



PASSPORT TO THE PAST

by Robert C. Valentine

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PASSPORT TO THE PAST

People in the United States, accustomed to news, received sparse news from the battlefields when WW II started December 8, or December 7 Hawaii time. Seventy-five years ago and counting, the Japanese struck with full force before 1 pm over the Philippines even though there was an unexpected heavy fog over Taiwan that hampered Japanese air operations. For a while the U.S. B-17 forces had a chance to strike first, but MacArthur never did give the order until almost noon (11:20 am). There is a difference of opinion regarding the slow air disposition. According to some sources, MacArthur is to blame but others cite fault on his commanders who waited for a reconnaissance that never came on time. Most people never knew of this, and also that many of the American pilots had been at a big party the night before, held in honor of Major General Lewis Brereton. Within three days nearly all of MacArthur's air arms were kaput.

During the early days, Manila was draped in typical blackout fashions and sandbags while there existed plenty of confusion and nervousness. Mobs of people withdrew monies from banks, hoarding silver coins as well as food. Street traffic was mayhem as people rushed out of the city. Fifth Column rumors were everywhere. Some were crazy like there were Germans who wore American uniforms to spread dissension and panic; a false rumor. Yet, there are other stories that were odd and involved collaborators. One was reported by a Lt. Joseph H. Moore who claimed he found a mirror tied to a tree above his living quarters—presumably to guide Japanese aircraft using the mirror. There were numerous rumors of Japanese parachutists and it was all false.

There were reports of rockets rising over uninhabited areas and of series of lights forming a straight line pointing to an airfield or military target before the attacks. Col. James V. Collier, surviving veteran, related on a pre-dawn raid: "As the sound of the Japanese planes became audible, an old automobile near Nichols burst into flames, casting a glow over the field. At the same time, about a dozen fishing boats were observed in the bay, just outside the breakwater. They formed a circle with their lights pointing toward the center. The straight line from this point to the blazing automobile formed a line which the Japanese bombers presumably followed to reach the field." Almost everyone relates the story of the beautiful Japanese girl married to an American who were operating a secret radio transmitter, were caught and arrested. In a bar near Clark Airfield there was an unnamed cavalry officer who had related the story directly to him that a Filipino supposedly had a powerful short-wave transmitter with a beam director in a room in back of the bar. It was said he was responsible for the successful Japanese attack on the 8th and, so

the story goes, shortly after the raid, a sergeant from the 26th Cavalry went into the bar and plugged him with his tommy gun. From Dec. 13 onward, German and Italian aliens were rounded up and interned. After interrogations, those cleared, were quickly released. When Manila fell, they were all released by the Japanese.



Most of America generally were in the know that Hong Kong, Wake Island, and somewhere all over the Asian mainland, the Japanese Army was furiously sweeping aside all the Allies.

Introspectively, few people actually thought that the Philippines could really be lost however, once the invasion of 80 ships with an Imperial Japanese Army of 43,100, from the Marshalls and Caroline Islands, landed on Lingayen Gulf, about 135 miles north of Manila, between Dec. 22 and 28, things seemed to go just downhill. Already off Malaya, a British battleship and cruiser had been sunk. Nine ships with 4,000 troops departed from the main Philippine Islands and sailed for Jolo in the Sulu archipelago on Dec. 22. Jolo fell on Christmas Day. Also, on Christmas Day, came the startling news that the great British port of Hong Kong surrendered. Not far from San Francisco, the SS *Emidio* was hit and later sank. Before December expired, American naval command was forced to evacuate Manila Bay for Corregidor.

As Boston and Portland were screened by mines, Wake Island and Guam fell, the British escort carrier *Audacity* was sunk in the Atlantic, Japanese troops landed on Borneo, and Manila resembled a city of Hell, even after it was declared an open city, on December 19. On Christmas Eve 1941, General Homma Masaharu's forces landed to the southeast of Manila at Lamon Bay and began their advance toward the capital. On Dec. 25, MacArthur's troops evacuated Manila. Everyone under his command was told to "evacuate the hell out of Manila." All the ammo depots and oil stockades were "put to the torch," leaving the enemy nothing. Large orange flames licked the city, compounded by blackish clouds of thick soot and smoke which came from the nearby military oil dumps that burned. They were forced to leave for the fortress at Bataan, a geographical peninsula of dense jungle and wooded low mountains. And, it was full of poisonous snakes and 56 varieties of bats. MacArthur's headquarters was transferred to the tiny fortified island of Corregidor, in Manila Bay, on Christmas Eve. Near the town of San Fernando, all troops had to pass through



Manila is a coastal center with a large U.S. Navy base at Cavite, which burned like Manila (right.) Japanese 14th Army assaulted the Philippines. America's military arm was sure Japan could be contained. According to Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson, he had eyewitnessed Sec. of the Navy, Frank Knox, say that it would take 6 months to defeat Japan. Despite having no air power, brave Filipinos fought back. According to Q-Boat Commander Ramon A. Alcaraz his navy patrols shot down 3 enemy planes over Manila Bay.

a single intersection and down one narrow road to reach the Bataan peninsula. By sheer good luck, the Japanese failed to take advantage of their air superiority to attack the defenders at this vulnerable choke point. Wainwright staged a tough ground defense at San Fernando, and held it to allow an orderly movement of all troops into Bataan.

Dateline Long Beach, California: Dec. 24, 1941, Californians by the hundreds witnessed a ship *Absaroka* (of the McCormick Steamship Co.) blow-up; but in reality it did not sink, but was torpedoed, and then towed into the harbor. One life was lost. The day before, the oil tanker *Montebello* was sunk not far from Morro Bay, California.

Japanese soldiers marched into Manila and occupied the capital on January 2. At Lingayen Gulf on Dec. 22, a platoon of tanks had engaged enemy tanks. This was the first time U.S. tanks fought enemy tanks in World War II. They were part of the U.S. 194th Tank Battalion with 54 M3 Stuart light tanks originally from Minnesota, St. Joseph, Missouri, and from Salinas, California. MacArthur put into action plans—made much earlier—for a mass withdrawal late January of all Philippine and American forces into Bataan; nearly 80,000 troops. They were pitted with very little air cover against many crack Japanese

veterans from the China War. Supplies and equipment were originally saved in Bataan and Corregidor, but then in December were dispersed north. Now that all troops were evacuating to Bataan, all those supplies were, unfortunately, left behind.

In the middle of January, with the Philippines under a blockade, MacArthur sent a long message to the Chief of Staff, General George Marshall, about the supplies, and recommended that food be dispatched to the Philippines along various routes via ships of either small or medium-sized vessels. It seemed “incredible” to him that such an attempt had not been made. The Allies in Australia and the Dutch East Indies were closest, but they had no large organization to handle such an emergency. Gen. Marshall himself undertook to impart this sense of urgency to his subordinates and to use their funds over in Australia, to get something going. Few people realize that his subordinate, Colonel Chamberlain, had at his disposal a credit of 10 million dollars from General Marshall’s fund that were available. General Marshall wrote at the time, “Organize groups of bold and resourceful men, dispatch them with funds by planes to islands in possession of our associates, there to buy food and charter vessels for service....[and] dispatch blockade runners from Australia with standard rations and small amounts of ammunition. Only indomitable determination and pertinacity will succeed and success must be ours.” Further instructions were sent to General Brett, Gen. Wavell’s deputy in ABDA Command “to spare no effort or expense to achieve results.” Defense of Luzon included 26,000 civilian refugees beside the defending troops. Australia began preparations of shipment to the Indies, and then a transshipment of 3,000,000 rations—a sixty-day supply for 50,000 men—and a large quantity of ammunition. Colonel John A. Robenson, with six assistants and large funds, was sent from Darwin to Java with instructions to comb the Indies for food and small ships.

In Java, the British and the Dutch would not release their ships for the hazardous run to the Philippines. Robenson had some success in securing rations and ammunition, but at the end of January still had no vessel on which to load the cargo into. In terms of supply and independent of him, some inter-island steamships were successful in bringing in some supplies. On Jan. 22, the *Legaspi* with a capacity of 1000 tons brought a cargo of rice and food from Panay to Corregidor. She repeated another successful trip in February before being sunk on March 1. The *Princessa* made a run from Cebu to Corregidor with a cargo of 700 tons of food but that was it and most never made it to Bataan.

