



**LETTERS AS JOURNALISM DEVICE TO REVEAL THE WAR
IN IWO JIMA ISLAND AS REFLECTED IN EASTWOOD'S
FILM**

Letters from Iwo Jima

a Final Project

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
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by

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**LETTER AS JOURNALISM DEVICE TO REVEAL THE WAR IN IWO
JIMA ISLAND AS REFLECTED IN EASTWOOD'S FILM**

LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA

yang saya tulis dalam rangka memenuhi salah satu syarat untuk memperoleh gelar sarjana sastra ini benar-benar merupakan karya saya sendiri, yang saya hasilkan setelah melalui penelitian, bimbingan, diskusi, dan pemaparan/ujian. Semua kutipan baik yang langsung maupun tidak langsung, baik yang diperoleh dari sumber kepustakaan, wahana elektronik, wawancara langsung maupun sumber lainnya, telah disertai keterangan mengenai identitas sumbernya dengan cara sebagaimana yang lazim dalam penelitian karya ilmiah. Dengan demikian walaupun tim penguji dan pembimbing penulisan skripsi/tugas akhir/*final project* ini membubuhkan tanda tangan keabsahannya, seluruh karya ilmiah ini tetap menjadi tanggung jawab saya sendiri. Jika kemudian ditemukan pelanggaran terhadap konvensi tata tulis ilmiah yang berlaku, saya bersedia menerima akibatnya.

Demikian harap pernyataan ini dapat digunakan seperlunya.

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Yang membuat pernyataan

Ghinda Rakrian Patih

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails."
(Mark Twain)



To :

My parents

Suprpto & Heni Riyadi Yanti

Thanks for granting me trustworthiness and love

My beloved brothers & sister

Pappo Gilang Sandika, Giannini Velayati and my little twins' brother Ghevari

Pappo Suprpto and Ghivari Pappo Suprpto

Thanks for support and pray for me

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Ulin Nafis

There is nothing as nice as someone who shares laughter, secrets, sadness and cares like you

Khariri's Family

Thanks for Supporting me

My Friends

Imam, Graha, Nurul and Upik

Thanks for giving me big spirit and helping me

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ABSTRACT

Patih, Ghinda R. 2009. *Letters as Journalism Device to Reveal the War in Iwo Jima Island as Reflected in Eastwood's film "Letters from Iwo Jima"*. Final Project. English Department. Faculty of Language and Arts. Semarang State University.

Advisor I: Dra. Indrawati, M.Hum. Advisor II: Dr. Djoko Sutopo, M.Si.

Key Words: Journalism, The role of letters in Iwo Jima war.

Letter is one of communication tools. By using the letter we can communicate each other. The object of this study is a movie entitled *Letters from Iwo Jima* by Clint Eastwood. This movie shows the roles of the letters in Iwo Jima war, that reveals the writer's feelings and shows the condition of war from the beginning until the end.

I used historical approach in conducting the study. I collected the required data by watching the movie frequently and reading the movie script carefully to find the related data to the topic of study. In this process, I used descriptive qualitative method. All the data were analyzed and categorized according to the historical approach, such as explaining the writer's emotion, the aspect that reveals in the war toward the soldiers and the condition of war in Iwo Jima.

This study emphasizes on two main objectives. First; how the role of letters in Iwo Jima war as shown in the *Letters from Iwo Jima*, and the second; what aspects of the letters are revealed toward the soldiers.

The analysis found out that letters can represent the writer's emotion and at the same time function as historical tools reveal the aspects of humanity, psychology, and military. As the result of modern technology in communication, letter is rarely used for communication now but people still use it because it is cheaper and personal.

Finally, this study is expected to give additional knowledge to the readers about the function and the role of the letter during the war that may be useful as an additional reference to be applied in literary studies.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Human beings cannot live without language; as social creatures they use language to communicate each other. Aristotle, as quoted by Elliot, states that "people are social animals, so are a host of other creatures, from ants and bees to monkey and apes" (1976: 1). From that statement, we know that human beings cannot live alone and survive without anyone surrounding him. In the past human communicated using symbol.

As quoted by Kustadi Suhendang, states that "from the history human civilization, a thousand years ago the Greek people use a torch to give a signal for their friends in another place, the Indian people use a smoke to give signal for their friends and etcetera" (2004: 11). Now human beings use language to communicate each other. People use language in a spoken form as well as the written form. The written form of language or we so-called literature especially the narrow sense is the device that is still used by people, to represent their feeling or emotion to communicate to each other. Happiness, sadness, confusion can be revealed through in literature. One forms of literature to communicate is called letter. Letter is categorized as one way of communication, and is still used by people to communicate up to now. Through letters, we can learn many events in the past and we can learn histories.

Because it is used to communicate, letter can serve as one of journalism devices. Since long time ago journalism has been the device to give information to each other. Many devices of journalism that people used were news paper, letter, and magazine. In physical record aspect, important messages that need to be retained (e.g. receipts) can be kept more easily and securely ([http://www.wikipedia.com/letter_\(message\).html](http://www.wikipedia.com/letter_(message).html)). That is why letter is more popular than news paper and magazine because letter is more private. In military, letter has a role to give information, which sometimes it is secret information. In war time soldiers who had a duty to bring letter would try hard to keep the letter safe even though they must sacrifice themselves because letter can support the military plan.

Besides being the journalism device, letter can be a historical device to uncover something that happens in the past. From letter, we can know the war situation that was written by the army in the war time. For example we can learn the government situation at the time our country would declare Indonesian Independence in 1945. *Letters from Iwo Jima* movie shows us the role of letter during the World War II as journalism device to communicate and as historical device that uncover the war situation in Iwo Jima.

In war time the role of letter is to give order, information, and to communicate between the general and the soldier. In World War II, even though the military used a telegram or code that were more sophisticated to communicate, letter still had important role. Sometimes the information that was delivered would be kept secret and secured because it could not be bug by another.

Today we live in the era of information, or in which information has become a primary need in our life. When we talk about news, it relates to journalism. From the journalism device we can uncover anything that happened in the past, for example the letters that reveal the World War II in Iwo Jima.

1.2 Reasons For Choosing The Topic

Communication is important for human, with communication human can communicate each other. Letter is one of the journalism devices that are commonly used by people to communicate. Since long time ago, human used letter for giving order, information, military plan in war and etcetera. In war letter support the military plan to be successfully arranged because by using it the secret information cannot be bugged. The nature of the letter is that it has a personal character. In the World War II especially in Iwo Jima, letters plays a role as a historical tool besides becoming the tool of communication.

Following is the reasons why I want to analyze *Letters from Iwo Jima* movie. The reasons are:

- a) Clint Eastwood movie entitled *Letters from Iwo Jima* is a movie which shows the role of letter as journalism device in the World War II in Iwo Jima.
- b) By analyzing this movie, I would like to show the readers that letter is the one of journalism device that has a role to reveal the war that happened in Iwo Jima Island.
- c) By analyzing this movie, I would show to the readers the aspects in the roles of letter toward the soldier in Iwo Jima war.

1.3 Statements of the Problem

The statements of the problem are the follow is:

- a) In what way do the letters play a role in Iwo Jima war?
- b) What aspects of the letters are revealed which play a role in Iwo Jima war?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

Based on the formulated problems above, this study has several objectives. They are as follows:

- a) To explain the role of letter as journalism device in the World War II especially war in Iwo Jima.
- b) To describe the aspect in the role of the letters toward the soldier in Iwo Jima in Letters of Iwo Jima Movie.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Related to the objectives of the study, it is expected that gives the readers the knowledge about the importance of letter as a source to learn history, especially World War II in the island of Iwo Jima. In addition by conducting this study I expect that the result of the study can be used as reference to developing literature studies.

The readers would conduct the same topic with other (films and stories) of using letter as source of history. Furthermore it can use to develop the knowledge about the role of the letter in world war II in Iwo

Jima, how letter can reveal the war in Iwo Jima, and give inspiration that letter is a thing that can change the world.

1.6 Outline of the Study

To arrange the written report I divided my study into some chapters and subchapters. Each chapter discusses certain related issues. The first chapter is the introduction. It involves general background of the study, reason for choosing the topic, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study and outline of the study.

Chapter II is review of related literature, which contains theories underlying the writing of the study. This chapter discusses the definition of journalism, the definition of letters, historical approach definition, World War II in Iwo Jima , and Movie or motion picture definition which contain the types of film and type of *Letters from Iwo Jima* movie.

Chapter III is method of investigation. This chapter describes the object of the study, roles of researcher, type of data, procedures of collecting the data, and procedures of analyzing the data.

Chapter IV is the analysis.

Chapter V is the conclusion and suggestion.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In the second chapter, the writer presents the theories underlying the topic of the final project. The writer uses several sources to support in the subject matter. This chapter consists of five subchapters. In the first subchapter is journalism, the second subchapter is letter, the third is historical approach, in the fourth is world war II in Iwo Jima and the last subchapter is movie or motion picture.

