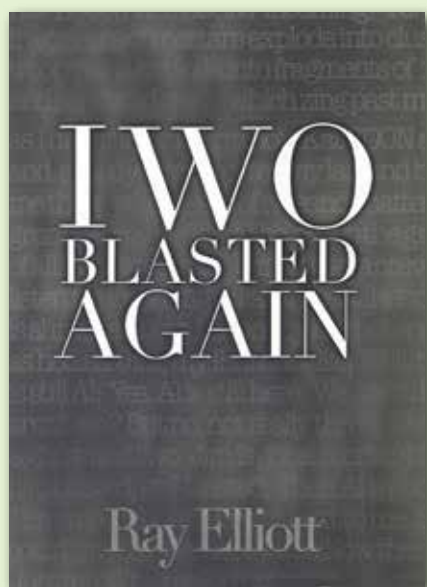
— Ray Elliott,  
rayelliott23@att.net



*Col Jack Hawkins who served with Col Rothwell in China prior to World War II.*



*Col Rothwell and Rebecca Rothwell with two Marines on Mount Suribachi.*





# Ten Years — More Than a Memorial

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, Kaneohe Bay - More than 60 years ago, five Marines and one Navy hospital corpsman planted the American flag atop Mount Suribachi in the heat of the Battle of Iwo Jima, and Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal captured the moment.

The Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. immortalized

the moment in bronze, again in Newington, Conn., at the National Iwo Jima Memorial. As the mold began to deteriorate over time, it would be used only once more. That last

statue was made for Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Japan and the U.S. recently commemorated the battle, which took place from Feb. 19 to Mar. 26, 1945.

Today also marks the 10th year since the Pacific War Memorial was unveiled and dedicated aboard the base. The memorial commemorates the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the Pacific campaigns as well as the units which participated in those campaigns.

"It's a living memorial," said Swede Olson, the vice chairman of the Pacific War Memorial Association. "There are events there almost every day, along with visitors who photograph the memorial and read the history displayed."

The Pacific War Memorial Association is a nonprofit organization created by Alice and Bee Clark, a couple



*The Pacific War Memorial was completed and dedicated in 2002 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The Pacific War Memorial Association and many other entities contributed to the building of the memorial. The memorial is made from the same mold that was used for the monument at the National Iwo Jima Memorial in Newington, Conn.*

*Read more: <http://www.dvidshub.net/news/85385/ten-years-more-than-memorial#.UCLxIs1KRbw#ixzz23SpmC625>*

from Kamuela, Hawaii. In 1996, the Clarks, who originally created the Camp Tarawa

Historical Foundation, met George Gentile, the president of the National Iwo Jima Survivors' Association. Gentile told the Clarks that the organization wished to use the mold for their statue in Newington, Conn., for an identical statue in Hawaii.

Through the efforts of the Pacific War Memorial Association, various contributors and several donations, the memorial, was completed in 2002. Materials which make up the memorial such as the granite sides, came from as far as Africa, Minnesota and Oregon, according to <http://www.pacificwarmemorial.org>.

Surrounding the Pacific War Memorial is a Walkway of Honor. This walkway is made of bricks commemorating military veterans. Veterans or immediate family members of veterans are eligible to dedicate a brick, engraved with the service member's name, which will be placed along the walkway. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis. Actor Jim Nabors, for instance, who was named an honorary Marine, now has a brick on the walkway.

"The association wants to continue to commemorate and preserve the history of U.S. military contributions and sacrifices in the Pacific theater in defense of freedom," Olson said. "They continue to work with other

*(Continued on page 25)*

*(Continued from page 24)*

historical partners and have future plans to build the Pacific War Memorial Historical Center adjacent to the Pacific War Memorial.”

Clark recalled once seeing a busload of Marines stop at the memorial before leaving for a deployment. He said the Marines got out and had their picture taken next to the memorial.

“It’s heartwarming that young Marines can have a place like that to go and be recognized before they go into battle,” Clark said.

As people come off of Interstate H-3, either driving or walking into the main gate of the base, they will see the Pacific War Memorial, beside Kaneohe Bay. Many people, including Marines, sailors and visitors to the base continue to visit the memorial to hold ceremonies, and take pictures.

