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TO POTUS

Grant/Simon
A:Kilo-8.ts Draft five
December 4, 1991

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: WWII VETERANS AND FAMILIES
K-8 PIER, HONOLULU, HAWAII
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1991
9:50 A.M.**

[Acknowledgements]

I remember exactly when I first heard the news about Pearl Harbor -- as I'm sure all of you do, too. I was seventeen years old, walking across the green at school. My thoughts in those days didn't turn to world events, but mainly to simpler things: making the basketball team, entering college. That walk across campus marked an end of innocence for me.

When Americans heard the news, they froze in shock. But just as quickly we came together. I was swept up in it -- I became determined that very day. I wanted to be a Navy pilot.

And so, on my 18th birthday -- June 12, 1942 -- I was sworn into the Navy as a Seaman Second Class. Like all American kids back then, I wanted to fight for my country. I learned to fly torpedo bombers and land them on aircraft carriers. I was shocked at my first sight of Pearl Harbor in April of '44: we came into port on the carrier San Jacinto. Nearby, the Utah was still on her side, and parts of the Arizona still stood silent in the water. // Everywhere the skeletons of ships reached out, as if to demand remembrance -- and warn us of our own mortality. //

Heading out with Admiral Mitscher's Fleet, we quickly saw the face of battle -- we wrote letters to the families of crewmen who didn't return from bombing runs, and prayed for our buddies when their planes got hit. I lost friends. // We all did. //

check
OK
Don
Rhodes

20-22

Two thousand men died in a matter of minutes on this site, a half century ago. Many more died that same day as Japanese forces assaulted the Philippines, Guam, Wake Island, Midway Island, Malaya, Thailand, Singapore and Hong Kong. On that Day of Infamy, Pearl Harbor propelled each of us into a titanic contest for mankind's future. It galvanized the American spirit as never before / into a single-minded resolve that could produce only one thing: victory.

Churchill knew it as soon as he heard the news. He'd faced the Nazi conquest of Europe, the blitz of London, and the terror of the U-boats. But when America was attacked, he declared there was "no more doubt about the end." He knew then / that the American spirit would not fail the cause of freedom.

The next day, President Roosevelt proclaimed the singular American objective: "With confidence in our armed forces -- with the unbounding determination of our people -- we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God." // It was the steadfastness of the American people that would "win the war" and "win the peace that follows."

We triumphed in both, despite the fact that the American people did not want to be drawn into the conflict -- "the unsought war," it's been called. Ironically, isolationists gathered together at what was known in those days as an "America First" rally in Pittsburgh -- at precisely the moment the first Americans met early, violent deaths in Pearl Harbor. The isolationists failed to see that the seeds of Pearl Harbor were

sewn in 1919, when a victorious America decided that in the absence of a threatening enemy, we should turn all of our energies to domestic problems. That notion of isolationism flew escort for the bombers that attacked our men fifty years ago. //

Again, in 1945, some called for America's return to isolationism -- as if abandoning world leadership was the prerequisite for dealing with pressing matters back home. They were rudely awakened by the brutal reality of the Iron Curtain, the Soviet blockade of Berlin, and the communist invasion of South Korea.

Now we stand triumphant -- for the third time this century -- this time in the wake of the Cold War. As in 1919 and 1945, we face no enemy menacing our security. Yet we stand here today on the site of a tragedy spawned by isolationism. And it is here we must learn -- and this time avoid -- the dangers of today's isolationism and its economic accomplice, // protectionism. //

The fact is, this country has enjoyed its most lasting growth and security when we rejected isolationism in favor of engagement and leadership. Next month in Asia, I'll discuss with our Pacific friends and allies their responsibility to share with us the challenges and burdens of leadership in the post-Cold War world. Together, we will continue our efforts to promote free markets and free people. To do otherwise -- to believe that turning our backs on the world would improve our lot here at home -- is to ignore the tragic lessons of the 20th century. //

Fifty years ago, we paid a heavy price for complacency and overconfidence. That, too, is a lesson we shall never forget. But Pearl Harbor also proved the value of unity and the strength of America's resolve. The unity that made us invincible in war, now makes us secure in peace. To those who have defended our country -- from the shores of Guadalcanal to the hills of Korea; and from the jungles of Vietnam to the sands of Kuwait -- I say this: we will always remember. // We will always be prepared -- prepared to take on aggression, prepared to step forward in reconciliation, and prepared to secure the peace.

In remembering, it is important to come to grips with the past. No nation can fully understand itself or find its place in the world if it does not look with clear eyes at all the glories and disgraces of its past. We in the United States acknowledge a great injustice in our history: The internment of Americans of Japanese ancestry was such an injustice, and it will never be repeated. //

The values we hold dear as a Nation -- equality of opportunity, freedom of religion, speech, and assembly, free and vigorous elections -- are now revered by many Nations. Our greatest victory in World War II took place not on the field of battle, but in nations we once counted as foes. The ideals of democracy and liberty have triumphed in a world once threatened with conquest / by tyranny and despotism.

Today as we celebrate the world's evolution toward freedom, we commemorate democracy's fallen heroes -- the defenders of

freedom -- as well as the victims of dictatorship who never saw the light of liberty. // Earlier this year, when former adversaries joined us in the fight against aggression in the Persian Gulf, we affirmed the values cherished by the Heroes of the Harbor. In effect, we said to those entombed in the Arizona, and to all who have fallen for the sake of liberty: You did not die in vain. //

The friends I lost -- we all lost -- upheld a great and noble cause. Because of their sacrifice, the world now lives in greater freedom and peace than ever before. It is right that we are here today. // And it is right that we go on from here. //

Earlier this morning, I paid my respects at the Arizona, where it all began. Behind us stands the Missouri -- where it came to an end, where the Japanese signed the Articles of Surrender. But the Missouri was also the birthplace of democracy in Japan. Soon after, Emperor Hirohito went to call on General MacArthur, who noted that the Emperor had a "thorough grasp of the democratic concept ... He played a major role in the spiritual regeneration of Japan." Their meeting made history, and a hopeful future for Japan began to take shape.

I thought of that meeting with MacArthur when I attended the Emperor's funeral in 1989. I thought of it this morning, too, at the National Cemetery of the Pacific and the Arizona. As one who proudly served my country in World War II, I understand the anger that lingers to this day. But this morning I also thought about

Japan's rebirth and about her democracy. And I thought of Pearl Harbor as the birthplace of the new world order.

Recently a letter arrived from the son of a Pearl Harbor survivor, a Navy man named Bill Leu, who is here today. His son writes from his home, now in Tokyo, saying: "A half century ago, my father's thoughts were on surviving the attack and winning the war. He could not have envisioned a future where his son would study and work in Japan. But he recognizes that the world has changed, that America's challenges are different. [My father's] attitude represents that of the United States: Do your duty, and raise the next generation to do its."

I can understand Bill's feelings. The first time I came to Pearl Harbor, I was a cocky young Navy pilot who had never been in a war zone.

On my second visit, having faced death and been given another chance to live, I spent the time in Pearl thinking about the things that were important to me -- faith and family among them.

Today, I come as a grown man, a father and a grandfather. As you look back on life, and retrace the steps that made you the person you are, you pick out the defining moments, the crucial events. Over the years, Pearl Harbor still defines a part of who I am.

I come today also as President, to lead the Nation in honoring the last fifty years, its lessons and its heroes -- and to dream of the next fifty years, the Next American Century.

We must answer our call to destiny -- because it is America's destiny to lead, to strive -- to be "man's last best hope on Earth." Today we still dream of gaining "that inevitable triumph ... so help us God."

Today, we remember those we loved. We place our hearts' hopes in the generations that will follow. And we know -- as we knew fifty years ago -- that we will not fail.

God bless these United States of America. Thank you.

#

UNCLASSIFIED TELEFAX**COMMANDER IN CHIEF, U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND
(PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE)****CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025****Telecopier:** Commercial--(808) 477-6247; AUTOVON--(315) 421-6247**Voice:** Commercial--(808) 477-6480; AUTOVON--(315) 421-6480**Location:** Room 114, Wing 3A**Note:** • Machine is a Canon L920 (Automatic)

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FAX (808) 477-7819 located in USCINCPAC**Bridge Admin (J04), room 311****Date:** 5 Dec 91**Subject:** PEARL HARBOR 50TH EVENTS**Destination**
Telecopier: (202) 456-6218
(Phone number)**Number of Pages**
Transmitted: 5
(Excluding this cover sheet)**From:****Name:** Col J. L. LaRue**Office Symbol:** J033**Organization:** CINCPAC Protocol**Phone Number:** 477-6605**To:****Name:** Mr. Bob Simon**Office Symbol:****Organization:****Phone Number:****Remarks:**

Mr. Simon: Info forwarded for Mr. Lynn.

**ARIZONA MEMORIAL
PRELIMINARY TO AND AFTER
PRESIDENTIAL PARTICIPATION
7 DECEMBER 1991**

ARIZONA CEREMONY

- Pre-Ceremony music by CINCPACFLT Band
- 0700 - RADM Earner welcome remarks and introduction of band
- 0705 - CINCPACFLT Band begins pre-ceremony music
- 0715 - Admiral Larson, SECDEF, CJCS, RADM Lopez and Component CDRS depart Merry Point for Arizona Memorial
- 0727 - Admiral Larson and party arrive Arizona Memorial
- 0729 - Component CDRS and DVs seated, Admiral Larson introduced by RADM Earner (RADM Earner takes seat in audience)
 - (0730 - Presidential party arrives Merry Point Landing)
- 0730 - Master of Ceremony, Admiral Larson, commences program
- 0731:30 - Admiral Larson introduces Senator Daniel Inouye
- 0732 - Remarks by Senator Inouye (2 min)
- 0734 - Admiral Larson introduces Senator John S. McCain, III
- 0734:30 - Remarks by Senator McCain (2 min)
 - (0735 - Presidential barge departs Merry Point for Arizona)
 - (0736 - Press boat departs Merry Point for Arizona)
- 0736:30 - Admiral Larson introduces Representative E.V. Montgomery
- 0737 - Remarks by Rep. Montgomery (2 min)
- 0742 - Press boat arrives, debark and in position
- 0745 - Arrival of Presidential barge. Staff and guests precede President and Mrs. Bush to seats.
- 0855 - Floral Presentations

"Around the sides of this memorial are many wreaths placed here by the President, the Secretary of Defense, and various military, veteran, and patriotic organizations. In memory of those who died here at Pearl Harbor and their comrades who have since passed on. These include wreaths representing the Department of

Defense, Department of Interior, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard, the State of Hawaii, City and County of Honolulu. I will now call forward the National Park Service followed by representatives of the patriotic and veteran's organizations in alphabetical order to drop blossoms into the memorial well and onto the ocean waves."

