

Engels, Richard H.
Charles R. Jr.

Brothers, Separated Six Years 1945 Have Reunion On Iwo Jima

MAR 5

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(Marine Corps Combat Correspondent)

IWO JIMA—(Delayed)—This island is a long way from Bethlehem, Pa., but for two brothers—meeting for the first time in six years—that steel city is for all intents and purposes here.

Marine Private First Class Richard H. Engels, 19, and Coast Guard Chief Bosun's Mate Charles R. Engels, Jr., 27, both of 1930 Kemmerer Street (Bethlehem) not only brought their home to sulphur isle, but tried to squeeze a half dozen years into a few hours.

The two Pacific veterans, sons of a Bethlehem high school science teacher, met after they discovered they were in the same convoy.

"I didn't recognize Richard, but he spotted me," said Charles, a tall, bearded Coast Guardsman. "We couldn't believe we were talking to each other."

The younger brother, a member of the 1942 all-state football squad, last saw Charles when the Chief enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1938. Richard was only 13 then, and was preparing to enter high school.

Today, the youthful Marine is six feet one and a half inches tall and weighs 225 pounds. He quit Georgia University, to which he had won a scholarship, to enlist. He participated in the Marshalls invasion.

Chief Engels spent three years in the Merchant Marine before enlisting. He has been on convoy duty for several years. This is his first combat action.

The two are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Engels of the Bethlehem address.

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