“I think the intended purpose of the memorial has been realized,” Olson said. “It has become a place for healing, memorializing, celebrating, and learning that we will continue for future generations.”

For more information about the monument and getting your own personalized brick, visit <http://www.pacificwarmemorial.org>.

Read more: <http://www.dvidshub.net/news/85385/ten-years-more-than-memorial#.UCNetcg8L0B#ix-zz231tcdzSB>

—Kristen Wong,  
Photojournalist

**MILITARY™ HISTORICAL TOURS, INC. YOU SERVED WITH THE BEST, TOUR WITH THE BEST!™**

**2012/13 BATTLEFIELD TOURS**  
*See the battlefield you always dreamed of with MHT!*

- 19—28 Jul WWII Liberations of Guam & Tinian “Mariana Islands Campaign 1944” & Saipan
- ★ 2—12 Aug 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Guadalcanal & Pre-Tour to Tarawa & Post Tour Fiji
- 30 Aug—10 Sep MHT’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniv Ireland Dublin & Southern Counties plus Navy vs. Fighting Irish Football
- 25 Aug—7 Sep Vietnam I Corps “Chu Lai to the DMZ”
- ★ 25 Aug—8 Sep Vietnam 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War Op SHUFLY “Saigon to the DMZ”
- 31 Aug—7 Sep Napoleonic War 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Napoleon’s Grande Armée Invasion of Russia—Moscow—Borodino
- 15—28 Oct China Marines & U.S. Involvement 1835—1949
- 27 Jan – 6 Feb ‘13 World War II in the Philippines
- 17 Feb – 3 Mar ‘13 45<sup>th</sup> Anniv of Tet Offensive & Hue City
- ★ 8 – 15 Mar ‘13 68<sup>th</sup> Anniv Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor - Guam & Charter Iwo Flight

**13198 Centerpointe Way,  
Ste 202 Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285  
800-722-9501 \* [www.miltours.com](http://www.miltours.com) \*  
[mhtours@miltours.com](mailto:mhtours@miltours.com)**

## The Black Sands

### Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc.

Post Office Box 680  
Quantico, VA 22134  
(703) 212-8128 Fax: (703) 590-1292  
Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org [www.IwoJimaAssociation.org](http://www.IwoJimaAssociation.org)

Join us as we preserve and perpetuate the history of the Battle of Iwo Jima!

*Should you prefer the convenience of renewing your dues or providing an additional contribution to IJAA on-line via PayPal, please logon to [www.IwoJimaAssociation.org](http://www.IwoJimaAssociation.org) and click "Join Our Association".*

#### IJAA Membership Application Form (and Renewal/Additional Contributions)

Membership is open to both veterans of the *Battle of Iwo Jima* (all services, ground, air and sea) and to all those who desire to help perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices made by all the veterans of the battle ensuring that, long after the last *Iwo Jima Veteran* has gone, future generations will remember *Iwo Jima*. I hereby make application for (or renewing) membership in the Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc. (IJAA) or provide for an additional contribution. **Dues are \$25.00** and are payable by February 19th. (Membership is free to all Medal of Honor recipients, former POWs, and Gold Star Mothers & Fathers of any conflict).

Please return the following information (by mail or email) to Executive Director, IJAA

☐ I would like to pay by check. Please make your check payable to the *Iwo Jima Association of America*.  
☐ I would like to pay by credit card (Charges on your bill will appear as *Military Historical Tours*).  
☐ I would like to make a further donation of \_\_\_\_\_ to IJAA.

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my: \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard  
Name (as it appears on card): \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Interest (veteran, family of veteran, friend, historian, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### CALL TO ARMS!

IJAA wants to hear your suggestions and thoughts on future newsletter content and how IJAA might better serve you in the future. Write to us at IJAA, PO Box 680, Quantico, VA 22134 or email us at [Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org](mailto:Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org)



**Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc.  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
16 February 2012 and 19 February 2012  
Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, Virginia**

**I. Call to Order**

The Board of Directors meeting of the Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc. was called to order at 1535 on 16 February 2012, in Arlington, Virginia, by Executive Vice President Warren Wiedhahn.