"Representing the National Park Service,
Mr. James RIDENOUR"

"Representing the American Battleship Association,
Mr. David C. GRAHAM"

"Representing the American Gold Star Mothers,
Mrs. Winona L. TUCKER"

"Representing the American Legion,
Mr. Dominic D. DiFRANCISCO"

"Representing the American Legion Auxiliary,
Mrs. Margaret YANKOVICH"

"Representing the Arizona Memorial Museum Association,
Mr. Ansil L. SAUNDERS"

"Representing the American Veterans of World War II, Korea,
and Vietnam,
Mr. James L. SINGLER"

~~Mrs. Dorothy Bull, National President, AWWA Auxiliary~~
"Representing the China-Burma-India Veterans Association,
Lieutenant General Thomas M. REINZI, USA (Ret)"

"Representing the Department of Veteran's Affairs,
Lieutenant General Dwayne GRAY, USMC (Ret)"

"Representing the Disabled American Veterans,
Mr. Cleveland JORDAN"

"Representing the Fleet Reserve Association,
Mr. Wallace E. BAKER"

"Representing the 442nd Veterans Club,
Mr. Ronald OBA"

"Representing the Gold Star Wives of America,
Mrs. Jean M. FLAHARTY"

"Representing the Jewish War Veterans of the United States
of America,
Mr. Albert L. COHEN"

"Representing the Ladies Auxiliary Fleet Reserve,
Mrs. Virginia B. WILSON"

"Representing the Louisiana Naval War Memorial Commission,
USS KIDD,
Mrs. Stanley NAHILL"

"Representing the Military Order of the Purple Heart,
Mr. Joseph R. HEMS"

"Representing the Military Order of the World Wars,
Lieutenant Commander Richard C. SUTTON, USN (Ret)"

"Representing the National Society Colonial Dames XVII (17th)
Century,
Mrs. Joan PECK"

"Representing the National Society of the Daughters of the
American Revolution,
Mrs. Eldred MARTIN"

"Representing the Navy League of the United States,
Mr. Dwane P. BRENNEMAN"

"Representing the Pearl Harbor Attack Veterans,
Mr. Raymond KRAWLEC"

"Representing the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association,
~~Mr. Gerald A. GLAWATZ~~"

"Representing the Pacific Fleet Submarine Memorial
Association,
Mrs. Sally TANNER"

"Representing the Reserve Officers Association of the
United States,
~~Major General Evan L. HOLMAN~~ Col Wesley F. Fong

"Representing the RETired Officers Association of the
United States,
~~Admiral Thomas RIBBINE, USN (Ret)~~ CAPT EBENEZER F Porter
~~Admiral Thomas RIBBINE, USN (Ret)~~ ~~Admiral Thomas RIBBINE, USN (Ret)~~

"Representing the Supreme Cootiette Club of the United
States,
Ms. Judy N. WILSON"

"Representing the United States Navy Memorial Foundation,
~~Rear Admiral William THOMPSON, USN (Ret)~~
Rear Admiral Paul H. Howell (PA)

"Representing the USS WEST VIRGINIA Reunion Association,
Mr. Richard L. FISKE"

"Representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Mr. Robert E. WALLACE"

"Representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary,
Mrs. Joan M. SEARS"

KILO-8

Secretary & Mrs. Cheney
Secretary & Mrs. Lujan
Secretary Garrett
General & Mrs. Powell
General Mundy
18 Ambassadors (List of acceptees not firm yet)
Asst Sec Solomon (State)
ADM & Mrs. Larson
Mr. John W. Finn (Medal of Honor)
(Mrs. Alice Finn)
CAPT Donald K. Ross (Medal of Honor)
(Mrs. Ross)
SGT Maj Allan Kellogg, Jr. (Medal of Honor)
(Mrs. Kellogg)

ARIZONA VIPs

Gov & Mrs. Waihee

Secretary & Mrs. Cheney

Secretary & Mrs. Lujan

Senators Inouye

Hatfield

Garn

Exon

Heflin

Gramm

Lautenberg

McCain

Gorton

Akaka

Governors McWhorter (TN)

Walters (OK)

Representatives Montgomery

Hammerschmidt

Spence

Stump

Roth

Solarz

Skelton

Pease

Vucanovich

Guarini

Dorman

Dwyer

Echart

Kaptur

Ray

Mink

Abercrombie

Secretary Garrett (SECNAV)

General & Mrs. Powell

ADM & Mrs. Larson

Others: Mr. Glaubitz

CAPT Donald Ross, USN(Ret)

TP
F41

Doug Paal
NSC/EAP

11/15



Doug -

The attached piece
is a follow-up to other
more cultural/historical
references we have
given to Tony Snow and
co.

Hope it helps a bit -
Best,

Dave

United States Information Agency

November 8, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Robert A. Snow
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Communications and Director of
Speechwriting

FROM: USIA/EA - David Hitchcock *D/H*

SUBJECT: A Few Ideas for the Pearl Harbor Speech

At the risk of offering only the obvious, I would like to suggest a few possible messages for the President's Pearl Harbor speech that would be especially welcomed in Asia. To make it clear what we are driving at, especially with respect to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and elsewhere, some of the language below is in speech form:

1. We recognize East Asia as the most dynamic, fastest growing economic region - a dramatic success story.
2. US national interest in East Asia and the Pacific region is profound and will always continue because:

the Pacific Ocean washes upon our shores and islands - we are - and will always be - a Pacific nation (avoid "power" in this context).

our respective economies increasingly rely on each other: one third of America's total world trade is with East Asia and the Pacific. The key words for a prosperous future in the Pacific for us all will be: mutual dependence - or interdependence and cooperation.

the security of the American people - military and economic security - depends on regional stability and progress in Asia and the Pacific.

by the year 2040, there will be about twenty-four million Asian-Americans, enriching our culture and society and reinforcing ties of family and friendship across the Pacific.

3. A continued forward deployment of U.S. military power, increasingly in cooperation with our friends and allies in Asia and the Pacific, serves the interests of all countries in the region.
4. The expansion of American business in Asia - where many opportunities await - is as essential to our own future prosperity and security as it is to the growing economies of the region. We welcome - and we shall vigorously pursue - more liberal trade and investment regimes, through multilateral agreements and also through regional and bilateral consultation.
5. Fifty years ago, much of Asia was still in colonial hands. Poverty plagued most of the region, and political as well as individual freedoms were not widespread. The growth of democratic institutions and of respect for individual rights since 1941 has been almost as dramatic as Asia's economic successes.

With the rebirth of democratic institutions in Japan after the war, from Mongolia, South Korea and Taiwan in the North, to the Philippines, other Southeast Asian states and Papua New Guinea in the South - the spread of democracy and personal freedom continues. We look forward to the day when the peoples of China, North Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Burma can also enjoy the fruits of democracy and open economies.

Americans fully appreciate that the rich and ancient cultures, religions and histories of Asia's nations will influence in different ways how each country achieves the goal of fuller participation by all the people in their own government, how each strives to promote and protect the rights of the individual to fulfill his or her potential.

But we must be sure that there is agreement among us about a fundamental goal we should all be seeking: government of, by and for the people, with protection of the basic rights of the individual.

6. Fifty years ago, a terrible tragedy hit these shores, the Philippines, the nations of Southeast Asia, Australia and the Pacific Islands, following on the earlier occupation and invasion of Korea and China. (Note: specific mention of these countries/regions is necessary, since they were all attacked in succession; US Forces in the Philippines, which then included Filipino soldiers, actually were hit the same day - December 8, across the international dateline). We will always deeply cherish the memories of the fallen at Pearl Harbor and elsewhere in Hawaii. We will always remember those elsewhere in this vast region who also fell during these calamitous times.

Scholars have analyzed the political and economic factors that led to war in the 1930's and 40's. But, as we honor the dead today, let us ponder another major reason for that tragedy: the woeful lack of knowledge about each other's cultures, languages, hopes and fears - the almost total failure of communication.

7. Today, over 200,000 Asian students attend classes in American universities. The study of Asia's marvelously rich cultures is growing in the U.S. - but not fast enough. Americans still know far too little about an Asia that will directly influence their prosperity and daily lives. And Asians - even our friends in Australia and New Zealand - tend too often to think they understand us, because they are exposed to our popular culture. Let us all redouble our efforts - in America as well as in Asia and the Pacific - to build more bridges across these waters, and to study much more energetically what makes both sides of the Pacific so exciting and so successful.

And let us, as Americans, dedicate ourselves, our schools, universities and businesses, to close the information gap between America and our Asian neighbors.

Never again shall such ignorance and misunderstanding of each other lead to war!

Comment: Emphasis on the future, on the new chapter in history opening before us, on the future's golden promise for Asia and the U.S., should be the central theme of the President's speech, at least, so it seems to us. At the same time, the speech must obviously make the point that: we shall never ignore the past and those who sacrificed their lives for our country. The Charlotte Observer's July 18, 1991 editorial said it rather well:

"Fifty years ago, Japan, Germany and Italy were our enemies. Today, they are our allies. ... The past is not dead, nor should it be. But history, like a knife, can be a tool or a weapon. The wise nation not only remembers the past; it keeps those memories in perspective as it works to build a better future."

Bob Simon



November 8, 1991

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FROM: USIA/EA - David Hitchcock *D/H*

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 11/18/91

NOTE FOR: CHIEF OF STAFF, GENERAL SCOWCROFT
DAVE DEMAREST, TONY SNOW
The President has reviewed the attached, and it is
forwarded to you for your:

Information ☐

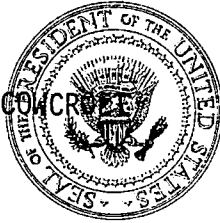
Action ☒

Thank you.

