

### *Marines Conquering Iwo Jima*

During World War II, the United States had a strategy to move toward Japan and conquer islands along the way to gain naval power. Along the way they fight a battle in Iwo Jima; one in which they win. World War II was filled with a lot of long battles and tough fights for the military. Throughout these tough encounters, the troops were held together by pride and patriotism. They wanted to fight and win for the pride of their country. This picture shows many of these ideas and mentalities of World War II and is an excellent photo.

We can learn several things about the war through this picture. At the initial glance you see the soldiers putting up the flag and feel a great sense of pride for the country and these soldiers' accomplishments in winning this battle. When analyzing the picture further you can notice that the soldiers are standing on, what appears to be, a giant pile of rubble. This demonstrates that the war was very destructive and a lot of damage was done. You can also notice that the air is filled with smoke indicating that something is either burning from the destruction of the battle or from gunfire that had recently taken place. This shows that the battle had happened recently and the soldiers are quick to put up the flag and let the other troops around the island know that they have conquered it. Another reason one might see that the battle had happened recently is the fact that they are all still fully equipped in their gear. All of the soldiers are still wearing helmets and battle attire and some are still equipped with guns. This makes it seem as though the battle had just ended or there still may be some Japanese soldiers left that could mean danger so they must be ready. A main point that can be learned from this picture is that these battles were won with a large team effort and the soldiers are very proud of their accomplishments. As you can see, there are six men (it is hard to see two of them) helping to raise this flag. It could have probably been done with less but they all wanted to pitch in and help and get the job done. This shows how the soldiers worked together and could indicate their ways of success.

As this flag was being raised, indicating the conquering of Iwo Jima, it demonstrates a turning point in the war where the United States was ready to make its move to the mainland where they would finish the job. Another main theme that can be seen throughout American military history is that soldiers are trained in having discipline and teamwork skills in order to be successful. This is a major part of the military's philosophy and is very well depicted in this picture. And finally, a major theme seen throughout history is the United States patriotism. This picture is a very patriotic picture because it shows how the troops have worked hard and gone through great effort to win the battle through teamwork and hard fighting. This picture was one of the most popular pictures during the time period of World War II and is one of the most printed pictures of all time. This demonstrates how much pride Americans have in our country and in our military. Patriotism and pride can be seen all throughout American history, especially during times of war. This picture is an excellent photo and depicts the struggles of war and the pride and patriotism Americans have for our military and our country.