

speaks of taking over the independent province of Taiwan and continues to enslave the people of Tibet. Mr. Speaker, it remains imperative that we maintain our military presence and preparedness to instill confidence in our many democratic allies, while providing a beacon for those who suffer under the oppression occurring everyday. We simply cannot ignore these threats from the outside world. Mr. Speaker, I quote then Vice-President Richard Nixon upon the dedication of the Iwo Jima memorial in 1954:

This statue symbolizes the hopes and dreams of America and the real purposes of our foreign policy. We realize that to retain freedom for ourselves, we must be concerned when people in other parts of the world may lose theirs.

Mr. Speaker, this rings true today as it did then. May we never forget the sacrifices of these men on behalf of this maxim. Indeed, there is no greater representation, here or in the world, of the advance of democracy over imperialism, than the statue in Arlington Cemetery which depicts victorious ambassadors of freedom raising the American flag over this outpost of imperialism. Mr. Speaker, may we continue to learn from their sacrifice and contain those bent on denying freedom and destroying democracy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, [Mr. MURTHA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MURTHA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

NEVER FORGET THE SACRIFICES OF THE MEN WHO FOUGHT ON IWO JIMA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I first would like to pay honor to the gentleman, my colleague, SONNY MONTGOMERY. Probably no one in recent history has done more for the veterans of this country than SONNY and I want to commend him for bringing about this special order tonight.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago I had the honor of being a young sailor and participating in the battle of Iwo Jima. Our role was from a small escort air carrier delivering napalm bombs and rockets to the island and supporting our troops. Fifty years ago today plus four was the day we raised the flag on Mount Suribachi. One of the men that participated in that was an Indian from my state of Arizona by the name of Ira Hayes, a Marine.

Mr. Speaker, I think that too often we take these things too lightly, and I just hope that we do not forget this. May we never forget the sacrifices of all those people that participated, that paid with their lives. May that flag always wave over this country. Mr.

Speaker, we pray this will never happen again.

I would like to read a quote by a captain, a Marine, on the island at that time, to his parents. He said, "Only those who fought on Iwo will ever know how tremendous a job was done. It is now sacred ground to us because certainly many of us came so close to eternity that we will never be worldly again." Capt. William Ryan wrote this to his parents in March 1945 from Iwo Jima.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS].

Mr. ROBERTS. I rise to associate myself with the remarks of my colleagues and fellow Marines as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Iwo Jima. I want to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Arizona and give special thanks to Gen. SONNY MONTGOMERY. A finer friend of the military and our veterans our Nation has never seen.

My father, Wes Roberts, who was a Marine Corps major, who lied about his age at 42 to join the Corps and at age 43 was on Iwo Jima, took part in the 36-day assault on this very key island. Fifteen years later, Lieutenant PAT ROBERTS, yours truly, went back to Iwo Jima with Lieutenant General Worsham and a contingent of survivors and veterans, and we toured the island. We not only toured Mount Suribachi and the caves and the end of the island, but also the Japanese cemetery to pay homage to those brave veterans as well.

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And we were standing on top of Mount Suribachi. I will never forget this. All of the veterans of the people who were there at that particular time during the assault looked down at where we had cliffs and then Mount Suribachi and then knee-deep ashes on the beach. And the gentleman turned to me, tears streaming down his face and he said, it is a wonder that anybody ever really made it. It is a wonder anybody was really alive.

We toured the island, and we toured those caves where still the dead Japanese are there. And it was an amazing feat in terms of a military victory. Somehow, by persevering, somehow, by uncommon valor and at great cost both to Americans and Japanese, we saved lives and the end result by bringing this war to its proper conclusion.

I would like to say, as a former Marine, Semper fi, Dad. Semper fi, Marine Corps. Semper fi, America. God bless the United States Marine Corps.

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. JACOBS].

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

There is an old saying, abandon all hope, ye who enter here. And Bill Mauldin, in World War II, had a cartoon where one GI said to the other, in combat, I feel like a fugitive from the

law of averages. And such an attitude is necessary when you face enemy fire. You must forget about the good life. You must forget about everything. You must consider yourself already dead.

