



I don't think we're in Kansas anymore. This is American traitor, Max Stephan (right), who tried to help a Nazi make his getaway from a prison camp and head down to Mexico. It is a long journey from Kansas to the Mexican border. Stephan thought he was a master at his trade and would never get caught. A confirmed accomplice, he was jailed and sentenced to death. Gov. Talmadge (left). The State of Georgia's propaganda kept repeating, "Things will change; just keep voting for him." His Eden ended in 1943. He was voted out. Ellis Arnall replaced him. Among Arnall's accomplishments: paying off a state debt of \$36 million. The South was waking up slowly. Arnall wrote a best-seller, *The Shore Dimly Seen* in 1946. Five great evils the 1942 era

Americans faced:
1. Attack from without. 2. Traitors and 5th Columns. 3. The notable corruption of Talmadge. 4. Prejudice. 5. Lack of oil and rubber.

This should not dispel the fear that pro-Tokyo activities did not occur prior to December 7th. Two episodes in U.S. history occurred during the Great Depression, both in 1936, and should be marked. Harry Thompson, former U.S. sailor, eventually was caught because he drank too much and opened his big fat mouth. The way his name came to the limelight is interesting.

Agnes M. Driscoll, Madame X, the math genius from Ohio State University, graduated about 100 years ago in 1911. She majored in mathematics, physics and foreign languages, and held a long-time post in secret naval intelligence. Driscoll was mechanically inclined and, in her day, helped create rotor machines that clicked and clacked their way as they helped break codes. But in 1935, this unsung American hero, a 46-year old decoder at ONI, was working to decipher the ORANGE machine, aka the Japanese M-1 cipher machine that encrypted messages of Japanese naval attaches. To her surprise, she ran into a coded section containing the word To-mi-mu-ra. When she asked a Japanese language expert what it meant, he thought it was just a Japanese name. Her suspicious mind disagreed. It sounded too simple.

The War Labor Board officially adopted the rule of equal pay for equal work in 1942. Women were free to join the work force if they chose. In Britain, however, women were conscripted and had to register for war work. One was thrown in jail for refusing.

LONE WOLFS

He pointed to the element mura, literally translated into "town," and also the alternate pronunciation of "sori." Alternately combining To-mi with "sori" produced the word Tomison, which is the Japanese way of pronouncing Thompson. At first no one could tie "Thompson" to anything—until a Willard J. Turntine enters the picture. Willard went to the Navy and told them a fantastic story his roommate had related about spying, and his name was Thompson. Investigations revealed he had been passing info to a secret Japanese naval officer, Toshio Miyazaki—aka Mr. Tanni—who cleverly posed as a student at Stanford University. (As soon as Thompson was arrested, Mr. Tanni suddenly headed back to Japan.) Thompson was disgusting, betraying his country, selling secret information to the Japanese, for which he was arrested, tried and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

John S. Farnsworth was another former U.S. sailor, who was down on his luck. After being court-martialed by the U.S. Navy for his affairs on a bad loan deal in 1927, during the depression he had found ways to give Imperial Tokyo photos, maps, sketches, code and signal books, blueprints and all sorts of national defense paraphernalia. That lasted several years. He got caught when the F.B.I. was notified he had borrowed a confidential naval report from a pal on active duty.

The spy network, that in my opinion was deadlier, slipped through the hands of both the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) and the F.B.I. A spy network existed in Hawaii, in particular Honolulu. However, U.S. counterintelligence in Hawaii was not exactly zero. Ever since 1936, when President Roosevelt had issued a secret memo, Japanese on the island of Oahu had been under surveillance. The memo issued August 10, 1936, stated every Japanese citizen or noncitizen on Oahu who meets Japanese ships "or who has any connection with their officers and men should be secretly but definitely iden-

tified and his or her name placed on a special list of those who would be the first to be placed in a concentration camp in the event of trouble.”

One of the earliest surveillance methods did not work out too well. During a farewell send-off of Japanese Consul-General T. Fukuma on the Japanese tanker *Hayatomo* in 1937, a naval photographer disguised as a civilian was taking “secret” pictures. Unfortunately, every time the “secret” camera snapped a picture, his camera clicked. He was immediately apprehended, beaten up and escorted to the Honolulu police station. All formal charges were later dropped, but the matter was not forgotten.

Back to 1941. The spy network that existed in Hawaii, in particular Honolulu, involved the world of diplomats. Enter Richard Kotoshirodo, a \$75 per month embassy clerk, a Japanese-American. Born in Honolulu, with dual citizenship and only twenty-five years old in 1941, it seems he had knowledge of the nefarious schemes going on in the embassy, not as a bonafide spy, but as accomplice. The story takes us to early January, when he and the Consulate Secretary had driven in a Ford car to several vantage points overlooking Pearl Harbor to observe Pacific Fleet operations. From his excursions, every type of major and minor ship was noted, ship characteristics plus the number of aircraft. For much of the year, these ventures continued.

Their ventures, however, had not escaped both the F.B.I. and ONI, but the F.B.I. had no authority to surveil as much as it wanted. According to historian Robert Stinnett, since October 1940, the F.B.I. in Hawaii was told to let Navy Intelligence handle the investigations. It seems Hoover had enlisted the aid of an Admiral Walter Anderson, specialist on naval intelligence. Initially he was just to help. Anderson was not too keen on sharing anything with F.B.I. agents, and took over everything.

THE LAMPOST IS LIT

Kotoshirodo, in a long series of interviews from 1942-1945, detailed his exploits to the F.B.I., however. While working with Japanese agents, he had assisted in observing and reporting U.S. military installations on Oahu. He also made other excursions to the Big Island of Hawaii, and to Kauai and Maui—providing enough information to fill 55 pages. According to F.B.I. records, he was not directly linked to secret agent Morimura until after December 7, 1941. Who was Morimura?