2.1 Journalism

When the soldiers in this movie write their personal letters, each of them are not considered as a means of journalism but, if the letters are wholly collected then it becomes a journalism devices. Journalism is a part of human life. From journalism human can know everything. There are a lot of journalism devices, for instance television, letter, news paper, magazine and etcetera. We can get a lot of information from it. Journalist and journalism are derived from the word journal, as written in the *Oxford Advanced Learners* (1995: 641); that Journal is;

A daily record of news, events, activities, etc. Journalism; is the work of collecting, writing and publishing material in newspapers, and magazines or on television and radio.

According to Kustadi Suhendang (2004: 12) there are three aspects about the meaning of journalism. They are a combination of technical term (etymology), the area activity (sociology and communication), and the history of development. From etymology aspect, the word journal comes from French, *journal*. It means

daily note. Closely resemblance with that word, we can find it in Latin language, *diurna* that means today. Related to journalism activity, in Old Rome Empire period under Julius Caesar it was known with the word *acta diurna* it means that combination of *acta* (movement, activity, and event) today. The central purpose of journalism is to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information they need to function in a free society.

Journalism is the collection and dissemination of current news and opinion. Encyclopedia Britannica (1959: 157) mentions that journalism includes the writing and editing of newspapers periodically. Although this is the basic definition, various tasks and processes intimately connected with the production of serial publications that are commonly classified as journalism. Thus the gathering and transmission of news, business management of journals, and advertising in all its phrases are often thought of as coming within the field of journalism.

2.2 Letter

In a society communication is important to do. People give information to each other. We can give information by written form or spoken form. Whereas, one of the tools that is used to give information by written form is called letter. With letter we can give any information for instance, to give a declaration, question, job application, and etcetera. The role of letter is useful for human, to communicate and as a tool that is easy and cheap to use for communication. Letter is one of journalism devices that is commonly used by people to communicate to each other.

As stated by Y.S. Marjo “letter is a written communication or tool for giving information in written form from one to another. The information can be notification, declaration, question, request, report, thought, guff, and etcetera” (2008: 15). Letter is one way of communication that is still used by human now, because it is a private communication. Furthermore letter can be a historical evidence tool, as said by Drs. Soedjito and Solchan TW “the letter that from the past can be used to uncover the past activity, it means that the function of the letter can be a historical evidence tool. Sometimes letter that is saved as a file it can be a reminder tool” (1991: 1). That is why letter can be a document and historical tool, because from letter many activities or important things that happened in the past can be uncovered.

2.3 Historical Approach

Sometimes, the events that happened in the past or called history have a meaningful for human because it can change the world. For example the invention of lamp by Alexander Graham Bell that makes our world bright, the invention of steam engine that creates a vehicle like train, car, and ship for transportation. History is a representation of fact that can explain about an event that happened in the past periods or times, the contemporary between fact and fiction is an eloquent different side that always interest the researchers to find out the new way or new paradigm to state the problem that fact is not always a general fact and fiction may become a fact according to what side the researcher explains their research.

Nyoman Kutha Ratna (2005: 342-345) states that

the argumentation of the history and literary essence, actually in contemporary theory appear as the effect of pilling up the definition of fiction and fact in one side and plot mechanism in the other side, literary works and historical notes. As a fiction and fact diametrically different, but it fill up each other. Today historian and researcher ask a question that the answer is related to the past fact. Beside literature when states a past fact, it should be related with the fact today, either from the writer or the researcher itself.

From the explanation above the literature and historical approach have a relation and complete each other. Most famous literary works were created in the past, and to analyze them we must know the history of that literary works. By knowing the history; we can analyze the meaning based on the time that literary works were made.

The research is only based on a single informant; the testimonial is actually limited and faded. According to the background and the point of view of the research, we know that the history is empirics. But, a research is only dealing with epistemologies that mean the researcher only understand one of the historical events through the text. So, the history only gives their sense not their existence or essence. History never proved the cruelty of war, but only told a story of war that happened. Researcher and the next generations only feel the suffering of the character of history as a representation which has given a meaning.

According to Moh. Nazir (2003: 48) there are four characteristics of Historical approach:

1. Historical approach based on the data which is observed by another people in the past time.

2. The data used is based on the primary data, not secondary data. The quality of data can be criticized from internal or external.
3. Historical methods look for more complex data and dig the older information which is published or not published from the references of material standard.
4. The data must be stated definitively seen from the author, place and time. The truth and the authenticity of the source must be tested. The fact must be corrigible minimum by two people who do not know each other.

2.4 World War II in Iwo Jima

The World War II in Iwo Jima happened on February 19, 1945. The war in Iwo Jima was the revenge of America after Japanese bombed the US naval base in Pearl Harbor; Hawaiian island of Oahu on December 7, 1941. This is the second step the American attacked Japanese army after attacking Saipan Island and then the second target was Iwo Jima Island. By attacking and destroying that island, the American army could draw near the Japanese island as the basis of the Japanese army.

The chronology of the battle in Iwo Jima started when about 8000 US marines landed on Iwo Jima Island between 9 and 10 am on February 19, 1945. Their landing craft and followed by ship, with tanks, and artillery. Aircraft and ships offshore bombarded the island. Gigantic tongues of fire leaped from US flame threw tanks. Fighting was desperate. Defenders in skillfully camouflaged positions could wait until the Americans were on top of them before opening fire. There was also hand-to-hand fighting with bayonets and knives. Some Japanese

made suicidal charges, wielding sabres. Even so, by late morning. Marines had crossed Iwo Jima, cutting off Mount Suribachi on their left.

The volcanic mountain bristled with enemy fortifications and took Lt Colonel Chandler W. Johnson's 2nd Battalion, 28th Regiment, three days to conquer. A 'foot-by-foot crawl, with mortars, artillery, rockets, machine guns and grenades made us hug every rock and shell-hole was how one veteran was later to describe the battle. Eventually, at 10.20 am on the 23rd, 'Old Glory' flutters at the mountain top though the men raised the flag suddenly had to confront some desperate Japanese. With Suribachi taken, the Americans turned to the north of the island, which included two completed Japanese airfields. The going was tough. Within two days, tank battalions had lost more than half their Shermans and many combat units were reduced to 50 per cent efficiency. By the end of the 25th, the Americans had captured about a third of the island, but Iwo Jima was not pronounced cleared until a month later and mopping up continues into May as quoted from the book of the world at arms, *Reader's Digest*. (1989: 429).

Iwo Jima was a strategic island for America to make easier attacking Japanese. The battle in Iwo Jima was the hardest and bloodiest war between America and Japan. The Japanese army was led by Lt General Tadamichi Kuribayashi and American army was led by Lt General Holland M. Smith, with Maj. General Harry Schmidt was in charge on the ground.

As quoted from the book of the world at arms, *Reader's Digest* (1990: 430) states that;

The Americans needed first to capture Iwo Jima in order to protect the flank of their attack on Okinawa. Iwo also lay close to the route taken by

the Marianas-based B-29 Superfortresses on bombing missions over Japan. The Japanese operated a radar station on the island, and Japanese fighters based on its two airfields were taking a heavy toll. Iwo Jima, just 1220 km (760 miles) from Tokyo, would also provide a base for US fighter escorts for the bombers.

From that reason, the Americans choose the Iwo Jima as the second target to destroy Japan. But, the battle in Iwo Jima cost much. By the end of March, the American had lost 6821 men killed and nearly 18.000 wounded. Of General Kuribayashi's 21.000 defenders only 216 were taken prisoner; and others were dead. America needed one and a half until two months to gain control of Iwo Jima Island, eventhough the American had a lot of soldiers, tanks, artillery, machine gun, and grenades they could not get Iwo Jima easily because Kuribayashi's the Japanese commander was a clever Lt General in war tactic and discipline soldier. Kuribayashi's letter as quoted from the book of the world at arms, *Reader's Digest* (1990 : 430) states that:

A Samurai's Sacrifice

'Have not eaten or drunk for five days,' ran the last signal from Tadamichi Kuribayashi (1891-1945) on Iwo Jima on March 21, 1945. 'But fighting spirit is running high. We are going to fight bravely to the last moment.'

From that letter, it proved why Iwo Jima in under Tadamichi Kuribayashi commander was so hard to take by an Americans. The letter showed that General Tadamichi Kuribayashi was the assertive, smart, and discipline. He was a patriotic person and has a good tactic and strategy in war that was why American cannot destroy the Iwo Jima Island easily.

2.5. Movie or Motion Picture

Movie or film is one of literary works we know well and it is also known as motion picture. Film is a story, or etcetera recorded as set of moving pictures to be shown on television or cinema. The movie is created based on script that is regarded as literary work like fiction or drama. People have different perception to enjoy the literary work. Some of them enjoy reading the literary work because they can be free to explore their imagination. But some people like watching movie; they say that is easy to enjoy the literary work by watching the movie better than reading because it is difficult in catching the theme and so many difficult words.

Film is the word most often used for motion picture, although there are other common words picture, cinema, and movie. Movie or film is more complex than the other literary works such as: poem, short stories, novel and etc. As quoted by Edgar V. Roberts and Henry E. Jacobs “film is specialized type of drama, utilizing, like drama, the techniques of dialogue, monologue, and action” (2001: 1763). It means that film is like drama but film is more complex because there are many aspects that make film have differences with drama. The producers make movie based on other literary work, true stories which happen in the society, and also the imagination of the future. There are some elements in the movie. Commonly, it is like the elements of written literary work. The movie is easier to be understood because movie gives the imaginary character.