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
(x2702)

cc: Patty Presock

TO: JOHN SUNUNU/BRENT SCOWCROFT
DAVE DEMAREST/TONY SNOW



Pearl Harbor Speech

We must find the proper balance between "this day of infamy" and "looking forward" .

I can make some personal observations... we can use Roosevelt quotes and/or Ike or MacArthur but the speech should not be militant nor unforgiving.

Maybe , just maybe, we can mention what we learned about how we treat with our own citizens- loyal Americans interred because of race and because they were Japanese/Americans..

Do we treat respectfully with Japan's Emperor? Do we mention Hirohito's going to see MacArthur, thus reflecting his view that the war was behind them ? (I am inclined think we might want to mention them].

We must pay respect to those who lost their lives at Pearl Harbor and gave their lives in the pacific.

I would like to get suggestions from Armitage out in Japan.. Maybe Mike Mansfield as well

P.S. I call Mansfield 11-18. He will send suggestions.

CC: PATTY PRESOCK

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Grant/Simon
A:Kilo-8.ts Draft four
December 4, 1991

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: WWII VETERANS AND FAMILIES
K-8 PIER, HONOLULU, HAWAII
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1991
9:50 A.M.**

[Acknowledgements]

I remember exactly when I first heard the news about Pearl Harbor -- as I'm sure all of you do, too. I was seventeen years old, walking across the green at school. My thoughts in those days didn't turn to world events, but mainly to simpler things: making the basketball team, entering college. That walk across campus marked an end of innocence for me. Later reports described the attack as the instant "when the impossible happened, when warfare suddenly spread, for the first and only time in history, to virtually the whole world."

When Americans heard the news, they froze in shock. But just as quickly we came together. I was swept up in it -- I became determined that very day. I wanted to be a Navy pilot.

And so, on my 18th birthday, June 12, 1942, I was sworn into the Navy as a Seaman Second Class. Like all American kids back then, I wanted to fight for my country. I learned to fly ~~torpedo~~  Bombers and land them on aircraft carriers. I was shocked at my first sight of Pearl Harbor in April of '44: we came into port on the San Jacinto, and docked right behind the Essex. Nearby, the Utah was still on her side, and parts of the Arizona still stood silent in the water. Everywhere the skeletons of ships reached out, as if to demand remembrance -- and warn us of our own mortality.

Heading out with Admiral Mitscher's Fleet, we quickly saw the face of battle -- I wrote letters to the families of crewmen who didn't return from bombing runs, and I prayed for my buddies when their planes got hit. I lost friends. We all did. ✓

Two thousand men died in a matter of **minutes** on this site, a half century ago. Many more died that same day as Japanese forces assaulted the Philippines, Guam, Wake Island, Midway Island, Malaya, Thailand, Singapore and Hong Kong. The first blasts at Pearl Harbor annihilated our national illusions. They demonstrated to one and all the futility of isolationism, the stupidity of complacency, and the importance of preparedness. On that Day of Infamy, Pearl Harbor propelled each of us into a titanic contest for mankind's future. It galvanized the American spirit as never before into a single-minded resolve that could produce only one thing: victory.

Churchill knew it as soon as he heard the news ~~that night~~. He'd faced the blitz of London, the Fall of France, and the terror of the U-boats. But when America was attacked, he declared there was "no more doubt about the end." **He knew then that the American spirit would not fail the cause of freedom.** ✓

The next day, President Roosevelt proclaimed the singular American objective: "With confidence in our armed forces -- with the unbounding determination of our people -- we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God." It was the steadfastness of the American people that would "win the war" and "win the peace that follows." ✓

We triumphed in both, despite the fact that the American people did not want to be drawn into the conflict -- "the unsought war," it's been called. Ironically, isolationists gathered together at an "America First" rally in Pittsburgh at precisely the moment the first Americans met early, violent deaths in Pearl Harbor. The isolationists failed to see that the seeds of Pearl Harbor were sewn in 1919, when a victorious America decided that the absence of a threatening enemy allowed us to turn all of our energies to domestic problems. That earlier decision in favor of isolationism flew escort for the bombers that attacked our ships and men fifty years ago. ✓

Again, in 1945, America began drifting into isolationism -- as if abandoning world leadership was necessary to deal with pressing matters back home. We were rudely awakened by the brutal reality of the Iron Curtain, the Soviet blockade of Berlin, and the communist invasion of South Korea. ✓

For the third time this century, we stand triumphant -- this time from a Cold War fought not with bullets but with ideas. As in 1919 and 1945, we see no enemy menacing our immediate security and vital interests. Yet we ~~are standing~~ here today on the site of a tragedy spawned by isolationism. ~~And we have learned that~~ ^{here must} ~~— and this time avoid — the dangers of~~ ^{we must be wiser to today's} isolationism and its economic companion, protectionism.

The fact is, this country has experienced its most lasting growth and security in the half century during which we rejected insolationism in favor of engagement and leadership. To believe

that turning our backs on the world would improve our lot here at home is to ignore the ^{tragic} lessons of the 20th century.

Next month in Asia, I'll discuss with our Pacific friends and allies their responsibility to share with us the challenges and burdens of leadership in the post-Cold War world. We will discuss our economic and political responsibilities; our roles as trading partners and political allies. Together, we will continue our efforts to promote free markets and free people. S

Fifty years ago, we paid a heavy price for complacency and overconfidence. It is a lesson we shall never forget. In an unpredictable world, we will never know where our next enemy lurks. But we do know the absolute importance of employing 21st Century technologies to deal with 21st Century threats.

Pearl Harbor proved the value of unity and the strength of America's resolve. The unity that made us invincible in war, now makes us secure in peace. To the brave men and women who have defended our country -- from the shores of Guadalcanal, to the hills of Vietnam and Korea and the sands of Kuwait -- I say this: we will always remember. **We will always be prepared -- prepared to take on aggression, prepared to step forward in reconciliation, and prepared to secure the peace.**

← This line no longer fits here. It doesn't refer to anything.

In remembering, it is important to come to grips with the past. No nation can fully understand itself or find its place in the world if it does not look with clear eyes at all the glories and disgraces of its past. We in the United States acknowledge a great injustice in our history: that when the rights of any

individual are taken away -- even in time of war -- we are all threatened. **The internment of Americans of Japanese ancestry was such an injustice, and it will never be repeated.**

But despite the internment of their families, thousands of young men -- including Senator Inouye and the late Senator Matsunaga -- volunteered in the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team -- nicknamed "Go For Broke." In liberating dozens of French and Italian towns, they ultimately went on to become one of the most decorated units in U.S. Army history. Nowhere did mothers display their sons' gold stars more proudly than in the bleak surroundings of the internment camps. **We honor these heroes. We honor them by working to end the misunderstandings that separate one group from another.**

The values we cherish as a Nation -- equality of opportunity, freedom of religion, speech, and assembly, free and vigorous elections -- ~~have become~~ ^{are now} revered by many Nations. **Our greatest victory in World War II took place not on the field of battle, but in nations we once counted as foes. The ideals of democracy and liberty have triumphed in a world once threatened with conquest by tyranny and despotism.**

Who would have thought in 1941 that our mortal enemies -- Japan, Germany, and Italy -- would now stand with us, as strong allies, stalwart and progressive members of the community of free nations? **But the struggle for freedom is not complete.** We look forward to the day when all people can enjoy the freedom of democracy and enterprise. Throughout the Third World, we have

helped unlock the treasures of development and democracy.
Enduring security comes not through aggression, but through
shared values -- free people and free markets.

Today ^{as} we celebrate the world's evolution toward freedom, ~~as~~
we commemorate democracy's fallen heroes -- the defenders of
freedom -- as well as the victims of dictatorship who never saw
the light of liberty. Earlier this year, when former adversaries
joined us in the fight against aggression in the Persian Gulf, we
affirmed the values upheld by the Heroes of the Harbor. In
effect, we said to those entombed in the Arizona, and buried in
fields ^{around the world and} across our great land: **You did not die in vain.**

Earlier this morning, I paid my respects at the Arizona,
where it all began. Behind us stands the Missouri -- where it
came to an end, where the Japanese signed the Articles of
Surrender. But the Missouri was also the birthplace of democracy
in Japan. Soon after, Emperor Hirohito went to call on General
MacArthur, who noted that the Emperor had a "thorough grasp of
the democratic concept ... He played a major role in the
spiritual regeneration of Japan." Their meeting made history,
and a hopeful future for Japan began to take shape.

I thought of that meeting with MacArthur when I attended the
Emperor's funeral in 1989. I thought of it this morning, too, ~~as~~
^{at} I ~~visited~~ the National Cemetery of the Pacific and the Arizona.
^{AS one who} I ~~was proud to have~~ served my country, ^{in WW II,} ~~and~~ I understand the anger
that lingers to this day. But this morning I also thought about

Japan's rebirth and about her democracy. ^{And} I thought of Pearl Harbor as the birthplace of the new world order.

The friends I lost -- we all lost -- upheld a great and noble cause. Because of their sacrifice, the world now lives in greater freedom and peace than ever before. It is right that we are here today. And it is right that we go on from here.

The first time I came to Pearl Harbor, I was a cocky young Navy pilot who had never even been in a war zone. I had been trained to appreciate the gravity of war. I saw the wreckage here. But I had yet to really understand the horrors that awaited.

By my second visit, I wasn't much older, but I had certainly aged. I remember flying over the island, trying to imagine the scene that day three years earlier, when Japanese planes made their way through the mountain passes and swooped down upon the harbor. Having faced death and been given another chance to live, I spent the time in Pearl thinking about the things that were important to me -- faith and family among them. As you look back on life, and retrace the steps that made you the person you are, you pick out defining moments, crucial events. Over the years, Pearl Harbor still defines a part of who I am.

Today, I come as a grown man, a father and a grandfather. Recently a letter arrived from the son of a Pearl Harbor survivor, a Navy man named Bill Leu, who is here today. His son writes from his home in Tokyo: "A half century ago, my father's thoughts were on surviving the attack and winning the war. He

could not have envisioned a future where his son would study and work in Japan. But he recognizes that the world has changed, that America's challenges are different. [My father's] attitude represents that of the United States: Do your duty, and raise the next generation to do its."