The U.S. Navy had wiretapped the Japanese consulate since September of 1940, and had increased watch on personnel and vessels calling at Hawaii ports since early 1941. Whether the Japanese knew it or not, they were not perturbed, for important messages to Tokyo were never sent by telephone or courier.

The first Japanese spy message sent from Honolulu was relayed via the telegraphers of Mackay Radio and Telegraph to Tokyo on January 6, 1941. It was sent by Acting Consul-General Otojiro Okuda. (Mackay was British-owned, and whatever was nabbed, was whisked to Churchill. Copies were sent to Washington.) However, this particular message was also intercepted by Station Two, the U.S. Army Signal Corps in San Francisco (see volume one of *A Toast For Your and Me, America's Participation, Sacrifice & Victory.*)

For the record, it was decoded and translated in Washington by January 10, with a small line that admitted that their prior spy report had erroneously identified patrol boats as minesweepers. It may not seem much, yet to Navy people that is like mistaking a dog for a cat. Text was encoded in diplomatic code J-17. On Mar. 20, the F.B.I. intercepted and decoded a Japanese Foreign Office Bulletin (#464) stating a Morimura was on his way to serve in the Foreign Office telegraphic affairs section. The F.B.I. let the Navy know, and hence when Morimura arrived on a stately 17,000 ton steamship in Honolulu on

March 27, he was put on surveillance right away.

The U.S. Navy was not able to locate his name in the Japanese Diplomatic Registry. They became more suspicious when in Honolulu he was announced as a "Secretary" but, in his diplomatic entry to the U.S., he was listed as Chancellor.

F.B.I. case agent Frederick G. Tillman was assigned to investigate the consulate, but in reality was ordered to keep hands off the consulate on Hoover's orders. Ironically, by Springtime, Hoover began to notice he was being excluded, too, from secret Naval intelligence reports, and that included Honolulu's intercepts. Hoover got so incensed he took it to F.D.R., clamoring for mass arrests of enemy agents. F.D.R. did relatively nothing.

The Navy installed a wiretap on Morimura's telephone, and was monitored by Lieut. Denzel Carr, Japanese language specialist, a prewar University of Hawaii professor and naval reservist who had previously taught in Japan. Lieut. Carr's primary mission was to deal with domestic intelligence and espionage matters, as opposed to combat intelligence of HYPO (see vol. one.)

Morimura never took photographs of any military installations; he was too smart for that. From March to August, stations H, Two, and C were able to help translators deduce that he had reported on aircraft and types of ships operating at Pearl Harbor. With help from the U.S. Geodetic Survey, he obtained public maps, and pinpointed the air force bases. He failed to locate Station H, but located naval and army transmitting facilities on Oahu.

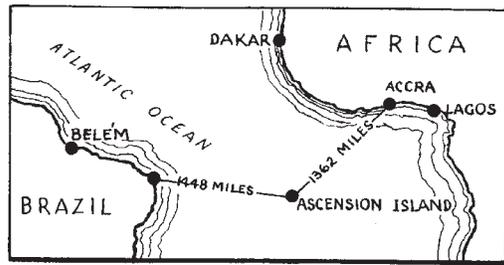
Morimura had direct views of Pearl Harbor from the Shunchoro Tea House, located high in Honolulu's hills. He loved to frolic with the waitresses and geisha girls of Shunchoro, for he had loads of money.

The man who pretended to be Morimura was in reality Ensign Takeo Yoshikawa, of the Imperial Japanese Navy.

Is it ever proper to target a segment of people with surveillance? Or, can one call it similar in respect to the unjust way Japanese-Americans were treated in 1942?

A turn of events like 9-11 for a while bedeviled the United States to a point of paranoia, but it has not gone away. Immediately after the attacks of 9-11, notes of discontent and fear carried over to violence, discrimination and excessive guard on Muslims. While feelings against Muslims has subsided, surveillance on a group may never go away as long as Islamo-Nazi terrorists preach war and death; in essence, they have nobody to blame but themselves as a group and that is sad. No Japanese-American born here ever tried to plant a bomb, stick a grenade in a shopping mall or shoot Americans in their own homeland. These acts of harm have been carried out by Muslim Americans. Today, we see a radically different era than 1942. The era of today warrants a more historical approach. We are not saying all Muslims are terrorists. Many are law-abiding and love peace as you and I. Facts, however, do not hide, as in the case of grenade-happy former Signalman Second Class sailor Paul Hall, aka Hassan Abujihad, discharged from the

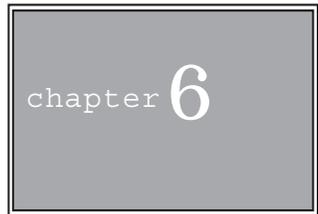
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The ATC on Ascension

During the second half of 1942, you could have stood on Palm beach, Florida, and looked at a sight such as the world had never seen, as every thirty seconds planes roared on by—from ambulance transports and Navy planes to mediums to vicious-looking huge bombers headed in one direction—southeast, toward Puerto Rico, Brazil and across the ocean to Africa. With volcanic hills behind a U.S. tiny airfield on Ascension, a small secretive island in the middle of the South Atlantic, 1448 miles from Brazil, 1362 miles from Africa, troubled by birds, at no time in history was this airfield more vital than during 1942. Its story portrays no flashy scene of action, of bombs bursting, yet it was vital for the Air Transport Command whose mission was supplying the Allies for battle-victory in North Africa. Only after Accra became dispensable in December with a new more direct route to Dakar would flight scheduling subside.

