

Biographical Data Form

To ensure inclusion in the Veterans History Project, this form must accompany each submission. Please use reverse or additional sheet if service was in more than one war or conflict.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Veteran Civilian John Nelson Sells

Place of Birth Devol Oklahoma Birth Date: 1922 /year

Race/Ethnicity (optional) _____ Male Female

Branch of Service or Wartime Activity Marine Corp.

Commissioned Enlisted Drafted Service dates Jan 30, 1942 to Jan 30, 1946

Highest Rank Corporal

Unit, Division, Battalion, Group, Ship, etc. (Do not abbreviate.) Boot Basic - San Diego - Recruit Depo
Camp Elliot - San Diego 1942 Marched to Pendleton. (2 days)

War, operation, or conflict served in WWII

Locations of military or civilian service Feb 1943 - New Zealand - Guadalcanal -
first military operation against Japan - training here bombing by Japanese

Battles/campaigns (please name) Marine attack June 1943 almost nightly -
lived in tents in a huge coconut grove. Got wait to New Hebrides I

Medals or special service awards. If so, please list (be as specific as possible): landing operations
Presidential Then sailed to Bougainville.
Ribbons but not individual Invaded on Nov 1, 1943

Special duties/highlights/achievements Combat landing - Jan 1944
Telephone linemen in So Pacific replaced for R+R to Bougainville

Was the veteran a prisoner of war? Yes No

Did the veteran or civilian sustain combat or service-related injuries? Yes No
severe attack of malaria; Returned R+R Guadal - Replacement

Interviewer (if applicable) second attack on Guadal Carlson 7 Lutz

(Please use reverse for any additional biographical information.)

* Invited to attend
Camp Pendleton 60 Anniversary

+ telephone
interview - tell story
reels of wine to tree

June 1944 sailed to Guam → Marshall Islands
to atoll Kwajalein. Changed from troop transports
to LSD. sailed toward Guam in preparation for
invasion of Guam (Saipan) Became a floating
resource to reinforce operation on Saipan.

Eniwitok^{Isl.} - 30 days - went to Guam July 17, 1944

Severe fighting until IS was secured. Set up
Camp in Guam. R & R. Returned to States Dec 1, 1944
stopped at Pearl Harbor then San Francisco Jan 5, 1945
"Back alive in 1945"

Completed June, NC by train - 30 day physical training -
Separation Program - Commission USC - program U-12 -
2 year program. War ended August 1945.

* Second wave both Guam & Bougainville second attack of
Mariana - for about 25 years -
Discharged Jan 1946.

GI Bill - to go to USC - job as draftsman in Architectural

Engineering Firm - Electrical Engineer - night school
to finish Engineering Degree.

Marrill in 1953 - 1954 - Opened Electrical Eng Firm