

to accomplish another of its presumed purposes, namely, advancing peace in the Middle East. Alternative formulations would be better suited for that objective.

I also do not think the Congress should try to involve itself in the internal politics of an allied nation.

In addition, this president, like his predecessors, should be given the maximum flexibility to maintain the credibility of the United States with all parties; we should strive to preserve his ability to broker a permanent resolution. With equal conviction, I urge the president to use those capabilities to the fullest; to advance a timetable more vigorously, and to propose more detailed possible peace plans.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the frustrations and fears that have marked the past three years. And I know that Washington is now preoccupied with Iraq and with the threat of terrorism to our homeland security. But that is all the more reason that we should strive to keep this body poised to play its part in stanching violence in Israel and the West Bank, and in supporting any future peace initiatives. For me, it is difficult to see why, during these perilous times, the legislative body of the sole nation on earth which might bring this crisis to closure would do anything that could compromise that nation's ability to do so.

HONORING THE COURAGE OF THE  
U.S. MARINES, 5TH DIVISION ON  
MT. SURIBACHI

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courage of the first United States soldiers to scale the summit of the heavily-defended Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima.

Iwo Jima is a small rocky island only two miles wide and four miles long located approximately 650 miles south of Tokyo, Japan. It is a volcanic island, much like the islands in my home state of Hawaii—a place where cool Pacific breezes rush over soft beaches and birds sing songs learned during lonely flights across the wide ocean.

For a brief moment in time, the island of Iwo Jima became a central battleground between the Empire of Japan and the Allied Forces during those terrible and dark days of World War II. The Allied Forces were determined to take the island in preparation for a final attack on Japan, and the Japanese were unbendable in their desire to defend Iwo Jima and to prevent foreigners from moving any closer to the main islands of Japan.

On February 19, 1945, approximately 70,000 American and other Allied Forces and 22,000 Japanese soldiers locked themselves in a horrific battle that would begin the final phase of the War in the Pacific. Entrenched in a series of interlocking caves, blockhouses, and pillboxes, the Japanese fought with determination to defend their island. Debarking off a naval armada of more than 450 ships, the Allies, led by the United States, brought the full weight of their highly trained and battle tested troops to bear with the determined goal of taking the rocky island no matter what the cost. The battle for Iwo Jima would be one of

the fiercest conflicts of the Second World War. Almost 7,000 Americans were killed in action. More than 20,000 Americans were wounded. Of the 22,000 Japanese defenders, only 1,083 survived.

On February 23, 1945, the fifth day of the battle, Marines from the 5th Division were ordered to ascend the slopes of Mt. Suribachi, the main peak controlling the island. Four Marine squads worked their way up the mountain and, at 10:30 a.m., 1st Lieutenant Harold Schrier, Platoon Sergeant Ernest Thomas, Sergeant Henry Hansen, Corporal Charles Lindberg, and Private James Michels raised the first American flag on Mt. Suribachi.

Today, when our Nation thinks about the brave soldiers of Iwo Jima, we often visualize the commanding bronze statue resting on the banks of the Potomac River. Most Americans do not realize that this memorial actually depicts the second, much larger flag that was raised over Mt. Suribachi, signaling the courage and determination of the United States to almost every soldier on Iwo Jima and to the naval vessels at sea.

In my home state of Hawaii, the Iwo Jima United States Memorial Association is working to raise the funds necessary to build a memorial to recognize the American soldiers who raised the first American flag on Mt. Suribachi. I applaud their efforts and hope that every citizen across the nation will support those groups dedicated to recognizing the courage of American soldiers.

IN RECOGNITION OF CARL KELLY

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, a man from Butts County, Georgia, Carl Kelly of Pepperton Cottonmill Village, has recently been reintroduced to his community and to new generations as a true hero.

Just prior to World War Two, First Sergeant Kelly was a member of the Jackson Rifles of the Jackson National Guard. 1st Sgt. Kelly was sent to Europe with very little training and very little equipment. While he was there he was one of the thousands of Americans who went ashore on Utah Beach during the Normandy Invasion. He was later wounded in St. Lo, France and awarded his first Purple Heart and the first of his three Bronze Stars for gallantry.

Following the war, Kelly remained in the military and was deployed very shortly thereafter to Korea, where he was given a field promotion to 2nd Lieutenant. While in Korea, Lt. Kelly was wounded a second time. Once he returned to action, he repeatedly risked his own life to cover the retreat of a pinned down artillery unit, ultimately receiving a mortal wound.

Lt. Carl Kelly is, from all available records, the most highly decorated veteran of Butts County. While bravely serving his nation he was awarded three Purple Hearts, three Bronze Stars, the Silver Star, and dozens of other honors.

What has brought Lt. Kelly's actions to the attention of the public is a book chronicling the life of an infantryman in World War Two and Korea. In his recently published book, *Warrior*

By Choice in World War Two, *By Chance* in Korea, author Jack M. Anderson tells Kelly's story in an excerpt describing the first man he ever saw die.

As we prepare to send our young men and women into combat, I think that it is fitting that we remember the sacrifice of men like Carl Kelly, and finally give him the honor that has been so long overdue.

Recently my hometown newspaper, the *Jackson Argue-Progress*, published an article about Kelly's life of commitment, and I would like that article and these comments to be submitted together for the RECORD. In this way, I wish to honor the memory of a hometown hero, a father, a husband, and an example of valor to all Americans, on behalf of a grateful nation.

[From *Jackson Argue-Progress*, Jan. 29, 2003]

REMEMBERING BUTTS COUNTY'S LT. KELLY

(By Herman Cawthon)

In the recently published *Warrior By Choice in World War II, By Chance* Korea, author Jack M. Anderson tells of his 24-plus years of service as a United States Infantryman.

In his book Anderson includes an excerpt of a Butts County warrior, Carl Kelly. Anderson describes Kelly as follows:

"From Butts, Georgia 1st Sgt. Carl Kelly, Hq Co, 1st Bn, 38th Inf was wounded the same time I was. He would return to duty and be killed the day before I was captured. He was the first man I would watch die. We started to move him to the Bn Aid Station, but he said not to, but wanted us to get a hometown friend of his who was the Bn S4 Sergeant.

"Carl told Stewart (I hope that name is right) that things were going slowly dim and he wanted Stewart to be sure to tell his wife and kids that he loved them and would meet them in heaven. He talked for a few minutes more, then just closed his eyes and was dead. I had seen others killed and would see more, but that was the first time I watched a man die."

Anderson and Kelly both had very similar military careers up to the death of Kelly. Both were in the National Guard when World War II started and both were sent into action with little training and even less to work with; not only guns and ammunition, but food and lodging. Kelly went to the European Theater and Anderson to the Pacific. Both were wounded and decorated several times. Anderson details how the US troops improved and how they wound up with so much more than the enemy.

After World War II, both joined the regular Army, so when the Korean Conflict started, they were sent into battle immediately. Again Anderson tells how the U.S. was very short on supplies and had very few men with any training and experience. At the beginning, he describes the hardships experienced by the troops as they fought the larger, better trained enemy troops. Both men were prisoners and escaped. Again, the U.S. wound up with superior troops and equipment.

After reading the book, Cary Kelly, son of Lt. Carl Kelly, wrote the following letter:

"To Whom It May Concern: The following is a brief military history of Lt. Carl Kelly from Jackson, Georgia.

"Carl Kelly began his military career by joining the Jackson National Guard, then called the Jackson Rifles, while still in his teens. When WWII started, the Jackson National Guard was called upon to train for the war in Europe. Carl Kelly was made 1st Sergeant before leaving for Ireland to wait for the invasion of Normandy.