



This parade-style *yosegaki hinomaru* hangs from its original celluloid pole. Alongside the flag is its original carrying bag. The flag measures 7.5"x11.25" (18.5cm. by 29cm.) and the bag measures 1.25"x9" (3.5cm. by 15.75cm.) The *yosegaki hinomaru*, pole and flag were brought back to the United States from Iwo Jima by Cpl. William H. Bruce. He enlisted in the Marines on February 29, 1944 when he was not yet seventeen years old. His father had to sign the papers for him that allowed him to enlist. As a member of the 5th. Marine Division, Bruce landed on Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945 and was wounded late the following day. He spent time in a local field hospital before being sent to Hawaii to recuperate. When he was able to return to his unit, Bruce was sent back and eventually shipped to Japan where his tour ended in 1946. The three Japanese characters on the storage bag say *hinomaru* or flag. Along the left hand side of the flag the characters say "A present from the Takashi family to teacher Fuchino." Across the bottom the characters say "To your good health." Along the right hand side of the flag the characters say "Banzai teacher." Across the top the ideograms read "See the enemy and kill them!"