Ascension's runway at Wideawake Field was blasted out of a volcanic mountain side by engineers in Spring of 1942, and by July 10, the first Liberator had landed. Supplies and aircraft reached British forces by two basic ways through the South, by sea or air. Air was the quickest, and was why the run was so vital. Accra became the chief airport of call for U.S. ferry pilots on Africa eastward from Ascension. Accra consisted of giant rolling open country, red brown in the dry season, and



AN OUTPOST

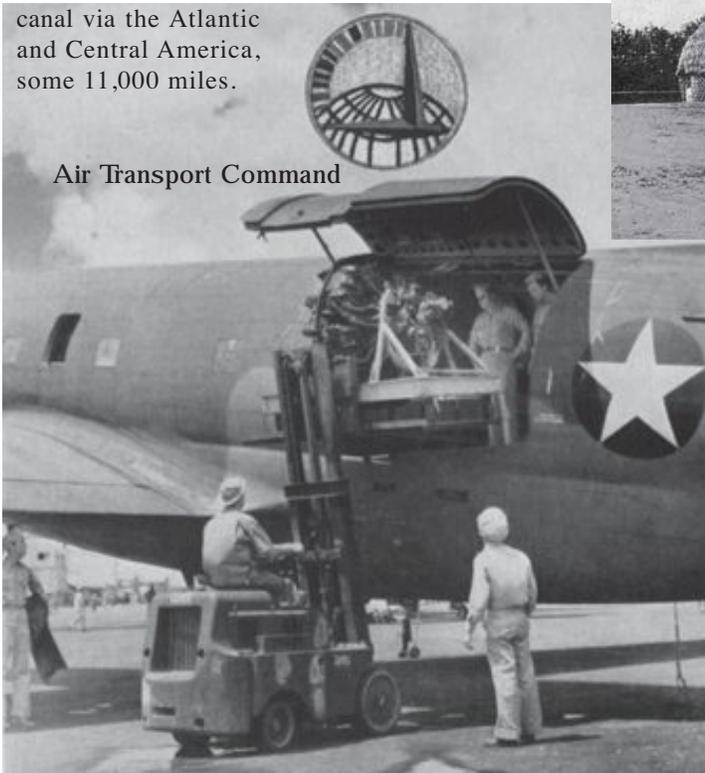


Take-off from Accra to Marrakech, 3000 miles away. It is about 12,000 miles from Accra, Ghana, to Guadalcanal. From Marrakech to Guadalcanal via the Atlantic and Central America, some 11,000 miles.

engulfed by rats, mosquitoes, giant ant hills and fleas. Malaria was rampant. From the outer limits of Accra, the trans-African ATC route reached Egypt or turned to Marrakesh, Morocco, in a 3,000 mile stretch across two extremes of weather in non-air-conditioned airplanes—blistering desert heat and violent dust storms and torrential jungle rainfall of almost continuous overcast. The inhabitants on the African outposts liked Americans and trusted them. Had the Nazis been suspicious of how great operations were in the South, they would have been stirred to interfere, but it was one of the war's best kept secrets. Over three million ton miles were flown by the ATC over the South Atlantic, a major accomplishment.



Air Transport Command



Native style huts for Americans at Marrakech air base. The saga of liberty arched across many lands.





Guadalcanal & Santa Cruz

Early in the soft summer of nineteen-forty two, Marines from the Second Division left sunny California to rendezvous with the Marines of the first Division at Fiji, 2,950 miles away from Hawaii, and approximately 670 miles south of the Equator. Southward, the gentle tropic rains fell on the voyagers, while the weather turned humid. Arriving at Fiji, both amphibious divisions participated in practice maneuvers, but it didn't last very long for the First Division. They moved out hastily and voyaged on to a new destination. They had no idea where in the world they were going.

To the military chiefs of World War Two, the key of carrying the war to Japan was to reach through the Solomons—very outermost of the Japanese Empire in the Pacific Ocean.

The Solomons are a cluster of over 18,000 islands.

Most islands, because they once pertained to Spain, have Spanish names. Characteristically, one was named after a navigator of one of the ancient Conquistadores who sailed these parts in the 16th Century. It was christened Guadalcanal for the sailor Pedro de Ortega's birthplace in Spain; so christened by his naval captain, Alvaro de Mendana. This Solomon island, Guadalcanal, stirs up the crystal essence of the Marines. As for the others, one could say most are unknowns, probably never heard of before, Buka, Ontong, Florida, Espiritus





Santo, Bouganville (pronounced Boo-gan-vil), Gizo and San Cristobal, just to name a few. Comparatively large is Guadalcanal: ninety-two miles long and some thirty miles wide. This piece of parcel-post island was to become the hot-bed of war and inflamed suicide.

The island is one of thick jungles, and rivers, plus plains. A considerable part of Guadalcanal's northern rim bordering the Matanikau River possessed wide coastal plains, reflective of runways for an airfield. Securing them was paramount.

On word from our ally, the Australians, we learned that the Japanese were building an airbase, from which to strike allied supply lines, and possibly cut-off the last friendly nations in the Pacific: Australia and New Zealand. The whole key to the Solomon campaign, which promulgated the beginning of the long allied chain of reaching Tokyo, was the taking and the holding of Guadalcanal Island. This effective duty called for the tough and elite United States Marine Corps; and under the codeword of Operation Shoestring, the task fell on the shoulders of the 15,000 plus troops from the U.S. First Marine Division.

On August 7, 1942, the humid voyage by convoy was over for the Marines. With the advent of light they hit the beaches. Thus resulted the very first American beach-head full-landing of World War Two, occurring at Beach Red and Beach Blue under simultaneous naval air cover.

The landing was unexpected for the Japanese, who were not prepared to meet them at the beaches.

