IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (IJAA)

73RD ANNIVERSARY IWO JIMA REUNION OF HONOR

Join us on the Black Sands in 2018!
Dear Iwo Jima veterans, families and friends:

In March 2002, the 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps, General “Jim” Jones, USMC was so impressed by the solemn feeling of warrior brotherhood expressed by the American and Japanese survivors on Iwo Jima that he decreed the Joint Reunion of Honor would become an annual event.

In March 2005, General "Mike" Hagee, USMC, 33rd Commandant, flew all night from Washington, DC to be with the veterans and their families on the anniversary.

In March 2010, the 34th Commandant, General “Jim” Conway, USMC, joined us for the 65th Anniversary, General “Jim” Amos, USMC the 35th Commandant attended in March 2014 and the 36th Commandant General “Joe” Dunford, USMC joined IJAA on Iwo for the historic 70th Anniversary in 2015 again strengthening the importance of this event for Marines of all eras. Since space is restricted on this “Reunion of Honor”, (because we have to charter a civilian jet aircraft from Guam to Iwo Jima), you are STRONGLY encouraged to get your registration in the mail just as soon as possible. You can change your mind later. However, once the seats are gone, they're gone!

We personally look forward to seeing all of you on the "Black Sands" in March 2018 as we commemorate the loss of IJAA Chairman Emeritus LtGen Larry Snowden this year.

You will NEVER forget the feeling of awe when the plane sets down on Motoyama Airfield #2, on Iwo Jima. It is an indescribable experience! More and more sons and daughters, as well as other relatives and friends of Iwo Jima veterans, are joining our ranks. We want you to know that you are MOST WELCOME!

Sincere fraternal regards,

Norman H. “Norm” Smith
LtGen USMC (Ret)
President/CEO

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you can’t go back please make a tax-exempt donation to the IJAA to help Veterans of the battle return to the “Black Sands!”

P.O. Box 680, Quantico, VA 22134
Phone (703) 590-1295 * Fax (703) 590-1292
E-mail: iwojimareunion@miltours.com * www.IwoJimaAssociation.org
Guam/Iwo Jima Tour Price

**Basic Tour Price** $4,095 (Based on double occupancy)

**Single Room Supplement** $795

**Iwo Jima Day Only** $1,695

**Symposium Day** $50

**Iwo Jima Tour Includes:**
- Deluxe Hotel accommodations at the Outrigger Resort Guam
- Deluxe air conditioned motor coach transportation
- Round-trip airport transfers in Guam
- Military historical sites and battlefield tours
- FULL DAY ON IWO JIMA, via charter jet
- Meals as indicated in itinerary.
- **Note:** Due to the size of this tour group Guam daily itineraries may change, but all areas will be visited. Final itineraries will be given out upon arrival in Guam.

**Airfare Not Included:** MHT Roundtrip Air Available Upon Request; Air Travel Price Quotes from your hometown available approximately $2,200 for planning purposes actual cost upon registration. These quotes available from any city serviced by United Airlines.

Day 6 - 24 March Chartered IJAA 737 Flight to Iwo Jima. Upon arrival, you will be briefed on the plan for the day and proceed on your tour of the island. Please note that vehicle transportation is limited to Iwo Jima Veterans and escorts only. We will visit Mt Suribachi and the “Black Sands” landing beaches. We will attend a joint IJAA Memorial Service overlooking the landing beaches. (** USA Passports Only permitted on charter per Japanese Immigration. **) (B/L/D)

Day 7 - 25 March Today is a chance to enjoy the Outrigger Beach and Pool. Farewell Fiesta at the Pacific War Museum (Gerber Ranch.) (B/L/D)

Day 8 - 26 March Departure for home to arrive same day or head to Hawaiian or Peleliu Post Tours.