In the previous paragraph it is mentioned that movie is based from the script. Some script writers can write the new and the interesting script to make a good movie and make satisfy the viewer. But some of the directors make the

movie based on the legend or true story that happened in the past. Sometimes this kind of movie is not made in selling purpose, but to honor the person who has changed the world.

In other words, the performance is human's act based on the story. And today we can see animation movie as the result of combination between human thought and high technology. The actor of the movie is developed characterization and mood, including choreography to utilize space for aesthetic effect, which has two-dimensional motion and conveys several meanings. It may influence the viewer's behavior, so they would be agree to what director has made, in spite of contradictive reaction to what is told by the movie. Film can convey several levels of meaning simultaneously.

2.5.1. Types of Film

There are many types of motion pictures which the most significant categories according to Bordwell and Thompson (2002: 45-50).

1. Documentary Film

A documentary film is a film that presents factual information about world outside the film. As type of films, documentaries present themselves as factually trustworthy. Talking about documentary films, it classifies into two types, they are:

- a. Compilation Films, producing assembling images from archival sources.
- b. Direct-Cinema, recording an ongoing event "as if happens", with minimal interference by the film maker.

2. Fictional Film

A fictional film has a purpose to present imaginary beings, places, or events. Yet, if a film is fictional, that does not mean that it is completely unrelated to reality.

3. Animated Film

Animated films are distinguished from free-action ones by the unusual kinds of work that are done at the production stage. Animations do not do continuously filming in an ongoing action in real, but they create a series of images by shooting one frame at a time. There are five types of animated film. They are:

- a. Drawn Animation
- b. Cut-outs Animation
- c. Clay a Motion or Clay Animation.
- d. Model or Puppet Animation
- e. Pixilation.

4. Experimental Film

Experimental films are created by some filmmakers to challenge orthodox motion of what movie can show and how it shows it. There are many reasons why experimental films made. They are:

- a. The filmmakers wish to express personal experience or viewpoints.
- b. The filmmakers may also want to explore some possibilities of the medium itself.
- c. The experimental filmmakers may tell no story but they may create fictional story that will usually challenge the viewer.

2.5.2 Type of *Letters from Iwo Jima* Movie

From the explanation about the types of the movie above, *Letters from Iwo Jima* is a movie that has two types. Because in this movie the action made based on the

true story but, some action is just a fiction too makes more interesting. So, the writer concludes that this movie is categorized as the documentary movie and the fiction movie. First, the reason why this movie can be categorized as the documentary types is that; in this movie we can see that war in Iwo Jima truly happened.

The war between America and Japan happened on February 19, 1945 in Iwo Jima Island, and the name of the person that commands the japans troops in this movie is appropriate with the true story. Second, the reason why it can be categorized as fiction types is that; the main character of this movie *saigo* and other soldier like *shimizu*, *takeda*, and other private are fictious. The use of private soldier in this movie shows the misery of the private in war which private soldiers have big impact when war happen. To make this movie more interesting the director raises the humanity side with show the suffering of the General as the commander and private soldier when facing the war.

So the readers know that this movie is based on actual historical events, but the dialogues and certain events and characters contained in the movie were created for the purpose of dramatization.

CHAPTER III

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

The third chapter focuses on methodology that is used in the final project. There are five subchapters in this chapter. The first subchapter is the object of the study, the second subchapter is source of the data, the third is procedure of collecting the data, and the last subchapter is procedure of analyzing the data.

3.1 Object of the Study

The object of the study is a movie entitled *Letters from Iwo Jima* which was written and directed by Clint Eastwood.

3.1.1 Synopsis of the Movie

The movie opens when the Japanese [archaeologists](#) explore tunnels on [Iwo Jima](#). They find something in the dirt and the scene changes to [Iwo Jima](#) in 1944. [Private First Class](#) Saigo, a [baker conscripted](#) into the [Imperial Japanese Army](#), and his [platoon](#) are grudgingly digging beach trenches on the island. Meanwhile, [Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi](#) arrives to take command of the garrison and immediately begins an inspection of the island defenses. He saves Saigo and his friend Kashiwara from Captain Tanida, for having uttered 'unpatriotic speeches' and orders the men to stop digging trenches on the beach and begin tunnelling defenses into [Mount Suribachi](#).

Later, [Lieutenant Colonel Baron Takeichi Nishi](#), a famous [Olympic gold medalist show jumper](#), joins Kuribayashi for dinner. They discuss the grim

prospect of no naval support and the fanaticism their fellow officers would show. Kuribayashi evacuates the civilian population of Iwo Jima to mainland Japan. He clashes with some of his senior officers, who do not agree with his strategy of defending inland instead of the beaches; Kuribayashi believes the Americans will take the beaches quickly, and only the mountain defenses will have a better chance for holding out against the enemy.

The first American aerial bombings occur shortly after, causing significant casualties. Few days later, [U.S. Marines](#) land on Iwo Jima and the Japanese open fire. The battle for Iwo Jima begins. As the landings occur, the American troops suffer heavy casualties, but the Japanese beach defenses are quickly overcome, and the attack turns to the defensive positions on [Mount Suribachi](#). The soldiers from the caves attempt a futile attack against American positions, with the Japanese taking heavy losses. Saigo and the surviving soldiers are told to regroup with Colonel Nishi. Ito then heads towards the American lines with two land mines but is later captured by U.S. Marines. The next morning, Lieutenant Okubo, Nishi's executive officer shoots a U.S. Marine, who is subsequently captured by Nishi's men. He reveals his name to be Sam, and Nishi orders his medic to give him aid despite the Japanese's dwindling medical supplies. Despite their efforts, the Marine dies of his wounds. Nishi reads a letter the American received from his mother.

As a bomb hits Nishi's cave, Nishi is badly wounded and blinded. His men bind his wounds, and Nishi orders them to another position on the island. As a last favor, he asks Lieutenant Okubo to leave him a rifle. After leaving that position, the soldiers hear a distant gunshot from Nishi's cave.

Shimizu surrenders to a [U.S. Marine](#) patrol and finds himself in the company of another Japanese soldier who had surrendered. The patrol moves on, leaving Shimizu and the other Japanese soldier and two Marines. One of the American guards, who do not want to be burdened with [POWs](#), later shoots them, much to the other Marine's surprise and the two catch up to their patrol. The dead soldiers are discovered by the Japanese and Lieutenant Okubo points it out as a lesson for anyone else who wishes to surrender. Saigo, deeply saddened by his death, puts Shimizu's [senninbari](#) on his dead body.

Saigo and the remaining survivors find that Kuribayashi's cave is under attack, and a fierce battle rages. They charge through the crossfire, and lose several men, including Lieutenant Okubo who successfully neutralizes an American [Browning M1919](#) machine gun and its crew. They enter the cave under a storm of American bullets, meeting up with Kuribayashi, who recognizes Saigo. One last attack with all the remaining men is planned. Kuribayashi orders Saigo to stay behind and destroy all the documents, including his own letters to his family. By this, Kuribayashi saves Saigo's life a third time. Kuribayashi and his remaining troops launch their final attack. Most of Kuribayashi's men are killed, and Kuribayashi is critically wounded.

Kuribayashi's loyal aide Fujita drags him away from the battle. The next morning, Kuribayashi orders his aide to [behead](#) him; however, the aide is shot dead by an American marksman as he raises his sword. Saigo appears at this moment, having buried some of the documents in the cave instead of burning them all. Summoning his last reserves of strength, the very weak Kuribayashi asks Saigo to bury him so that nobody will find him. Kuribayashi then draws his

souvenir [M1911](#) pistol (In two previous flashbacks, it was revealed to be a gift from a party in the United States before the war, where Kuribayashi was given the pistol as a gift at a ceremony where he was the guest of honor) and shoots himself in the chest. Saigo carries away the dead general and buries his body.

Later in the day, a patrol of American Marines come across Fujita's body. One Marine claims Kuribayashi's pistol and another claims Fujita's sword as war trophies. They then search the area and find an exhausted Saigo with a shovel in his hand. Upon seeing the pistol tucked into a Marine's belt, Saigo swings angrily and wildly at the Americans with his shovel. Too weak to fight properly, Saigo is knocked unconscious with a rifle butt and is taken on to a U.S. aid station on the beach. Awakening a while later, he glimpses the setting sun, with ships in the distance, as well as a U.S. truck, and smiles grimly.

The scene shifts back to the Japanese archaeologists who uncover the bag of letters written by Japanese soldiers on the island, never sent, that Saigo buried in 1945. As the letters fall from the bag, the voices of the fallen Japanese soldiers are heard reading from them.

3.2 Source of the Data

There are two types of data source in this study. The first source is called the primary source in which the main data are taken. They were taken from the object of the study that is the movie *Letters from Iwo Jima*. The second source is called the secondary source in which the supporting data are taken. It involves theories that are used to support the analysis. The data were taken from the reference

books, journals, and articles. To support the secondary data, some data from the websites are also downloaded to complete the reference.