Unusual as it may seem, the important naval forces had been spotted before reaching the islands, but it was not believed possible that the Americans could launch a counteroffensive in the Pacific so soon in 1942.

At Beach Red (Guadalcanal) the vanguard of 10,900

American forces landed on the Solomon islands in 1942. War is barbaric and vicious. The Solomons, about 6,100 miles from Los Angeles, marked the first land that was taken from the Japanese by any allied nation, and its battles were horrific. Hanging on to Guadalcanal had critical importance.

Opposite page, the hot, steamy swamps of a 2500 square-mile island: Guadalcanal. Mission of the Marines: to take the island. There were no newsreel color cameras when they landed on Aug. 7.

NO SUMMER PICNIC

devoid of people, but the life and wares of humans was left. Guadalcanal was empty again. The Japanese had pulled out, leaving everything. Machine guns, rifles, steam rollers, cement mixers, gasoline, chopsticks, food, beer, trucks and even a working ice plant, which was made to pump out ice (some 560,000 pounds of it) were left in place.

At this point in time, all remaining Japanese troops on Guadalcanal had retreated to the mountainous terrain deeper inland.

As time passed, the Marines just began to set up "house under the coconuts," with newly arrived Seabees. The CB-Construction Battalion-though known as the famous Fighting Seabees-contributed to the war effort in their own hardworking way. Not really trained with weapons such as machine guns, they fought with their own branch of tools: piledrivers, steam rollers, shovels and earthmovers. These machines and tools cleared and ate away the verdant jungle which the Japanese veterans could very easily use to their advantage. Remarkably, they cleared and finished the runway and airfield in ten days. But, in those first 10 days and nights, the time was extremely rough, as the U.S. Marines were without air cover. "Where's our Air Force?" was the big question.

Off the coast, the behemoth naval carriers of the United States, with allied cruisers, destroyers, and transport



"Japan is firmly determined to fight a hundred years war to crush the United States."

Colonel Hideo Ohira, Japanese Army Press Section news, August 1942

complement kept patrolling and unloading materials and men. On the first day of landing, some Japanese bombers attacked the ships. One bomber scored a direct hit on the destroyer *Mugford*. A suicide pilot slammed into the transport *George F. Elliot* and sank it. Fortunately, the U.S. was alerted beforehand by Australian coast-watchers from nearby isles and further losses were averted. These people became friends who would distinguish themselves over the entire course of the war. Before the month of August terminated, the famous and disastrous sea-battle of Savo Island and the Ichiki nightmarish land-fighting took place.

As news had emanated to Tokyo of the reported landings—which were by no means a light and small operation as was first believed by them—Tokyo ordered sending of troops and any nearby naval contingents.

Admiral Mikawa, commanding a cruiser force, proceeded from Rabaul to the southern Solomons to make a direct attack on the menacing allied navy. With undue haste, and under the cover of perfect “terrible and nebulous” weather conditions, Mikawa’s armada moved into Allied lines, closing without being detected.

At 1:38 in the morning of August 9, unspotted by allied patrols, the Japanese Navy “knocked the hell out of the unsuspecting ships.” This was the Battle of Savo Island which lasted about an hour and a half. It was known as the Five Sitting Ducks to the U.S. participants. It could have been worse if Mikawa had gone after the transports, which were some 18 nautical miles away. But, he didn’t, because it is said he was unsure how close he was at sea to U.S. aircraft carriers which in the morning, could have sent their airplanes pursuing Mikawa.

The Japanese were able to punish the “sitting duck” to a chance episode in history thousands of miles away.

LEFT ON THEIR OWN

“This afternoon Admiral Ernest J. King, commander-in-chief of the United States fleet, announced that American forces have now landed on the Solomon islands, where heavy fighting is still raging. Adm King emphasized that this action in the Solomon islands is our first real offensive that we have launched; the first one in this war and that considerable losses must therefore be expected. And, now for more details on the Solomon Islands to CBS Washington, Eric Severaid reporting:”

“We have lost at least one cruiser sunk, two cruisers, two destroyers, and one transport have been damaged. These are serious losses, but this is an important operation. And, these losses are only a small fraction of those the Japanese certainly have suffered. Contrary to Japanese claims, we made the first attack and not they. The Japanese were surprised. Adm. King says planned landings were accomplished. He does not say that all the landings were accomplished....There are no details about casualties among the men. This is the first time we have taken away any territory from the Japanese.”

CBS news *The World Today*
August 10, 1942, reporter Quincy Howe and Eric Severaid

In the United States, chance had it that politics took precedence over national safety, and it was reported in numerous U.S. newspapers that the Japanese code called JN-25 had been penetrated by U.S. intelligence. This source of information grossly violated the law, but they did it anyway and printed the story for all to read. Those in Japan did read it and believed the story. They changed their JN-25 code. As of late August, the American cryptographers still had a devil of a time trying to break the new code, and when Admiral Mikawa conducted his advance, he had the advantage. An Australian patrol plane had actually spotted the enemy group bearing down the Slot, but using old fashioned observation mistook the ships as just a bunch of “probable seaplane tenders.”

In the daylight, it was counted that Mikawa’s bold forces of the Imperial Navy had left the heavy American cruisers *Quincy*, *Astoria*, *Vincennes*, and the Australian’s *Canberra* sinking wretchedly in the waters. A U.S. destroyer *Talbot* was also sunk to the bottom. More than a thousand men died with seven hundred wounded. More would have survived had it not been that the waters off Guadalcanal—later dubbed Ironbottom Sound—were infested with man-eating sharks. The engagement only cost the Japanese 58 dead and 53 wounded.