The philosopher tells us, civilization progresses because young men die for their country and old men plant trees under which they will never sit. And Henry V, he exhorts his troops at St. Crispin's battle, in peace nothing so becomes a man as stillness and humility. But in war, imitate the action of a tiger. Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood, exchange for fair nature hard-favored rage.

To die for one's country is love than which there can be no greater.

Mr. Speaker, on February 16, 1945, the Americans initiated a pre-invasion naval bombardment lasting three days. Task Force 58, the most powerful carrier force ever assembled, struck the Japanese mainland to prevent enemy support. The Iwo Jima operation, codenamed Detachment, included 1,800 carrier-based and 7th Air Force planes; a quarter-million seamen on nearly 800 ships; and 75,000 GI's of the "V Amphibious Corps." The main assault units included the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions, and various other forces of army and navy construction battalions.

On Monday, February 19, 1945 at 9:00 a.m., the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions landed on the southeastern shore of Iwo Jima. Within 20 minutes, the marines were 250 yards inland. At that point, the Japanese opened up with all they had.

Three days later, on February 23, (50 years ago today) a 40 man patrol of the 5th Division's 2nd battalion, 28 Marines, cleared the 550 foot summit, of Mt. Suribachi. That morning, photographer Joe Rosenthal took the famous photograph of the raising of the American Flag overlooking the island. Secretary of the Navy, James V. Forrestal, a witness to the flag raising, commented that: "the raising of that flag means a Marine Corps for another 500 years."

By the time it was over in mid-summer, 22 Marines and five Navy men earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. This was the greatest number of Medal of Honor recipients for any single engagement of World War II. Half of the awards issued were posthumous, and Iwo Jima represented more than one-fourth of all Medals of Honor awarded Marines during the entire war.

Total American casualties were 28,686. The Japanese sacrificed 23,300 lives and 1,083 of them ultimately surrendered.

By the end of the war, 2,251 B-29's landed at Iwo Jima. Of that number, more than 800 made emergency landings. Without Iwo Jima, many of the 9,000 American crew men would most likely have been lost.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LARGENT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. EVANS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in joining my fellow colleagues and Marines in honoring the

sacrifices of those who fought and served 50 years ago at Iwo Jima.

The battle for Iwo Jima holds a special place in the history of the Marine Corps. In many ways, it established the Corps firmly in the American consciousness. The picture of six Marines raising the American flag on Mount Suribachi is perhaps the most memorable image from World War II to most Americans. Yet, it is only a symbol of the immense sacrifice it took to wrest the island from Japanese control.

Iwo Jima was one of the bloodiest battles of the entire war. Some 6,800 American men died in the struggle for the Island, another 18,000 wounded. Roughly one out of every three marines who landed on the island became a casualty.

I think the engraved words on the face of the Iwo Jima monument tell the story of the battle best, quoting Admiral Nimitz when he said: "Among the Americans who served on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue."

It is a testament to that valor that more Marines were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor at Iwo Jima than in any other single battle in the history of the Corps. One of the 22 recipients, Captain Robert Dunlap, is a constituent. He was born in the town of Abingdon and now resides in Monmouth, Illinois.

Let me quote to you from the citation given to Captain Dunlap when he was awarded our Nation's highest military honor.

Defying uninterrupted blasts of Japanese artillery, mortar, rifle and machine gun fire, Capt. Dunlap led his troops in a determined advance from low ground uphill toward the steep cliffs from which the enemy poured a devastating rain of shrapnel and bullets, steadily inching forward until the tremendous volume of enemy fire from the caves located high to his front temporarily halted his progress. Determined not to yield, he crawled alone approximately 200 yards forward of his front lines, took observation at the base of the cliff 50 yards from Japanese lines, located the enemy positions and returned to his own lines where he relayed the vital information to supporting artillery and naval gunfire units.

Persistently disregarding his own personal safety, he then placed himself in an exposed vantage point to direct more accurately the supporting fire working without respite for 2 days and 2 nights under constant enemy fire, skillfully directed a smashing bombardment against the almost impregnable Japanese positions despite numerous obstacles and heavy Marine casualties. A brilliant leader, Capt. Dunlap inspired his men to heroic efforts during this critical phase of the battle and by his decision, indomitable fighting spirit and daring tactics in the face of fanatic opposition, greatly accelerated the final decisive defeat of Japanese countermeasures in his sector and materially furthered continued advance of his company. His great personal valor and gallant spirit of self sacrifice throughout the bitter hostilities reflect highest credit upon Capt. Dunlap and the U.S. Naval Service.