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Early in the morning we will depart Guam for a day-long Memorial Tour and Observance on Iwo Jima. Upon arrival, you will be met by the official U.S. and Japanese Government delegation consisting of representatives from the Armed Services. (We will land on the site of Motoyama airfield #2.) After visiting Mt. Suribachi and the scene of the famed flag raising captured by Joe Rosenthal on 23 Feb 1945. Afterwards, Veterans and their families will gather above the landing beaches to conduct Memorial Services at the Anniversary Monument. These services, conducted by dignitaries and Veterans of the United States and Japan, will remember and memorialize those young men who gave their lives during the savage campaign for the island. Following a box lunch, we will continue touring the island to include the landing beaches. Late in the day we will return to the airfield where this historic day began, to gather one last time in friendship and camaraderie on the sacred soil of Iwo Jima.
**PRE-TOUR ITINERARY TO SAIPAN & TINIAN**

**15 March**
Arrive Los Angeles for overnight if you want to break up trip and depart with a group on 20 March from LAX. Allow MHT to book your airfare or arrange your own direct connections.

**Day 1 - 16 March**
Depart Los Angeles for Saipan (via Honolulu and Guam). (Cross International Dateline - lose a day.)

**Day 2 - 17 March**
Arrive Saipan in the evening with a traditional Saipan island welcome. Check into the Fiesta Resort for the duration of the pre-tour and relax for the remainder of the evening.

**Day 3 - 18 March**
A full day WWII history tour of Saipan beginning at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center. Next, the 2d and 4th Marine Division beaches where you can feel how exposed the Marines were to Japanese observers on Mt Tapotchau towering 1500 feet above us. Follow the progression of the battle south to Aslito/Isley Airfield. Next proceed through the infamous "Death Valley," flanked on the east by "Purple Heart Ridge" and on the west by the ever-imposing Mt Tapotchau. Following the flow of the 1944 battle northward, pass the notorious site of the mass banzai attack. End the day at "Suicide Cliff" and "Banzai Cliff," the sites of mass suicides. Here, where the battle for Saipan ended, are impressive memorials to peace. Group dinner in the evening. (B/L/D)

**Day 4 - 19 March**
Depart to Tinian Island for a battlefield study of this island’s liberation. Marvel at the small and narrow invasion beaches where the Marine landings surprised the Japanese defenders. See pillboxes and the rusted hulk of a landing craft. Explore the now abandoned North Field, which in 1944-45 was the world’s most active airfield with hundreds of B-29 bombers and tens of thousands of airmen and support troops. Visit the "bomb pits" where the atomic bombs were loaded and see Runway Able where the Enola Gay took off for Hiroshima. Fly to Saipan late afternoon. (B/L)

**Day 5 - 20 March**
Participate in a moving Liberation Ceremony & wreath laying at the American Memorial Park. Each veteran will be individually honored by Saipan. Today we will also visit the CMMI museum, spanning all periods of Saipan history, as well as recovered Spanish treasure. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to take care of any unfinished shopping, take a swim, and pack for an early evening flight to Guam. After check-in at the Guam Outrigger Resort, the evening is at your leisure. (B/L)

**MHT’S LEGACY SERIES OF PACIFIC BATTLEFIELD TOURS**

16 - 20 March 2018

**Optional Tour Price**

$1,795

(Based on double occupancy)

**Single Room Supplement**

$495

Pre-Tour Includes:
- Roundtrip Airfare from Guam or Saipan
- Deluxe Hotel accommodations on Saipan at the Fiesta Resort. Saipan located in the heart of Garapan close to the beach and nightlife.
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Deluxe air conditioned motor coach transportation
- Round-trip airport transfers in Saipan
- Battlefield tours on Saipan and Tinian
**Post Tour Itinerary to Peleliu**

**26 March:** Flight to and overnight in Koror.

**Day 1—27 March:** Peleliu - Boat through the beautiful Rock Islands on the way to Peleliu. Check into rooms with lunch on the beach. After lunch, explore The Point and White Beach I & II as well as adjacent areas. As time allows, a bus tour of the island will allow the group to understand the island’s overall layout. Cross talk session on the operation in the evening for those who want to participate. Evening at leisure. (B/L/D)

