

**FOLLOW-ON TO NEWSLETTER 383 C.O.M., ROCK-OLA 1692988**

Rock-Ola 1692988, an apparent bring-back from the Iwo Jima campaign, was featured as a Carbine of the Month in NL 383. A Marine named Ricci had scratched into the stock IWO 2-19-45, the diamond insignia of the 4th Marine Division, and an unintelligible marking.

Longtime Carbine Club member Dr. Howard Shockett noted, that if the carbine is turned muzzle up, the unknown marking appears to show an intertwined 2 over 3. Howard's subsequent research revealed that one of the three Regiments in the 4th Marine Division was the 23rd.

This marking could certainly be a 23, although one would wonder why it is not oriented the same way as the other markings carved into the stock.

However, with that said, we can see that the 4th Division symbol and DIV are rotated 45 degrees from IWO 2-19-45, so perfect alignment of his artwork was obviously not important to Mr. Ricci.

Thanks to Howard for taking a close look at this marking and discovering a distinct possibility for its meaning!