I come today ^{also} as President, to lead the Nation in honoring the last fifty years, its lessons and its heroes -- and to dream of the next fifty years, the next generation, and the beginning of the Next American Century. We must answer our call to destiny -- because it is America's destiny to lead, to strive -- to be "man's last best hope on Earth." Today we ^{still} dream of gaining "that inevitable triumph ... so help us God."

Today, remembering those we loved and thinking about those in whom we place our hearts' hopes, we know -- as we knew then -- that we will not fail. God bless these United States of America. Thank you.

#

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December 2, 1991

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS WWII VETERANS AND FAMILIES
KILO EIGHT, HONOLULU, HAWAII
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1991
9:50 A.M.**

[Acknowledgements]

US News
+ WR

12-31-90

p. 26

I remember exactly when I first heard the news about Pearl Harbor -- as I'm sure all of you do, too. I was seventeen years old, walking across the yard in high school. My thoughts in those days didn't turn to world events, but mainly to simpler things: making the basketball team, entering college. That walk across campus marked an end of innocence for me, and someone later described the attack as the instant "when the impossible happened, when warfare suddenly spread, for the first and only time in history, to virtually the whole world."

TIME

12-2-91

P. 33

by
Otto Friedrich

When Americans heard the news, they froze in shock. But just as quickly we came together. I was swept up in it -- I became determined that very day. I wanted to be a Navy pilot.

LIFE

9/89

And so, on my 18th birthday, I was sworn into the Navy as a Seaman Second Class. Just a scared and nervous kid, learning how to fly the "low and slow" torpedo bombers ... I named my Grumman Avenger for Barbara. I was shocked at my first sight of Pearl Harbor in April of '44: we came into port on the San Jacinto, and docked right behind the Essex. Nearby, the Utah was still on her side, and parts of the Arizona still poked through the water. Everywhere the skeletons of ships reached out, as if to demand remembrance -- and warn us of our own mortality.

also "Flight
of the avenger"
p. 73

2

see San
Jacinto
history from
Navy
Dept.

Heading out with Admiral Mitscher's Fleet, we quickly saw the face of battle -- I wrote letters to the families of crewmen who didn't return from bombing runs, and I prayed for my buddies when their planes got hit. I lost friends. We all did.

The Pacific
War
1941-1945

Two

A thousand men died in a matter of minutes on this site, a half century ago. Many more died that same day as Japanese forces assaulted the Philippines, Guam, Wake Island, Midway Island, Malaya, Thailand, Singapore and Hong Kong. The first blasts at Pearl Harbor annihilated our national illusions. They demonstrated to one and all the futility of isolationism, the stupidity of complacency, and the importance of preparedness. In "the two hours that changed the world," Pearl Harbor propelled each of us into a titanic contest for mankind's future. It galvanized the American spirit as never before into a single-minded resolve that could produce only one thing: victory.

by
John
Costello

American
Heritage

11/89

Churchill knew it as soon as he heard the news that night. After the loss at Dunkirk, the Fall of France, the blitz of London, the scourge of the U-boats, he said that once America had been attacked, there was "no more doubt about the end." He knew then that the American spirit would not fail.

FDR
Declaration
of War
12-8-41

The next day, President Roosevelt proclaimed the singular American objective: "With confidence in our armed forces -- with the unbounding determination of our people -- we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God." It was the steadfastness

FDR
fireside
chat
12-9-41

of the American people that would "win the war" and "win the peace that follows."

American Heritage
11/89

We triumphed in both, despite the fact that the American people did not want to be drawn into the initial conflict -- "the unsought war," it's been called. Ironically, isolationists gathered together at an "America First" rally in Pittsburgh at precisely the moment that bombs here were sending Americans to early, violent deaths. **Before nightfall, our Nation discovered that isolationism really boils down to defeatism, defiant self-doubt -- it involves a childlike fear that evil will go away if we just avert our eyes.** You cannot defeat tyranny by avoiding it. You cannot meet the challenges of world leadership by retreating from the world. Fifty years after Pearl Harbor, we know that despite our two oceans, **no nation is an island.**

Those who call today for an "America First" isolationism, like those who rallied in Pittsburgh 50 years ago, don't see the danger -- military and economic -- that isolationism invites. As science and technology change, so do the means and methods of warfare. Sneak attacks -- from terrorists, military strongmen, and renegade nations bent on aggression -- now occupy our attention, just as superpower tensions did a couple of years ago. Events in the Persian Gulf, Yugoslavia, the Middle East and elsewhere prove that the post-Cold War world is a volatile place.

Isolationists also overlook the gains from engagement. The United States is a Pacific nation. Next month in Asia, I'll discuss with our Pacific allies their responsibility to share the burdens of leadership with us in the new world order. We will discuss our economic and political responsibilities; our roles as

trading partners and political allies. Together, we will continue our march to secure free markets and free people.

Doug McKinnon 703-695-8743

Fifty years ago, we paid a heavy price for complacency and overconfidence. We failed to make proper use of new radar technology that day in Pearl Harbor, and hundreds of people died for it. The people of Hawaii learned the hard way the importance of defense technologies. Today they stand at the forefront of developing the Strategic Defense Initiative, to protect America from future surprise attacks. In fact, this year's defense budget increased funding for SDI, and we have, for the first time, committed to deployment of a ballistic missile defense system. We will never know where our next enemy lurks. But we do know the absolute importance of employing 21st Century technologies to deal with the 21st Century world.

Pearl Harbor proved the value of unity and the strength of America's resolve. The unity that made us invincible in war, now makes us secure in peace. To the brave men and women who have defended our country -- in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama and the liberation of Kuwait -- I say this: we will always remember you -- with gratitude and with pride. **We will always be prepared -- prepared to take on aggression, prepared to step forward in reconciliation, and prepared to make peace.**

It is important to come to grips with the past. No nation can fully understand itself or find its place in the world if it does not look with clear eyes at all the glories and degradations of its past. We in the United States have come to realize the

great injustice in our history: that when the rights of any individual are taken away -- even in time of war -- we are all threatened. The internment of Americans of Japanese ancestry was a disgrace to America that will never be repeated.

But despite the internment of their families, thousands of young men -- including Senator Inouye and the late Senator Matsunaga -- volunteered in the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team -- nicknamed "Go For Broke." As one man put it, they placed duty before human rights. In liberating dozens of French and Italian towns, they ultimately went on what may be the most decorated unit in U.S. Army history. Nowhere did mothers display their sons' gold stars more proudly than in the bleak surroundings of the internment camps. We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude to this day, and we honor them by working to end the cultural misunderstanding that separates Japan and America. Those who use caricature and racial stereotypes for domestic political ends dishonor these proud Americans. //

The values we cherish as a Nation -- equality of opportunity, freedom of religion, speech and assembly, free and vigorous elections -- have become revered by many Nations. Our greatest victory in World War II took place not on the field of battle, but in nations we once counted as foes. The ideals of democracy and liberty have triumphed in a world once threatened with conquest by tyranny and despotism.

Who would have thought in 1941 that our mortal enemies -- Germany, Japan and Italy -- would now stand with us, as strong

Rafu
Shimpo
9-2-80

see
file

allies? Five decades ago we waged a war to banish the shadow of evil from the world, to let men and women of every country live in the bright light of liberty. Our victory was great -- and now Germany, Japan and Italy belong to the community of free nations.

But the struggle for freedom is not complete. We look forward to the day when the peoples of China, North Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Cuba and Burma can enjoy the freedom of democracy and open economies, and can experience the excitement of engagement in the community of free nations.

Economic security comes not through aggression but through shared values -- free people and free markets. Today we celebrate much of the world's evolution to democracy, as we commemorate its fallen heroes -- the defenders of freedom -- as well as the victims of dictatorship, who never saw the light of liberty. Earlier this year, when former enemies joined us in the fight against aggression in the Persian Gulf, they joined us to fight for the values upheld by the Heroes of the Harbor. Together, we said to those entombed in the Arizona, and buried in fields around our great land: You did not die in vain.

Earlier this morning, I paid my respects at the Arizona, where it all began. Behind us stands the Missouri -- where it ended, where the Japanese signed the Articles of Surrender. But the Missouri was also the birthplace of democracy in Japan. Soon after, Emperor Hirohito went to call on General MacArthur, who noted that the Emperor had a "more thorough grasp of the democratic concept than almost any [other] Japanese. He played a

Black
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Douglas
MacArthur

"Reminis-
cences"

p. 288

major role in the spiritual regeneration of Japan." Their meeting made history, and the postwar era began to take shape.

I thought of the meeting with MacArthur the day in 1989 when I attended the Emperor's funeral. I thought of it this morning, too, as I visited the National Cemetery and the Arizona. I was proud to have served my country, and I understand the anger that lingers to this day. But this morning I also thought about Japan's remarkable recovery and about her democracy. I thought of this as the birthplace of the new world order.

The friends I lost -- we all lost -- upheld a great cause. Because of their sacrifice, the world now lives in freedom and peace. It is right that we are here today. And it is right that we go on from here.

*5/1944
"Flight of
The Avenger"
p. 73
by Joe Hyams*

The first time I came to Pearl Harbor, I was a cocky young Navy pilot who had never even been in a war zone. I had been trained to appreciate the gravity of war. I saw the wreckage here. But I had yet to really understand the horrors that awaited.

*Oct. 1944
ibid p. 134-5*

By my second visit, I wasn't much older, but I had grown up fast. I remember flying over the island, trying to imagine the scene that day three years earlier, when Japanese planes made their way through the mountain passes and swooped down upon the harbor. Having faced death and been given another chance to live, I spent the time in Pearl thinking about the things that were important to me -- faith and family among them. As you look back on life, and retrace the steps that made you the person

you are, you pick out defining moments, crucial events. Over the years, Pearl Harbor still defines a part of who I am.

