

The National Museum of the Marine Corps celebrates

# Hispanic Heritage Month



### The Pied Piper of Saipan

Read the story below. Then find the underlined words in the word search.

Guy Louis <u>Gabaldon</u> was one of 7 children born to a Mexican-American family from <u>East Los Angeles</u>. Living in a large family was tough. When Guy was 12, he decided to live with his friend's Japanese-American parents.

He learned to speak Japanese and lived with his adoptive parents until they were sent to an internment camp during World War II.

At age 17, Guy decided to join the Marines. He was part of the 2nd <u>Marine</u> Division on the island of <u>Saipan</u>.



Guy worked hard and used his knowledge of the Japanese language to capture many enemy soldiers. One time, he was able to capture 800 Japanese soldiers on the island. As a result he got the nickname the "Pied Piper of Saipan." For his actions, Guy was awarded the Navy Cross.

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2nd Marine Division Insignia

## Hispanics in the Marine Corps

Historic documents tell us that Hispanic-American Marines have fought in all of the conflicts listed below. Match the conflict with its correct description.

- Banana Wars •
- World War II .
  - Vietnam •
- World War I .
  - Korea •
- Boxer Rebellion
  - Beirut •
- Persian Gulf War
  - Operation, Restore Hope •

- Marines went to China to protect American interests.
- Marines gained their legendary nickname "Devil Dogs" after fighting in the Battle of Belleau Wood during this war.
- In the Nicaraguan Campaign of this series of wars, Marines fought to protect American business interests.
- 220 Marines died as a result of a surprise attack against American barracks in this city in the Middle East.
- Marines fought in "Frozen Chosin" during this sometimes forgotten war.
- This mission provided humanitarian aid to people in Northeast Africa.
- Marines fought in this 1991 war, also known as "Desert Storm."
- The Marine Corps grew to its largest size during this Cold War conflict.
- Marine actions in the Pacific led to American victory over Japan during this war.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Unlike the Army, the Marine Corps has never had a designated Hispanic unit.

#### Come visit us!

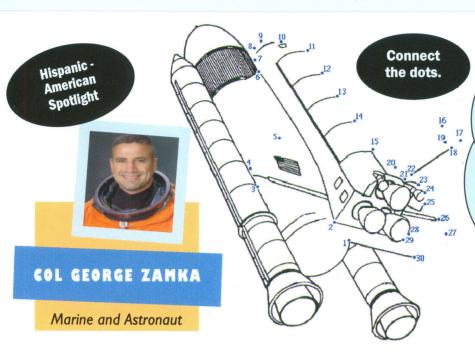
18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy Triangle, VA 22172



Exit 150/150A

#### www.usmcmuseum.org

Family Day: the second Saturday of every month from 11am to 3pm



#### Who is a Hispanic-American?

"A Hispanic is a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, or Central or South America, or of other Spanish cultures, regardless of race."

According to the 2000 Census, Hispanic-Americans make up 12.5% of the total population of the U.S. and are now the nation's largest ethnic minority group.

George Zamka was born in New Jersey to parents of Polish and Colombian descent. He grew up in New York, Michigan, and Medellin, Colombia.

Zamka became a Marine officer after graduating from the United States Naval Academy. While in the Marine Corps, he flew over 4,000 hours in more than 30 different aircraft, including the A-6E and the F/A-18D. Additionally, he flew 66 combat missions over Kuwait and Iraq during Operation Desert Storm.

He was selected to become a NASA shuttle astronaut in 1998, and in 2007 he completed his first space flight as pilot.



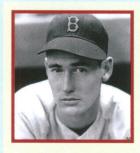
A-6E



F/A-18D

The largest groups of Hispanics in the United States come from Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba.











### **Ted Williams:**

## Hispanic-American Marine and Hall of Fame Baseball Player

Few people know that Ted Williams was of Hispanic descent. His appearance reflected his father's Welsh-English background, but his mother was Mexican.

Ted Williams gave up baseball and became a pilot for the Marine Corps in 1942. He learned to fly on the Piper Cub and the Naval SNJ. He then began training others to fly the F4U Corsair, World War II ended before Williams saw combat.

Ted was called back to action in 1952 for the Korean War. He flew 39 missions in the F9F Panther. After the war, he returned to play baseball for the Boston Red Sox.

Ted Williams flew 4
different planes during his
time in the Marine Corps.
Read the story to find out
more. When finished,
cross out the aircraft Ted
never flew.

Ted Williams played 21 seasons for the Red Sox. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1966.





Above is a map of much of the Hispanic world. Color the top three countries of origin for Hispanic-Americans.

Produced by:
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