**II. Roll Call**

***Present:*** Chairman LtGen Larry Snowden, President LtGen Hank Stackpole, Executive Vice President Warren Wiedhahn, Executive Director Shayne Jarosz, Treasurer Doug Meny, Director Diane Kuebler, Communications Director Ray Elliott, Director Bonnie Haynes, Director Bill Rockey, Director Ivan Hammond, Director Ira Rigger, Director John Butler, Acting Recording Secretary Nancy Brown.

***Absent:*** Dale Quillen

**III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

The Minutes were read and a motion was made by LtGen Hank Stackpole to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

**IV. Reports**

☐ 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion and Symposium – It was reported that everything is on schedule and ready to go.

☐ March 2012 “Reunion of Honor” is on schedule.

☐ 2012 Membership Report and Future Growth Plans – There were discussions regarding increasing membership. Ideas such as one family member per Iwo Jima Veteran obtain a membership, free memberships for one year provided to new members and then start charging each year thereafter, and welcome anyone who wants to join regardless of being an Iwo Jima Veteran or family member. The objective is to keep the Iwo Jima Association of America active and educate younger generations as well.

☐ IJAA Newsletter – Ray Elliott discussed using social media access to enhance awareness to IJAA. Joyce Faulkner of Military Writers Association of

*(Continued on Page 27)*

## *The Black Sands*

*continued from page 28)*

America was mentioned, as was Facebook and Twitter. Next issue of *Black Sands* will be published in June 2012.

□ Fundraising and Future Plans – Several suggestions were made regarding fundraising and future plans for IJAA. It was suggested that everyone give additional thought to these areas and be prepared to share their ideas at the next meeting.

### **V. Old Business**

□ A vacancy is open for Secretary to the Board.

□ Moving the 2013 Reunion and Symposium to a different location was discussed with suggestions such as San Diego, San Francisco, New Orleans and San Antonio.

□ Bonnie Haynes and Ira Rigger volunteered to be on a Membership Committee.

□ Bill Rockey volunteered to review the current mission statement.

### **VI. New Business**

□ LtGen Larry Snowden announced his plan to retire as Chairman of the Board and made a recommendation to appoint LtGen Hank Stackpole to the position. Bonnie Haynes made a motion to accept LtGen Snowden's resignation and appoint LtGen Hank Stackpole as the new Chairman of the Board. The motion was seconded by Bill Rockey and passed by the Board.

□ LtGen Hank Stackpole recommended LtGen Norman Smith be nominated as President to the Board. LtGen Hank Stackpole made a motion to approve Norman Smith as President. The motion was seconded and passed.

□ A motion was made by LtGen Stackpole to appoint Bonnie Haynes as Senior Vice President to the Board. The motion was seconded and passed.

□ Mark Shaffer, Esq. of Reed Smith LLP was introduced as a pro bono attorney to serve on the IJAA Board.

### **VII. Adjournment**

LtGen Larry Snowden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Haynes and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1703.

*(Continued on page 29)*

*(Continued from page 28)*

**Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc.  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
Reconvened on 19 February 2012  
Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, Virginia**

**I. Reports**

☐ Financial Report – Doug Meny presented a Financial Report. John Butler made a motion to pass the Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Ivan Hammond and passed.

☐ Management Agreement with MHT - A motion was made by Bonnie Haynes to approve the Management Agreement. The motion was seconded and passed.

☐ Website Update and Future Plans – Shayne Jarosz reported that Google has agreed to give IJAA \$100,000 in free advertising. Mr. Jarosz also reported that he has coordinated a student volunteer to assist with the web design for the Association.

**II. New Business**

☐ Dale Quillen stepped down from the IJAA Board. Bonnie Haynes made a motion that Gene Overstreet and Gene Bell be appointed as members of the Board. The motion was second by Diane Kuebler and passed.

☐ 2013 (68<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) Iwo Jima Reunion/Symposium – Discussions regarding moving the location of the 2013 Iwo Jima Reunion/Symposium were presented, however, it was decided that the Reunion/Symposium should not be moved at this time. It was suggested that a mid-year Board of Directors meeting take place to continue open dialogue regarding this event.