Today, I come as a grown man, a father and a grandfather. Recently a letter arrived from the son of a Pearl Harbor survivor, a Navy man named Bill Leu who is here today. His son writes from his home in Tokyo: "A half century ago, my father's thoughts were on surviving the attack and winning the war. He could not have envisioned a future where his son would study and work in Japan. But he recognizes that the world has changed, that America's challenges are different. ^[my father's] ~~His~~ attitude represents that of the United States: Do your duty, and raise the next generation to do its."

I come today as President, to lead the Nation in honoring the last fifty years, its lessons and its heroes -- and to dream of the next fifty years, the next generation, and the beginning of the Next American Century. We must answer our call to destiny -- because it is America's destiny to lead, to strive -- to be "man's last best hope on Earth." Today we dream of gaining "that inevitable triumph ... so help us God."

Today, remembering those we loved and thinking about those in whom we place our hearts' hopes, we know -- as we knew then -- that we will not fail. God bless these United States of America. Thank you.

#

see
letter
in
file

FDR
12-8-41

David Nicholas

home 219-422-4075

Oliver City ~~21~~ 405-787-5758 day
405-789-2595 night

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THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MILITARY HISTORY

from 3500 B.C. to the present

R. ERNEST DUPUY and TREVOR N. DUPUY

Revised Edition



1817

HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS: New York
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Mexico City, São Paulo, Sydney

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rine officers and men were killed and 876 wounded. Army losses were 226 killed and 396 wounded.

COMMENT. *The U.S. Pacific Fleet had been neutralized for at least a year to come. The fortuitous absence from Pearl Harbor of all 3 U.S. carriers of the fleet—Enterprise, Lexington, and Saratoga—alone prevented a major disaster from assuming the proportions of a national calamity. The issue of responsibility for the disaster has been controversial. However, both the U.S. Army Chief of Staff, General Marshall, and the U.S. Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Harold R. Stark, had sufficient information, as a result of U.S. breaking of Japanese codes, to realize that war was imminent, and to recognize that an attack on Pearl Harbor was a distinct possibility. They failed to satisfy themselves that their subordinates in Hawaii were sufficiently alert. On the other hand, those subordinates, Lieutenant General Walter C. Short and Admiral Husband E. Kimmel had been alerted; their failure to be ready was inexcusable. Both were relieved of their commands.*

1941, December 8–23. Wake Island. A gallant defense by U.S. Marines and Navy personnel under Major James Devereux and Commander Winfield Cunningham

repulsed one Japanese assault (December 11). A second assault overwhelmed the defenders.

1941, December 10. Guam. A Japanese landing quickly overwhelmed a handful of Marines and sailors.

Operations in Asia

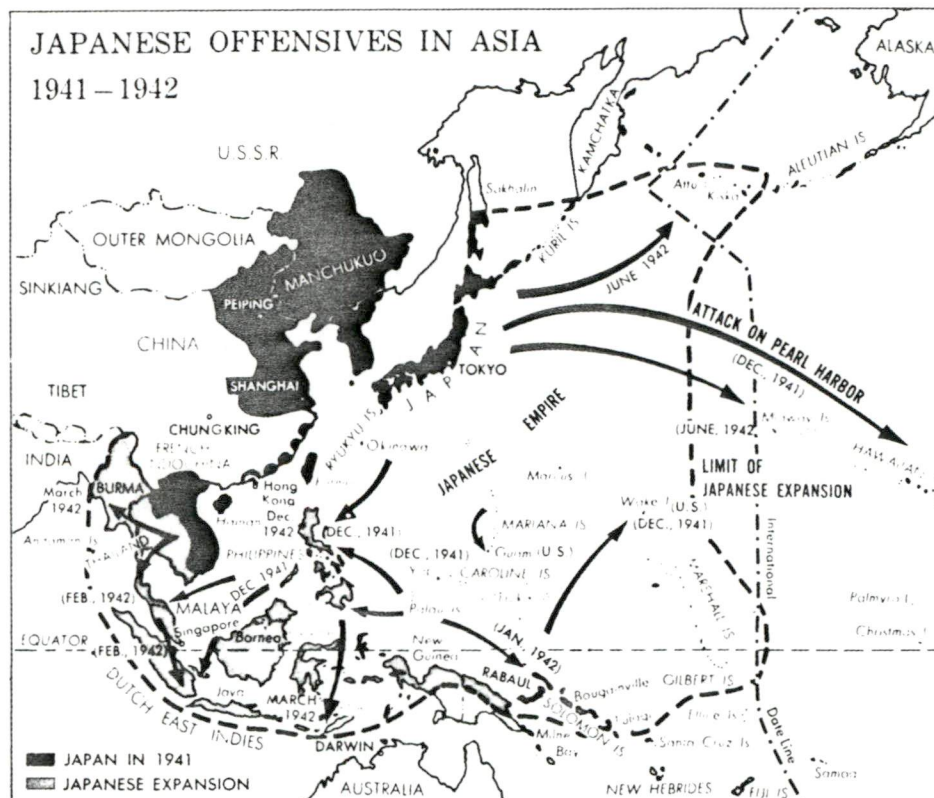
HONG KONG

1941, December 8–10.* Invasion of Kowloon. The Japanese 38th Division smashed its way through the mainland defenses of the Hong Kong Colony. The British withdrew to Hong Kong Island.

1941, December 13. Japanese Demand for Surrender. The British commander, Major General C. M. Maltby, rejected the Japanese surrender demand. Japanese artillery, air units, and naval forces began an intensive bombardment of Hong Kong.

1941, December 18–25. The Assault. Amphibious landings on Hong Kong Island were resisted desperately but vainly by the British.

* Note that events west of the International Date Line took place on December 8; that same day, east of the Date Line, was December 7.



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1941, December 25. Surrender. Out of water, and split into small pockets of resistance, the remnants of the 12,000-man British garrison surrendered. Japanese losses totaled fewer than 3,000.

MALAYA

1941, December 8. Invasion of Northern Malaya. Following intensive predawn air attacks against RAF bases in Malaya and Singapore, the Japanese Twenty-fifth Army, commanded by Lieutenant General **Tomoyuki Yamashita**, made amphibious landings at Kota Bharu, near the northeast tip of Malaya, and at nearby Simgora and Patani, at the very southern extremity of Thailand's Kra Isthmus. The invaders, some 100,000 in number, were in 3 divisions, with substantial reinforcements of tanks and artillery. They quickly moved southward, on both sides of the peninsula, sweeping aside relatively light British covering units in the north. The bulk of British forces—slightly more than 100,000 men, also in 3 divisions—had been deployed to meet an anticipated invasion attempt farther south, directed against the great fortress of Singapore. The British commander, Lieutenant General **A. E. Percival**, regrouped to meet the Japanese drives.

1941, December 10. Loss of the *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse*. Admiral Sir **Tom Phillips** had raced north (December 8) from Singapore with H.M. battleship

Prince of Wales, the battle cruiser *Repulse*, and a few destroyers, seeking to strike and destroy the amphibious armada supporting the Japanese invasion. The RAF, hard hit by Japanese bombings, was unable to provide air support or reconnaissance. Unable to find the Japanese vessels, the British ships were returning south along the Malayan coast, when struck by Japanese aircraft based in southern Indochina. In the subsequent surface-air battle, which raged for about an hour, both great British ships, hit frequently by bombs and torpedoes, sank with heavy loss of life. Survivors were rescued by destroyers. Save for 3 American aircraft carriers, this left the Allies with no remaining serviceable capital ships in the Pacific.

1941, December 10–31. Japanese Drive to Southern Malaya. British troops, unaccustomed to jungle fighting, plagued by serious equipment shortages, and without adequate air support, were rolled up, infiltrated, and pushed back by the well-equipped Japanese—veterans of combat in China and trained for jungle fighting on Hainan Island. British efforts to stop the advance were further discomfited by a number of small amphibious landings, made on both coasts of the peninsula, by Japanese troops using captured fishing vessels. As the year ended, the demoralized British were being driven back relentlessly upon Singapore itself, now a naval base without a naval force.

The Philippines

American Situation and Plan. American and Filipino ground forces in the islands, under General Douglas MacArthur, consisted of some 130,000 men—22,400 U.S. Regulars (including 12,000 Philippine Scouts), 3,000 Philippine Constabulary, and the Philippine Army, 107,000 strong, but only partly organized, trained, and armed. The major portion of this force was on the island of Luzon; other Filipino elements were on the islands of Cebu, the Visayas, and Mindanao. MacArthur's U.S. Far East Air Force, under Major General **Lewis H. Brereton**, comprised about 125 combat planes, including 35 new B-17 "Flying Fortresses." Most of Admiral **Thomas C. Hart**'s U.S. Asiatic Fleet (1 heavy and 2 light cruisers, 13 destroyers, 28 submarines, and other craft) was being withdrawn to Java by Navy Department order; 4 destroyers, the submarines, a squadron of flying boats, and a flotilla of motor torpedo boats remained, together with a regiment of Marines. The major portion of the ground-force strength—Major General **Jonathan M. Wainwright**'s North Luzon Force—was disposed north of Manila to dispute an expected invasion via Lingayen Gulf. Brigadier General **George M. Parker**'s smaller South Luzon Force was south of Manila. MacArthur proposed to meet invasion by counterattack on the ground together with a B-17 strike at Formosa. Last-ditch defense contemplated

withdrawal to the mountain jungle of the Bataan Peninsula, northern arm of Manila Bay, supported by the coast-defense complex at the bay mouth, with Corregidor its citadel. This eventuality had long been planned; the successful defense of the Philippines was predicated on the premise that the forces there would hold out until the U.S. Pacific Fleet opened the way for reinforcement.

Japanese Plans. These called for initial paralyzing air attack, mounted from Formosa and followed by amphibious assault by the Fourteenth Army under General Masaharu Homma (approximately 50,000 veteran troops). Discounting both the fidelity and the fighting capabilities of the Filipinos, a quick, easy victory was expected. The Japanese high command had allotted Homma 50 days to accomplish the task.

1941, November 27. Alert. With imminence of war with Japan evident to all, the U.S. and Philippine armed forces went on full war alert.

1941, December 8. Disaster at Clark Field.