3.3 Procedure of Collecting the Data

In analyzing the object of the study, there are four techniques that are conducted in finding and collecting the data. They are watching and reading, identifying, inventorying, selecting, and the last is classifying the data. Those four techniques will be explained as the following:

3.3.1 Reading and Watching

Since the object of the study is a movie, the basic step in analyzing the data was watching the movie itself. To understand the story deeper, watching the movie for several times is very important. Reading was also conducted to analyze the data because it was very important to read the movie script in finding dialogues or situations which are related to the topic.

3.3.2 Identifying

After watching the movie and reading its script for several times, identifying was conducted to find parts of the movie which were going to be analyzed. The data which were identified can be in the form of dialogues, sentences or utterances of the movie. The relevant data in the movie script were bracketed to distinguish them from the other parts of the movie that were irrelevant with the topic of the study.

3.3.3 Inventorying

Inventorying means to list all the identified data and put them in a table. The table consisted of columns data number, the writer, the datum (letters), and the meaning. The form of all inventorying data will be presented as the table below:

No	The writer	The datum (letters)	The meaning of Letters

3.3.4 Selecting

The next method is selecting the data. Selecting the data was conducted to select all of the listed data that would be dealing with the analysis of the study. They were taken from the data that had been inventoried before. They were selected based on their relevancy to the topic of the study so that only the most relevant data that were selected in the study.

3.3.5 Classifying

To make it easy to answer the problems, the inventoried data are needed to be classified. There are two problems to be solved in this study. The first problem saying “*In what way do the letters play a role in Iwo Jima war?*”. The second answer saying “*What aspects in the roles of the letter are revealed toward the soldier?*” was the answered by referring data reported in chapter IV.

3.4 Procedure of Analyzing the Data

After collecting the data, I analyzed the *Letters from Iwo Jima* movie using the descriptive qualitative and the historical theory. The steps in analyzing data were;

1) Categorizing the Data

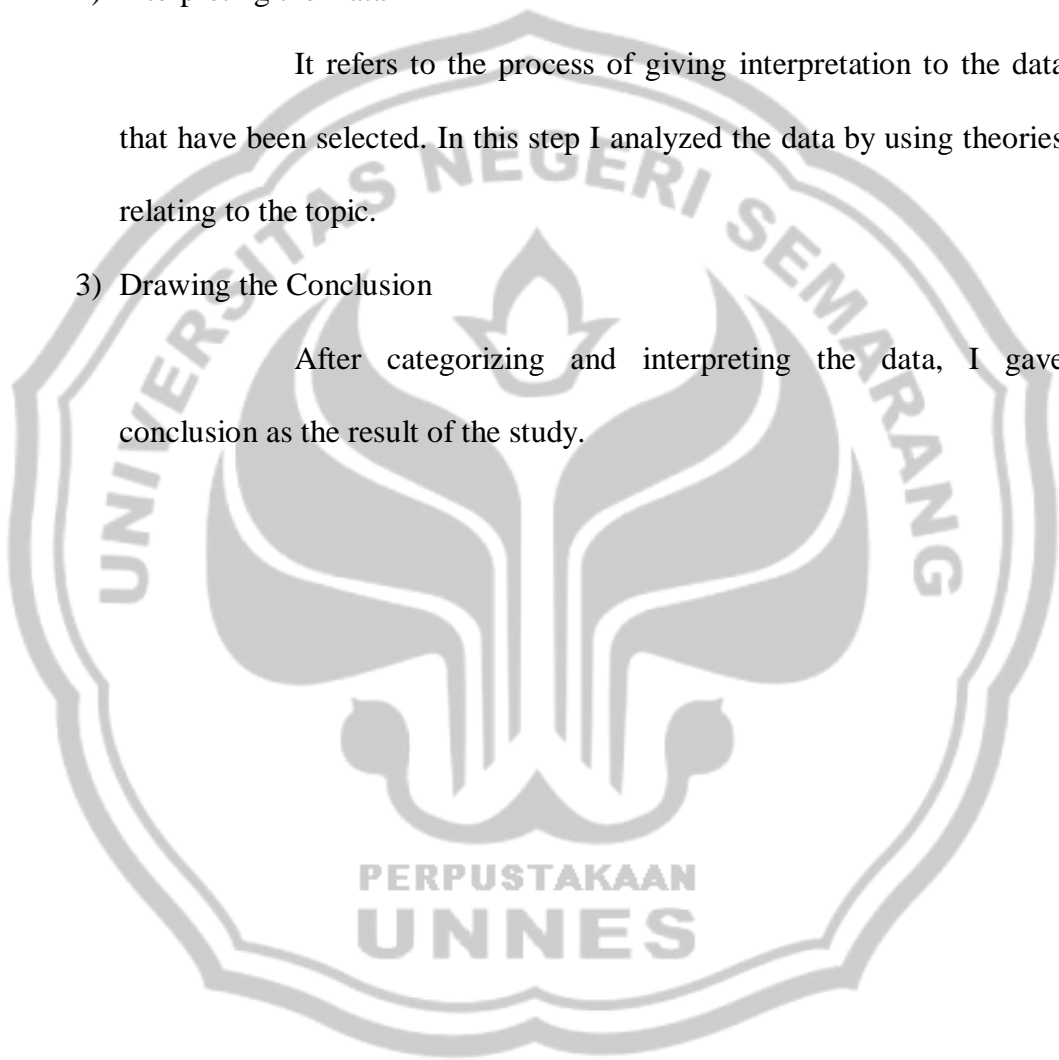
It refers to the process of identifying and selecting the data that appear in the object of the study. I selected the data related to the topic being studied.

2) Interpreting the Data

It refers to the process of giving interpretation to the data that have been selected. In this step I analyzed the data by using theories relating to the topic.

3) Drawing the Conclusion

After categorizing and interpreting the data, I gave conclusion as the result of the study.



CHAPTER IV

RESULTS OF THE STUDY

This chapter focuses on the analysis of the data. The data that had been taken from *Letters from Iwo Jima* movie will be obviously presented in this chapter. This chapter consists of two subchapters which become the main answers of the problem statements stated in the previous chapters. First, the role of letter in revealing Iwo Jima war and second the aspects that revealed the role of letter toward the soldier.

The film portrayed the Battle of Iwo Jima from the perspective of the Japanese soldiers. The film was based on the non-fiction books "*Gyokusai sōshikikan*" *no etegami* ("Picture letters from the Commander in Chief") by General Tadamichi Kuribayashi (portrayed on screen by Ken Watanabe) and *So Sad To Fall In Battle: An Account of War* by Kumiko Kakehashi about the Battle of Iwo Jima. While some characters such as Saigo (plays by Kazunari Ninomiya) were fictional, the overall battles as well as several of the commanders were based upon actual people and events.

Going deeper into the movie, there were so many values of the letters roles in every dialogue, act, or utterance. The description of the role of letter itself will be discussed in the first subchapter of this chapter and the following subchapter will discuss the aspects that reveal the role of letter toward the soldier.

4.1 The Roles of Letters in Iwo Jima War

There were 14 letters found in this movie. That letters revealed problems that the writer faced, the condition of war, emotional condition of the soldiers toward the war and how the war happened from the beginning until the end.

4.1.1 Letters that Reveal the Emotional Feeling of the Writer

The writers of the letters expressed all their feelings and emotions such as their sadness, happiness, confusion, worries, and desperations that they faced. In this analysis, I analyzed the letter to reveal those feelings and emotions of the soldiers during the war. The expressions of the feeling from the commander in chief until the private soldier could be shown in these letters. I found that there were two expressions, the expressions of disappointment and hope, as explained clearly in the following discussion.

4.1.1.1 *Disappointment expression*

The term disappoints mean to fail to satisfy the hopes or expectations of and leave unsatisfied (*Webster's New world dictionary*, 1988: 390). From the definition, disappointment is the negative expression of human toward the failure or the feeling unsatisfied with something. This letter revealed the disappointed feeling of soldiers toward the war. There were 5 letters that showed the feeling of disappointment; there were datum number 1, 2, 4, 12 and 14. In the datum no 1 below:

Saigo : Hanako. We soldiers dig. We dig all day. This holes that we will fight and die in. Hanako, am I digging my own grave.

(Datum no. 1)

The letter showed the feeling of disappointment of Saigo. He felt fearful, hopeless, and exhausted becoming a private soldier. He had to dig the holes to protect the soldiers and defend the island when war happened, but he thought that it was disadvantageous and useless thing. It was supported by the conversation between Saigo and Kashiwara, as follows:

Saigo : Damn this island! *The American can have it.* Nothing grows here, it smells, it hot, there are too many damn bugs, and there's no water.

Kashiwara : This Island is a part of Japan sacred homeland.

