

Pfc Robert C. Lincoln Sr.

Location - East-MC: R20, C9

Lincoln, Sr, Robert Charles

Robert Charles Lincoln, Sr, age 88, of Oshkosh passed away on Monday morning May 18, 2015, at his residence. He was born in Oshkosh, on December 19, 1926, the son of Glenn and Matilda (Sebold) Lincoln. Bob served his Country in the 4th Marine Division in Iwo Jima during WWII. He was employed at Wisconsin telephone company for 38 years, retiring in 1982.

He is survived by his wife; Jane Lincoln of Oshkosh; one son, Robert (Jean) Lincoln, Jr of De Pere; one daughter, Mary

Todd Lincoln of Ripon; one sister, Elaine Meuhlhäusen of California; five grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife, Mary Jane in 1970, two brothers and one sister. Private family services will be held.

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Pvt. Robert C. Lincoln of the U. S. marine corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Lincoln, 7 King street, has been graduated from the infantry and Browning automatic rifle section school at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif. While a student at Oshkosh High school, Private Lincoln played football and was a member of the boxing team. Before enlisting in the marines he was employed by the Embs Drug Company.

Pfc. Robert C. Lincoln, USMC, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Lincoln, 7 King street, was presented the purple heart this week at the U. S. Naval hospital, Great Lakes, Ill., for wounds received on Iwo Jima. He entered service Dec. 23, 1943, and has been at sea or overseas 10 months.

When Jap Rips Open His Clothing To Show Rising Sun Flag, It Means He Expects to Die, Says Robert Lincoln

Great Lakes, Ill.—(Special)—The last thing a Jap soldier does when he thinks he's going to die is to jerk open his clothing so that the red rising sun on his battle flag is exposed.

Marine Pvt. Robert G. Lincoln, who is recovering at the U. S. Naval hospital here from a broken neck and shrapnel wounds, told how he'd "watched 'em do it time and again." He was hit on Iwo Jima.

"They carry these flags wrapped around their bodies between the chest and the waist line, the rising sun to the front," explained the Oshkosh, Wis., marine. "When they're convinced it's all up with them they'll yank open their shirts so that this red circle is showing."

Lincoln, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Lincoln, live at 7 King street, Oshkosh, said he saw only one Jap commit suicide. "But he did the same thing the wounded men did," declared Lincoln. He faced the sun, opened his shirt, held a grenade to his chest, and pulled the pin."

Former Northwestern Carrier

The slightly built, young looking marine carried a paper route for the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern while he was going through Oshkosh High school.

"It could have been a religious rite of some kind," he said. "It might be a sort of joint tribute to the dying Jap's ancestors, sun god, and emperor." He added, however,

that in numerous trips through Jap caves and dugouts on Iwo Jima he had never seen anything else that indicated the Japanese had a religious nature. Lincoln never found any Jap books that could have been of a religious nature, never heard them sing any songs nor was able to find any images or charms that could have represented the Japanese god.

Lincoln, whose hobby was collecting souvenirs in the brief respites from his duties as a Browning automatic rifleman, found in his looking around a number of unusual looking blue cloth belts. He learned later that these were called by the Japs their "belt of a thousand friends."

Lost His Souvenirs

The Jap soldier would take odd looking stitches in these blue belts with thread of different colors. Each stitch was supposed to represent a friend. Some of the belts of the older Japs were practically covered with stitches. The younger soldiers usually had only a few stitches on theirs.

The belts were not so frequently worn as the rising sun battle flags, and were often left behind hanging in caves or dugouts when the Japs fled.

Lincoln's collection of souvenirs was lost aboard a hospital ship on the trip across the Pacific. "Now I can only tell about them," he said. "I wish I had 'em to take home and show."

OSHKOSH MARINE IS BLOWN FROM FOXHOLE DURING IWO JIMA FIGHT

After fighting on the Iwo Jima front lines for 10 days with the Fourth marine division, Pvt. Robert Lincoln, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Lincoln, 7 King street, was blown out of his foxhole on the 11th day and wounded.

In a letter received directly from him, the parents were informed the son was now on another island, recuperating. The extent of his injury was not disclosed but was believed not to be serious as the letter was written by the Oshkosh youth himself.

Private Lincoln said he survived 10 days of the toughest fighting in the war and on the 11th day Japanese mortar shells had "blown him out of the foxhole."

He also stated he would send more information about his wounds in a later letter.