**Day 2—28 March:** Peleliu - Trek into Wildcat Bowl to view artifacts (such as Japanese artillery pieces, napalm tank and water catch basin) of the battle and explore caves. After lunch, we will trek into the jungle to view the Sherman tank destroyed by a land mine and some aircraft wreckage. (B/L/D)

**Day 3—29 March:** Peleliu - Trek into the Horse Shoe Valley to view the Japanese fighting positions, the air compressor used by the 81st Infantry Division to clear caves as well as see other battle artifacts. In the afternoon we will trek into Death Valley to view the last command post of the island’s Japanese commander. Additional battle artifacts located around the island that we will visit as time allows include: Betty Bomber wreckage, 200mm gun cave, Zero wreckage, big gun bunkers and caves, Japanese tank and Headquarters Building. (B/L/D)

**Day 4—30 March:** Peleliu & Koror - This morning we have a walking tour of Hill Row to explore the caves, gun bunkers and artillery pieces located on the north face of three hills. We observe Radar Hill just across the road to the east. After lunch we board our boat for will be our return to Koror. (B/L)

**Day 5—31 March:** Koror - Depart for home at 0200, cross the international date line and gain a day. Arrive in the USA the same day.

**Peleliu Post Tour Price**

- **Peleliu Post Tour** $1,995 (Based on double occupancy)
- **Single Room Supplement** $425

**Post Tour Includes:**
- **Roundtrip Airfare** from Guam to Peleliu
- **Tourist Class Hotel Accommodations on Peleliu**
- **Round-trip transfers between airport, dock and hotel**
- **All meals on Peleliu**
- **Tours led by knowledgeable MHT Battlefield Guides**
- **Services of experienced MHT Tour Directors**
- **Admission fees and gratuities as indicated on itinerary**

**NOTE:** This tour utilizes tourist class accommodations on Peleliu to maximize the battlefield touring schedule. Some of the activities listed are of a rigorous nature, requiring good physical fitness to traverse the battle terrain. Please contact our office with any questions.
**POST TOUR - HONOLULU & PEARL HARBOR**

MHT’S LEGACY SERIES OF PACIFIC BATTLEFIELD TOURS

**26 - 29 MARCH 2018**

**Enjoy 4 Nights & 4 Days at the Outrigger Reef Waikiki Beach Resort**

RELAX AND ENJOY THE SUN AND HISTORIC WWII SITES ON HONOLULU!

26 March - Depart Guam for Honolulu, HI.

25 March - (Cross International Dateline - gain a day.) Arrive Honolulu early evening and check into our Ohana Reef Waikiki Hotel. Dinner on your own.

28 March - Day of leisure. After breakfast enjoy a fun filled day on Waikiki Beach or sightseeing in downtown Honolulu. Late checkout. Leave Hawaii on an evening flight. (B)

29 March - Arrive in the USA this morning.

OPTION: Add 1 to 7 additional days in Honolulu to see the sights or enjoy the beaches on your own. Call the office for details.

**Hawaii Post Tour: $ 1,295**

(Based on double occupancy)

Single Room $ 425

Pre-Tour Includes:

- Accomadations at Outrigger Reef Waikiki
- WWII Sites entrance fees
- Medical Evacuation Insurance
- Tax and roundtrip airport transfers
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Experienced Tour Leaders

**Veterans on the Mighty MO**

27 March - After breakfast, we head for the “Punchbowl”, the National Cemetery of the Pacific. From there we head to Ford Island to have lunch and visit the Pacific Aviation Museum for a special tour. (B/L)
IJAA RETURNS THE VETERANS OF IWO JIMA
JOIN THEM FOR THE 73RD ANNIVERSARY
TO THE "BLACK SANDS"