Saigo : *There's nothing sacred about this island.*

00.04.02 – 00.04.15

From the conversation above, the sentences '*The American can have it*' and '*There's nothing sacred about this island*' showed Saigo's disappointment to protect the island. He felt exhausted and fearful towards the war. He thought that the condition of the island itself did not support the Japanese military to win the war. The next letter was written by Saigo as follows:

Saigo : Hanako, *this letter will probably never get to you.* But, it comforts me to write. For five days, we've been without water and food to survive. We do unspeakable things. There is no escape now. *But, my only concern is for you and the baby.*

(Datum no. 12)

The datum number 12 above showed Saigo's disappointment expression of being a husband. He was disappointed because he could not protect his wife and his son, and also he could not accompany his family because of the war. He was also disappointed because the letter that he wrote was never sent to his wife. It was because the privileges were only provided for the leaders, not for the privates. The leaders used special troops to bring the letters to the receiver

because those letters were meant to support the military plan and they must be sent to the others at once immediately. Meanwhile, letters of the private soldiers were aimed to comfort themselves and they had to undergo censors from the military. It could be seen from the conversation between Saigo and the postman, as follows:

- Postman : Another letter? *You know that the mail only goes out when there's a boat available.*
- Saigo : I have a lot of family.
- Postman : Then how come all your letters are addressed to your wife?
- Saigo : Nosey.
- Postman : Here, let me do you a favor. *Otherwise your letters will never make it through.*

00.13.02 – 00.13.16

From the conversation above, in the sentence '*You know that the mail only goes out when there's a boat available*' showed the difficulties of Saigo to send the letter to his wife. Letters could be sent if the boat, the vehicle that they used to deliver was available. Then the sentence '*Otherwise your letter will never make it through*', showed that the letter that would be sent must undergo censor from the military, and the postman tried to help Saigo to make his letters pass the censors. Another Saigo's letter which expressed his disappointment is:

Saigo : *But, there are no woman left on the island.*

(datum no. 4)

Saigo's letter above showed his disappointment of the condition and situation in Iwo Jima. It was shown in the datum number 4, in the sentence '*But, there are no woman left on the island*'. That sentence showed the condition in Iwo

Jima where all people were evacuated and there were only the soldiers who inhabited there.

The feelings of disappointment were not only shown from the private soldier's point of view but also from the letter that was written by the commander in chief of Japanese army in Iwo Jima, General Tadamichi Kuribayashi. His letters showed his disappointment of being a father and soldiers. The datum no 2 & 14 below contains the disappointment expression of Kuribayashi in being a father.

Kuribayashi : I believe I have organized everything at home, but *I am sorry I was not able to attend to the kitchen floor before I left. I had all intention, but had to leave without having the time and I am still worried about it.* So make sure to have taro take care of it promptly

(Datum no. 2)

....I drove home. *But, it's lonely driving all by myself.*

(Datum no. 14)

Kuribayashi felt worried, afraid and he also missed his family. As a father, he could not protect his family because he had to serve the emperor and the country. Another expression of disappointment was also shown in the datum number 13 that belonged to Kuribayashi,

Kuribayashi : *I could not fulfill all of my duties. Now that we have no ammunition, it is with regret that we must perish.*

(Datum no. 13)

As a commander in chief, Kuribayashi was depressed, hopeless, and afraid because he could not complete his duty well. He failed to defend Iwo Jima and he prepared for the final battle fight until the end.

4.1.1.2 Hope expression

The meaning of hope is a feeling that what is wanted will happen; desire accompanied by expectation (*Webster's new world dictionary*, 1988: 650). Hope also means a feeling of wishing something. In letters that were found in this movie, many of them revealed the feeling of hope. In war condition, people even soldiers hoped for their safety and peacefulness. The datum number 8, 11, and 12 showed the writer's hope for the safety and peacefulness of people that they loved. The Kuribayashi's wife letter bellow which showed hope representation is:

Kuribayashi's wife : Taro and Yoko laugh at me for this Takako, on evacuation in Nagano, is also doing well, *I pray for your safety*. Sincerely, Yoshi.
(Datum no. 8)

Datum number 8 was a hope of Kuribayashi's wife for the safety of Kuribayashi as seen in the sentence '*I pray for your safety*'. She hoped that Kuribayashi would return to home safely.

The next letter bellow was written by Sam's mother that represents hope:

Sam's mother : Remember what I said to you always do what is right. Because it is right. *I pray for a speedy end to the war, and your safe return*. Love mom.
(Datum no. 11)

In the datum number 11, it showed the hope of Sam's mother for safety of her son and the end of the war, as seen in the sentence '*I pray for a speedy end to the war, and your safe return*'.

The letter bellow showed Saigo's hope:

Saigo : We do unspeakable things. There is no escape now. *But, my only concern is for you and the baby*
(Datum no. 12)

Then the datum number 12 was the Saigo's hope representation. He was always thinking about his wife and his children and he hoped that he could meet them, as seen in the sentence '*My only concern is for you and the baby*'.

Besides the hope for safety and peacefulness, some letters revealed the feeling of hope for the victory and glory of the country. It showed from kuribayashi's letter bellow:

Kuribayashi : *I pray for the victory and safety of the empire. I bid you farewell for the country.* I could not fulfill all of my duties. Now that we have no ammunition, it is with regret that we must perish

(Datum no. 13)

In Kuribayashi's letter, datum number 13 it was showed the hope of Kuribayashi for the victory and glory of the country. He also hoped for safety of the empire, as seen in the sentence '*I pray for the victory and safety of the empire, I bid you farewell for the country*'.

Another letter which showed hope representation was written by commander in chief of Japanese army is:

Japanese high military officer : We regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time. *We earnestly hope you fill fight honorably and die for your country.*

(Datum no. 9)

The letter in the datum number 9 which was written by Japanese high military officer's showed the hope of Japanese high military officers that the army in Iwo Jima would fight courageously until the end of their life to serve the

empire. It was seen in the sentence '*we earnestly hope you fill fight honorably and die for your country*'.

4.1.2 The Letters that Reveal the Condition in which Japanese Army was lacking of Military Facilities

Sometimes in war situation, a battle could fail by the shortages of facilities which support it. The letters also showed the condition in which the Japanese army in Iwo Jima was lacking of military facilities. The Combined Fleet in Mariana was destroyed by America so Japanese Army was defeated. It was supported by the conversation between Kuribayashi and Baron Nishi as stated below:

Baron Nishi : When you think about, *it is regrettable that most of the Combined Fleet was destroyed*. We still have some battleships left, but *we have very little striking power from the air or sea*.

Kuribayashi : Nishi, what do you mean?

Baron Nishi : So you not heard about the Mariana battle? *Admiral Ozawa's carrier and boat planes were destroyed*.

00.21.08 – 00.21.40

The conversation above showed the lacking of Japanese military. In the sentence '*it is regrettable that most of the Combined Fleet was destroyed*', showed that the Combined Fleet which supported the Japanese army in Iwo Jima was destroyed by America in Mariana. So, the Japan military force in Iwo Jima was decreased and they did not have the ammunition supplies as seen in the sentence '*Admiral Ozawa's carrier and boat planes were destroyed*'.

Datum number 9 and 13 below were the letters that showed the lacking condition of Japanese military facilities.

Japanese high military officer : *We regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time. We earnestly hope you will fight honorably and die for your country.*
(Datum no. 9)

Datum number 9 was the letter that was written by the Japanese high military officer. The Japanese high military could not help the army in Iwo Jima because America destroyed the bases of the Japanese military in Saipan and Mariana, so that they could not send reinforcement to support the Japanese army in Iwo Jima as seen in the sentence '*we regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time*'.

Kuribayashi : *The battle is approaching its end. And there is no more ammunition, no more water. All the survivors will engage in a general attack.....*
(Datum no. 13)

The second data or datum number 13 was the letter that was written by Kuribayashi. The letter showed the bad condition of Japanese army in Iwo; they fought without ammunition and water as seen in the sentence '*the battle is approaching its end. And there is no more ammunition, no more water*'. This letter also showed the condition which the Japanese was close to destruction.

4.1.3 The Letters that Reveal the Emotional States of Soldiers toward the War

War is a disaster for human being, many soldiers suffer because of the brutality of the war and they are tortured being a prisoner of the war. In the movie, the soldiers especially the private soldiers got big impacts from the war. They were depressed, desperate, afraid, lost in love and hopeless when facing the war. The letters showed the emotional state of soldiers toward the war in Iwo Jima.

Datum number 1, 12, and 13 below showed the depressed condition of the soldiers.

Saigo : Hanako. We soldiers dig. We dig all day. This holes that we will fight and die in. *Hanako, am I digging my own grave.*

(Datum no. 1)

Datum number 1, which was written by Saigo, showed the depression, desperation, and hopelessness in facing the war. This condition was seen in the sentence '*Hanako, I am digging my own grave*'.

Another Saigo's letter which showed the Saigo's feelings is:

Saigo : Hanako, this letter will probably never get to you. But, it comforts me to write. *For five days, we've been without water and food to survive....*

(Datum no. 12)

Datum number 12 above was the letter of the hopelessness of Saigo that he could not avoid war and he thought death was a way to escape from the war. Saigo felt exhausted and fearful because he fought without ammunition, food and water for five days. As seen in the sentence '*For five days, we've been without water and food to survive*'.

Kuribayashi : *The battle is approaching its end. And there is no more ammunition, no more water.* All the survivors will engage in a general attack....

(Datum no. 13)

Datum number 13 above was the letter of Kuribayashi, the General of Japanese army in Iwo. He felt hopeless because the condition did not support the army in Iwo that made Japan close to destruction and he also felt that there was no more chance for Japan to win the war because US soldiers were outnumbered of

Japanese soldiers. The hopeless feeling of Kuribayashi was shown in the sentence *‘the battle is approaching its end, and there is no more ammunition, no more water’*.

