



# UNCOMMON VALOR: 1940-1945

## *A Student Gallery Guide for World War II*

1. At the entrance to the World War II gallery, find this **U.S. Navy hospital corpsman**. What do you think was the role of a corpsman?



2. Read the **"World at War"** display and watch the video on the circular screen.

a. By late 1941, what countries were part of the Axis powers that controlled or threatened vast portions of the earth?

Extra Credit! Name the leaders of the Axis powers.

3. 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. Name two of the several islands Japan attacked beginning on **December 7, 1941?**





4. Find these **Marines of Montford Point!**

- a. When did President Roosevelt order the Marine Corps to recruit African Americans?
- b. What tasks were the majority of African American Marines assigned to work?
- c. Why did these Marines call themselves "Montford Point Marines?"

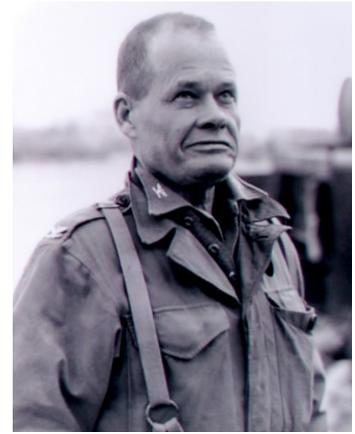
5. Look up and find this **Grumman F4F-4 Wildcat.**

- a. What type of plane is the Wildcat?
- b. The Grumman Wildcat served as the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Marine Corps during the early stages of the \_\_\_\_\_.



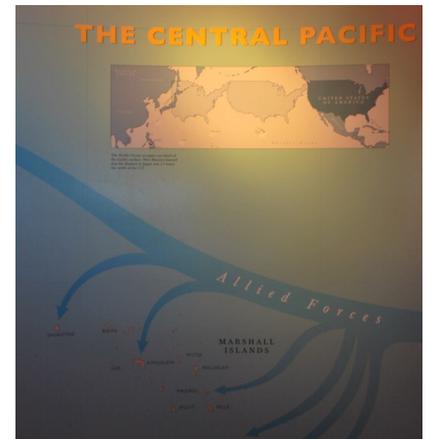
6. Why was the **Battle of Midway** such an important victory for the United States in the Pacific in 1942?

7. Find this Marine! Why is **LtCol Lewis "Chesty" Puller** sometimes called, "the most famous combat Marine?"



8. This "Be a Marine" **recruiting poster**, from 1943, shows that American women contributed to the war effort in non-combat roles. Name two of the more than 225 different military specialties in which women Marines served?

9. Study this large wall map labeled "**The Central Pacific.**" Explain the American strategy of "island hopping" and how it was vital to victory in the Pacific.



10. Next to the Marine Theater, find and read **The Homefront** sign. List three things Americans did at home to help win the war.

Enter the Iwo Jima immersion exhibit to answer question 11.



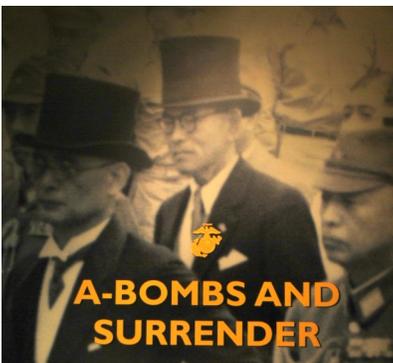
11. Listen to the Marines receive a briefing for the upcoming landing on the island. How would you have felt if you were one of these Marines?

12. Find the American flag on display that flew over **Iwo Jima.**

a. Name the photographer who took the famous photograph of the raising of the flag on Iwo Jima in 1945?

b. List two possible reasons about why the flag is in its present condition.

13. Find these Marines! How did these **"Code Talkers"** contribute to the mission of the Marine Corps during World War II?



14. Read the panels titled **"War's End/Occupation"** and **"A-Bombs and Surrender."**

a. Name the U.S. president who decided to employ the atomic bomb in 1945.

b. Name the Japanese emperor who accepted the Allies' unconditioned surrender terms?