

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 285360

ADOPTED ON FEB 27 1995

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1945, 61,000 Marines of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Divisions stormed ashore in the first land assault on the island of Iwo Jima; and

WHEREAS, given the limited size of the battle field and the size of the forces engaged, there is probably no battle in history that surpasses Iwo Jima in magnitude and fury; and

WHEREAS, the fight for a spit of land in the Pacific 50 years ago to help preserve us as a nation became, for the United States Marine Corps, one of the most terrible battles in its 219-year history; and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 1945, a young photographer named Joe Rosenthal captured on film one of the most moving moments in the Pacific campaign of World War II -- the raising of the Flag on Mount Suribachi; and

WHEREAS, a dozen Navy nurses picked up the wounded Marines and flew with them to Guam; and

WHEREAS, when the troop's ship was leaving the battle area, Marines looked back over its stern, and slowly watched the tiny island, almost unknown before this great battle of Armageddon, sink lower and lower as they neared the horizon and all that could be seen was the crown of Mount Suribachi with Old Glory waving in the breeze as if to say a final farewell; NOW,  
THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego,  
that this Council hereby encourages all citizens to honor this  
50th Anniversary of Iwo Jima and the men and women who served in  
this great battle to preserve a nation and its freedom.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett  
Stuart H. Swett  
Senior Chief Deputy

SHS:smm  
02/17/95  
Or.Dept:Mayor  
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