☐ Gary Roy and Marianne Mihalyo of Support Our Survivors of Iwo Jima were invited to speak at the meeting and discussed the mission of this Association and their vision to educate others.

**III. Adjournment**

Bonnie Haynes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 0910.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Nancy Rea Brown  
Acting Recording Secretary



## *The Black Sands*

### **Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc. Minutes of Board Meeting 16 June 2012 Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, Virginia**

#### **I. Call to Order**

The Board of Directors meeting of the Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc. was called to order at 0905 on 16 June 2012, in Arlington, Virginia, by Executive Vice President Warren Wiedhahn. Col. Wiedhahn introduced and welcomed LtGen Norman Smith who will serve as the newly elected President on the Board of the Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc.

#### **II. Roll Call**

**Present:** Chairman, Emeritus LtGen Larry Snowden, President LtGen Norman Smith, Executive Vice President Warren Wiedhahn, Senior Vice President Bonnie Haynes, Executive Director Shayne Jarosz, Communications Director Ray Elliott, Director Bill Rockey, Director Ira Rigger, Director Gene Bell, Acting Recording Secretary Nancy Brown.

**Absent:** Chairman LtGen Hank Stackpole, Treasurer Doug Meny, Director Ivan Hammond, Director John Butler.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

The Minutes were read and a motion was made to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### **IV. Reports**

☐ LtGen Larry Snowden reported that though he has stepped down as Chairman of the IJAA Board, he plans to stay heavily involved in the progress of the Association. LtGen Snowden plans to keep communications open with the Japanese in order to continue the trips back to Iwo Jima each year.

☐ LtGen Norman Smith expressed his appreciation for the honor of serving as President of the Iwo Jima Association of America. LtGen Smith looks forward to working with everyone on the Board, as well as the members, to ensure the growth and success of the Iwo Jima Association of America.

☐ Ray Elliott reported that he is waiting on the registration information for the 2013 Symposium to add it to "*The Black Sands*" newsletter before release of the next publication. Also, in order to raise funds for the Association, envelopes requesting contributions will be included with the newsletter.

☐ The Reunion of Honor and Symposium is scheduled for February 2013 and will be held at the Sheraton National in Arlington, VA. The contract with the Sheraton National has been signed.

☐ The Reunion of Honor Tour to Iwo Jima will take place on March 13, 2013.

☐ Hiring a Director of Marketing and Membership was discussed and it was agreed that the Association is in need of someone to assist in this capacity. A motion was made by Bill Rockey to hire a Director of Marketing and Membership, seconded by Ira Rigger and passed.

*(Continued on page 31)*

*(Continued from page 30)*

□ LtGen Snowden reported that he sent a letter to President Barack Obama stating that the Seabees are not mentioned on the Presidential Unit Citation issued to those that served on Iwo Jima. The Seabees earned and deserve recognition for their role on Iwo Jima and this need to be corrected.

**V. Old Business**

□ LtGen Larry Snowden announced his plan to retire as Chairman of the Board and made a recommendation to appoint LtGen Hank Stackpole to the position. Bonnie Haynes made a motion to accept LtGen Snowden's resignation and appoint LtGen Hank Stackpole as the new Chairman of the Board. The motion was seconded by Bill Rockey and passed by the Board.

□ LtGen Hank Stackpole recommended LtGen Norman Smith be nominated as President to the Board. LtGen Hank Stackpole made a motion to approve Norman Smith as President. The motion was seconded and passed.

□ A motion was made by LtGen Stackpole to appoint Bonnie Haynes as Senior Vice President to the Board. The motion was seconded and passed.

□ Mark Shaffer, Esq. of Reed Smith LLP was introduced as a pro bono attorney to serve on the IJAA Board.

□ Dale Quillen stepped down from the IJAA Board. Bonnie Haynes made a motion that Gene Overstreet and Gene Bell be appointed as members of the Board. The motion was second by Diane Kuebler and passed.

□ 2013 (68<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) Iwo Jima Reunion/Symposium – Discussions regarding moving the location of the 2013 Iwo Jima Reunion/Symposium were presented, however, it was decided that the Reunion/Symposium should not be moved at this time. It was suggested that a mid-year Board of Directors meeting take place to continue open dialogue regarding this event.