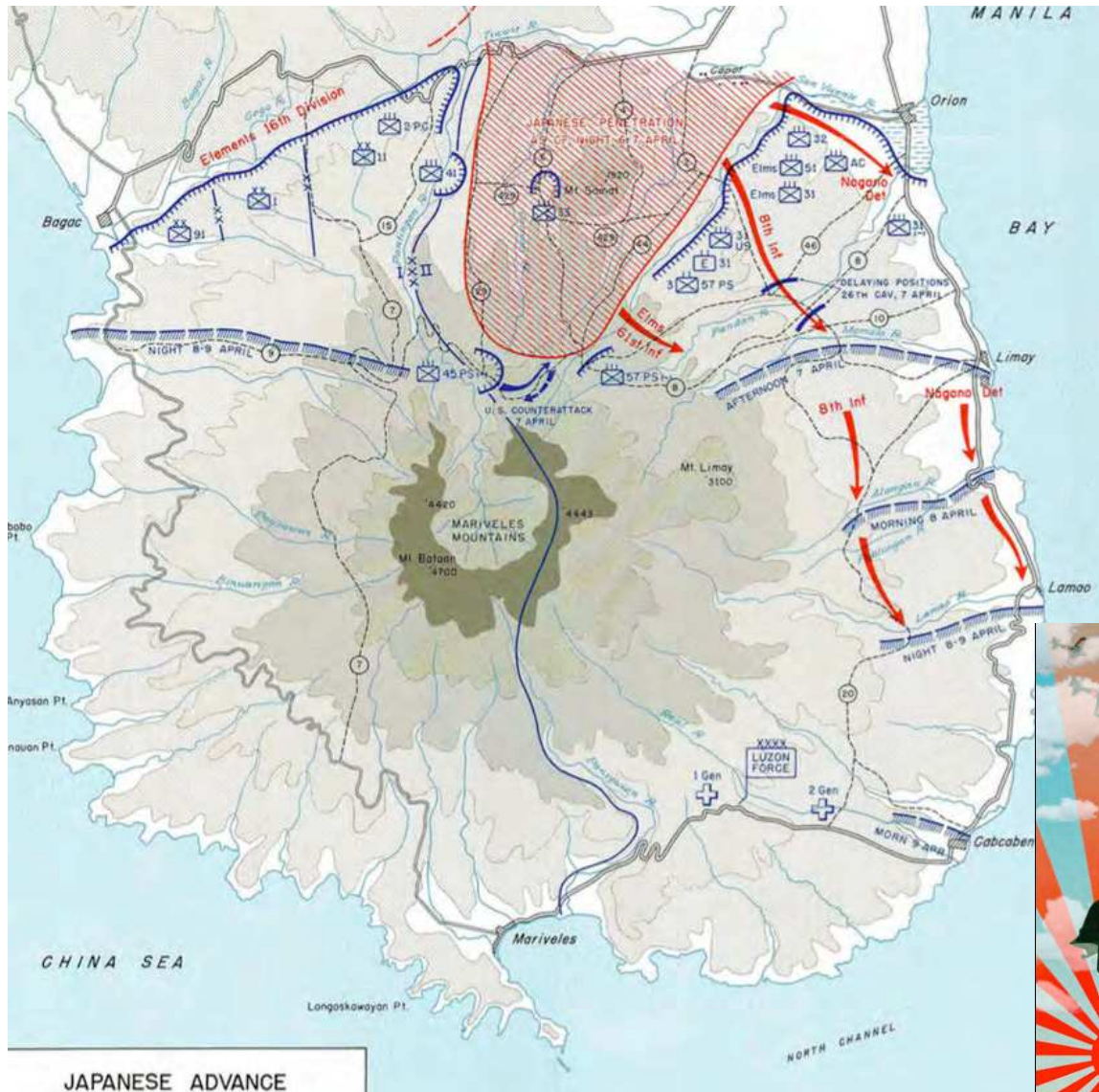
By January 22, Brereton reported to the Chief of Staff that the *Don Isidro*, a small Philippine freighter, had been chartered and was then being loaded with rations and ammunition at Brisbane, Australia. About ten old coastal vessels of Philippine and Chinese registry were eventually procured in Australia, with the *Don*

Isidro, with 700 tons of rations, leading the way. It sailed directly for Corregidor. It departed on February 4 along with the *Coast Farmer*. The *Don Isidro* went from Fremantle to Java to take on ammunition. There she was joined by the *Florence D.*, a Philippine freighter under U.S. naval control. To get that ship, Colonel Robenson offered the Filipino crew handsome bonuses, ranging from more than \$10,000 for the master to lesser amounts for others, and life insurance in values of \$500 to \$5,000. The *Mormacsun*, with a larger capacity, was also loading at Brisbane. This vessel was under orders from Washington not to go farther north than the Dutch Indies; it would sail to a Dutch port and there transfer its cargo to smaller vessels for the last leg of the journey. Circa Feb. 19, the *Don Isidro* and the *Florence D.* were discovered by Japanese patrols; one was sunk the other became a disabled hulk and was abandoned.

All these ships really had no military escort as the bulk of the U.S. Battle Fleet of the Pacific had been eliminated at Pearl Harbor, and what was available was needed to keep the lines of communication to Australia open. Lack of protection came in unusual forms. Once there were 24,000 pounds of juicy carabao meat about to be sent from Corregidor to the Bataan defenders after a Japanese bomb had a lucky hit which k-oed the cold storage freezer-unit on Corregidor. However, for 5 straight air raids in a row, the Japanese conducted their attacks. The meat could not be unloaded from the ship, until the next morning. All were afraid of further day raids and so they did not begin to unload until nightfall. By then, the meat had spoiled due to the tropical heat and that was the end of that. Overall, ten of the inter-island steamers were either sunk or had to be scuttled to avoid capture.

Three vessels reached the Philippines. The *Coast Farmer* put in at a Mindanao port fifteen days after leaving Brisbane. Not until mid-March did the *Dona Nati* and the *Anhui* arrive at Cebu. They brought in over 10,000 tons of rations, 4,000,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition, 8,000 rounds of 81-mm ammunition, and miscellaneous medical, signal, and engineer supplies, however, they were quite a great distance from Bataan, up north; 430 miles away; over 575 km. The distance from Los Angeles to San Francisco is just under 400 miles.

Two Chinese ships of British registry chartered to carry the *Mormacsun* cargo left Fremantle in February however, their crews mutinied when dangerous waters were reached and brought the two vessels back to Australia. There was a plan to use small boats from the south, about 25, from 330 to 1,000 tons each to run the blockade. Yet, of the 10,000 tons of rations which reached Mindanao and Cebu, only about 1,000 tons—a four-day supply for the 100,000 soldiers and civilians on Bataan—reached Manila Bay. Then it was a pain to get the troops supplied at the Front as vehicles often broke down on the mountain trails if the items made it to shore in the first place. To compound matters,



JAPANESE ADVANCE



All grey-blue maps come from the United States Army in World War II as found in *The War in the Pacific series, The Fall of the Philippines*, by Louis Morton. Incidentally, ABDA Command is the American-British-Dutch-Australian Command. Most of Luzon was in Japanese hands by the end of March. The information in this report does not reflect modern Japan.

practically all the paper labels on the cans from one voyage were destroyed so that they could not be identified without opening them. The flour and sugar sacks had broken open and the contents were spread all over among the cans. Onions and potatoes, piled on the decks during the voyage through tropical waters, became rotten and had to be destroyed almost before the eyes of the starving men. The waters off Cebu, Mindanao, Leyte, Luzon, were dangerous with patrol boats. Anyone spotted, and in would go the air arm of Japan from nearby captured air bases. But once Cebu was captured by the Japanese, that was the end of all help. The blockade-running program from Australia and the Dutch

Indies was a dreary failure. ABDA Command was dissolved on February 27.

During the delayed action withdrawal, the U.S. 26th Cavalry Regiment conducted the last cavalry charge in U.S. history on January 16. Filipino cavalrymen attacked a larger Japanese force in a fight for the village of Morong screaming and charging and shooting at point blank range on the Japanese who were completely taken by surprise. The Japanese lost the village as the troopers held the ground against countercharges, until officially ordered to evacuate.

For two months, U.S. and Filipino forces in their WW I style helmets, side-by-side, kept pulling back along the terrain of Bataan. The peninsula of Bataan is 20 miles wide and about 25 miles long. Its existence is owed to two large extinct volcanoes, Mount Natib in the north and Mount Bataan in the south, towering 4,222 and 4,722 feet respectively. The plan for Bataan called for two defensive lines. The first extended across the peninsula from Mauban in the west to Mabatang in the east. Major Japanese attacks along this line began on January 9 with artillery fire, followed up with an assault by infantry and tank units. After eight days of sometimes intense combat, the Japanese forced a partial withdrawal, followed by evacuation of outflanked positions on the evening of January 22. That same night, a tiny footnote is added when PT boat 34, commanded by Lieutenant John Bulkeley on his patrol sank 2 of the Japanese vessels bringing in Japanese reinforcements, but he missed sinking others in the dark night because he never saw or heard them in the darkness. Over the next four days, the defenders fell back to a new defensive line that ran from Bagac on the western shore to just south of Orion on the eastern shore of the peninsula, a distance of 4,500 yards (2.5 miles), a smaller but much more defensible position.

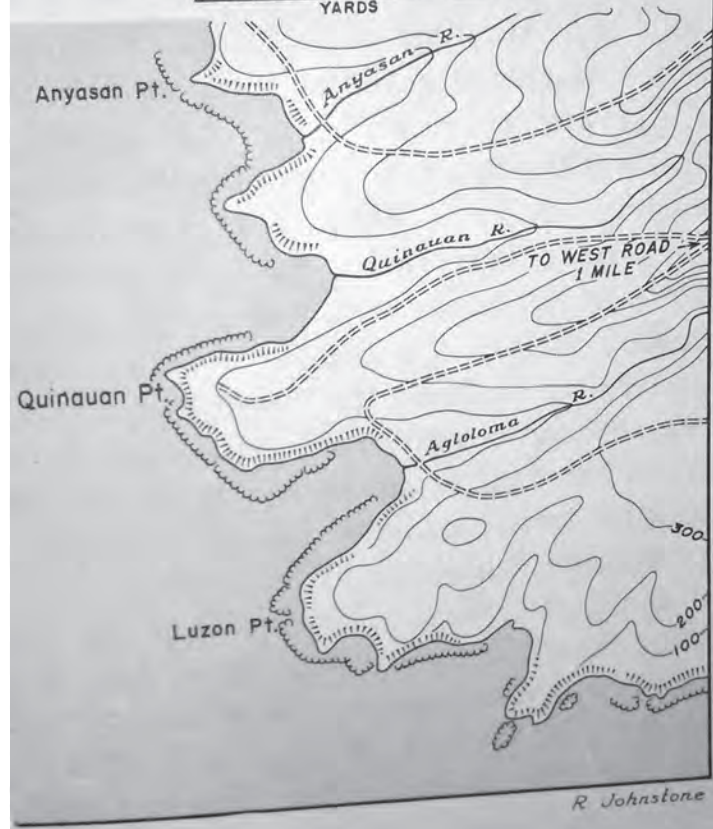
The Japanese attempted to bypass the line by staging an amphibious landing along the rugged Bataan southern coast. Between January 22 and February 2, in the "Battle of the Points", the American-Filipino troops turned back successive Japanese attempts to gain a beachhead, but it came at a cost of heavy casualties that could not be replaced.