Mr. Speaker, the heroism of Captain Dunlap and the rest of the veterans of that conflict helped bring the end of the war closer. The capture of the is-

land brought our strategic bombers within effective range of the Japanese mainland. It also saved lives. Over 2,000 B-29's used Iwo Jima as an emergency landing strip after the invasion.

As a former marine, I salute Capt. Dunlap and all of the other veterans of the battle whose selfless service and sacrifice secured our freedoms, including my own cousin Jack * * * born in Rock Island, IL, and now living in Davenport Iowa, who served valiantly with the other marines in that conflict.

I am so pleased and honored to have had this opportunity to join my fellow Veterans' Committee colleagues and former marines in this special order.

Semper Fi to each and every one of you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MICA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereinafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

ON IWO JIMA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. TEJEDA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, first let me say that I am honored to speak in this special order tonight and I thank Congressman MONTGOMERY for organizing the special order. During the past several days, this Congress and this Nation have paused to reflect on the Battle for Iwo Jima, which was engaged 50 years ago this past Sunday. I read with interest the dialogue which took place in the other body last Wednesday, and I hope my colleagues will take the time to read the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD account of that discussion in addition to this special order.

Last Friday at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio Marines past and present and other veterans gathered at a luncheon honoring this Iwo Jima campaign and those who fought there. Preparing for this speech gave me an opportunity to reflect on the significance of this historic battle: Both to the Marines of 1945 and to the Marines of today and tomorrow. Since my colleagues have already discussed the battle itself, I will try to focus on the present and the future.

As this Nation honors those who served 50 years ago, we cannot escape the fact that their numbers are decreasing. Their dedication, bravery, and devotion to fellow man and country and Corps are left for future generations to honor.

I wore the Marine Corps uniform for a different generation, a different war. Yet I cannot and will not forgo the obligation, the responsibility, of honoring the legacy of those who served before me. Set the example.

We honor them in many ways: By awarding medals, building monuments,

lending their names to streets, schools, and bases just to name a few. But those of us who serve in Congress have an extra responsibility to these men. We must ensure that the blood, sweat, and tears which they shed in wartime will not be forgotten during this or any other prolonged period of peace.

Gen. Holland Smith said that the battle of Iwo Jima would assure the internal existence of the Marine Corps. This may be true, but in what form? The debate still rages in the halls of Congress.

Today's Marine Corps is in a precarious position. Nobody will dare question the quality of the men and women currently serving in uniform. The problem is: Do we have enough of them in uniform to meet our national security needs and are we able to take care of them adequately?

General Mundy, during his testimony in support of the FY 96 budget request, stated that the proposed force level of 174,000 active and 42,000 selected marine reservists is, the absolute minimum force level to enable the corps to meet today's requirements.

In addition to the budget debate in Congress, there is a roles and missions debate ongoing in the Pentagon. The recommendations from an independent panel will be released shortly. In this context, I offer a small comparison between the battle for Iwo Jima and the Persian Gulf war.

I recall nearly 5 years ago that many people called for a comprehensive, sustained air campaign against Iraq's forces in hopes that ground troops would not be needed. Many feared that the price of military victory in human lives would be too high.

After 38 days of aerial bombardment, which President Bush called, " * * * the most effective, yet humane, in the history of warfare," ground forces were ordered into Kuwait to achieve the military objective.

Looking back at Iwo Jima, we must not forget that the island and its defenders were subjected to 6 months of constant aerial bombardment before the marines landed. In the past 50 years of technological advances, it is still the grunts on the ground who will be called upon in the future to fight and win our Nation's battles.

Even during my service, Mr. Speaker, every Quonset hut, every barracks that you went into, you would see a motto, a quote there that said, "The more we sweat in peacetime, the less we bleed in war." Today's Marines are ready and prepared.

Mr. Speaker, the survivors of Iwo Jima do not seek any personal glory. They served because their Nation called. It is only fitting for my generation and those after me to recognize, honor, and commemorate these valiant Marines.

However, I believe the most appropriate tribute we can pay is to forever uphold the values which they exhibited