70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINA MARINES
“1945—2015”
12 - 25 October 2015

BEIJING - TIENTSIN - PEITAIHO - XIAN - CHINWANGTAO - TSINGTAO
SHANGHAI (POST TOUR 26—29 OCT)

The Great Wall rises out of the Bohai Sea (Yellow Sea) during our return to China!

China Marines forming up 65 years later at the former III Amphibious Corps HQ where, at left, Gen Rockey accepted the Japanese Surrender in 1945.
Thousands of Marines, soldiers and sailors served in China since the start of the Yangtze Patrol in 1854. Those “Old” China Hands, prior to World War II, gave birth to the legends of “China Duty.” When one thinks of the Boxer Rebellion or American forces in China before World War II it is of the Marines at Shanghai and Peking and the U.S. Navy's gunboats assigned to the Yangtze Patrol and South China Patrol. Movies like the San Pebbles and 55 Days at Peking tend to reinforce this perception of history that the Marines did the shore duty while the Navy did the sea duty. U.S. Marines from Dan Daly, Chesty Puller, Roy Geiger Smedley Butler and future commandants George Barnett, Thomas Holcomb & John Russell.

Less known are the facts that the U.S. Army fielded the 9th, 14th & 15th Infantry as well as the 5th Field Artillery & 6th Cavalry Regiments to the China Relief Expedition during the Boxer Rebellion and the 15th Infantry provided a 1,000 soldier garrison at Tientsin (now Tianjin) from January 1912 until March 1938.

In the years following WWII, thousands more saw service in the waters off China and on land in the capacity of Civil Government -repatriating the Japanese Military and keeping order - during a period of turmoil in Chinese History. These sailors and Marines served faithfully and gallantly in a “dirty” job, performing hazardous service in an inhospitable country, surrounded by danger on all sides until 1949 when the Chinese Civil War concluded.

Our Navy and Marine Corps provided a stabilizing influence to a country in the grips of an internal struggle for power in the vacuum of the Japanese Surrender. While other military men and women returned to their homes and families, they continued the struggle for freedom which had begun during the Island Campaigns and epic Sea Battles of the Pacific War. Much has changed since America left China in 1949. The changes will amaze you, but you will be delighted to recognize the places you knew or have read about in that far-off, legendary land.

DAILY ITINERARY

12 Oct Mon - (Day 1) Depart USA
Depart your hometown airport for an international flight to Beijing, China. (Cross international dateline lose a day)

13 Oct Tue - (Day 2) Arrive Beijing
Upon arrival in Beijing, we transfer to Tientsin by coach and check into our hotel to rest. Hotel: Astor (B/L/(on Plane)/D on own)

14 Oct Wed - (Day 3) Tientsin 70th Anniversary Ceremony
Today we commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Japanese Surrender in 1945 with a visit to the site of the original event, Gen Rockey’s III Marine Amphibious Corps HQ. We start the day with a visit to the Tianjin Museum of Modern History, a private collection of memorabilia from the time of the nine European concessions. This afternoon, we continue with stops including the Catholic Church, British Officer's Club, 15th Infantry Regiment area, 1st Marine Division HQ and the Communication Center where the 203 Marines captured in North China were first imprisoned in 1941. We have a very special “China Marine Reunion Dinner” at the former American Red Cross Building (former German Club) now a restaurant. Hotel: Astor House Meals: (B/L/D)

Tour Price: $3,395
(bodo-based on double occupancy)
Single Supplement: $695
Post Tour Costs (bodo):
Shanghai Post Tour: $895
Shanghai Single Supplement: $475
Tour Price Includes:
Deluxe Hotel Accommodations
* Air-conditioned deluxe motorcoach
* You China Visa Done For You
* Meals as indicated in the itinerary
* Historical Trip information packet, containing maps and other tour information
* Emergency Medical Evacuation and Hospitalization Insurance
* Admission fees to all sites, museums and special attractions listed
* Services of experienced Tour Leaders and English-speaking local guides

Airfare Not Included: MHT
Optional Airfare Available, Round-trip economy or business class airfare from your city via an international portal to China priced upon registration.

