



NATIONAL MUSEUM  
OF THE MARINE CORPS™

# 1940-1945: UNCOMMON VALOR

## World War II Gallery Worksheet

This worksheet will help you understand the contributions of the Marine Corps to American victory in World War II.

**START** at the entrance to the World War II Gallery on the first floor of the museum. **The questions begin as you enter the exhibit and are arranged in order. Be sure to pay attention!**

1. During World War II, most Marines fought in the \_\_\_\_\_ against \_\_\_\_\_.

2. How many Marines suffered combat casualties during World War II?

49,877

66,499

86,940

102,345

3. The **Medal of Honor** is the highest award for valor (bravery) in action bestowed upon an individual serving in the United States military. How many Marines were awarded the **Medal of Honor** during World War II? \_\_\_\_\_. Of this total, 48 received the award posthumously.

4. America entered World War II when Japan attacked \_\_\_\_\_, Hawaii on \_\_\_\_\_, 1941.

5. These are the wartime leaders of Japan. Find their pictures. Can you name them?





6. What baseball hall of famer served as a Marine pilot during World War II?

7. **Blitzkrieg** is a German word meaning “\_\_\_\_\_.”



8. Find the two women sitting in their living room. Join them as they listen to President Franklin Roosevelt’s famous “*date that will live in infamy*” speech. Besides Hawaii, what other locations in the Pacific did Japan attack on or shortly after December 7, 1941?

9. **True or False.** Most African-Americans were forced to serve in racially segregated military units during World War II.



10. This aircraft was the primary fighter of the Marine Corps during the early stages of World War II. You can find it suspended from the ceiling above you. What is the name of this aircraft?

11. What United States President’s son was a Marine Raider? \_\_\_\_\_



12. What rifle, developed in 1934, replaced the Springfield 1903 as the primary weapon of Marines during World War II?

13. Why was the Battle of Midway such an important victory for the United States in the Pacific?

14. Lewis “Chesty” Puller is probably the greatest fighting Marine that ever lived. He served in World War I, World War II, and Korea—earning more Navy Crosses than any Marine in History. How many Navy Crosses did Chesty Puller earn?



- 3      5      7      9

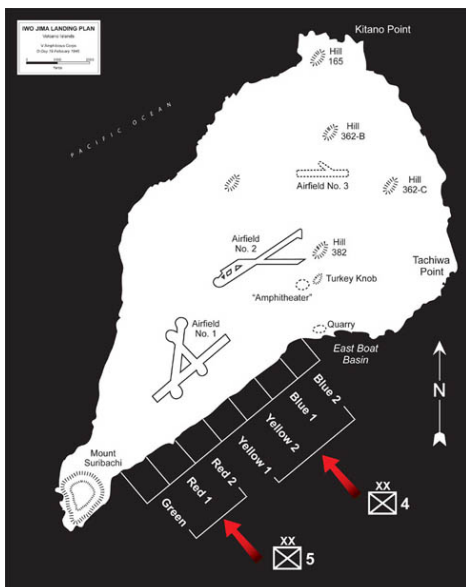
**Enter the MARINE Theater to answer question 15.**



15. What did Bugs Bunny—and many real life Hollywood actors—encourage Americans to buy during World War II?

16. Find the large wall map labeled “The Central Pacific.” Study this map, and then watch the “Tarawa” video. Using what you learned from the map and video, explain the American strategy of **Island Hopping** and how it was vital to victory in the Pacific.

17. Explain the Samurai code of **Bushido**. How was it practiced by Japanese soldiers during World War II?



18. The island of Iwo Jima has been called “one of the strangest battlefields in history.” How did General Kuribayashi and the 20,000 Japanese soldiers on Iwo Jima use the island’s unique geography to their advantage?

**Enter the Iwo Jima landing exhibit to answer questions 19 and 20.**

19. Mount \_\_\_\_\_, an extinct volcano, is the highest point on Iwo Jima.

20. \_\_\_\_\_ ships and \_\_\_\_\_ Marines were used in the assault on Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945.

21. This photograph served as the inspiration for the *Marine Corps War Memorial* in Washington, DC. Name the photographer who took the famous photo of the raising of the American flag on Iwo Jima.



22. Two different American flags flew over Iwo Jima. Is the first or second flag currently on display in the Museum? How can you tell?



23. This recruiting poster is from 1943. It shows that American women contributed to the war effort in non-combat roles. What clues does this poster reveal about the types of jobs Women Marines performed?

24. In what other ways do you think women contributed to the war effort?

25. How did the Navajo Indian “Code Talkers” contribute to the mission of the Marine Corps during World War II?



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