□ Gary Roy and Marianne Mihalyo of Support Our Survivors of Iwo Jima were invited to speak at the meeting and discussed the mission of this Association and their vision to educate others.

**VI. New Business**

□ Exploring options such as getting the Young Marines, colleges and universities to participate in the Symposium and Reunion of Honor in 2013 was discussed and will be looked into further.

**VII. Adjournment**

Ray Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1005.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Nancy Rea Brown  
Acting Recording Secretary

*(Continued on page 32)*

## *The Black Sands*

### IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA FEBRUARY 14-17, 2013 ARLINGTON AND QUANTICO, VIRGINIA

#### Thursday, February 14

2:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**  
6:00pm - 8:00pm Welcome Reception

#### Friday, February 15

7:30am - 8:00am **Reunion Registration Open**  
8:30am - 4:30pm NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS  
COMMEMORATION and DEDICATION  
8:30am Board Bus for National Museum of the  
Marine Corps  
2:30pm Board Bus for Wreath Laying Ceremony at  
Marine Corps War Memorial  
5:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**  
6:00pm - 8:00pm No Host Cocktail Reception and "Show & Tell"

#### Saturday, February 16

8:30am - 3:30pm Symposium and Panel Discussion  
9:30am - 11:30am LADIES TOUR OF THE HOME OF THE  
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS  
12:00pm - 1:00pm Symposium Lunch with Guest Speaker  
6:00pm - 7:00pm Cash Bar Reception  
7:00pm - 9:30pm Official Anniversary Banquet

#### Sunday, February 17

Farewells and Departures

**Register online and pay by credit card!**  
**[www.afr-reg.com/ijaa2013](http://www.afr-reg.com/ijaa2013)**

#### **CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$10 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the group registration fee (\$15 per person) and non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$10 per person). **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities. Each must be cancelled separately.

*(Continued on page 33)*



## *The Black Sands*

*(Continued from page 32)*

### IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

#### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATION and DEDICATION

*Friday, February 15*

Opened to the public on 13 November 2006, the National Museum of the Marine Corps is a lasting tribute to U.S. Marines — past, present, and future. Situated on a 135-acre site adjacent to the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, the Museum's soaring design evokes the image of the flag-raisers of Iwo Jima and beckons visitors to its 118,000-square-foot structure. World-class interactive exhibits using the most innovative technology will surround visitors with irreplaceable artifacts and immerse them in the sights and sounds of Marines in action. Enjoy lunch on your own in the Mess Hall or 18th Century Tun Tavern. Following the museum, a stop will be made at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, for a wreath laying ceremony.

**Note: You will be required to pass through a metal detector before entering the museum.**

**There is a lot of walking, so please wear comfortable shoes.**

**8:00am board bus, 4:00pm back at the hotel**

**\$35/Person includes transportation. Lunch on your own.**

#### HOME OF THE COMMANDANT (LADIES ONLY)

*Saturday, February 16*

Still used for its original purpose, the Home of the Commandant has been home to all but the first two commandants, and is said to be the oldest, continuously occupied public building in Washington, D.C. When first built, the Georgian-Federalist style house measured 25 by 32 feet. It contained four large rooms and a central hallway on each floor, a kitchen in the basement and servant's quarters in the attic. Renovations and additions, which began in 1836, have expanded the house to 15,000 square feet including 30 rooms, not counting closets or baths. The decor has always been dictated by the personal tastes of each commandant and his family.