Preceded by minor blows at northern Luzon airfields, the main Japanese aerial attack—108 twin-engined bombers and 34 fighter planes from Formosan bases—struck the Clark Field-Iba airdrome complex in the Manila area at 12:15 P.M., to find the major portion of the American air force grounded, their crews at lunch or servicing their planes. Japanese success was complete and devastating. Eighteen of the 35 B-17's, 56 fighters, and a number of other aircraft were destroyed, together with part of the installations; the 1 U.S. fighter squadron in the air, though it took some toll of the invaders, was almost wiped out. Only 7 Japanese fighters were shot down.

COMMENT. *Responsibility for this tactical surprise has never been definitely fixed. News of the Pearl Harbor disaster had reached Manila at 2:30 A.M. (8 A.M. December 7, Hawaiian time) and was confirmed 3 hours later. At 9:30 the northern Luzon airfields had been bombed. Brereton had received a phone call from General H. H. Arnold in Washington, warning him of a likely Japanese attack. Yet, despite knowledge that Japan had struck the first blow, MacArthur's intended B-17 counterblow on Formosa had not materialized and Brereton's planes lay like sitting ducks on their fields at 12:15 P.M.*

1941, December 10-20. First Landings on Luzon.

While Japanese bombers wrecked the naval base at Cavite, destroying ships, installations, and munitions, small amphibious landings were made at Aparri and Vigan, northern Luzon (December

10), and at Legaspi in the south (December 12). Air bases were established in the north, and planes transferred from Formosa. The remnants of the American air force were transferred to Mindanao; all remaining naval craft except the submarines and a flotilla of motor torpedo boats left for Java.

1941, December 20-31. Mindanao and Jolo.

Japanese units gained a toehold on the southernmost island, Mindanao, Philippine Army troops present withdrawing to the hills. The invaders later seized the island of Jolo (December 25). By these moves, air and naval bases were gained for further operations against the Dutch East Indies (see p. 1138). Homma's amphibious force entered Lingayen Gulf and began landing, covered by fighter planes operating from northern Luzon bases.

1941, December 22. Main Invasion of Luzon.

1941, December 23-31. Withdrawal. Driving in the partly trained Philippine Army units opposing them, the Japanese on Luzon advanced rapidly south. Only the gallantry and steadiness of the few American and Philippine Scout units saved Wainwright's troops from disaster as he withdrew in successive positions. In the south, an additional Japanese landing in force at Limon Bay (December 24) threatened the South Luzon Force. MacArthur, between the closing pincer jaws, decided on withdrawal into Bataan. Manila was declared an open city (December 26). A counterattack by rallied Philippine Army units, supported by Regulars, threw back Homma's spearheads long enough to permit the South Luzon Force to withdraw westward across the unfordable Pampanga River. Thus the year ended with MacArthur's troops safe on the Bataan side,

thanks to skillful training and excellent troop leading.

COMMENT. *Had MacArthur elected to defend Manila, as the Japanese expected him to do, his entire army would have been irrevocably lost. The Japanese could then have moved their troops southward to aid in seizing the entire Southern Resources Area. As it now stood, they were still confronted by a force in being, which would have to be conquered before the Manila Bay fortifications could be reduced and Manila converted to an advance base. Tactically, Homma had gained a victory; strategically, his campaign had just commenced.*

THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN, 1942

Strategy and Policy

1942, January–March. Struggle for the Malay Barrier. The year opened with Japan moving to victory on all fronts of her "Greater East-Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." The Dutch East Indies alone remained untouched. There the remnants of Allied forces in the Far East rallied briefly under a short-lived, extemporized command—ABDA (American-British-Dutch-Australian)—authorized at the Arcadia Conference in Washington (see p. 1081) and inaugurated under command of British General Sir Archibald Wavell (January 15). His mission was to hold the so-called "Malay Barrier" (the Southeast Asia peninsula, and the projecting island chain of the Netherlands East Indies and New Guinea to northern Australia), while American naval, air, and land forces held open lines of communication across the Pacific to Australia and New Zealand. Hopefully, if the Malay Barrier could be held, Japan would be denied vital raw materials of the Southern Resources Area essential to her war effort.

1942, March. Allied Reorganization. The fall of Malaya, Singapore, and the Dutch East Indies and Japanese successes in the Philippines and Burma caused the collapse of ABDACOM and forced the Allied Combined Chiefs of Staff to reorganize for a last-ditch attempt to hold their most "vital interests" in the Pacific and Asia, while still concentrating primarily against Ger-

many. Britain was to be strategically responsible for the operations in and near India and the Indian Ocean, the United States for the Pacific Ocean; China, under the supreme command of Chiang Kai-shek, was to be within the area of American strategic and logistical responsibility, with American Lieutenant General Joseph W. Stilwell to be Chiang's Chief of Staff. (Later, in July, for administrative reasons, the U.S. created the China-Burma-India Command, or Theater, under Stilwell's command, responsible for logistical and combat support to China, for control—under the British—of American and Chinese combat troops in India and Burma; Stilwell was thus simultaneously responsible to the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, to Chiang, and to the British commander in India.) The Pacific Theater was divided into two major commands. General MacArthur's Southwest Pacific Area included Australia, New Guinea, the Netherlands East Indies (save for Sumatra, within the British sphere), and the Philippines. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz' Pacific Ocean Areas included the remainder of the ocean, and was in turn divided into three major combat zones: North, Central, and South Pacific Areas.

1942, April–May. Revised Japanese Plan. The second phase of the original Japanese war plan (see p. 1127) had contemplated the consolidation of a defensive perimeter anchored on the mountainous Burma-India border in the west, and in northern New Guinea, the Bismarcks and Gilberts, Wake, and their own Pacific islands on the southeast and east. The ease and rapidity of their first phase conquests, including the seizure of all of the planned island outposts, led them to plan an extension of the perimeter in the central and south Pacific: to seize Midway Island as a base from which to harass Hawaii, and southern New Guinea and the southern Solomon Islands as bases from which to harass Australia and to interfere with the Allied trans-Pacific supply routes from the U.S. and the Panama Canal. Furthermore, they felt that this extension of their perimeter would still further increase the magnitude of any Allied efforts to recover the conquered regions.

1942, May–August. Stemming the Japanese Tide. The failure of the Japanese to gain

a victory in the drawn naval Battle of the Coral Sea (see p. 1145), their decisive defeat at the Battle of Midway (see p. 1146), and the repulse of their offensive in southern New Guinea (see p. 1141) prevented the Japanese from achieving any of the new objectives of their revised war plan, save for unopposed occupation of bases in the southern Solomon Islands.

1942, August–December. Limited Allied Offensives. Exploiting their first important successes of the Pacific War, the Allies began local offensives in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. Since most Allied resources were earmarked for defeat of Germany (see p. 1081), these offensives were limited in scope and objectives, intended primarily to reduce Japanese threats to Allied lines of communication, to seize bases suitable for subsequent offensives, and to subject the Japanese to a war of attrition which they could not afford.

Land and Air Operations in Asia

MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

1942, January 1–31. British Defeat on the Peninsula. Completely outfought and outmaneuvered by Japanese infiltrating and flanking attacks, supported by overwhelming air power, British troops were rapidly forced back to the so-called Johore Line, some 25 miles north of Singapore.

BURMA

Land Operations

Simultaneously with the various offensives begun on December 8, 1941, the Fifteenth Japanese Army quietly occupied Thailand. While the main body prepared for an overland invasion of Burma, a detachment seized an air base at Victoria Point, at Burma's southernmost tip, to cut the British air line of communications from India to Malaya (December 23).

1942, January 12–29. Invasion. Lieutenant General Shojiro Iida's Fifteenth Army (initially 2 reinforced divisions, with heavy air support) began a westward advance on Moulmein and Tavoy from Thailand. The Japanese were accompanied by a small group of Burmese revolutionaries, who had been promised Burma's independence from Britain. In subsequent months, Aung San and his "Thirty Comrades" had some success in inciting

This was breached (January 15) and the defenders forced back (January 31) into the island fortress, separated from the mainland by the narrow Strait of Johore—less than a mile wide and bridged by a causeway which the British partly demolished behind them.

1942, February 8–15. Conquest of Singapore. Japanese assaults followed a protracted air bombardment; crossings in armored barges were covered by intense artillery and machine-gun fire. British counterattacks were broken up by dive bombers. Tanks began moving across the causeway, which Japanese engineers had repaired, and despite foot-by-foot resistance the city's reservoirs were captured. The 70,000-man garrison thereupon surrendered unconditionally (February 15). Total casualties were 138,700 British (mostly prisoners) and 9,824 Japanese.

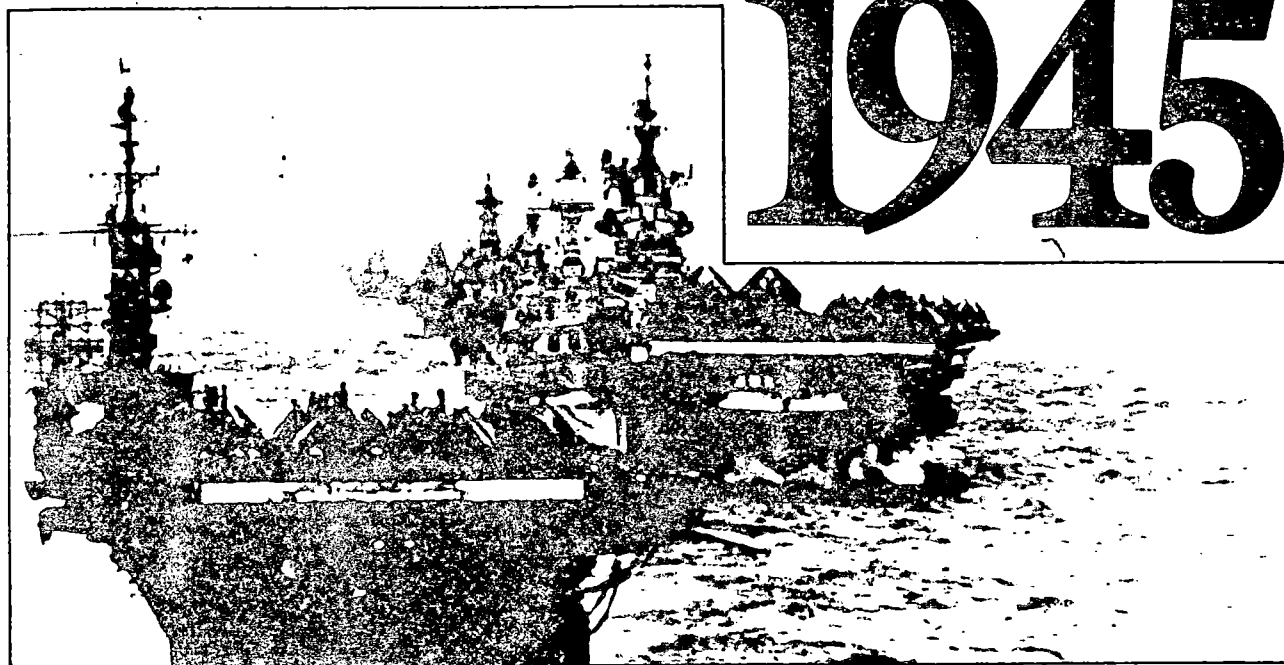
COMMENT. Two unpardonable deficiencies brought about the fall of this so-called impregnable fortress-naval base: its fixed defenses and artillery were sited to repel naval attack only, and its field forces were shockingly ignorant of the terrain and of jungle fighting. The first was due to poor judgment, the second to inferior preparation and leadership. The high quality of Japanese planning and leadership, evident throughout, was clearly demonstrated by the availability of armored amphibious barges for the final assault across the Strait of Johore.

minor uprisings against the British and in sabotage behind the British lines.