4.1.4 Letters that Tell the Readers How the War happened from the Beginning until the end

The general function of letter is to communicate but, letter also can be a historical tool to reveal things that happened. The letters that I analyzed reveal the chronological of the war in Iwo Jima. The war in Iwo Jima was the bloodiest war between Japan and America. In this war, Japan was lost in the war and defeated by America, but the spirit of the Japanese troops and the good tactic that Kuribayashi used, made American military difficult to occupy Iwo Jima Island. Datum number 1 and number 2 that were written by Saigo and Kuribayashi were the preparation of the Japanese military before the battle.

Saigo’s letter which showed the condition when Japanese military prepares the war:

Saigo : Hanako. *We soldiers dig. We dig all day. This holes that we will fight and die in.* Hanako, am I digging my own grave.

(Datum no. 1)

Datum number 1 that was written by Saigo showed the condition of the Japanese military which prepared for the battle. The Japanese made the trenches for banishing the American troops. This was the Japanese navy tactic to defend the Iwo Jima Island from American military. However, Kuribayashi did not agree with this tactic. He used another tactic that was advantageous for Japan. It was supported from the conversation between Kuribayashi, Hayashi, and other soldiers as shown below:

Kuribayashi : *There will be a major change in our strategy. We will dig caves in the Motoyama, Higashiyama, and Suribachiyama areas. We will build these underground fortifications, and fight to the end.*

Hayashi : What about the beach defenses, Sir?

Kuribayashi : Not needed.

00.24.45 – 00.25.01

Another letter was written by Kuribayashi showed the condition when he prepares for led his troops:

Kuribayashi : *Today, I head for the post where my men await. I am determined to serve and give my life for my country....*

(Datum no. 2)

Datum number 2, which was written by Kuribayashi, showed his preparation to go to his post in Iwo Jima. He would lead the Japanese army to fight against America. Kuribayashi was chosen by premier Tojo to replace another general who did not want the job to lead the army in Iwo. It was supported by the conversation between Nozaki and Saigo below:

Nozaki : *I heard from someone in the 204th that another general was supposed to command the island. But he didn't want the job. So premier Tojo gave it to Kuribayashi instead.*

Saigo : Nozaki, you hear a lot of things

00.09.30 – 00.09.50

In datum number 3, 10, and 14 bellow, the letters showed the flashback of Kuribayashi's life.

Kuribayashi : Taro, America is filled with cars. I have to be very careful when I cross. The street, there are so many cars everywhere.
Taro, are you behaving yourself and listening to your mother?
I miss you.

(Datum no. 3)

Taro, tonight I attended my farewell party. The wives also attended, so there was a lot of fuss. Greeting all ladies kept me from enjoying the food

(Datum no. 10)

Taro, I will be home soon. I'm glad to be going back to Japan. But, I'm a bit sad to leave my friends behind. I drove home. But, it's lonely driving all by myself

(Datum no. 14)

From those letters, Showed that Kuribayashi missed his family's condition before the war which he lived with his family peacefully.

Another letter was written by Kuribayashi's wife showed the condition of Kuribayashi's family during the war:

Kuribayashi's wife : *Every household is assigned a quota of bag making for the gunpowder.....*

(Datum no. 8)

Meanwhile, datum number 8 that was written by Kuribayashi's wife, showed the life of Japanese family soldiers in war situation. They had a duty to make a bag that was used to place the gun powder.

Saigo's letter bellow showed the condition of Iwo Jima Island during the war:

Saigo : *Hanako, we have celebrity here. Baron Nishi, the Olympic gold medalist. In horse jumping. He will lead the 26th tank regiment.....But, there are no woman left on the island.*

(Datum no. 4)

Datum number 4 that was written by Saigo showed that Baron Nishi was a new lieutenant from celebrity class. From this letter we knew that the soldiers could be taken from any classes of society. Moreover, this letter also showed the condition that the people in Iwo Jima were evacuated.

The next condition showed in Shimizu's letter:

Shimizu : Dear mother, *I have been commissioned to a new troop today. I cannot talk about this transfer now. Take care yourself.*

(Datum no. 5)

Datum number 5, showed that there were reinforcements sent by the Japanese high military to Iwo, and Shimizu was one of the soldiers that were sent to Iwo Jima.

Nishi's letter below showed the condition when the war begins:

Nishi : Take care and be well, *I will fight courageously until the end in the spirit of Yamato.* My heart will always be with you Takeichi

(Datum no. 7)

Datum number 7 above that was written by Baron Nishi, the lieutenant 24th tank regiment showed the condition when the war began. In this letter, Nishi showed his courage to fight against America until the end of his life. With honor he fought to serve his Yamato spirit.

Japanese high military officer's letter below showed the bad condition of Japanese military:

Japanese high military officer : *We regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time. We earnestly hope you will fight honorably and die for your country.*

(Datum no. 9)

The next situation showed incapacity of Japanese military to defend the Iwo Jima Island. Datum 9 that was written by Japanese high military officer showed the condition of Japan that was close to destruction. They could not send reinforcement to help the army in Iwo. They told Kuribayashi to lead his troops to fight until the end of his life.

The next situation showed from the Sam's mother letter below:

Sam's mother : Remember what I said to you always do what is right. Because it is right. *I pray for a speedy end to the war, and your safe return.* Love mom.

(Datum no. 11)

Datum number 11 was the letter that was written by Sam's mother. Sam was an American troop. This letter showed that both Japanese and American soldiers had similar problems that they faced during the war. They suffered because the brutality of the war and the soldier's family also underwent the impacts of the war in which they felt anxious about the condition of their family member who involved in the war. This letter also showed that both Japan and America did not expect the war. Japan was defeated by America; consequently, Iwo Jima was successfully occupied by American troops. The Japanese troops in Iwo Jima suffered a loss physically and spiritually because they fought without food, water, and ammunition and they were tortured, imprisoned, and beaten by American troops.

Saigo :But, it comforts me to write. *For five days, we've been without water and food to survive. We do unspeakable things. There is no escape now....*

(datum no. 12)

Datum number 12 above that was written by Saigo showed the condition of Japanese military which was lacking the military facilities. They fought hopelessly because they knew that it was the end of the war and they would be defeated.

Kuribayashi : *The battle is approaching its end. And there is no more ammunition, no more water. All the survivors will engage in a general attack.....*

(datum no. 13)

In Kuribayashi's letter above, datum number 13 also had the same meaning as the Saigo's letter (datum number 12). In addition, as a General, Kuribayashi felt embarrassed, depressed, and disappointed because he failed to defend Iwo Jima from America.

4.2 The Aspects that are Revealed from the Letters

The letters revealed three aspects that were communicated through letters by the writers. They are the aspects of humanity, psychology, and military.

4.2.1 Humanity Aspect

Humanity is a quality of being human, for example kindness, mercy, and sympathy (*Webster's new world dictionary*, 1988: 657). As social creatures people need care and respect from and to each other. In this analysis there were the results of humanity aspects that were expressed in the letters written by the soldiers in Iwo Jima. Saigo's letter to his wife Hanako in the datum number 1 below showed the humanity aspect.

Saigo : Hanako. We soldiers dig. *We dig all day*. This holes that we will fight and die in. *Hanako, am I digging my own grave*.

(Datum no. 1)

He wrote about his suffering being a private soldier and his hopelessness to survive in the battle as seen in the sentence '*we dig all day*' and '*I digging my own grave*'. As human being, Saigo would care and miss the person that he loved, that was Hanako. Saigo also showed the condition of handwringer, a person that lost his hope to be alive. Another Saigo's letter which reveals humanity aspect is:

Saigo : Hanako, *we have celebrity here*. Baron Nishi, the Olympic gold medalist. In horse jumping. He will lead the 26th tank regiment and has just arrived from Tokyo. *Nishi is very handsome, and there are rumors at his womanizing skills. But, there are no woman left on the island.*

(Datum no. 4)

Datum number 4 showed Saigo's sympathy towards the new lieutenant, Baron Nishi, as seen in the sentence '*we have celebrity here*'. Nishi was a famous athlete in horse jumping whom loved by many people. This letter showed how Saigo felt the comfort of Nishi's arrival. He also described about Nishi as seen in the sentence '*Nishi is very handsome and there are rumors at his womanizing skills*' and the condition in Iwo Jima in sentence '*but, there are no woman left on island*'.

The Kuribayashi's letter which reveals the humanity aspect is:

Kuribayashi : Today, *I head for the post where my men await. I am determined to serve and give my life for my country....So make sure to have taro take care of it promptly*

(Datum no. 2)

Kuribayashi's letter in the datum number 2 was the letter that showed his leadership. The sentences '*I head for the post where my men await*' showed the authority of Kuribayashi as a General of his troops. Then, the sentence '*I am determined to serve and give my life for my country*' showed Kuribayashi's responsibility. Kuribayashi's letter showed his humanity for being a General. As a general he had to be discipline, authoritative and wise, but as the ordinary person he felt worried, fearful and needed composure. His letter showed his sympathy to his family, as he worried to leave the person he loved that were Taro and his wife, as seen in the sentence '*I am still worried about it. So make sure to have Taro take care of it promptly*'. Another Kuribayashi's letter which showed humanity aspect is:

Kuribayashi : Taro, *America is filled with cars*. I have to be very careful when I cross. The street, there are so many cars everywhere.
Taro, are you behaving yourself and listening to your mother?
I miss you.