The Japanese renewed the offensive against the Orion-Bagac line late January, however, since January 6, the Japanese had suffered 7,000 battle casualties, with another 10-12,000 men dying of disease. The unexpected tenacity of the American and Filipino opposition forced Gen. Homma to call for reinforcements. For the soldiers, the failure of the supposedly invincible Japanese to crack their defenses temporarily lifted morale despite the dispirited strategic situation.

The fighting in the humidity was a battle for passageways and key jungle bridges which spanned ravines. From the volcanoes, scores of streams race through the jungle down deep ravines. The strong engagements were in heavy tropical wooded areas with trees as high as 60 to 80 ft high. The jungle cover

QUINAUAN POINT AREA

1000 0 1000
YARDS



A World War II treaty concluded by Nazi Germany, Imperial Italy and Imperial Japan binded them to a full coalition. It was signed on September 27, 1940, and followed a pro-military advancement. Tri-themes: 1. New World Order. 2. Racial Supremacy. 3. Anti-religious code.

is so thick that Japanese reconnaissance from the air was nearly impossible. The 192nd Tank Battalion was tasked with providing cover for these withdrawal operations—they would be the last defenders into Bataan. A little under two weeks later, C Company's tanks destroyed a company of Japanese tanks.

The Japanese made their amphibious landings at Longoskawayan, Quinauan 7 miles further north, and Lapiay Points, near Mt. Pucot. All 3 jut out into the South China Sea. Longoskawayan, is easier to pronounce if you think of it as Longos-ka-wayan. There you find a small bay and lots of 100 ft cliffs covered with lush vegetation and tall hardwood trees. It is about 3000 yards west of Mariveles Harbor, the major point of entry for Bataan. [The entire western shore of Bataan is tricky. Although dense tropical forests and thick undergrowth extended almost to the beaches, in the west the silhouette of the Mariveles Mtns blends deceptively into the shores.] Above Lapiay is a 617-foot high hill named Mt. Pucot, which despite narrow footpaths in vines and jungle, was a great lookout to the West Rd.

At Lapiay (which has 2 roads that connect to West Rd and could have utilized **tanks but did not because there were not enough tanks to go** around), it was a stalemate with both forces doing mistakes galore; even the Japanese dropping food, medicine and ammo by parachute onto Allied lines by mistake. On the 25th, the allies made counterattacks on trapped Japanese units on Longos-ka-wayan and Lapiay. In the evening, they used their 12 inch mortars with huge 670 pound projectiles. It was the first hostile heavy caliber coast artillery fire since the Civil War. One of the Japanese defenders wrote: "We were terrified. We could not see where the big shells or bombs were coming from; they seemed to be falling from the sky. Before I was wounded, my head was going round and round, and I did not know what to do. Some of my companions jumped off the cliff to escape the terrible fire." However the en-

emy did not budge, so more artillery units were called. On the morning of the 27, the 75-mm. battery of the 88th Field Artillery, the two 81-mm. mortars of the 4th Marines, the pack howitzer from the 71st Field Artillery, and the 12-inch mortars opened fire with a deafening roar. The barrage lasted for more than an hour, however it proved unsuccessful and the foe again did not budge. Not til Jan. 28 when 500 Philippine Scouts arrived did things began to change and on Jan. 29 after another heavy artillery barrage, the Scouts fought their way into Longoskawayan and eliminated the last of the 300 surviving troops. At Quinauan Pt., the Japanese hid in caves along the cliffs or committed suicide and literally just leaped off to their deaths. Not until Feb. 8 was this foe eliminated. General Homma ordered a general withdrawal from the 14th Army's forward positions on February 8.

The battered ground troops never had more than three P-40s for support at any one time. Most people forget that while the Allies in the Philippines were in dire straights, at least **800 fighters, 1400 vehicles, 750 tanks and over 100,000 tons of supplies and aid had been transported to the Soviet Union since midsummer under Lend-Lease.** Those tanks and especially fighter aircraft could have been surely used.

A flotilla of 12 barges meanwhile had sailed for Lapiay Point, however thanks to a Filipino patrol which had found a mimeographed order of the planned reinforced beachhead, when the barges reached the shores of the peninsula they fell under attack under a full moon. It was a bad luck night for the Japanese. Half the flotilla was forced to turn back, but the other half made a quick trick landing not at Lapiay but around Silaiim and Anyasan Points. In the Silaiim-Anyasan sector, one of the 9 tanks of the 192nd, Co B, was disabled by Japanese fire. The tank was quickly covered by dirt by the Japanese and in the end the tankers were cooked to death.

By the end of January, after the forces had been only a month in Bataan, the lack of food and medicine was causing dengue (dengue fever), with malaria, scurvy, and dysentery reaching epidemic proportions on the malnourished troops. Especially critical was a shortage of quinine to treat a virulent form of malaria prevalent on the Bataan Peninsula. The area into which the troops on Bataan were compressed covered about 200 square miles. In the northern most sector, traveling from west to east was Highway 7. On the north, in the saddle between Mt. Natib and the Mariveles Mountains was the Pilar-Bagac road which extended across the peninsula. It cut directly across the center. As Mt. Natib had dominated the Abucay-Mauban line which was evacuated around Jan. 24, so did the imposing mass of the Mariveles Mountains dominate southern Bataan. In the east, Highway 110 began far to the north and followed the

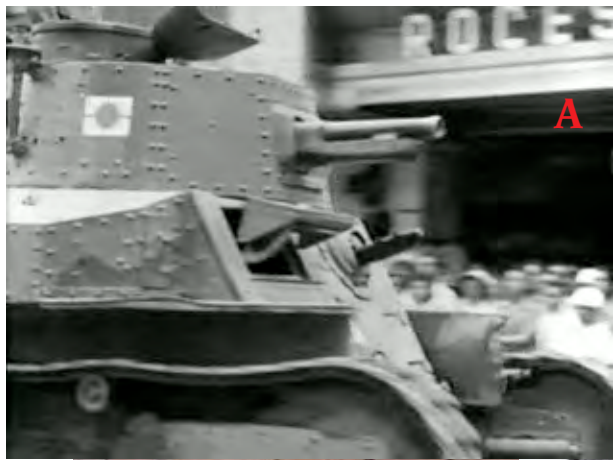
coast south, then west and north to Moron. The west side of Highway 110 was designated as West Road, the east side as East Road. To the east, west, and south was the sea.

In late February, in a little boat, three American reporters, Mel Jacoby, of *Time* magazine and NBC, Clark Lee of AP, and Annalee Whitmore of *Liberty* magazine, escaped from Bataan, in the company of other Westerners, and after 25 days made it to port at Brisbane, Australia. They were the lucky ones. Carl and Shelley Mydans of *Life* magazine—and others—were not so lucky. Just one month earlier, they had been best man and matron of honor of Mel and Annalee's wedding. Annalee had just come from doing work in Chunking for United China Relief. They had left their two baby pandas in Manila, a gift from Madame Chiang Kai-shek to the women of America. On January 29, 1942, after about 20 days at sea, the American *Wakefield* and *West Point* rescue liners, in the company of British Empire liners, including *Empress of Japan* (in which baseball star Babe Ruth sailed to Japan in Oct. 1934, name changed to *Empress of Scotland*, Oct. 1942) and *Duchess of Bedford* reached the mayhem of Singapore. The *Wakefield* and *West Point* were part of 3 prize American oceanliners sent to the Pacific, *Manhattan* (24,189 tons), her twin, *Washington* and the S.S. *America* (41,500 tons). They, along with the troopships *Dickman*, *Leonard Wood*, and *Oriba*, were ferrying British troops to Singapore as the fighting went on in Bataan. Interesting to note, back in June of 1940 in the Atlantic when the *Washington* was carrying 1,787 refugees including 700 children, she had encountered a U-boat which had ordered her to halt. For several long tense minutes was told she would be torpedoed. But, fortunately when the U-boat captain became aware it was not a European ship but a neutral American ship, he let her sail on.

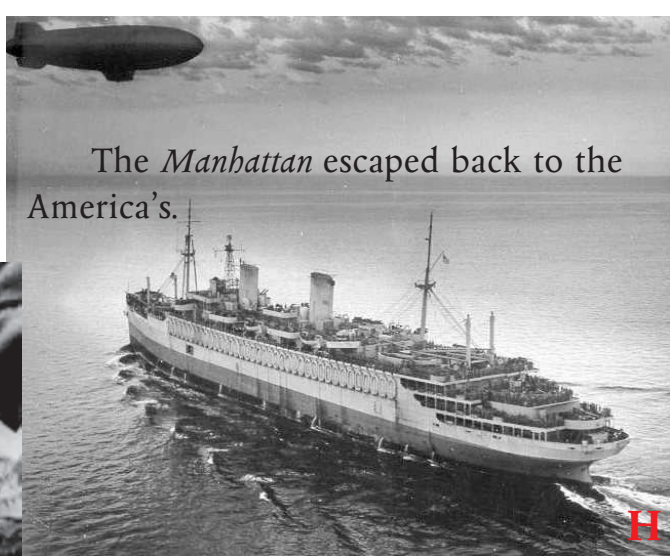
Dateline Singapore: February 15, 1942: Singapore surrendered and the Allies lost 130,000 troops. Singapore was renamed Syonan, *Light of the South*.