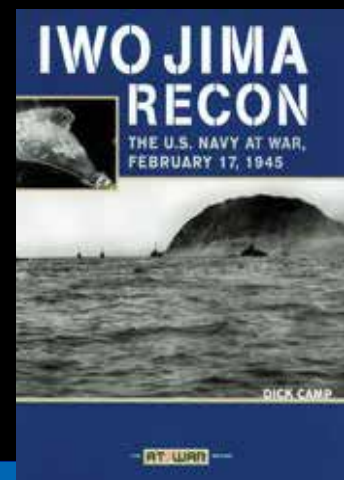
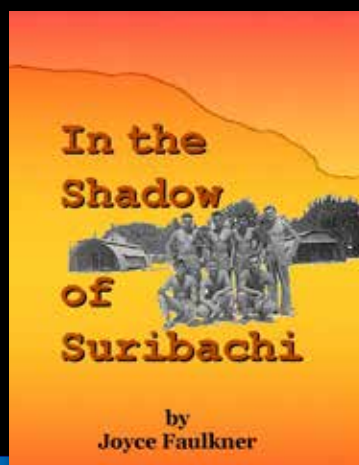
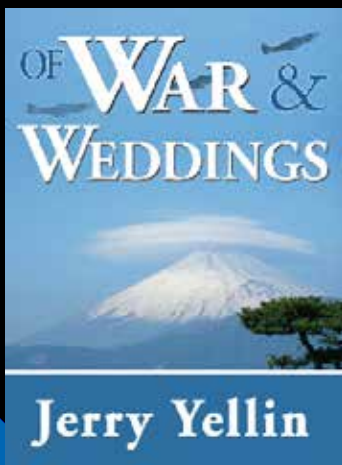
**9:30am board bus, 11:30am back at the hotel**

**This is a no cost tour, but you must indicate the number of ladies attending on your registration form.**

Driver gratuities are not included in the tour prices.

Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.

The museum trip requires a minimum of thirty-five people.



## The Black Sands

### IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below is the registration cost for the Reunion and Symposium. Please enter how many people will be participating and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/ijaa2013](http://www.afr-reg.com/ijaa2013). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **January 14, 2013**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
**322 Madison Mews**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**  
**ATTN: IJAA**

#### OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_  
 Inputted \_\_\_\_\_ New r Revision/Addition r \_\_\_\_\_

**CUT-OFF DATE IS 1/14/13**

	Price Per	# of People	Total
<b>TOURS</b>			
FRIDAY: NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATION and DEDICATION	\$ 35		\$
SATURDAY: LADIES TOUR OF THE HOME OF THE COMMANDANT (This tour is free; please provide the total number of people attending)		#	
<b>MEALS</b>			
SATURDAY: SYMPOSIUM LUNCH	\$ 31		\$
SATURDAY: BANQUET (Please select your entrée below)			
Prime Rib	\$ 40		\$
Chicken Marsala	\$ 40		\$
Mandatory Per Person Registration Fee	\$ 25		\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

#### PLEASE PRINT NAME

Note: Correct names and addresses are very important because of the prominent position of some of our guests. You will be required to go through metal detectors at the Museum.

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, ST, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

*(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)*

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? ☐ YES ☐ NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES ☐ NO ☐ ARE YOU FLYING? ☐ DRIVING? ☐ RV? ☐

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays)**. Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/ijaa2013](http://www.afr-reg.com/ijaa2013)



## The Black Sands

### SHERATON PENTAGON CITY HOTEL – ARLINGTON, VA (888) 627-8210 (703) 521-1900

The Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel is located at 900 S Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204. The hotel is approximately 5 miles away from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) and 27 miles away from Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD). Call the hotel directly for accurate driving directions. The hotel is on high elevation overlooking many Washington, D.C. famous landmarks and is just blocks from the Metro, The Pentagon, Ft. Myer, and Arlington Cemetery. Downtown Washington, The Kennedy Center, Crystal City, and the National Airport are just five minutes away. Complimentary shuttle van service departs every 30 minutes to and from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Metro at The Pentagon, and Pentagon City Fashion Center. The hotel has handicapped accessible rooms which are based on availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your reservation. We recommend that you *reconfirm* these special requests before arriving at the hotel.

The Sheraton Pentagon City has 408 deluxe guest rooms with individual climate controls; an HD TV with in-room movies, and video check-out. Rooms offer in-room coffee makers, hair dryers, and irons/ironing boards. Guests can enjoy a rooftop indoor swimming pool (9:00am-10:00pm weekdays, 9:00am-9:00pm weekends), sundeck (9:00am-10:00pm daily), and an exercise room. The exercise room features Stairmaster, LifeCycle, and weight resistance equipment. The hotel is offering complimentary parking for all reunion attendees who are registered hotel guests. There are 390 parking spaces available with a six-foot ceiling height. Check-in time is 3:00pm; check-out is 12:00 noon.