(Datum no. 3)

The second letter of Kuribayashi, datum number 3 explained the development of an industrialization that was useful for human being as seen in the sentence '*America is filled with cars*'. This letter showed the quality of Kuribayashi as a good father. It showed that he was a good father who always thought about his family and gave advice to his son, Taro to be a good child as seen in the sentence '*Taro, are you behaving yourself and listening to your mother?*' and '*I miss you*'.

Kuribayashi : Tako chan, the *four chicks* that were born two months ago have grown so much. *The mother chicken* leads them for food every day. But, they are giving me a hard time, picking at the *vegetable garden I have grown*.

(Datum no. 6)

The letter in the datum number 6 above showed that Kuribayashi longed for his usual activity while he was at home. This letter showed that Kuribayashi missed his peaceful life. Even as a General who had to lead his troops courageously, Kuribayashi did not expect the war. Kuribayashi wrote about his garden in the sentence '*vegetable garden I have grown*' and his pets in the sentence '*four chicks*' and '*the mother chicken*' which showed his peaceful life at home before the war.

Kuribayashi : Taro, tonight I attended my farewell party. The wives also attended, so *there was a lot of fuss*. *Greeting all ladies kept me from enjoying the food*

(Datum no. 10)

In datum number 10 above, the letter showed Kuribayashi's kindness. In his farewell party, he tried to make his friends and their wives comfortable. He

served them by greeting all ladies even though Kuribayashi felt so uncomfortable that he could not enjoy his food. It was seen in the sentence '*there was a lot of fuss. Greeting all ladies kept me from enjoying the food*'.

Commander in chief's letter bellow showed the humanity aspect during the war:

Japanese high military officer : *We regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time. We earnestly hope you fill fight honorably and die for your country.*

(Datum no. 9)

This letter in the datum number 9 showed the sympathy of chiefs of Japanese military to Kuribayashi. They apologized that they could not help Kuribayashi as seen in the sentence '*we regret that we are unable to send reinforcements*'. Though they could not give reinforcements; they gave the spirit to Kuribayashi to fight until the end. The phrase '*earnestly hope*' meant that Kuribayashi was a hope for Japanese to protect Iwo.

Nishi's letter bellow showed Nishi's sympathy to Takeichi:

Nishi : *Take care and be well*, I will fight courageously until the end in the spirit of Yamato. *My heart will always be with you Takeichi.*

(Datum no. 7)

In the datum number 7, Nishi's letter explained about his care and sympathy to his girl, Takeichi. The sentences '*take care and be well*' and '*my heart will always be with you*' were the forms of Nishi's sympathy.

4.2.2 Psychological Aspect

Psychology is the sums of the actions, traits, attitudes, thoughts, and mental states (*Webster's new world dictionary*, 1988: 1086). Some of the letters in this movie showed psychological condition of the writer. Sadness, happiness,

hopelessness, and regret were shown in the letters that were found in this movie. As we knew, letter is a device to represent the writer's emotion. The Saigo's letter bellow reveals the psychological aspect:

Saigo : Hanako. We soldiers dig. We dig all day. *This holes that we will fight and die in. Hanako, am I digging my own grave.*

(Datum no. 1)

The datum number 1, showed Saigo's psychological condition toward the war. The sentence '*This holes that we will fight and die in*' showed his hopelessness, struggle, and courage. He was hopeless about his future, his struggle to survive in during the war, and his courage to face the war and the death. Death was the deep fear that Saigo faced, he felt that he could not survive from this condition and he felt that the holes that he dag to protect him would be his graveyard, as seen in the sentence '*Hanako, am I digging my own grave*'.

Besides private soldiers who were depressed as the result of the war, the leaders also had similar problems. Kuribayashi's letter bellow in the datum number 2 showed his psychological condition:

Kuribayashi : *Today, I head for the post where my men await. I am determined to serve and give my life for my country. I believe I have organized everything at home, but I am sorry I was not able to attend to the kitchen floor before I left.... I am still worried about it. So make sure to have taro take care of it promptly*

(Datum no. 2)

He felt stressful, fearful, and worried during the war. Kuribayasahi was also embarrassed to lead his troops since he could not do his duties well, as seen in the sentence '*Today, I head for the post where my men await*'. He also promised to fight until the end of his life, if it was needed, he would sacrifice himself for his country as seen in the sentence '*I am determined to serve and give my life for my country*'. Besides thinking about war, Kuribayashi also thought

about his family. He was worried and missed his family. It could be seen in the sentence *'I believe I have organized everything at home, but I was not able to attend the kitchen floor before I left'* and *'I am still worried about it'*. Kuribayashi also cared for his wife as seen in the sentence *'so make sure to have Taro take care of it promptly'*

Shimizu's letter below reveals the psychological condition of Shimizu.

Shimizu : Dear mother, I have been commissioned to a new troop today. *I cannot talk about this transfer now. Take care yourself.*
(Datum no. 5)

The deeply longing for his mother was shown through Shimizu's letter in the datum number 5. Shimizu felt worried about his mother's condition; as shown in the sentence *'take care yourself'*. Shimizu was moved to new troops, and did not tell his mother. As seen in the sentence *'I cannot talk about this transfer now'*. Despite the brutality of war, love still existed in this condition. Love to parents, family and friends will never end. Nishi's letter below showed psychological of Nishi which longing his girlfriends.

Nishi : *Take care and be well*, I will fight courageously until the end in the spirit of Yamato. *My heart will always be with you Takeichi.*
(Datum no. 7)

The letter in the datum number 7 showed the love of Lieutenant Baron Nishi to Takeichi, his girlfriends. He showed his care as seen in the sentence *'Take care and be well'*. Nishi also showed his love to Takeichi as seen in the sentence *'My heart will always be with you Takeichi'*.

In war time every family at home always felt worried. They were afraid that their men could not return home after war. This condition was shown by Yoshi, Kuribayashi's wife in the datum number 8 below,

Kuribayashi's wife :*I pray for your safety*. Sincerely, Yoshi
(Datum no. 8)

The sentence '*I pray for your safety*' showed the psychological condition of Yoshi. She felt worried and hoped that her husband was safe. Every war left good memories and especially bad memories. Good memories were memories that soldiers had before the war happened. In a war situation, soldiers recalled their good memories to comfort themselves. Kuribayashi wrote about his farewell party when he was in America. It showed the different cultures between America and Japan, in which Kuribayashi was confused. The letter is:

Kuribayashi : Taro, tonight I attended my farewell party. The wives also attended, so *there was a lot of fuss*. *Greeting all ladies kept me from enjoying the*.
(Datum no. 10)

He could not enjoy his farewell party as seen from the datum number 10 in the sentence '*there was a lot of fuss*' and '*greeting all ladies kept me from enjoying the food*'.

Another letter was written by Sam's mother, which revealed the psychological aspect:

Sam's mother : *Sam, I have mailed you a couple a books to read. I hope that you like them..... Remember what I said to you always do what is. Because it is right. I pray for a speedy end to the war, and your safe return.*
Love mom.

(Datum no. 11)

A mother is the person who feels worry when her men (husband and son) are sent to the war. She will pray for their safety and patiently wait for them to return home safely. The care of mother to her son was seen in datum number 11 in the sentence '*Sam, I have mailed you a couple a books to read. I hope that you*

like them'. In the sentence *'remember what I said to you always do what is right, because it is right'*, mother hoped that the war would end as seen in the sentence *'I pray for a speedy end to the war and your safe return'*.

Saigo's letter below showed his psychological condition during the war:

Saigo :*We do unspeakable things. There is no escape now. But, my only concern is for you and the baby.*

(Datum no. 12)

In Iwo Jima war, the Japanese troops were lost and defeated and Iwo was successfully occupied by America. In a situation which was close to destruction, many Japanese soldiers were hopeless by surviving from the war. Japanese soldiers were fearful, exhausted, and depressed. Saigo's letter datum number 12 showed his psychological condition toward the war. He felt that he would fight to the bitter end, because he was hopeless that he would not survive from the war, as seen in the sentence *'we do unspeakable things. There is no escape now'*. He also showed his deepest longing for his wife and his baby as seen in the sentence *'but, my only concern is for you and the baby'*.

The next letter showed the psychological condition of Kuribayashi during the war:

Kuribayashi : *The battle is approaching its end. And there is no more ammunition, no more water.....I pray for the victory and safety of the empire. I bid you farewell for the country. I could not fulfill all of my duties. Now that we have no ammunition, it is with regret that we must perish.*

(Datum no. 13)

Someone who wins the war would feel glad, but the one who loses it would feel sad. The truth was the one who won or lost the war would suffer from the brutality of war. The letter in the datum number 13 showed the bad condition

of the war in Iwo Jima nearing the end. This letter showed Kuribayashi's hopelessness to win the war as seen in the sentence *'the battle is approaching its end, and there no more ammunition, no more water'*. In the sentence *'I pray for the victory and safety of the empire. I bid you farewell for the country. I could not fulfill all of my duties'*, Kuribayashi felt depressed and felt that the last choice to defend Iwo was to fight until the last of his life; as seen in the sentence *'it is with regret that we must perish'*.