Luckily, the American troopships had escaped. There were reports of Japanese atrocities where Japanese troops emasculated captured British soldiers and sewed their penises to their lips before hanging those soldiers in trees, according to researcher-historian Peter Chen. A British officer Lieutenant Western, a British medical officer from Alexandria Hospital, surrendered with a white flag but was bayoneted to death. Japanese troops then bayoneted to death over 150 hospital doctors, nurses, and patients of the hospital. The "Tiger of Malaya",

Photos opp pg: A: advancing Japanese tank; B: Tokyo celebrating National Victory Day; C: an authentic map of the period dispersed in Asia as a propaganda tool by Imperial Japan; D: another propaganda war poster of the period; E: contemporary painting of the 194th U.S. Tank Battalion; F: *Sekai Yuubi-Gou*, authentic postcard of one of Tokyo's streetcars in celebration of war victories; G: demoralized British surrender of Singapore; H: one of the oceanliners named above in 1942.



A



The *Manhattan* escaped back to the America's.

H



B



C



D



F



G



E



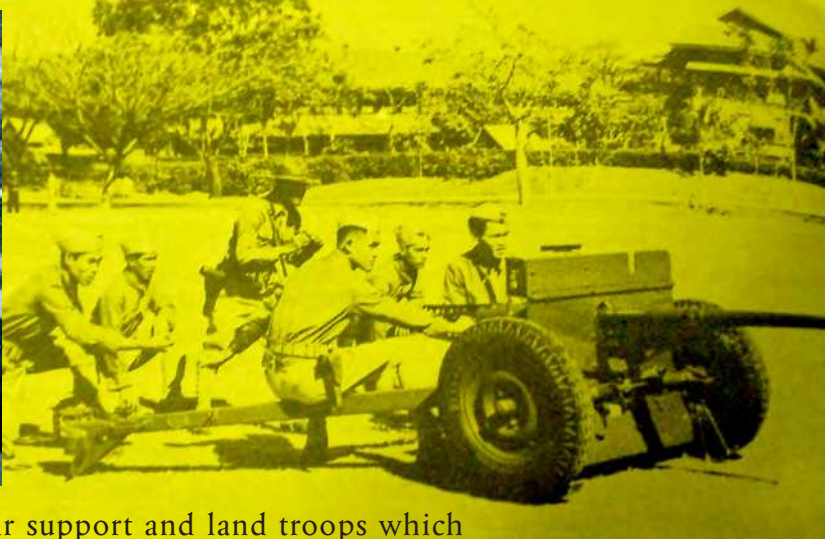
A portable pontoon bridge being set up by engineers against an enemy that had not lost a war in *two thousand six hundred years*. For four months the U.S. kept pulling back.

With the collapse of Singapore and the Philippines and much of mainland Asia, Japan's Empire spanned more than a fifth of the globe. It possessed many vital oilfields.

General Yamashita, who in the 1930s believed a more friendly relationship with the United States should exist and which got him into hot water, heard about the incident, and had the troops responsible for the attack executed. Eight days later, Japanese sub I-17 shelled the California coast near Santa Barbara. Within days, the secret Japanese police, the *Kempeitai*, were sent into Singapore and surroundings and began what is called in Japan as the great inspection, Daikensho. It began with mass arrests then turned into a full scale massacre of Chinese people. Anyone suspect of being against the new world order paid for it. Entire communities were purged. When the so-called purge was called off on March 3, numbers killed run from a Japanese estimate of 5,000 to a Singaporean estimate of upwards of 50,000; there is no official record.

During March, as the Japanese received reinforcements, the defenders' health steadily eroded and there were no American reinforcements. The situation was most alarming. In January, troops on Bataan had about 2,000 calories per day, reduced to 1,500 in Feb. The Luzon force surgeon, Col. Harold W. Glatly noted the troops on the line required an expenditure of at least 3,500 to 4,000 calories per day. Serious muscle waste and lack of fat reserve leads to beri-beri, things which made your legs feel watery and "at intervals, pump with pains that swell and go away again." Calories during March dropped to a mere 1,000 calories. In mid-March, the food ration had been cut, in terms of ounces down to 15 ounces per man per day. The Bataan jungle and the starvation diet fostered disease, with malaria common and no quinine supplies for relief. By the end of March, commander's estimates of troop combat efficiency dropped to 20-25 percent.

As time passed, uniforms became more raggedy and thin, and if you had shoes they were badly worn out. There were some 66,000 Filipino troops and around 12,000 Americans facing the Japanese 14th Army. The closer to the Front, meals and uniforms got worse. When you see b-w pictures of the soldiers of Bataan, and you



To protect the Philippines you had artillery, air support and land troops which were little by little decimated as the Imperial Japanese poured in troops in the sweltering jungles. On April 3, the Japanese well reinforced, launched a huge offensive from the central high ground of Mt. Samat and pressed Allied forces on Bataan mercilessly. On Mt. Samat is a 92-meter concrete cross, part of a national memorial for the defenders of Bataan, see page 21.

see dark pants, they are not GI green. They are old worn-out blue denims. Many soldiers did not even have underwear. Troops on the frontline believed those to the rear dined better, especially those on Corregidor, or assigned to Harbor Defense. It was not a Filipino vs American deal either. In one U.S. unit, the “men had lost 15 to 25 pounds since the start of the campaign. The absence of fats and juices, as well as vitamins A, B, and C, was evident...” Incidentally, compared to Bataan, the hunger and disease on Corregidor was somewhat different—they ate 2 meals a day with a rather well-balanced diet, such as bacon, ham, fresh veggies, some milk and jam. Meals that sounded heavenly to those at battered Bataan. On one occasion, a truck from the Bataan front ran into a Bataan military police unit. The truck belonged to harbor defense anti-aircraft troops, with the following sumptuous items from Corregidor: 25 pounds of raisins, 33 pounds of lard substitute, 24 cans each of peas, corn, tomatoes, and peaches, 6 cans of potatoes, 24 bottles of catsup, 50



Defenders at Bataan before the collapse. Numerous soldiers were from New Mexico and the Midwest. Everybody started starving, including the Army nurses, eating anything they could get their hands on: lizards, chickens, monkeys and dogs. The cavalry horses had to be eaten, too.

cartons of cigarettes, and also 600 pounds of ice.

There was no aid in sight in March and once MacArthur was ordered to go, well, morale plummeted. Recognizing the steady deterioration of the American position, President Roosevelt ordered MacArthur to move his headquarters to Australia, over MacArthur's objections. On March 12, the commander, his family, and his staff departed Corregidor and joined three other PT boats. The PT boats were led by bearded Lt. Bulkeley, in a bandana over his hair like a pirate. Wainwright was left in command. MacArthur swore, "I shall return!" MacArthur then flew out on a B-17 at Del Monte airfield on Mindanao on the 16th, and was scheduled to land at Darwin but an air raid forced him and his party to land 50 miles away at Batchelor Field. He and his family barely escaped on an Australian National Airways DC-3 before that airfield is attacked. He mistook Washington's intention (and Washington allowed him to misinterpret the messages) that when he reached Australia he would be greeted by a major American army, and he would be able to lead this army and return to the Philippines. It was false pretense. There was no army; in fact, Australia did not even have enough defenses to protect itself. Upon arrival at Australia, he made the following note to journalists: The President of the United States ordered me to break through the Japanese lines and proceed from Corregidor to Austra-

lia for the purpose, as I understand it, of organizing the American offensive against Japan, a primary object of which is the relief of the Philippines. I came through and I shall return. Lt. Bulkeley received the Medal of Honor, wrote a book based on his exploits, *They Were Expendable* and was featured in *Life* and *Readers' Digest*.

On March 27, Wainwright proposed to MacArthur a bomber attack against Japanese naval forces in Subic Bay and the Visayan sector to disrupt the blockade. He believed B-17s could fly to Del Monte airfield and lend in the attack. MacArthur agreed. There was also being planned to load the B-17s with food, although where to land was a good question. In addition, 2 ships with 500 tons each were being readied to try to make a run in. They were at Cebu and Iloilo. Marshall had contacted Gen. Stillwell in China for air support. From the United States, after difficulty assembling 6 destroyers—3 were WW I vintage with a capacity of 1,500 tons each—the first destroyer sailed from New Orleans via the Panama Canal on March 2. Another destroyer finally left the West Coast on March 16. Three air shipments flew in to Mindanao, on March 11, 16 and 26. Only one out of 4 B-17s that left Australia made it to Mindanao. Any B-17 that tried to fly into Manila environs was in danger of being detected and swarmed by Japanese interceptors. Ships with the last hope were still at sea when Bataan surrendered. Morning of April 9, 1942, after a volcanic earthquake, the Bataan defenders became Prisoners of War. Some sources say 75,000 soldiers were taken prisoner after their surrender at Bataan, with 12,000 of them American and 63,000 Filipino. This was the largest surrender in U.S. history. Some escaped to the Island of Corregidor to fight on for another month. Some joined the guerillas. Most would be killed by the Japanese.

Many of the prisoners in the Bataan Death March went days without food or water. The 70 mile (112km) trek was long and hot; first to San Fernando then via train to Capas. Many of the captured died of exhaustion or were executed simply because they had dysentery and had tried to relieve themselves. The Japanese kept telling pows, "Just a little way up the road we will stop for food and water." Often, when they stopped for rest, they were deliberately put into an open field without shade or trees and ordered to take off their hats. Several times local Filipino civilians tried to throw food to the marching prisoners, but the Japanese soldiers killed the civilians who offered any help. Strangely enough, small groups of POWs on the Bataan march, from scores of post-war interviews, recall that they were treated decently, and usually given some water—although they all remember that always along the way the graves of the dead lined the sides.

