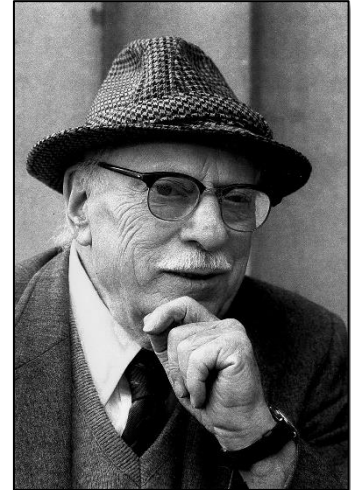


IN NAME OF WHAT?

Do you know what is the worst error that unites us with our ancestors? Clearly the mistake we make when starting a new war, failure after failure. This can be initiated in the name of power, in the name of the economy, in the name of the territory, in the name of natural resources, in the name of religion.. Discussions and wars begin in the hand of something. But is it worth it? Is it worth sacrificing all those lives for instant power? Let's analyse the issue.

Raising a Flag on Iwo Jima was a photograph taken by Joseph John Rosenthal on February 23, 1945, during the battle for Iwo Jima. John Rosenthal was born in Washington, D.C. on October 9, 1911. The Army didn't admit him as a photographer due to his poor visibility, so Joe Rosenthal accompanied the Marines in the Pacific during II World War, and it was then that he took the picture that would win him the Pulitzer Prize. On August 20, 2006, at the age of 94, Joe Rosenthal dies. The Pulitzer Prize picture show us how six marine soldiers are raising the American flag to assert their authority and control over Iwo Jima Island located in Japan. Americans fighting for control of the slopes of Suribachi cheered the raising of the flag, and several hours later more Marines marched to the top with a larger flag. The original flag planted by Schrier was



deemed too small to be easily seen from the north side of the Suribachi, so the Marines searched for a replacement. According to recent research, the men in the photograph are Harlon Block, Harold Keller, Ira Hayes, Harold Schultz, Franklin Sousley and Michael Strank. Rosenthal quickly photographed the magnificent scene of the Marines with his Speed Graphic camera, without the aid of a viewfinder. Tragically, Block, Sousley, and Strank were later killed in action during the battle. However, the three surviving servicemen returned home.

Soldiers are raising the flag on the island of Iwo Jima. The flag must have been placed on the highest peak of the island; in this way the flag could be seen from afar. Yet, they decided to put a bigger one. Under the boys there could be remains of a fight that took place to get there, of the war; Destroyed fences, possibly corpses, war utensils, weapons, among many more. By the uniform of the soldiers, we can easily locate the years in which the photograph was taken, since they don't wear bulletproof vests, but they wear helmets to protect their heads and some of them carry weapons. Those who don't have them, could have left them down the hill since they were in a hurry to go up. If we look at this same photograph but in colour, we can think that there may be a couple of mountains in the background. If it weren't for the information we have today, we wouldn't be able to determine what country these soldiers are from and what the flag is since it's a bit obscured. The sky is a little cloudy, so it could be about to rain. The soldiers must be tired after climbing so much with that heavy flag, but they can feel proud and empowered as they have achieved their goal; impose their authority on the island. After what happened, it's most likely that the soldiers that were left alive felt destroyed since they couldn't share their happiness with their already dead companions.

This memorable photo taken by Rosenthal is one that will never be forgotten. This could be done thanks to the conflict in the name of power and in the name of the territory of the island of Iwo Jima. I personally believe that nothing compares, I believe that this power is a power that comes and goes. But if you want to maintain it, you must endanger more and more lives every day. Do you still think temporary power is worth it?

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