The skipper of the *Chicago* later committed suicide, he was so psychologically hurt by the disastrous allied battle. Not one of Mikawa’s forces was lost. [Oddly enough, the name of the American newspaper that leaked we were reading JN-25 was the *Chicago Tribune*.] It was a chastening start for the United States, but we weren’t going to fold over.

In view of a follow-up, two things happened immediately. The U.S. submarine *S-22* sank a Japanese cruiser *Kako* off New Ireland. And, the commanders of Allied vessels Admirals Turner and Fletcher turned their force

JUNGLE SURVIVAL

of ships out to sea and away from the position of sitting-ducks.

Primarily because the Japanese possessed an impregnable land base, with naval and army air forces nearby—Rabaul—Fletcher ordered his carriers, and with it the escort vessels, to the open seas, away from the advantage of the hunters. By the afternoon of the ninth, both Turner and Fletcher had sailed. [ed. note: carriers in 1942 were precious gold to the U.S. for they were few—two were already resting at the bottom of the sea! Little would anyone realize it, but in September another one, the *Wasp*, would go, too—torpedoed by an I-class submarine].

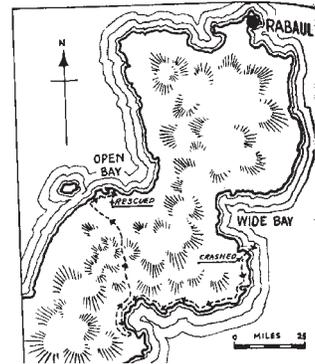
The Marines on Guadalcanal Island were left to hang on, with only 30 days of food and, of course, the first 10 were minus any umbrella of U.S. air cover.

A few days after the invasion, a captured Japanese sailor told the Marines of a number of Japanese soldiers who were on the verge of surrender. Lieut. Col. Frank Geotge, division intelligence officer, led a recon patrol of 25 men to locate this pocket of seemingly unhappy troops “willing” to surrender. They hopped a small boat and landed on a seemingly abandoned sandy beach.

It was a trap, and they were cut down on the sands. Except for two survivors, the rest of the patrol was killed, including the Japanese sailor.

In mid-August, after the battle of Savo Island, Japanese land reinforcements landed on the island. As an extra tidbit of history, it was in August that the first B-17 was to score a hit on an enemy vessel. Although all through Spring and Summer several attacks had been made, it was not until August 25 that an Axis ship was sunk, a *Mutsuki* destroyer. Within a short while, all B-17 units would be relegated to the ETO where their area of dominance was greater.

The strong veteran Ichiki Detachment, heaven’s gift



Chances for survival in the torrid jungles—with its scorpions, spiders, flies, snakes and ticks—required vigilance. The Marines on Guadalcanal were a cocky bunch. They had a saying on Guadalcanal, “We have done so much, with so little, for so long, that we now can do anything, with nothing, forever.”



8446 MILES AWAY FROM NEW YORK

A great factor that favored the Americans was the loyalty of the native Solomon islanders. From the viewpoint of victory, they provided a strategic aid. Time after time, not once was a position betrayed to the Japanese. This was the complete opposite of what traitorous Buddhist monks did in Burma.

to the Imperial Japanese garrison of Guadalcanal, was sent in. The Japanese plan, however, was nixed. They had planned to make a surprise attack inland while their unit was preparing to go on the offensive. It was discovered by a native scout leading a tiny patrol. It would be Sergeant-Major Jacob Vouzu, a native scout with bronze hair, who would be captured by the Japanese, lashed and tortured, left to die, yet on his own, little by little, bit off the ropes with his teeth and struggled and dragged himself off to the Marines to warn them.

When the Japanese mounted their attack, the Marines were ready. In the annals of bravery, no story of the history of the Marine Corps in Guadalcanal can be complete without mentioning the determination and loyalty to a cause as exemplified by Sgt-Major Vouzu.

After a further series of ferocious night battles, the Ichiki suicidal veterans were halted and literally wiped out. This was the battle of the Tenaru River. In the following weeks, more Japanese troops came down between Solomon Islands, "the Slot," and tried to wrest the isle from the clutching Americans. The Marines were aware of them. Many days went by, and the fighting and who was winning was a precarious line. But, even though in the course of the campaign, they were pitted against the XXXVIII Division, veterans of Hong Kong, Java, and Sumatra, the defending leathernecks would not be expelled, and they hung on.

As Gen. Alexander Vandegrift in Guadalcanal succinctly stated, "I have never heard, or read, of this kind of fighting. These people refuse to surrender. The wounded will wait until the Marines come up to examine them...and then blow themselves and the other fellow to pieces with a hand grenade. In the night, they would fanatically



Dateline: Aug. 22, 1942. After the Battle of the Tenaru. Principle forces of Yamamoto have had it. The Marines held on. Tide had washed over some of the bodies of Ichiki's troops. At this exact moment, Sgt-Maj Vouzu was in a field hospital recovering, along many Marine casualties.

HIDEOUS WAR

scream and scream and charge with automatic weapons and bayonets.”

It was September 18, 1942, that Marine reinforcement arrived, including the arrival of sorely needed food supplies—the supply line was reopened. With the help of an artillery battalion the troops totaling some 23,000 men finally began a limited campaign to drive out the Japanese from the island of Guadalcanal; however, by the same token the Japanese reinforced their Army—by a series of mighty troop-bringing trips, via the Tokyo Express. It proved no easy thing, and was very bloody for both sides.



Radio Tokyo
News Item

Tokyo described the Marine invasion as “one of summer insects, which have dropped into the fire by

themselves, to die a thousand deaths.”

Breakfast could never be prepared on time, for even though it seemed such an easy task, it was not. Japanese snipers were never far away, and glowing fires put somebody under the limelight. Often times snipers picked off the cooks, and Marines only were able to eat their meals until well after daylight...Australian sheep tongue.