At Capas, they disembarked, and the bodies of the dead fell out of the railroad cars. They headed to Camp O'Donnell which was an unfinished Filipino Army base that the Japanese pressed into service as a prison camp. There was one water spigot for the entire camp. As many as 50 men died a day. Disease and the lack

of food and medicine took their toll on the weak. When a new camp at Cabanatuan opened, the “healthier” prisoners went there. Some died in the holds of Japanese cargo ships; one was murdered by another American for his canteen.

Extra Datelines 1942:

Feb. 19 American submarine *Swordfish* arrives in Philippines with supplies. The force that hit Pearl Harbor hits Darwin, Australia, 8 ships are sunk; 240 dead.

Feb. 22 Submarine *Swordfish* evacuated Philippine President Quezon.

Feb. 27 U.S. carrier *Langley* sunk off Java.

Feb. 28 Allied disaster in Java Sea, 5 cruisers and 5 destroyers sunk. Japanese invade Java but lost 6 ships in the invasion.

Mar. 4 2nd air attack on Pearl Harbor.

Mar. 8 Rangoon falls.

Mar. 9 Java falls. 100,000 Allied troops surrender and become prisoners.

Mar. 16 Commander Moon Chapel departs Corregidor on his sub *Permit* with 36 codebreakers.

Mar. 30 All persons of Japanese ancestry on the mainland, interned in 15 assembly areas, a day after the *City of New York* is sunk 40 miles off Cape Hatteras.

Apr. 4 Two British cruisers sunk in Indian Ocean.

Apr. 6 U.S. sub *Seadragon* evacuates the last 17 members of Station C from Corregidor after unloading 7 tons of food.

Apr. 9 Surrender of Bataan: about 76,000 troops lay down their arms; 2000 escape; on same day British carrier *Hermes*, Australian destroyer *Vampire* and 3 other vessels were sunk in the Bay of Bengal.

Apr. 10 Bataan Death march begins.

Apr. 11 Another Bataan Death march. Japanese, using swords, hack to death 400 Filipino officers and NCOs who served with the U.S. in the defense of Bataan; same date as a U.S. bomber found lifeboat survivors from *City of New York*; 24 died including two female passengers.

Apr. 13 B-17s and A-20s bomb enemy forces in Philippines; 3 transports sunk.

Apr. 18 Doolittle raids Tokyo.

Apr. 28 Japan cuts Burma Road. PBV aircraft evacuate nurses from Corregidor.

May 1 Mandalay falls.



Hardly had the troops on Bataan surrendered when the Japanese batteries that had reached Cabcaben opened fire on Corregidor to begin the final twenty-seven-



THE WEATHER
 Manila, P. I., April 24, 1942
 5 Centavos
 4 Pages

The Tribune

MANILA, PHILIPPINES, FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1942

YEAR XVIII

BATAAN COMPLETELY OCCUPIED BY JAPANESE

Japanese Forces Take Cebu

15 Generals Among War Prisoners

PHILADELPHIA, April 24 (AP)—The Japanese have taken 15 general officers and 150 other officers and 15,000 men and women from the Bataan front. The Japanese also gave 100,000 pounds of rice and 100,000 pounds of other supplies to the prisoners. (Photo taken by the photographer of the Japanese Press.)



Japanese Flag Planted In Cebu City

MANILA, April 24 (AP)—The Japanese flag was planted in Cebu City today, the second of the island's main cities to fall to the invaders. The Japanese flag was planted in Cebu City today, the second of the island's main cities to fall to the invaders. The Japanese flag was planted in Cebu City today, the second of the island's main cities to fall to the invaders.



Gen. Homma Thanks Officers And Men Under Him for Heroism

PHILADELPHIA, April 24 (AP)—General Tomoyuki Yamashita today thanked the officers and men of the Japanese forces who fought heroically in the Bataan campaign. He said they were the best of the Japanese fighting force.

Surrender Of Bataan Praised

PHILADELPHIA, April 24 (AP)—The Japanese today praised the gallant stand of the American forces on Bataan. They said the American soldiers fought with great courage and heroism.

Gen. Wainwright

PHILADELPHIA, April 24 (AP)—General Douglas MacArthur today praised the gallant stand of General Wainwright and his men on Bataan. He said they were the best of the American fighting force.





View from Manila Bay of the northern harbor sector of Corregidor, aka Bottomside. Next, with a telephoto lens, also across the Bay but very faint from Corregidor is the Bataan Peninsula.



day siege of the island. This island had some 800 structures and 23 batteries, with 56 WW I era guns. The first guns to be knocked out were the seacoast guns on the north shore facing Bataan. The intermittent air attacks of the preceding three months paled into insignificance beside the massed artillery from Bataan the next 27 days.

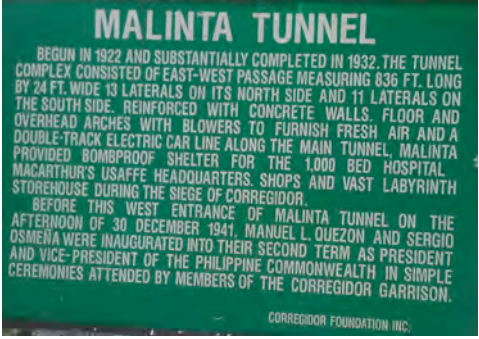
The Corregidor of peace time with its broad lawns and luxurious vegetation, spacious barracks and clubs, and impressive parade grounds, large warehouses were gone by Spring. The additional days which Corregidor held on really helped Australia in the sense that the invasion of Australia was postponed and was held off till the blasted island fell. The additional 27 days helped Australia for when it ended, the timetable invasion of Australia was thrown out the window.

The shelling never really stopped and areas that had been heavily wooded were entirely denuded. In some places not “a stick, not a leaf” was left. Trees, “once so dense . . . that they shut out the sun,” were shot away or burned, leaving only charred stumps. Deep craters, empty shell cases, and huge fragments of concrete pockmarked the land. The beach defenses were demolished, and the all the guns were eliminated.

With over one hundred pieces ranging in size from 75-mm. guns to the giant 240-mm. howitzers, the Japanese were able to fire almost steadily. The air and artillery attacks of April reached their height on the 29th of the month, Emperor Hirohito’s birthday. During WW II, Corregidor became the second most bombarded island, next to Malta.

Before the war, there were approximately 20,000 Filipino and American inhabitants but by April 1942, there were only about half as many. Many troops sought shelter inside the tunnel named Malinta. Troops crowded in Malinta tunnel offered the safest place to be, but it came at a price. Crowded into enforced intimacy, on short





rations, and under constant strain, men grew tense and irritable. Life in Malinta Tunnel was virtually intolerable. A few flipped out of their minds, such as the case of a soldier who reportedly went out of his mind after he saw a friend's "shell-torn head flew past his face." Many troops lost their temper over minor

incidents. Values changed and men's virtues and defects were magnified. Amidst the suffering troops was Mrs. Maude R. Williams, a hospital assistant who had come over from Bataan. In a certain eloquence, she wrote in her diary: "Under the deepening shadow of death, life on Corregidor took on a faster, more intense tempo. The smallest and most simple pleasures became sought after and treasured as they became increasingly rare and dangerous—an uninterrupted cigarette, a cold shower, a stolen biscuit, a good night's sleep in the open air. There was a heightened feeling that life was to be lived from day to day, without illusions of an ultimate victory. Many sought forgetfulness in gambling. There was no other way to spend the accumulated pay that bulged in their pockets..."

Dust, dirt, great black flies, and vermin were everywhere. Moreover, the odor from the hospital hung over everything as the odor would melt into every body. During Japanese air attacks, which became more regular in May, as their air forces

which had been sent out toward other invasions returned, the large blowers were shut off, and the air became foul and the heat was unbearable. Sometimes the lights failed and the gloom of the tunnel flickered into darkness.

All movement on the island became hazardous and uncertain. The roads, which at one time had been effectively camouflaged by trees, "were now bare and clearly visible" along the steep side of the island. Some units had their own medical facilities, and some, like the 4th Marines, had a comparatively well-equipped hospital with a complete medical staff.

The effects of the continuous bombardment could be seen not only in the mounting toll of wounded but in the haggard faces of the men. Shelling robbed men of sleep; short rations, of needed vitamins and energy. But the number of mental cases reported was surprisingly small. A Corregidor surgeon noted only "six to eight" throughout the campaign. He could not account for the low rate of psychotic and neurotic disorders, however, he offered the theory that it was due to the fact that there was no rear area to send the men for rest.





