



February 10, 2022

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NMMC Commemorates the Battle of Iwo Jima with Special Event

Triangle, VA –The National Museum of the Marine Corps (NMMC) will commemorate the iconic World War II battle of Iwo Jima with a special event on February 17, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Museum curators will display Iwo Jima-related artifacts, including the first flag raised on the island. The second flag raised, captured in Joe Rosenthal's photo, is permanently on display in the WWII gallery. Volunteers and staff will provide a special tour of the flags and highlight the history of how they came into the Museum's collection.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to view a historical display by volunteers. Crafts and a volcanic sand table will be available for families.

The World War II battle of Iwo Jima, lasting from February 19 to March 26, 1945, is a touchstone battle in American and Marine Corps history. On February 23, 1945 the Marines took control of the highest point on the island, Mount Suribachi. Onlookers cheered as an assault platoon fought to the summit and raised a small flag. Later that day, different troops raised a larger flag while others respectfully lowered the original.

Several combat photographers captured these stirring events, but Joe Rosenthal's snapshot of the men struggling to raise the second flag in a stiff wind became an enduring symbol of American resolve. The Museum is fortunate to have both flags in its collection.

The two flags will remain on display in the Museum's WWII gallery from February 17 to March 28, 2022.

All events are free and open to the public. All visitors over the age of 2 are required to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

About the National Museum of the Marine Corps

The Museum is a public-private partnership between the U.S. Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. The National Museum of the Marine Corps, under

the command of Marine Corps University, preserves and exhibits the material history of the U.S. Marine Corps; honors the commitment, accomplishments, and sacrifices of Marines; supports recruitment, training, education, and retention of Marines; and provides the public with a readily accessible platform for the exploration of Marine Corps history. It is located at 18900 Jefferson Davis Highway in Triangle, VA. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call 703-784-6107 or visit on the web www.usmcmuseum.com.

About the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation

Dedicated to the preservation and promulgation of Marine Corps history, culture and traditions, and the education of all American of its virtues, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation was established in 1979 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation supports the historical programs of the Marine Corps in ways not possible through government funds. The Foundation provides grants and scholarships for research and the renovation, restoration, and commissioning of historical Marine Corps artifacts and landmarks. Having secured the necessary funding for the complete construction of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Heritage Center, located in Triangle, Virginia, the Foundation's current primary mission is to vigorously seek financial support to expand programs at the National Museum of the Marine Corps and beyond its walls. For more information, visit marineheritage.org.

Attached image: The first and second flags raised on Mount Surabachi on February 23, 1945 on display at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

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