GUADALCANAL

the Slot, again. However, they ran into an American air squadron from Henderson Field, of Guadalcanal. Three enemy transports were sunk.

All during the night of November 13-14, Henderson Field was plastered with hundreds of eight-inch shells from more Japanese cruisers. But, luckily the only serious damage was to two landbased airplanes. It sounds incredible, as it must have then, but it was true. The rest were patched up, and the field was miraculously put back in shape. "The rest" also included some newly arrived twin motored P-38s from the States.

The following morning, November 14, the Japanese were certain Guadalcanal had all but been rendered useless regarding Allied air protection from its airfield, so that for another time a heavy number of enemy transport vessels steamed down the Slot. They were so overconfident they sailed in bright sunshine.

About 100 miles away, they were annihilated. U.S. naval and marine fighters and torpedo-dive-bombers intercepted them and, to say the least, cut all but four of the eleven to ribbons. Without equipment, some 3,000 out of 7,000 still made it to "Guadarakanaru". However, the next day their transports never left Guadalcanal; they too were located and destroyed. A heavy cruiser also escorting the transports was sunk, the *Kinugasa*.

On this particular morning, when enemy transport contingents were moving towards Guadalcanal, an allied cruiser squadron that had fought in the first round, was on course to Espiritu Santo when it headed into the patrol area of a Japanese submarine. It was around eleven when the submarine was discovered and, as customary, depth charges were fired.

The sub went deep to the bottom for safety and radar was lost. The Japanese sub survived, but before diving deep, it sent out her torpedoes. Two struck the cruiser *Juneau*. It is believed that a direct hit was made on her

magazines. It quickly sank, taking practically her entire crew of 700.

Some managed to hang on for dear life to either 3 rafts or some floating cork nets. Survivors who drank the seawater became confused and delirious. They could not even think straight. Believing they could not take it anymore, some on the liferafts just jumped off the raft. The splash unfortunately alerted the sharks, that would bite at anything. A leg. An arm. They'd sink their teeth in between the crotch and tear at the victim's testicles and manhood. Sailors on the raft watched defenseless, unable to help. All they could do was listen to the screams in horror, and watch blood, and guts float by.

Hour after hour, they floated. Marooned on a raft. Trying to catch the drops of rainwater which fell occasionally. On Nov. 14, an army plane dropped another liferaft, with no supplies. Out of 700, an estimated 75-100 managed to survive the *Juneau* sinking. According to eyewitness Seaman second class Frank Holmgren, not until the 4th day on a raft were they rescued by a seaplane. Only 5 survivors were found alive. The rest had perished.

As it turned out, five brothers, all sailors, went down, too. They were the Sullivan brothers from Waterloo, Iowa. Not since the American Civil War had so many from one American family in the service of its country die in a battle. Their story became widely known in the U.S., and they became a national symbol of heroic sacrifice and fortitude. A Hollywood movie was released in 1944 that told the story of the Sullivan brothers. It was called *The Fighting Sullivans*, made by 20th Century-Fox. Most of the film centers on life in America before the war—an American family in a small town. This film inspired the Hollywood blockbuster of some 55 years later, *Saving Private Ryan*.

From then on, no matter how big a family was, no

There was never enough of anything on Guadalcanal, because the homefront had nothing substantial yet, in terms of munitions/transport, and the army and the navy had nothing to spare, because everything was committed to the invasion of North Africa. Also, military intelligence by September was dead in the water, due to the leak by the *Chicago Tribune* that the U.S. had broken JN-25--so the Japanese codes were drastically changed.

siblings were allowed to serve on the same ship. In addition, a regulation was issued saying that no sole survivor could be drafted.

On the evening of November 14, the engagement around Guadalcanal returned strictly to the night.

In vain, the Japanese sent an armada to bombard Henderson Field and to secondarily lead a destruction on nearby American vessels, again. As it turned out, it would be the concluding scene to the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, and once again it proved furious.

Action opened as salvos were made first by the destroyers of both navies, and it highly favored the Imperial Navy. The battleships then joined in. It was close to midnight when an American destroyer was knocked out of action. The U.S. battleship *South Dakota* had her radar knocked out.

During the course of the fighting, as the already-battered *South Dakota* was coming under attentive enemy fire from enemy cruisers and battleships, the heavy battleship USS *Washington* crept in close on another battleship, the *Kirishima*. Undetected, and coming to within 8,400 yards, it fired all she had. The *Washington*, commanded by Admiral Lee, blasted the *Kirishima* out of the waters--score another enemy battleship.

Although all sides were persistent, the impending guns of the *Washington*, veteran of the Atlantic, were too much and the Japanese forces were forced to retire.

From the fiery night battle, the U.S. Navy had lost three destroyers, the Imperial Fleet a destroyer, a battleship, and two cruisers were heavily damaged. Japan had reached the end of its endurance. All the series of battles formed one of the U.S. Navy's greatest victories in securing the island of Guadalcanal--by team effort.

As Admiral Halsey later put it, regarding operations and the encircling sea clashes around Guadalcanal, "if





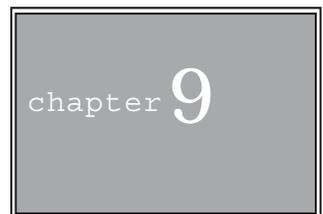
German General Erwin Rommel had received command of the German forces in the African Hemisphere just before Pearl Harbor was attacked.

Through him, the Nazi military divisions of Africa were formed and polished into one of the greatest WW II armies in the world. Under his direction, the Germans on the continent of Africa, known as the Deutsche Afrika Korps, rampaged over the hot desert sands and oilfields of Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia.