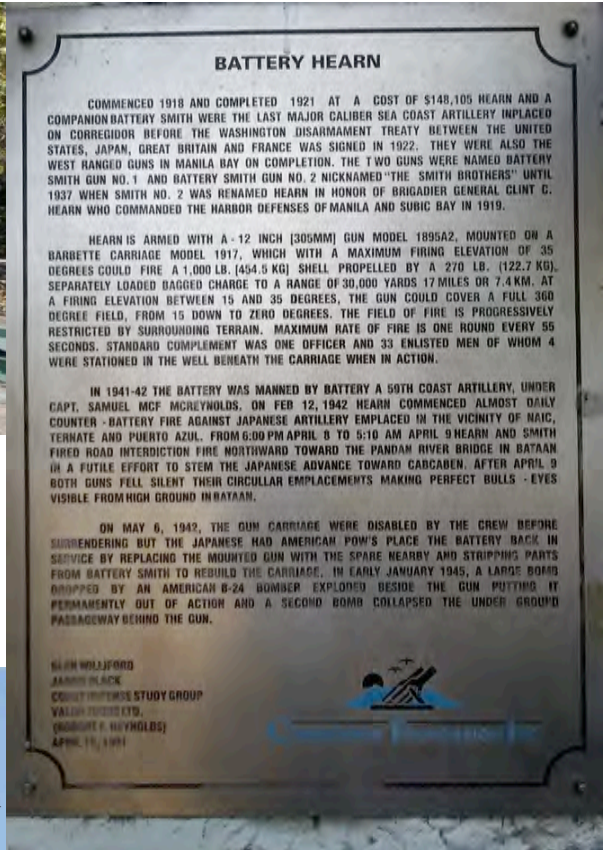
Before Bataan and Corregidor fell, members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and Navy Nurse Corps were stationed there. Today they are known as the Angels of Bataan and Corregidor. Yet, few know that when it all fell, 11 Navy Nurses, 66 Army Nurses AND 1 Nurse-Anesthetist were captured and imprisoned in and around Manila, where they continued to serve until the war ended.

Life outside the tunnel was less uncomfortable but more hazardous. Those on beach defense or in gun positions could, if they wished, sleep in the fresh air and escape the dust. They were less crowded and had more freedom of movement. However, the strain on them was great, too. When the shells came over or the bombs dropped, they took cover hoping for the best.

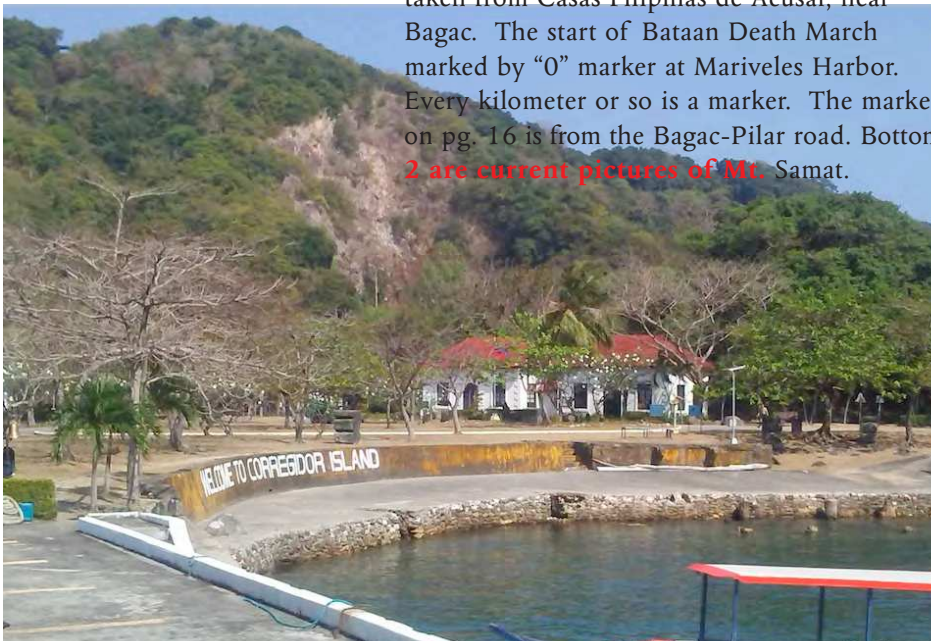


“For supper,” one Marine wrote, “we had a sort of stew which consisted mainly of rice and a couple of pieces of bread, and maybe a little jam.” Col. Carlos Romulo, newscaster for Corregidor’s “Voice of Freedom,” noted that “sometimes we had a soggy slice [of bread] with our breakfast and sometimes we did not.” He could tell in this way whether the bakery had been hit during the last raid. A piece of cheese he had acquired as a gift before Quezon’s departure “moved between my fingers,” when he decided to eat it almost two months later. “So unfastidious can hunger make one,” he observed, “I ate the cheese after removing its small inhabitants.”

Sunday, May 3 was a repetition of the heavy bombing of the day before. The enemy aircraft over the field met no fire from the antiaircraft batteries, whose guns and height finders had already been damaged or destroyed. That night an American submarine, the *Spearfish*, on patrol in the South China Sea, stopped outside the mine channel for an hour before returning to Australia for torpedoes. The *Spearfish* valiantly rescued 25 passengers, all that could be crowded into its tight interior. Among the passengers were 12 Army-Navy officers from Corregidor including Colonel Constant Irwin, who carried a complete roster of all Army, Navy, and personnel still alive; Col. Royal G. Jenks, a finance officer, with financial accounts; and 11 Army Nurses, 1 Navy Nurse, and 1 civilian Navy wife. Included in the cargo sent from Corregidor were several bags of mail, the last to go out of the Philippines. Japanese fire from Bataan on May 4 was the heaviest of the campaign and totaled 16,000 shells of all calibers for a period of 24 hours. The bombardment was so horrendous and continuous in a “drum-fire of bursting



Present-day Bataan and Corregidor. Above, a gun from Battery Hearn. Left is a 12-inch mortar. Below, the harbor that greets visitors to Corregidor. To your right, Mariveles Mtns. a formidable obstacle with peak of Mt. Bataan, towering 4,722 ft. The photo is taken from Casas Filipinas de Acuzar, near Bagac. The start of Bataan Death March marked by "0" marker at Mariveles Harbor. Every kilometer or so is a marker. The marker on pg. 16 is from the Bagac-Pilar road. Bottom 2 are current pictures of Mt. Samat.



anthony 2009



A real clear-day view of the island of Corregidor from Bataan. The Bataan Death March started from 2 points: on April 10 from Mariveles, and on April 11 from Bagac town, up north. From Balanga, the prisoners were organized into groups of 100 to 200. At San Fernando, the Death March became a death ride by freight train when the prisoners were packed so tightly into boxcars that many of them perished from suffocation. On your left is a current view of the mile-long barracks on Corregidor.

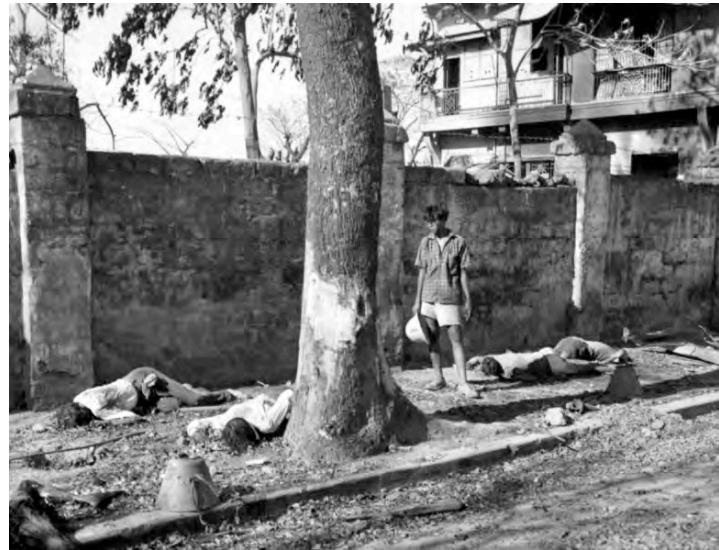
shells,” that it was almost like non-stop machine gun fire. There had been six hundred casualties since April 9 and those who had escaped injury were in bad physical condition. Attacks were directed at the north shore in areas where the Japanese would make their landing. About this time, Battery Geary magazine was hit and the entire battery destroyed with a “shock like that of an earthquake.” At the end of the day the whole tail of the island was covered by a cloud of dust and small fires were burning everywhere, “in the shell-scarred tree trunks and stumps,” and in the woods. A brisk west wind fanned the fire, the fires spread rapidly, but through heavy toil it was brought under control. The Japanese, however, were not yet ready for the assault. They needed one more day to complete the destruction of Corregidor’s defenses and on the morning of the 5th opened up with everything they had. While the batteries on Cavite laid down a barrage on the southern shore of the island, the Bataan batteries gave the north shore the most terrific pounding of the war. All wire communication was gone by late afternoon. Where there had been thick woods and dense vegetation only charred stumps remained. The rocky ground had been pulverized into a fine dust and the road along the shore had been literally blown into the bay. Portions of the cliff had fallen in and debris covered the entire island.

On the morning of May 6, General Sharp in the south received notice that

Wainwright was relinquishing command of the Viasayan-Mindanao troops. However, at midnight of the 7th, Wainwright did a radio broadcast to surrender. Corregidor fell; 12,000 were forced to surrender. Wainwright believed his men on Corregidor would be killed so he did the broadcast, but Gen. Homma never made any such threat. MacArthur from Melbourne sent a message to General Sharp that orders from Wainwright “have no validity” and he must do guerrilla operations. It is believed the men on Corregidor were indeed told for every day there was no surrender ten U.S. officers were to be executed yet it must be added neither Wainwright or MacArthur were disclosed that. The POWs were made to march through Manila, via Roxas Blvd past the University Club. From the train station they were taken to Cababatuan City in filthy boxcars the same as those from Bataan. In this time period, 4 U.S. merchant ships had been sunk in the Atlantic; 3 British destroyers were sunk in the Mediterranean Sea; Japanese victories had taken them to the edge of Australia; the Japanese received word from Germany’s sea raider *Thor* ONI is deciphering JN-25 code but the Japanese disregarded implications; the U.S. sank the first Japanese aircraft carrier; defenders on Malta were reinforced with 60 carrier planes; night baseball games in NY were cancelled; gasoline and sugar were rationed in America and in Los Angeles over 1,500,000 residents of Los Angeles were picking up sugar ration books at 277 elementary schools while some 7 million in N.Y.C. were beginning to get their sugar rations.