1942, January 30–31. Battle of Moulmein. Lieutenant General Thomas Hutton's British forces in Burma (the equivalent of 2 small, ill-equipped divisions of British, Burmese, and Indian troops) were surprised, then driven out of Moulmein with heavy losses and forced to withdraw across the Salween.

1942, February 18–23. Battle of the Sittang.

THE PACIFIC WAR 1941- 1945



The first comprehensive
one-volume account of the
causes and conduct of
World War II in the Pacific

John Costello

cisco, the Philippines, and Hawaii: "JUST WHAT SIGNIFICANCE THE HOUR SET MAY HAVE WE DO NOT KNOW BUT BE ON THE ALERT ACCORDINGLY."

Admiral Stark approved that the cable be headed "INFORM NAVY," but Marshall turned down the offer to send the warning by naval radio. The general had not been told that the Army cable line to Oahu was out of order. The duty officer had to route it by commercial Western Union office—without a PRIORITY stamp, it would take over six hours to reach General Short at Fort Shafter.

The final Magic delivery to the Secretary of State interrupted his conference with Frank Knox and Henry Stimson to prepare a presidential draft asking Congress to declare war in the anticipation of the attack on Siam and Malaya. The news of the 1 P.M. deadline confirmed their fears that there might be "something hanging in the air."

Pearl Harbor Strike Force 05.30 hrs.

Ahead of the main striking force, now less than 200 miles north of Oahu, the seaplanes were launched from the cruisers *Tone* and *Chikuma* on Nagumo's orders to make a predawn reconnaissance of both Pearl Harbor and Lahaina anchorage. The spray was sweeping over the lurching flight decks as the crew wrestled to hold down the rows of attack planes being ranged for takeoff while their pilots, gunners, and bombardiers scrambled aboard.

North Malayan Coast (11:45 Singapore Time) 05.45 hrs.

The most southerly of General Yamashita's three invasion forces, carrying the 56th Infantry Regiment, arrived on the beach at Kota Bharu at the mouth of the Kelantan River. Four escorting destroyers and a light cruiser began a bombardment of the pillboxes and defenses manned by the 9th Indian Army Division. In pouring rain and rough seas, the first of more than 5,000 Japanese troops started splashing ashore under heavy cross fire.

Singapore (midnight) 06.00 hrs.

"Someone's opened fire," a voice came down the telephone at RAF headquarters, requesting permission to scramble the aircraft at Kota Bharu base. "Go for the transports, you bloody fools!" he was told. Hudsons began taking off for a sporadic series of attacks that set one transport ablaze but did not halt the landing. General Percival was now at headquarters telephoning the Governor. "Well, I suppose you'll shove the little men off," a sleepy Sir Shenton Thomas retorted, before calling the chief of police to round up all local Japanese. Two hours later, the "little men" had pushed back the defenders at Kota Bharu to secure the first invasion beachhead of Japan's new empire.

Pearl Harbor Strike Force 06.00 hrs.

The Imperial Navy battle ensign was broken out above Togo's famous Z pendant signal flying at the *Akagi's* masthead, as Commander Fuchida

Commander Mitsuo
Admiral Nagumo. As
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Kahuku Point, Oahu 07.02 hrs.

Atop the northernmost promontory of the island, the two-man crew of the mobile Army radar unit at Opana would already have switched their set off if the breakfast truck had arrived on time. Now Private George E. Elliot, the plotter, was amazed to witness "something completely out of the ordinary on the radar screen." Private Joseph Lockard's check revealed nothing malfunctioning, so they began plotting the progress of the fluttering green blips, indicating a huge flight of aircraft approaching from 37 miles to the north. Urgent telephone calls to Army headquarters at Fort Shafter resulted in the duty pilot's blunt reply: "Don't worry about it." The pilot confidently assumed that the blips must be the expected incoming flight of B-17s from the West Coast.

Washington (1:00 P.M.) 07.30 hrs.

As the deadline for the delivery of Tokyo's final message to the U.S. government arrived, Ambassador Nomura was still awaiting the typing of a fine copy. His aide telephoned the State Department to apologize and put back his appointment by half an hour.

Tokyo (3:00 A.M.) 07.30 hrs.

The Japanese foreign minister, Togo, reached the Imperial Palace and waited while the Emperor was roused to receive the appeal from President Roosevelt. Hirohito dictated a formal response, knowing that it was too late to halt the Japanese war machine.

Kra Peninsula, Thailand (1:30 A.M.) 07.30 hrs.

Fourteen transports carrying General Yamashita's main landing force dropped anchor off Singora Beach. Without a shot being fired, the assault waves landed easily in spite of the rough water. Colonel Tsuji's special unit arrived by rickshaw at the Japanese Consulate. Pounding on the gate finally awakened the fat official, who greeted them drunkenly: "Ah! The Japanese Army." He drove them to the local police headquarters, where they hoped with a 100,000 tical bribe to enlist support and uniforms to sneak a busload of Japanese soldiers in disguise through to the British lines across the frontier. The Thai police greeted the Japanese call: "Ally with us and attack the British Army," with bullets. Tsuji's "dream plan" had collapsed, but it made little difference to the fate of Singora and Patani. Yamashita's forces quickly overwhelmed the few Thai Army units. Within hours, resistance was "suspended for the time being" on orders from Bangkok.

Off Oahu 07.35 hrs.

The reconnaissance seaplanes from the Japanese cruisers remained undetected and radio reports signified that the Pacific Fleet was still in Pearl Harbor. A local Hawaiian radio station forecast was picked up by Fuchida's command plane, promising a warm, clear, and sunny day. Moments later he was rewarded with his first glimpse of the island's terrain, so familiar to him from maps and photographs. "All of a sudden

"A DATE WHICH WILL LIVE IN INFAMY"

triumphed over his willingness to grasp a much greater strategic prize. "To remain within range of enemy land based planes was distinctly to our disadvantage," he reasoned, as he ordered a withdrawal to the Marshalls—a decision for which he was later criticized.

Tokyo (7:00 A.M.) 11.30 hrs.

The Japanese nation first learned they were at war from the Tokyo radio, NHK, as announcer Morio Tateno opened the early morning bulletin with the urgent news: "The Army and Navy divisions of the Imperial Headquarters jointly announced at six o'clock this morning, December 8, that the Imperial Army and Navy forces have begun hostilities against the American and British forces in the Pacific at dawn today." The Prime Minister was later to make a sober broadcast telling the nation to put all their energies into defeating the Western powers: "To annihilate this enemy and to establish a stable new order in East Asia, the nation must necessarily anticipate a long war. . . ." Later that morning trumpets preceded the reading of the Imperial War Proclamation that "the task bequeathed by Our Forefathers will be carried forward, and that the source of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace immutably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of our Empire."

Singapore (5:00 A.M.) 11.30 hrs.

Just as news of Japan's attack was being broadcast to 120 million people in the United States, the air-raid sirens were wailing over Singapore. Searchlights probed the dark sky as the enemy bomber pilots homed in onto the city because the official could not be located in time to switch off the street lights. Antiaircraft fire erupted around the Changi naval base, and from the *Prince of Wales* and the *Repulse*; but most of the bombs fell on Chinatown, killing sixty-one people.

Guam Island (8:27 A.M.) 12.57 hrs.

Japanese naval bombers were raiding the island from their base in Saipan, 100 miles away. The five hundred-odd sailors and Marines of the garrison had nothing but machine guns and pistols. The bombs destroyed the Marine barracks; the U.S.S. *Penguin* sank in Apia Harbor, leaving only two old patrol craft and an oiler in "Guam's Navy" to repel the invasion force whose four destroyers had already sailed from Hashirajima in the Inland Sea four days earlier.

Wake Island (12:00 P.M.) 13.00 hrs.

Just before midday, thirty-six Japanese bombers setting out from Roi in the Marshalls flew in out of a rain squall to bomb and strafe the most heavily defended U.S. atoll in the Pacific. Lacking a radar set, the island garrison had only fifteen seconds warning—no time for the antiaircraft gunners or Marine fighters, recently delivered by the *Enterprise*, to scramble into action before the bombing and strafing. Explosions destroyed seven of their precious fighters as fires consumed the large gasoline-

storage tank. Twelve Marines died, along with six members of the staff of the Pan Am hotel. As the Japanese turned tail for home, one Marine noticed: "The pilots in every one of the planes was grinning wildly. Every one wiggled his wings to signify Banzai." Pan Am's big flying boat *Philippine Clipper*, which escaped with only twenty-three bullet holes, took off with seventy airline personnel and the wounded from Wake. As Captain Hamilton piloted his course northeast, he radioed back that a Japanese cruiser and destroyers were over the horizon heading for Wake.

Manila, Philippines (7:15 A.M.) 13.45 hrs.