The focus of all three tremendous desert war-fronts were lightning air battles, armored surprise movements and the struggle to keep oneself supplied and alive in the scorching Sahara desert. For many months, the allied enemies of Rommel tried, but could not convincingly trap the Afrika Korps.

Into the deserts drove the master tactician Rommel. Out he would drive the allied forces. Into the deserts drove the large British Army, out scooted the Desert Fox. In and out, up and down went the desert soldiers, but Rommel always came back.

Not until the arrival of General Montgomery, a stubborn, self-centered commander, did the battered and tired, yet heroic British 8th Army finally begin to slowly drive out the elusive Desert Fox for good. However, a lengthy stalemate arose at El Alamein, and for much of 1942 was the scene—and strategic pivot—of heavy and



NEARLY 10000 MILES FROM GUADALCANAL

bitter fighting.

Early in the autumn, Rommel was cut-off from reinforcements, of war-machine materials, and supplies. The supplies, especially the gasoline supply line, helped nail the coffin on the Afrika Korps. The RAF from Egypt and Malta hammered away at supply ports of Tripoli and Benghazi.

Fuel depositions from Italy were shrinking each month. For example, early in September, some 5,000 tons of oil were supposed to have reached African shores from southern Italy. Only about 1,000 tons had arrived; some 1,500 tons stayed in Italy, and 2,800 tons had been sunk.

Concerning U.S. forces, our participation was meager for most of the year; practically all participation was from air force units—few and scattered. In conjunction with the RAF, they “dropped their eggs” on enemy positions. The main help of the U.S. air force was supply. U.S. units often complained about being undermanned and undermaintained. This would remain a vivid American problem until early 1943, the next year.

In Africa, from the German air force viewpoint, the essence of Germany’s air force was in Russia. Still, as the Allies began to get stronger in Africa, the Axis remained the same. Concerning requested air assistance made by Rommel to Berlin, all he received were token crumbs. Field Marshall Goering from Berlin would only tell Rommel that the Allies were weak in Africa and that his complaints were just “latrine innuendos,” not deemed believable. “All America can make,” he directly



- Rommel's 489 and 675 respectively; 300 of those Shermans are Lend-Lease. U.S. Marines fight off desperate enemy in a 4-day campaign to take Henderson airfield. Convoy bound for North African invasion departs from America. Eleanore Roosevelt visits the United Kingdom.
- Oct 24—Two British sailors give their lives in retrieving a super secret 4-rotor Enigma machine from a sinking U-559; an RAF B-24 Liberator bomber from No. 224 Squadron hits U-599, the third U-boat sunk by the RAF in four days.
- Oct 25—Clark back in London with no possible assurance what Vichy French would do, but he believes little resistance would be offered. Escort carriers **Santee**, **Sangamon**, **Suwanee** sail from Bermuda for North Africa. Only one U.S. carrier left in the Pacific Fleet after Sea Battle of Santa Cruz when aircraft carrier **Hornet** plunges beneath the waves [Oct 26 because of the international date line.] Only 29 U.S. airplanes left on Guadalcanal, but Japan has a hundred aircraft shot down.
- Oct 28—U.S. carriers rendezvous with transport convoy from the States in the Atlantic, forming the largest convoy in Atlantic to date: 25 miles long, 25 miles wide. Target: Africa. *Thunder Birds* in Technicolor premieres in N.Y.
- Oct 29—The Alaska Highway covering 1523 miles over mountains and forests is opened. Sixty thousand Germans open a new attack at Stalingrad.
- Oct 30—Front page news in America: Eisenhower will return to Washington for consultation; many in U.S. think a U.S. invasion is Norway bound.
- Nov 3—Liberty ship **George Thatcher** sinks off Africa in the S. Atlantic; U.S. merchant **Hahira** sinks in the N. Atlantic.
- Nov 4—Liberty ship **William Clark** sinks north of Iceland; 31 men lost.
- Nov 5—Musical composer George M. Cohan is dead at 64. His famous songs included *You're a Grand Old Flag*, *Only 55 Minutes from Broadway*, and *Over There*, for which he was given a Congressional Medal in 1936.
- Nov 6—Gen. MacArthur arrives in Port Moresby to command the New Guinea campaign. Allies control Madagascar. Torrential rains over N. Africa.
- Nov 7—Torpedoed some 300 miles south of South Africa, merchant **La Salle** explodes in a fireball several hundred yards high and is sunk by U-boat 159;



Secret Ascension Island airfield.



Total active strength for the year of the U.S. Armed Forces: Army: 3,075,608; Navy: 640,570; Marine Corps: 142,613.

Source: World War II Informational Fact Sheets, 50th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Committee 1994



"I hear they don't seem to get along"

out of 60, no survivors; terrifying explosion heard 300 miles away. Liberty ship **Nathaniel Hawthorne** is sunk in Caribbean Sea by a U-boat; out of 52, there are 14 survivors.