As you will read, war’s horrors became worse in the battle for the liberation of Manila. After the Americans landed in the Philippines, four from the 194th battalion were burnt to death on Palawan Island, with other prisoners, by the Japanese.

Today’s Maywood Bataan Day Organization (MBDO) observes history. It traces its roots back to the American Bataan Clan (ABC). The group from Maywood arose out of the anguish of mothers over the welfare of their sons who were lost at Bataan. Maywood Bataan Day Organization, originally was called Maywood Veterans Council—one company was from Baywood, Co “B”, near Chicago Illinois. Of the 89 men of Company “B” who left in 1941, only 43 would return from the war. After suffering through about



4 months, these family members decided to take matters into their own hands. Viola Heilig, mother of Sgt. Roger Heilig of Co. B of the 192nd Tank Battalion, was one of the founding mothers. Throughout the rest of the war, the ABC and another

group in Illinois, the Bataan Relief Organization, acted on behalf of the prisoners. In 1964, the Veterans Council made a great effort to contact all men and women who were prisoners to come and join Maywood in an event; 138 former POWs came.

In the Battle of Manila from February to March 1945, the U.S. Army and the Philippine Commonwealth Army advanced into the city of Manila to drive out the Japanese. Survivors of Bataan and others had just been rescued by Lt. Col. Henry Mucci's Rangers. Crashing thru the gates of Santo Tomas University, the 1st Cavalry Div. liberated prisoners as Gen. Yamashita had withdrawn east to the mountains. He concentrated his forces at Baguio City. He had earlier, during better times for the Japanese, declared that all male Filipinos, 14 years old and up, were "guerillas" and therefore had to be killed. The Navy forces did not go as they were not under his command, and despite instructions to withdraw once the city came under attack, they didn't. He had given no orders for any defense. In the night, they crossed the Pasig River and blew up all the bridges. During lulls in the battle for control of the city, Japanese troops, mainly fanatical Marines and seamen took out their anger and frustration on the civilians. Violent mutilations, rapes, and massacres occurred in schools, hospitals and convents, including San Juan de Dios Hospital, Santa Rosa College, Santo Domingo Church, Manila Cathedral, Paco Church, St. Paul's Convent, and St. Vincent de Paul Church. During battle, six of seven grand old churches in Intramuros fell to battle destruction conducted by both Japanese and American forces. Only San Augustin still stands.

One Japanese order read, "The Americans who have penetrated into Manila have about 1000 troops, and there are several thousand Filipino soldiers under the Commonwealth Army and the organized guerrillas. Even women and children have become guerrillas." At San Augustin Church, Jose Maria Zabaleta Sr. reported that "my father was killed by the Japanese, together with over a hundred Spaniards. They were marched from the church to be shot and bombarded with grenades. The next day, the Americans liberated the church and saved what was left of my family." Scores of people at the Philippine National Red Cross were massacred in the Ermita district; 1 of the 2 wealthiest districts in old Manila, the other is Malate. At the German Club, five Germans and 400 refugees including the family of former Ambassador to Spain Juan Rocha were murdered. Dr. Antonio Gisbert told of the murder of his father and brother at the Palacio del Gobernador, saying, "I am one of those few survivors, not more than 50 in all out of more than 3000 men herded into Fort Santiago." Fort Santiago is one of the most important historical sites in Manila and is next to Manila Cathedral, the Basilica and Metropolitan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Two days later, the men were massacred. By mid-February, the Philippine General Hospital is liberated, but pitifully many women by then had been raped and bayoneted. During the artillery fire

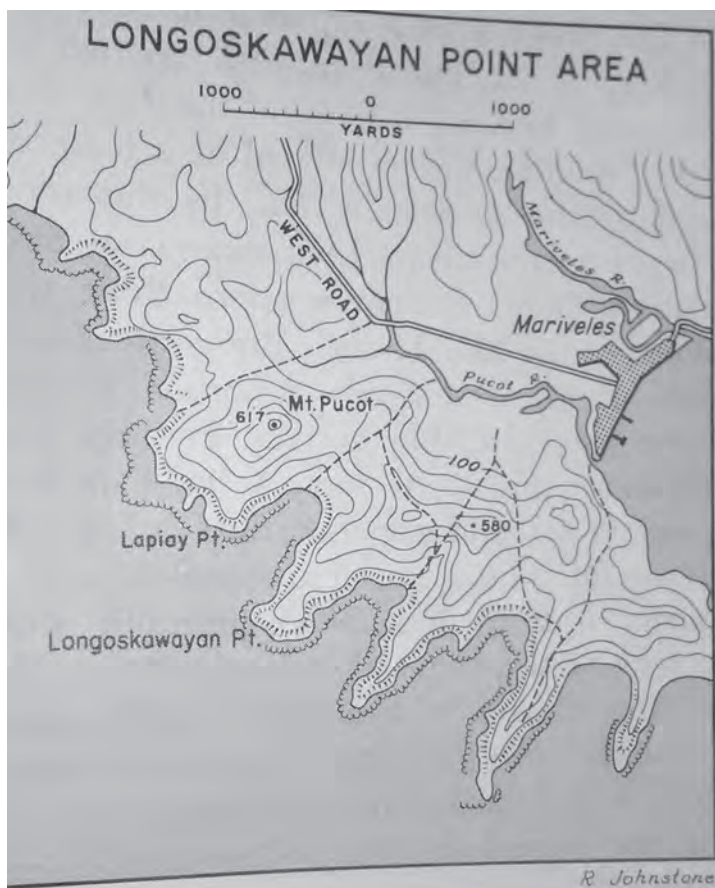
by Americans, the German sisters at Saint Scholastica's College, seeing a Piper Cub scouting in the air, were able to lie down on the ground to form the letters SOS and were saved. Still talked about until today are the brutal killings of 40 Christian Brothers and refugees at De La Salle College on Taft Avenue, some shot and others



bayoneted. The Bayview Hotel was used as a designated “rape center”. According to testimony at the Yamashita 1945 post-war crimes trial, witnesses related more horrors. As reported by Robert Cromie of the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, the trial was closed to the press and public, but he related a selection board of Japanese picked out the 25 most beautiful of 400 women and girls that were rounded up in Plaza Ferguson. These innocent women and girls, many of them 12 to 14 years old, were then taken to the Bayview hotel, where Japanese enlisted men and officers took turns raping them. About the same

time, the Japanese took 30 Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Filipino women to the Manila hotel and were also violated. The wife and four children of future President Elpidio Quirino were murdered in Ermita. Hundreds were slaughtered at Saint Paul's College. At San Marcelino Street, Vincentian priests were kept prisoners on the ground floor and finally marched out to the edge of the nearby *estero* and killed. The priests' bodies floated on the dirty stagnant water for several days. Prisoners at Fort Santiago were simply disposed of by burning them alive in their packed dungeons, after gasoline was poured over them. The outside world knew little of all the massacres in 1945. In the end, seeing the futility of their cause, Iwabuchi and his men committed suicide on Feb. 26. After MacArthur arrived in Manila, he called Manila “the most devastated city in the world, next to Warsaw.” The Japanese have never admitted their atrocities in the Philippines. The combined death toll of civilians for the battle of Manila was approximately 100,000, most of which was attributed to massacres by Japanese forces. Some historians, citing a higher civilian casualty rate for the entire battle, suggest that 100,000 up to more than 500,000 died as a result of the Manila massacre. Memorial services continue to be held each year. Annually in February, a day is set aside to remember the history of Manila at the Memorare monument in Intramuros, (Memorare-Manila 1945 Foundation.) The battle to defend Bataan has also grown in historical importance—in the presence and support of the Chicago area Filipino-American community. The beauty of liberation has its

interludes of horror and bitter struggles that historians should see that they are not forgotten in the annals of WW II. Today, Filipino-Americans are an important part of the MBDO and through their efforts, and attendance at the annual Maywood Baaton Day event, they are helping preserve not only the memory of the men of the 192nd, but also the incredible testimony of valor, sacrifice and brotherhood that the Filipinos showed in defending and also liberating the Philippines shoulder to shoulder with the Americans. A sad note is the number of lives paid to achieve the liberation. When the campaign on Luzon was declared ended on July 1, 1945, the American dead was 10,640 and the wounded was 36,550; 190,000 Japanese fought to the death. The Filipino dead over the entire war on all the islands easily tops over 825,000.





TICKET TO ARMISTICE

USE THIS TICKET, SAVE YOUR LIFE
YOU WILL BE KINDLY TREATED

Follow These Instructions:

1. Come towards our lines waving a white flag.
2. Strap your gun over your left shoulder muzzle down and pointed behind you.
3. Show this ticket to the sentry.
4. Any number of you may surrender with this one ticket.