We do your China Visa for you...no hidden costs!
15 Oct Thur - (Day 4) Tientsin and Peitaho
After breakfast, we check-out of the hotel and find any other points of interest around Tientsin. We depart Tientsin for Peitaho and Chinwangtao. Upon arrival, we begin a tour of Peitaho to see the villas of senior Party members in this formerly exclusive seaside town and the famous Eagle Rock where Chairman Mao wrote his most quoted poem. After checking into our hotel, we will have a group dinner. **Hotel: Seaside Garden Meals: (B/L/D)**

16 Oct Fri - (Day 5) Peitaho & Chinwangtao
Today we begin a full day tour of the former USMC sites around Chinwangtao and the famous Dragon's Head where the Great Wall of China rises out of the Yellow Sea. We also get a chance to see the historic Shanhaiqugan Gate and Pass. **Hotel: Seaside Garden Meals: (B/L/D)**

17 Oct Sat - (Day 6) Peitaho and Beijing
After breakfast we will check out of our hotel and depart Peitaho for Beijing and arrive in the afternoon. We begin our tour of the capital of China with a bus/walking tour of the old Legation Quarter made famous during the Boxer Rebellion. Sites visited include the famous Hotel Wagon-Lits, the actual fortified compound during the Boxer Siege and the site of the action for Dan Daly's Medal of Honor on August 14, 1900. We include a walking tour of famed Tiananmen Square. Check into our hotel & a group dinner. **Hotel: No. 9 Da Cheng Meals: (B/L/D)**

18 Oct Sun - (Day 7) Beijing
We continue our tour with a visit to the ancient “Forbidden City” and Imperial Palace, home of Chinese Rulers until the Last Emperor, Pu Yi, was deposed by the Japanese. Following lunch, we continue to the historic Temple of Heaven. Tonight we have a special Peking Duck Dinner. **Hotel: No. 9 Da Cheng Meals: (B/L/D)**

19 Oct Mon - (Day 8) Beijing
Today we visit the Great Wall above Beijing and a viewing of the 2008 Olympic sites on the way back. We attend the famed Acrobat Show. **Hotel: No 9 Da Cheng Meals: (B/L/D on own)**

20 Oct Tue - (Day 9) Beijing
We continue our exploration of Beijing with a trip to the Beijing Zoo to view the largest population of Giant Pandas. Following our Panda visit with a tour of the beautiful Summer Palace, before a tour of the Old Beijing of the 30's and 40's via an exotic Hutong Rickshaw Tour. This evening, we enjoy the nightlife of Beijing. **Hotel: No 9 Da Cheng Meals: (B/L/D on own)**

21 Oct Wed - (Day 10) Xian
This morning is an early flight from Beijing to Xian, we check-in at our hotel and have lunch near the hotel, which is inside the old city wall near the start of the Silk Road. Afternoon, we enjoy a city tour of Xian, to include the original City Wall, Wild Goose Buddhist Temple and the Drum Tower. Optional Tang Dynasty Show. **Hotel: Sunda Gentleman International Meals: (B/L/D)**

22 Oct Thur - (Day 11) Xian
Today we explore one of the great wonders of the ancient world as we tour the famed Terracotta Warriors. Museum, that chronicles the life of those who built the incredible warriors and explore these huge now indoor dig sites. We end the day at the relaxing Tang Dynasty Hot Spring Garden. **Hotel: Sunda Gentleman International Meals: (B/L/D)**

23 Oct Fri - (Day 12) Xian and Tsingtao
Flight this morning from Xian to Tsingtao. Upon arrival, we check into our hotel and begin our tour of the city, revisiting sites of interest including Gen. Shepard's HQ's, the German Governor's House and Ocean University, former billeting of the 6th Mar Division to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Marines. **Hotel Huiquan Dynasty Meals: (B/L/D)**

24 Oct Sat - (Day 13) Tsingtao
Depart for a visit to the world-famous Tsingtao Brewery. Enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour and sample some of the fine product of this landmark brewery. This afternoon, we tour the Chinese Naval Museum, Badaguan, Granite Stone Hill, the Pier and Little Fish Hill. **Hotel: Huiquan Dynasty**

The Sun always shines on the Chinas Marines, with downtown Tsingtao in the background!
27 Oct Tue - (Day 16) Shanghai
Travel to visit the POW Camp at the end of the river Huangpu River where the Shanghai/Peking marines and the Wake Island Survivors were imprisoned by the Japanese in an old fort. After lunch, we visit to the Yu Yuan Garden amust see in Shanghai. Late afternoon, enjoy the many sights, sounds and shopping of this bustling metropolis as well as shopping along Nanjing Road where Asian bargains can be found in abundance. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner. **Hotel: Broadway Mansions Meals: (B/L/D)**

28 Oct Wed - (Day 17) Shanghai
Transpacific flight from Shanghai. (Cross International Date-line, Arrive USA same day.) **Meals: B/D on plane**