- Nov 8—Invasion of North Africa under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower at three points in Morocco and Algeria, protected by five carriers. The invasion, Operation Torch, is a product of successful interservice planning. Merchantship **West Humhaw** is sunk off West Africa by a U-boat; 50 survivors. Troopship **USS Leedstow** is attacked and hit by German Luftwaffe off Algeria.
- Nov 9—Near Cape Matifou, Algeria, **Leedstow** is sunk after attacked by a U-boat and Luftwaffe; 59 dead. Vichy announces by radio that its African airfields will be made available to the German Luftwaffe. Vichy France and the United States sever diplomatic relations. Torrential rains over New Guinea.
- Nov 10—F.D.R. announces breaking diplomatic relations with Vichy France. U.S. troops capture Oran. Hollywood movie *Road to Morocco* starring Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dorothy Lamour, and Anthony Quinn premieres in N.Y. N.Y. Harbor goes crazy when the military closes it due to the finding of many mines laid by U-boats.
- Nov 11—Lend-Lease extended to the Free French Forces under Gen. de Gaulle. After 3-day operation in North Africa, U.S. Naval Task Force aircraft down 15 enemy planes in air combat and destroy over 700 enemy planes on ground. Axis occupy all France and Corsica. Milk cans rationed in the U.S. U.S. troops capture Casablanca. Off North Africa, U-boat sinks U.S. transport, the **Joseph Hewes** (over 100 killed). North of Oran, a U-boat sinks the **Viceroy of India** (4 killed). Search for the marooned Rickenbacker given up.
- Nov 12-13—Instability in the Solomons: Naval Battle off Guadalcanal begins, U.S. lost 9 warships and 8 damaged; the Japanese lost 4 with 7 transports damaged. U.S. troop transports **Edward Rutledge**, **Hugh L. Scott**, and **Tasker H. Bliss** are hit by torpedoes of U-boat 130 in heavily guarded Fedhala Roads, Morocco; the first two sink on the

- 12th; the **Bliss** sinks next day. British secure Tobruk.
- Nov 13—*Seven Days's Leave* musical comedy released when the country sorely needed morale to be lifted, starring Victor Mature, Lucille Ball, Harold Peary (Gildersleeve), Mapy Cortes, and Les Brown and His Band of Renown. Tipped-off from a German spy living in Portugal, who had told Germans with a secret radio transmitter on the interned merchant **Ehrenfels** stuck in Portugal, U-boat 181 finds USS **Excello**, torpedoes it, and sinks it off Africa.
- Nov 14—Rickenbacker is found alive in a life raft 600 miles n. of Samoa after his bomber ran out of gas. Allied liner **Narkunda** sunk off North Africa.
- Nov 15—Naval Battle off Guadalcanal: Japan lost 1 warship; U.S. 5 ships damaged; cruiser **Juneau** is sunk. Over 500 British seamen lost in the torpedoed carrier **Avenger** off North Africa, a high list for an escort carrier. Radio signal from Africa: northern Africa is connected by direct radio communications to America, via relay through central Africa and South America. The 54th Troop Carrier Squadron arrives at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.
- Nov 16—TOKYO EXPRESS lands 2000 Japanese troops on Guadalcanal. Rescued by British from the **Durando**, 17 survivors from the torpedoed merchant **East India** are found alive in a lifeboat 13 days at sea.
- Nov 17—During the last 7 days, seven Axis subs noted sunk in Western Basin of Mediterranean, with two more sunk west of Gibraltar by Allied forces.
- Nov 20—British Eighth Army captures Benghazi. Liberty ship **Pierce Butler** is torpedoed by U-boat 177 and sunk off Mozambique.
- Nov 21—Cpl. Otto Gronke and Pfc. Robert Rowe are the first to drive from Dawson Creek to Fairbanks, Alaska, on the Alcan Highway. 40% of nations's butter supply frozen for military and Lend-Lease purchase.
- Nov 22—Merchant **Alcoa Pathfinder** is sunk off South Africa by a U-boat; 55 survivors aided by Zulu guides make it to Maputo airfield.
- Nov 23—Public Law 773 signed by F.D.R. created Women's Reserve (SPARS) as a branch of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve to serve in continental shore establishments only. Oil tanker **Caddo** sinks in N. Atlantic; 2 survivors cap-

- tured by U-boat, 1 dies in POW camp; 8 survive in 1 lifeboat and are rescued by a Spanish ship 15 days later, 650 miles southward; 40 others were never seen again. Darwin, Australia, is bombed by air by Japanese bombers.
- Nov 25—Trapped German forces around Stalingrad are dropped supplies by the first giant airlift of 320 aircraft.
- Nov 26—Hollywood movie *Casablanca* premieres in N.Y. City (won three Academy Awards: Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Screenplay.) Bangkok oil installations fall to Allied bombardment. Paramount releases *Eleventh Hour*, Technicolor cartoon where Superman rescues Lois in Yokohama, Imperial Japan.
- Nov 27—French fleet is scuttled at Toulon.
- Nov 28—Navy beats Army 14-0 in Annapolis. Notre Dame “Fighting Irish” beats USC 13-0 before 95,100 in Los Angeles Coliseum. Some 600 miles from Ascension Is. U-boat 172 sinks USS *Alaskan*.
- Nov 29—Coffee is rationed in the U.S, limited to 1 lb every 5 weeks. In many places, no one under 16 could purchase coffee. Troopship *West Point* arrives in Bombay, India, via the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean.
- Nov 30—Some 330,000 Germans at Stalingrad are encircled, with a 100-mile gap to the rest of the German Army. U.S. Navy loses 4 cruisers in the Sea Battle of Tassafaronga, but sink a Japanese destroyer.
- Dec 1—Gas rationing goes nationwide across America. As of date, German-Italian troops total some 15,000 in Tunisia; U.S. troops about 7,000 in Tunisia; British troops about 18,000. Off Guadalcanal, Japan loses a destroyer; U.S. loses the cruiser *Northampton*.
- Dec 2—“Variety” reports most popular songs in America are: (1) “White Christmas”, (2) “Praise the Lord, and Pass the Ammunition”, (3) “When the Lights Go On Again”. U.S. 1st Army is within 21 miles of Tunis, capital of Tunisia. First time Enrico Fermi and U.S. scientists conduct secret test of self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction of atoms, in Chicago; in other words, the first time Man splits the Atom. Transport *Coamo* sunk in the North Atlantic by U-boat; no survivors. German resupply convoy of 5 ships sunk by Royal Navy in the Mediterranean.