The **Potomac Restaurant**, with seating for over 200 features unique culinary creations for breakfast, lunch, and dinner from prime steak to fresh seafood and exotic desserts, we will dazzle you with the best dining experience in Washington, D.C. Open from 2pm until midnight, the **Potomac Lounge**, adjacent to the restaurant, offers an inviting and social atmosphere for lunch, dinner or light fare. Catch your favorite game or the latest news on one of two large elevated flat screen televisions or the 42" plasma television positioned behind the bar. When you feel like staying in, you can enjoy a great meal from the privacy of your room with our delectable in-room dining options 6:30am-11:00pm.

Complimentary shuttle service departs every 30 minutes from 5:00am-12:15am to and from Washington-Reagan National Airport. Go to the Ground Transportation area of the airport to catch the shuttle. SuperShuttle offers transportation from Dulles International Airport and Baltimore/Washington International Airport. Please contact them at (202) 296-8662 or (800) BLUE-VAN for more information and/or reservations. Complimentary shuttle service is also available to the Pentagon City Metro Station 5:00am-12:15am.

Oversize vehicles or RVs can park in the hotel's satellite parking lot across the street from the hotel; but if you require RV hook-ups please contact Harmony Place located on 8018 Richmond Road, Alexandria, VA 22306, which is about 8 miles from the hotel. Call (703) 360-4460 for information, reservations, and directions. There are no campgrounds in Arlington County.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call their toll-free number at (888) 441-7575.

**Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.**

CUT HERE AND MAIL TO HOTEL

### IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC – HOTEL RESERVATION FORM REUNION DATES: FEBRUARY 14-17, 2013

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS (if available) \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM DEP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # OF ROOMS NEEDED \_\_\_\_\_ # OF PEOPLE IN ROOM \_\_\_\_\_ HANDICAP ACCESS

\_\_\_\_\_ KING BED \_\_\_\_\_ 2 DOUBLE BEDS

In the event room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned.

**RATE:** \$115 + tax (currently 10%)

**CUT OFF DATE:** 1/14/13; Reservations received after this date will be processed on a space available basis, at the prevailing public rate.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled by 4:00pm the day prior to arrival. If guest does not check-in OR has not cancelled their reservation by 4:00pm the day prior to arrival, 1 night's room & tax will be charged to the guest's credit card.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_\_\_ DINERS \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MASTER CARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204 Attn: Reservations or**



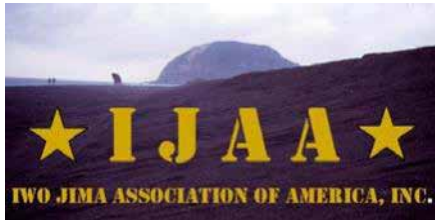
**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**

**U.S. POSTAGE**

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**PERMIT NO. 1**



*PO Box 680, Quantico, VA, 22134*

*www.IwoJimaAssociation.org*

***IWO JIMA  
ASSOCIATION  
OF  
AMERICA  
SUMMER 2012  
NEWSLETTER***

**BELOW: CMC GEN "JIM" CONWAY & IWO VETS. RIGHT:  
5TH MARDIV MEMORIAL ON MT. SURIBACHI'S SUMMIT.**



**68TH IWO JIMA  
"REUNION OF HONOR"  
8-15 MAR 2013**

The Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA) 68th "Reunion of Honor", the historic reunion coordinated by MHT for the IJAA will be headquartered at the Outrigger Resort Hotel on Guam. A chartered United Airline jet will take

the veterans, their families, educators, & historians back to the "Black Sands" and the very moving joint commemoration ceremony for the campaign's fallen warriors. As in past years, there will be an Iwo Jima

Battle Symposium & Banquet on Guam before our return. Please join us for a stirring reunion with brethren & family.



**13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY, SUITE 202  
WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285  
703-590-1295 \* MHTOURS@MILTOURS.COM  
WWW.MILTOURS.COM**