"Uncommon valor was a common virtue."

IW O JIMA

King & Country
AUTHENTIC HAND-MADE HISTORY
With the capture of Iwo Jima, America would be one step closer to Japan's home islands and remove a major menace to US bombers attacking Japanese cities...

Just after 9am on February 19, 1945, the first U.S. Marines stormed onto Iwo Jima's beaches. Little did they realize the hell they were about to run into.

3 days before, naval gunfire had continuously blasted this tiny spit of volcanic sand and rock. For another 75 days (prior to the landings) waves of B24, B25 and B29 bombers had let loose the mightiest bombardment of the entire Pacific campaign.

Surely, many Marines thought, nothing could survive such an intensive onslaught. As their landing craft and amtracs headed for the shore, the men of the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions (over 30,000 combined) expected to rapidly overcome the few remaining Japanese survivors.

The nastiest of surprises

Awaiting the Americans was a ferocious and fanatical force of 21,000 Japanese troops who had carved out of solid volcanic rock more than 11 miles of caves, tunnels, carefully camouflaged pill boxes and bombproof bunkers.

For 20 full minutes after the Marines landed, all was quiet. Then, without warning... all hell broke loose!

Simultaneously machine gun and other small arms fire cut swathes through the ranks of Marines still moving off the beach.

Suddenly Iwo Jima was no longer a simple "walk-over".

Despite this fierce Japanese resistance and the terrible casualties, the Marines pressed forward... and upwards. Up Mt. Suribachi, the highest feature on the small island.

60 years on...

Back in 1999, King & Country launched its first series of "IWO JIMA" figures and fighting vehicles. This Anniversary year we are returning to the inferno that was Iwo Jima to release no less than SIX all new, all redesigned and recast sets to add to your collection.

IWM019 "RAISING THE FLAG" - Probably the most famous image of World War Two. The hoisting of the flag on Mt. Suribachi was both symbolic and inspirational.

"AMTRACK ASSAULT"

Our latest amphibious assault craft - an LVT-4 version of the famous Amtrak boasts two .50 calibre machine guns as well as a pair of .30's. A rear facing ramp allows easy troop access. A realistic, battle-worn camouflage paint scheme, Iwo Jima markings plus a wounded Marine cox'n and a single riflemen complete the set.

IWM023 "RETURN FIRE" shows four "leathernecks" crouching and lying firing... all of them trying to avoid the deadly enemy artillery fire and snipers.

AMPHIBIOUS EXPERT

Holland M. "Howling Mad" Smith (1882-1967), nicknamed for his temper as well as his initials, was the best known US Marine Corps general of World War II. He was in charge of training marines in the USA from 1939 to 1943, then went to the Pacific and led the ground forces in the invasions of the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas and Iwo Jima.

Smith's relationship with the Army and Air Force Department was not a happy one. The department disapproved of marine generals commanding army units. But Smith was the most successfuful American amphibious operations commander.
**IWJ021** "RUNNING FOR COVER"
On Iwo, any kind of natural cover was rare in the extreme. In this set, two Marine riflemen give covering fire while two others run from one shell hole to another.

**IWJ020** "COURAGE UNDER FIRE" Twenty-seven Marines and Navy Corpsmen (Medics) won the Congressional Medal of Honor on Iwo Jima.

**IWJ022**

Sixty years after the battle, King & Country once again are proud to salute the heroes of Iwo Jima. In the famous words of US Navy Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, "Uncommon valor was a common virtue." Today those words, carved in granite, adorn the gigantic Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington D.C. "Semper Fidelis!"

**A FEW, GOOD FILM FACTS**

- In the movie "SANDS OF IWO JIMA" starring John Wayne, the three surviving Iwo Jima Flag raisers played themselves and reenacted the historic moment for the film cameras.
- Tony Curtis played the ill-fated Navaho Indian PFC Ira Hayes in "THE OUTSIDER" in 1956.
- "SANDS OF IWO JIMA" is still shown today to young Marine recruits as an inspirational film.

**IWJ023**

In this set, one Marine fires his "Tommy-Gun", another readies his flamethrower while a third carries his wounded buddy to safety.

**IWJ024 TYPE 95 "CHI-HA" JAPANESE TANK**
K&C's very first piece of Japanese armour - the ubiquitous Type 95 "Chi-Ha". Our model comes with tank commander and driver.

**A SAMURAI'S SACRIFICE**

Have not eaten or drunk for five days, ran the last signal from Tadamichi Kuribayashi (1889-1945) on Iwo Jima on March 21, 1945. "But fighting spirit is running high. We are going to fight bravely to the last moment." From a samurai ('warrior') family, and arguably the war's oldest Japanese general, Kuribayashi masterminded the defences that made Iwo Jima so hard to take. He was promoted a full general on March 17, but no one knows if he received the message sent to inform him.
Since the original "Iwo Jima" series was launched back in 1999, King & Country has produced eight different sets of Japanese infantry, artillery and armour to combat the invading U.S. Marines.

Now, we are proud to announce the release of six additional new sets of dramatic and dynamic Japanese infantry of World War Two to complement your collection.

All of these exciting new figures have been thoroughly researched and detailed to portray late-war soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army as they would have appeared during the Battle of Iwo Jima in February and March 1945.

IWJ025 "General Kuribayashi". The commander of the island's defences and their architect. A career soldier, he perished with many of his men...his body was never found.

IWJ026 "Rifle Grenade Team". Two Japanese infantrymen prepare to fire their rifle attached grenade...note the special grenade carrying harness on the loader.

IWJ027 "Mortar Team" Another two-man set, this pair are firing the small 60mm mortar...

IWJ028 "Anti Tank Team" This two-man team is firing the Type 97 Automatic Anti-Tank Rifle which fired a 20mm round.

IWJ029 "Sniper Group" A three-man section comprising one Sergeant NCO with binoculars "spotting" plus two riflemen using their 6.5mm "Arisaka" rifles in both sitting and lying prone positions.

CASUALTIES

Of the 21,000 Japanese troops that defended Iwo Jima only a mere handful survived at the end of the battle.