

LIVING: RESEARCH, HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE PAYS OFF

Rebuilding the past

Former Buffalo resident works as military consultant, gets cameo in game

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HUNTINGTON — If you run out and buy a copy of Electronic Arts Inc.'s "Medal of Honor: Frontline" video game, you may notice someone familiar.

The GI on the cover with his steel pot and .45-caliber Thompson submachine gun is Dan King, an Orange County, Calif., native who worked at the Toyota Motor Manufacturing West Virginia Inc. plant near Buffalo for three years.

King, 38, a World War II/history buff, moved back to Anaheim, Calif., in 1999 because his father was ill. Attending a military show in San Diego about two years ago, he ran into a man who was buying props for a movie but who was becoming concerned about which items were genuine.

The man was Don Miloyevich, property master for MGM's "Windtalkers," starring Nicholas Cage and Christian Slater. He was looking for props to support a scene depicting the Battle of Saipan.

King — who had learned

much about the war while working for Toyota in Aichi Prefecture — shared a lot of useful information with Miloyevich.

"He told me I was one of

the few people at the show who wasn't trying to rip him off, and hired me as a consultant," King said. "During one of the meetings, he introduced



Above: King, seated, at left, links .50 caliber ammunition in a photo taken during a WWII training camp sponsored by the Marine Corps.

Left: King, pictured with items found on the island of Peleliu in March.

On the Web

To find out more about Electronic Arts Inc.'s "Medal of Honor: Frontline," log on to <http://moh.ea.com>. To learn more about the Air Museum Planes of Fame, visit www.planesoffame.org.

me to the heads of the other departments — weapons, wardrobe, set dressing and art. I spent nearly 8 hours with them; they bombarded me with questions."

Veterans are useful, it seems, to answer queries about what happened around them, but often don't know — or remember — more general information.

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