JAPANESE ARMY HEADQUARTERS

投降票

此ノ票ヲ持ツモノハ投降者ナリ
投降者ヲ殺害スルヲ嚴禁ス

大日本軍司令官





Aging World War II veterans standing proud during the Parangal sa mga Bayani at the Capitol Grounds in Balanga City, Bataan

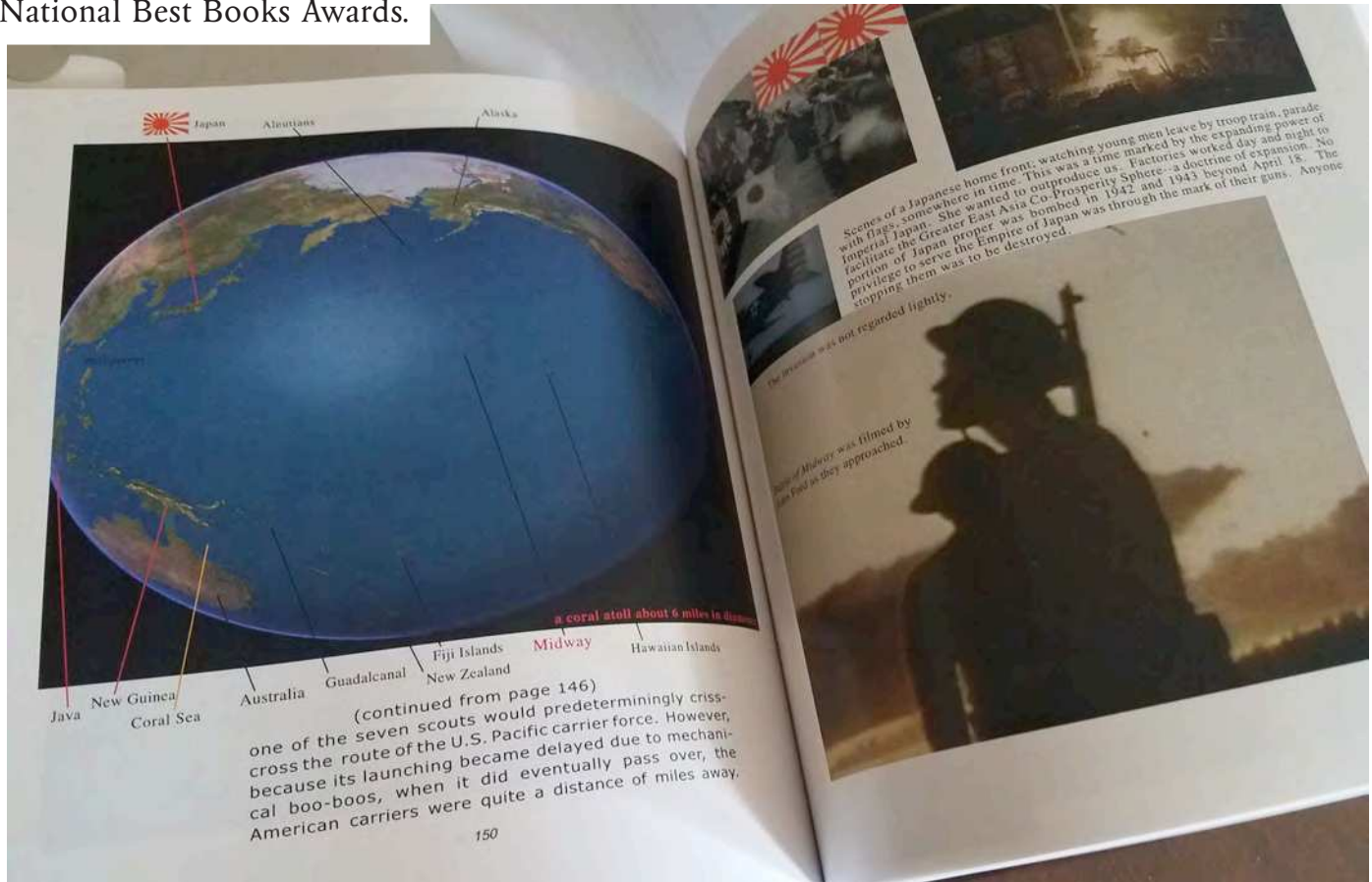


A sad end for the *America Star*, broken in 2 on the western African coast off Playa de Garcey. Shipwrecked in 1994, earned its place in history during the 1940s-1960s era, during its glory days aka SS *America*.



A world of inescapable war vignettes from Asia and the world, includes General Douglas MacArthur, (*top*) and (*above and the left*) the liberators. Downtown Honolulu (*bottom left prior page*), Hawaii is draped with sandbags for protection. Ticket is a paper dropped by the Japanese offering the fable of "good terms" if you surrendered. To its right is the feared secret Japanese police, the Kempeitai. Lieutenant Bulkeley receiving Medal of Honor from President Roosevelt.

Imperial Japan was rife with victories for half a year. Her conquests were far and wide during those first terrible 6 months of war since December 7th. Terrible for the Allies. Good for the Axis. Springtime also saw the Axis again on the march, particularly in central Europe and all over North Africa. After the Desert Fox (General Rommel) fine-tuned his Afrika Korps, it had seemed like if he too was unstoppable. You will find the march of war and how dark and gloomy things really were if you read a copy of *A Toast For You and Me, America's Participation, Sacrifice and Victory*, volume 2 by author Robert C. Valentine. This handsome 1942 volume has over 295 pages and was an Award-Winning Finalist in the History United States category of the National Best Books Awards.



The theme of Rommel's Afrika Korps was overwhelmingly tank strategies, for Rommel had no air superiority. Just think what he might have done had he had all the air support he wanted. But, the core of the Luftwaffe was based in central Europe and Germany. For over half of 1942, one must remember that in that part of the world, it was rich in German victories. At one point in history, you had oil fields in Africa in the hands of the Axis. And, German units were very close to the borders of Turkey and Iran, and people were reading in their newspapers that they were advancing midyear closer and closer through the Caucasus Mountains for more oilfields.



At the same time, Japan had indeed conquered all the rich oil fields of the Dutch East Indies. Their troops were near the border of India and were within earshot of the Himalayan Mountains. They were at the doorstep of Australia. Also, many Chinese cities were under control of Japan. Japan also had complete mastery of every port of China. They owned the once British ports of Hong Kong and Singapore. They owned the jewel of the Orient, Manila.

The Japanese Navy were masters of the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean and much of the western part of the Pacific. Things were still crummy and bad early June when along came the news to the world—great news—about 3 weeks before summer started. The scale of events was beginning to tip in favor of the Allies after a big sea battle did in fact take place in the Pacific in June of 1942, at a place called Midway. It is recounted in detail in the fine book *A Toast For You and Me, America's Participation, Sacrifice and Victory*, volume 2 with—we might add—some rare color photography from the battle.

These are pictures that were not colorized but taken in color at the time.

An entire chapter in the book is dedicated to this historic battle in a way no other book has ever been printed before, in America or in Great Britain. It is published in the U.S.A.



THE STORY OF DOOLITTLE'S RAID



"Now hear this. Army pilots, man your planes!"

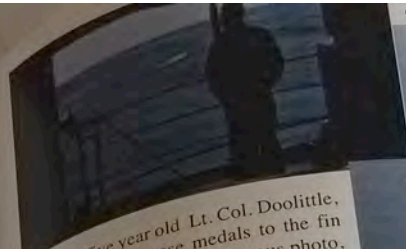
Three prisoners were picked up. However, two Americans were lost due to weather. All the bells and whistles blared aboard the *Hornet*. Sailors and airmen sprang into action. The seas were wild and choppy, the sky, grey and overcast. There was to be no take-off from a nice, rolling carrier deck. Secretly, the navy brass knew—from naval intelligence—that the Japanese had at their disposal 60 bombers from the 26th Air Flotilla that could fly out to meet the little armada, and attack as far as 600 miles out with no problem.

Halsey ordered the 27,000 ton carrier into the wind. The Pacific was not pacific. The sea was thrashing over her bow; wind blew at 25-30 knots. The *Hornet* was over 280 miles beyond 412, and that meant no chance of flying on to the safety of the secret landing bases inside China. There was one consolation: crazy winds helped the B-25s take off easier. All bombers comprising nearly fifteen tons using full flaps and full power slowly lifted into the wind, beginning around 8:20 a.m.

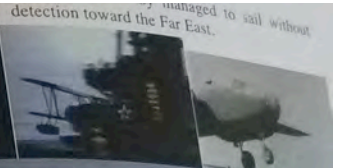
The night before had been super foggy. The fog was gone, now. Doolittle was flying the number-one aircraft and took off first. When he took off, the exuberance of confidence touched everyone again.

Jimmy Doolittle, dare-devil aviator, inventor, developed the first-high octane aviation fuel. The aeronautical engineer from MIT had won just about every aviation trophy available. When Doolittle's aircraft leapt into the air a few dozen feet before the end of the runway deck, all the sailors on the flight deck erupted with a loud cheer!

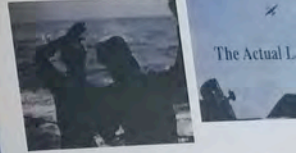
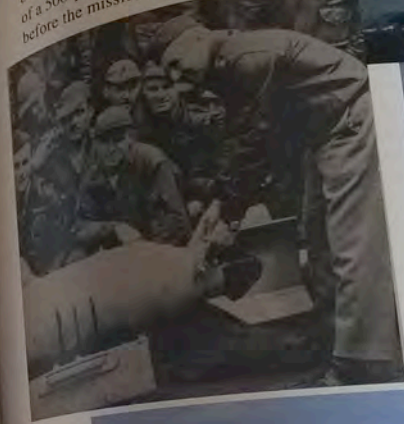
It took 1 hour for all 15 planes to take-off, circle, synchronize their magnetic compasses and fly west. Each B-25 had been specially modified to run at about 60 gallons per hour. Better than the standard B-25: 150-160 gallons/hour.



Forty-five year old Lt. Col. Doolittle, below, wires Japanese medals to the fin of a 500-pound bomb, in a famous photo, before the mission.



B-25 Mitchell bombers leave the deck of the USS Hornet toward the sea of the Pacific on April 18, 1942. Within 24 hours the first Americans lay dead in the Far East.



The Actual L

Eighty officers and men volunteered for a dangerous mission, for Japan. poor. Choppy seas. Several targets were successfully bombed. The very brave act was not a strategic victory.

Not did it end the war. Sabotage or the tactics of containment or psychological damages did not often result in enemy surrender; it rarely happened.