Another Kuribayashi's letter showed his psychological condition:

Kuribayashi : *Taro, I will be home soon. I'm glad to be going back to Japan. But, I'm a bit sad to leave my friends behind. I drove home. But, it's lonely driving all by myself.*

(Datum no. 14)

In the war time, letters that were written by soldier's family have an important role to give spirit, despite the fact that they could not meet their family. By reading letters that were written by their family, they could survive from the war to get the better life and to live in peacefulness with their family. Kuribayashi's letter datum number 14 showed the psychological condition which he felt deepest longing to his family and showed the loneliness condition, as shown in the sentence *'Taro, I will be home soon. I'm glad to be going back to Japan'* and *'I drove home. But, it's lonely driving all by myself.'*

4.2.3 Military Aspect

Military is a characteristic of the soldiers in army; or for all the armed forces (*Webster's new world dictionary*, 1988: 860). In this analysis I analyzed military aspect found in the letter because the letter had a role to communicate, give an

order and to support the military plan. The role of letter is to support the military. In World War II, Japan was a country that had a good military force which was highly respected by other countries. In Kuribayashi's letter below showed the discipline and loyalty of the Japanese soldier to serve their country.

Kuribayashi : Today, I head for the post where my men await. *I am determined to serve and give my life for my country....*

(Datum no. 2)

In the datum number 2 in the sentence that quoted from Kuribayashi's letter '*I am determined to serve and give my life for my country*', showed the form of military spirit in Japanese soldiers, in which they were willing to die in serving their emperor and their country. Another letter was written by Kuribayashi's wife showed the loyalty of Japanese people for their country

Kuribayashi's wife : *Every household is assigned a quota of bag making for the gunpowder....*

(Datum no. 8)

The war influenced the people or family of the soldiers. The family that was left behind by their men must struggle to survive in war condition. In a letter which was written by Kuribayashi's wife showed the condition of Kuribayashi's family to struggle in the war condition. This letter also showed the duties of the family that support the Japanese military. Their duties were to make bags that were used for placing the gun powder as found in datum number 8 in the sentence '*Every household is assigned a quota of bag making for the gunpowder*'.

In 1945, Japanese troops were close to destruction. Many military bases were destroyed and bombed by America. War in Iwo Jima was the bloodiest war between America and Japan. In this war America was the winner because they sent a lot of soldiers to attack Japanese soldiers. That was the reason why American soldiers could occupy Iwo Jima Island. American troops were larger in

number than Japanese troops. The letter from the headquarters of Japanese military bellow showed the difficulty of Japanese military to help the soldiers in Iwo Jima.

Japanese high military officer : *We regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time. We earnestly hope you fill fight honorably and die for your country.*

(Datum no. 9)

A lot of destructions made by America, to prevent Japanese headquarters from helping Japanese soldiers in Iwo Jima, as seen in the datum number 9 in the sentence '*We, regret that we are unable to sent reinforcement to Iwo at this time*'

Hara-kiri is the suicide system done by Japanese soldiers as the last option when they are hopeless. For Japanese soldiers, serving their emperor and their country is the biggest honor. It showed from the Kuribayashi's letter bellow:

Kuribayashi : *I pray for the victory and safety of the empire. I bid you farewell for the country. I could not fulfill all of my duties. Now that we have no ammunition, it is with regret that we must perish.*

(Datum no. 12)

The sentence was quoted in the datum number 13 in Kuribayashi's letter above '*I pray for the victory and safety of the empire. I bid you farewell for the country. I could not fulfill all of my duties*' and '*it is with regret that we must perish*' it showed his pursuance to his emperor and his country and it showed the sadness of Kuribayashi because he failed to defend Iwo Jima. The letter also showed Hara-kiri that had to be performed.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The last chapter includes two subchapters, they are conclusions and suggestions. Conclusions of the data analysis are presented in the first subchapter as the summary of the final project and the second subchapter presents some suggestions that may be useful for the readers.

5.1 Conclusions

After analyzing *Letters from Iwo Jima* movie, it can be concluded that letter as a journalism device has two functions. The first is to communicate, and the second function is as a historical tool to reveal history. By reading letter we could understand the problem that the writers face because letter can represent their emotion. Letters reveal the aspects of humanity, psychology and military. Although the using of letters is decreasing, people still use it to communicate because it is cheaper and personal. In the World War II especially war in Iwo Jima, letters have a role to give information, order and give comfort to soldiers during the war.

5.2 Suggestions

On the basis of the conclusion above, there are several suggestions that the writer wants to give to the readers.

By conducting a study which is concerned with a historical phenomenon, we do not only increase our understanding about history, but we can also learn

something useful from the former figures or historical events that will lead us to be better. In addition, by reading this final project, it is expected that the readers will get more understanding about literature and cross-historical understanding. Lastly, I hope that the final project can be used as an additional reference in literary studies.



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APPENDIX

List of the Selected Data

No	The Writers	Letters	Expression
1.	Saigo	Hanako. We soldiers dig. We dig all day. This holes that we will fight and die in. Hanako, am I digging my own grave.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disappointed - Hopeless - Depressed - Fear
2.	Kuribayashi	Today, I head for the post where my men await. I am determined to serve and give my life for my country. I believe I have organized everything at home, but I am sorry I was not able to attend to the kitchen floor before I left. I had all intention, but had to leave without having the time and I am still worried about it. So make sure to have taro take care of it promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disappointed - Loyal - Nervous - Responsible - Hurry
3.	Kuribayashi (flashback when he in America)	<p>Taro, America is filled with cars. I have to be very careful when I cross. The street, there are so many cars everywhere.</p> <p>Taro, are you behaving yourself and listening to your mother?</p> <p>I miss you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amazed - Miss - Care
4.	Saigo	<p>Hanako, we have celebrity here. Baron Nishi, the Olympic gold medalist. In horse jumping. He will lead the 26th tank regiment and has</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comforted - Amazed - Disappointed

		<p>just arrived from Tokyo.</p> <p>Nishi is very handsome, and there are rumors at his womanizing skills.</p> <p>But, there are no woman left on the island.</p>	
5.	Shimizu	<p>Dear mother, I have been commissioned to a new troop today.</p> <p>I cannot talk about this transfer now. Take care yourself.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Care - Disappointed - Miss
6.	Kuribayashi	<p>Tako chan, the four chicks that were born two months ago have grown so much. The mother chicken leads them for food every day. But, they are giving me a hard time, picking at the vegetable garden I have grown.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Miss - Disappointed
7.	Baron Nishi	<p>Take care and be well, I will fight courageously until the end in the spirit of Yamato. My heart will always be with you Takeichi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lost in love - Care - Miss - Hope
8.	Kuribayashi (read his wife letter)	<p>Every household is assigned a quota of bag making for the gunpowder.</p> <p>I cannot help but get tense when I think that these will be used in battle. Taro and Yoko laugh at me for this Takako, on evacuation in Nagano, is also doing well, I pray for your safety. Sincerely, Yoshi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disappointed - Miss - Hope - Informed
9.	Japanese high military officers	<p>We regret that we are unable to send reinforcements to Iwo at this time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disappointed - Hope

		We earnestly hope you will fight honorably and die for your country.	
10	Kuribayashi	Taro, tonight I attended my farewell party. The wives also attended, so there was a lot of fuss. Greeting all ladies kept me from enjoying the food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confused - Wearied
11.	Nishi (read the Sam letter he is an American troop)	<p>Sam, I have mailed you a couple of books to read. I hope that you like them. Yesterday, the dogs dug a hole under the fence. They ran all over the neighborhood. By the time we found them, the Harrison's roosters were terrorized.</p> <p>Don't worry about us. Just take care of yourself and come back safely. Remember what I said to you always do what is right. Because it is right. I pray for a speedy end to the war, and your safe return.</p> <p>Love mom.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informed - Miss - Care - Hope - Advice
12.	Saigo	<p>Hanako, this letter will probably never get to you. But, it comforts me to write. For five days, we've been without water and food to survive. We do unspeakable things. There is no escape now. But, my only concern is for you and the baby.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hopeless - Fear - Disappointed - Care - Comforted - Lost in love - Desperate
13.	Kuribayashi	The battle is approaching its end.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hopeless

		<p>And there is no more ammunition, no more water. All the survivors will engage in a general attack.</p> <p>I pray for the victory and safety of the empire. I bid you farewell for the country. I could not fulfill all of my duties. Now that we have no ammunition, it is with regret that we must perish.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Depressed - Disappointed - Hope - Desperate - Anguish
14.	Kuribayashi (flashback when he is in America)	<p>Taro, I will be home soon. I'm glad to be going back to Japan. But, I'm a bit sad to leave my friends behind.</p> <p>I drove home. But, it's lonely driving all by myself.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Miss - Lonely - Sorrow