General Brereton unsuccessfully tried again to get MacArthur's permission to send an air reconnaissance mission to Formosa, after General Arnold phoned from Washington, telling him not to get caught in a repetition of Pearl Harbor with his bombers grounded. Then when one of the island's only two working radars at Iba airfield 85 miles north of Manila reported unidentified aircraft approaching, he scrambled thirty-six P-40 fighters and all but one of the B-17s. All the fighters were recalled after this was found to be a false alarm, but the B-17s were left to circle aimlessly. MacArthur cabled Washington, "our tails are up in the air," as his Chief of Staff telephoned Brereton to deny his request to launch an air strike against Formosa "for the present."

Hong Kong (8:00 A.M.) 14.00 hrs.

The Japanese attack against Britain's colony in China began with a raid by thirty-five dive bombers. One group hurtled in over Kowloon on the mainland, leaving the garrison's five planes smoking ruins, as another unit dived in over the harbor, shooting up seven civil planes, including the Pan Am *Hong Kong Clipper*, which roared up in a sheet of flame. Britain had long ago decided not to defend Hong Kong. Major General C. M. Maltby, the garrison's commander, had war orders directing him only to hold out for "as long as possible" with six battalions of Indian and Canadian infantry and twenty-eight field guns of the Singapore and Hong Kong Artillery. His naval force consisted of an ancient destroyer and eight motor torpedo boats, but Maltby hoped to be able to fight a delaying action of "a week to ten days" with his meager forces holding mainland defenses above Kowloon known as the Gedrinker's Line. Six Japanese infantry battalions were already moving into the attack from China, undeterred by the blown bridges and the small British advance force of a Bren gun carrier and a handful of armored cars.

Manila, Philippines (9:00 A.M.) 15.00 hrs.

Thirty-two Japanese Army bombers that had managed to take off in spite of the weather opened the bombing on the Baguio and Tuguegarao airfields in northern Luzon. The fog had by now lifted in Formosa, permitting 192 planes of the Navy's 11th Air Fleet to take off for their 300-mile flight to the Philippines.

"A DATE WHICH WILL LIVE IN INFAMY"

warships. Adjourning for lunch, he signaled the Admiralty of his intentions and requested Air Vice Marshal Pulford, the RAF commander, for:

- A. Reconnaissance 100 miles north of Ford daylight 9th December.
- B. Reconnaissance 100 miles midpoint Singora 10 miles from coast starting first light 10 December.
- C. Fighter protection off Singora at daylight 10th December.

But the battle raging on the Japanese beachhead in northern Malay was already making this request impossible, five hours before Force Z was due to put to sea.

Kota Bharu (4 P.M.) 22.00 hrs.

The counterattacks against the Japanese beachhead had failed, and stray bullets whistling across the Kelantan River over the airfield perimeter prompted the Australian commander to request permission from Singapore to evacuate his remaining planes 150 miles south to Kuantan. Ground personnel joined the stream of evacuees leaving the town as the surviving Indian troops were concentrated for a final stand that night.

Singapore (5:35 P.M.) 23.35 hrs.

The sun was sinking over the great colonial city as the *Prince of Wales* and the *Repulse* slipped their moorings and steamed slowly out of the Johore Channel. For the few witnessing their departure, it was a visible manifestation of the Governor's Order of the Day, posted in English, Malay, and Chinese: "We are ready; we have plenty of warning and our preparations have been made and tested. . . . We are confident." Not nearly so confident, Admiral Layton watched Force Z sail with the foreboding that he had seen the last of the aggressive admiral who had been sent out to relieve him. Already Tom Phillips's uneasiness about his mission was showing as he told the flag captain on the bridge of the *Prince of Wales* steaming out into the open sea: "I'm not sure that Pulford realizes the importance I attach to fighter cover over Singora on the tenth." Below decks, however, none of this uneasiness had filtered through to the more than 2,000 men, glad to be leaving the stifling heat of the harbor and eager for action. That afternoon they had loudly cheered Captain Tennant of the *Repulse* when he told them, "We are off to look for trouble."

Midway Island (10:31 P.M.) 00.31 hrs. Monday, December 8

The moonlit beauty of a tranquil ocean night was shattered by orange gunflashes and shells crashing into the sandy shores of the atoll that was America's fixed aircraft carrier in mid-Pacific. The Japanese destroyers *Ushio* and *Sazanami* had been designated the Midway Destruction Force, but that night's operation, in which they exchanged shells with the shore

THE PACIFIC WAR

batteries setting a hangar ablaze and killing a Marine officer, was just a nuisance raid.

Darkness now enclosed the Pacific Ocean, which had become the world's greatest theater of war. San Francisco and Los Angeles were blacked out and that evening had seen jumpy nerves and defenses tested by an air-raid alarm following reported sightings of Japanese carriers off the coast. Across in Oahu, rescue work was feverishly going on to release the men trapped in the *Oklahoma*. At lonely Wake Island the Marine garrison was manning its artillery battery, expecting an attack. On Guam, with no heavy guns to defend them, the night was another long vigil of courageous despair. In Manila, General MacArthur and his commanders were taking stock of the day's military disaster and wondering how they could now repel an invasion on the beachheads without air support. In Hong Kong, the men of the Volunteer Defense Corps drawn from the business community were preparing for the battle.

That evening, a final blow fell on what slim hopes remained that Britain and America might be able to check the flood of Japan's rising tide of conquest in the Far East. The last two Allied battleships afloat in the western Pacific were in line ahead at a steady 17 knots on a northeasterly course. Already 100 miles from Singapore and heading out into the South China Sea, they picked up an urgent signal from the Changi radio station: "FIGHTER PROTECTION ON WEDNESDAY TENTH WILL NOT REPEAT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE." Admiral Phillips's yeoman was soon back with another signal telling him that the only reconnaissance possible the next day would be a single PBY Catalina flying boat mission. A more experienced commander might have realized then and there that his mission was impossible. To "Napoleon" Phillips, retreat was just not in the Royal Navy tradition. "Well," he said resignedly before retiring to his quarters, "we must get on with it."

On that first night of global war, following the day's unmitigated disaster, only the British Prime Minister retired content, relieved to know that the United States was henceforth fighting alongside as a full Ally. "Being saturated and satiated with emotion and sensation, I went to bed and slept the sleep of the saved and thankful."

FLIGHT OF THE "AVENGER"

George Bush at War

Joe Hyams

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers

SAN DIEGO NEW YORK LONDON

While the crew was on shore leave, the ship took on fifteen hundred army troops and all their equipment. By the time she set sail again, her original complement had been doubled. Most of the army men slept with their vehicles on the hangar deck.

The *San Jac* stopped at San Diego before heading out for Pearl Harbor. It was while the carrier was en route that Bush met Frank Paoletti AMM 2/c, who was to be his plane captain (responsible for all of his airplane's maintenance) for the next eleven months. Paoletti, who was ten years older than Bush, came from Lodi, California, where he worked in a mill making slats for pencils.

Paoletti recalls that on the way to Pearl Harbor he was told he had been assigned as an "Airedale"—one pilot/one dog taking care of one plane—to torpedo plane 2X. "I was aboard ship talking to a couple of buddies when I saw this tall, skinny ensign coming along the flight deck toward us. I had just remarked on how much he looked like a young Charles Lindbergh when he came up and said, 'I'm Ensign George Bush, and I'm assigned to plane 2X. Do any of you know who is supposed to be my plane captain?' I said, 'Aye, sir, I am.' We shook hands and started talking about the plane."

Paoletti, who was as tall as Bush but weighed less—at 140 pounds, he was 5 pounds under the minimum weight, but the doctor had fudged his weight upon enlistment—saw Bush from then on almost daily. He was responsible for keeping the plane shipshape and buckling Bush into his harness before each flight. "I never realized anything about Mr. Bush's background, that he came from a well-to-do family, until after he left the ship. We were never buddies, but in my book he was a top-class guy, a real nice Joe."

The *San Jac* arrived at Pearl Harbor on April 20, 1944.

FLIGHT OF THE AVENGER

Bush felt like a tourist as they steamed into port, where he saw the ships that had been sunk on December 7, their superstructures still thrust up out of the water, with their trapped dead below. The *San Jac* docked behind the *Essex* in Pearl Harbor. Nearby the *Utah* was still lying on her side, where she had settled after the Japanese attack. The *Arizona*, sunk at the same time, was also dramatically visible. To Bush, the skeletons of the big battleships were both grim reminders of the war that had begun there and portents of the possible fate of his own ship.

The squadron was land-based at the naval air station at Kaneohe, Oahu, T.H. There they practiced more gunnery and glide-bombing runs on moving targets. When attacking a maneuvering ship at sea, Avenger tactics called for dropping a "stick" of four bombs (their entire bomb load) using an intervalometer, which controlled the spacing of the bombs. The intervalometer was mounted in Delaney's station, and it was his job to set the Avenger's air speed and the desired bomb spacing. The target was usually attacked in a thirty-to forty-five-degree glide from at least fifteen hundred feet, dropping to an altitude of five hundred feet or lower. Bush released the bombs as he leveled off, and the intervalometer spaced the bombs sixty to seventy-five feet apart, practically guaranteeing one or more hits on the target from a stick. Bush and his crew scored high on all their runs.

On May 2, 1944, the squadron was officially deemed ready for action. The *San Jac* was assigned to be part of the growing might of Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's Task Force 58/38, the fast-carrier striking force of the Pacific Fleet.

After almost a year of arduous and intensive training Bush and the other pilots of AG-51 expected that they would soon be in the air fighting against the Japanese enemy. It was to be sooner than they anticipated.

wanted to do with the rest of my life, but there was an awakening.

"There's no question that underlying all that were my own religious beliefs. In my own view there's got to be some kind of destiny and I was being spared for something on earth."

Thirty days from the time Bush had been picked up the *Finback* arrived at Midway for refitting. The pilots were put ashore. Before leaving, however, one of the *Finback* officers cut Keene's life raft into pieces. Bush, Beckman, Keene, and his two enlisted men signed one of the pieces. A larger piece was signed by all the *Finback* officers. The departing pilots promised to join up with the sub crew for one last party when they reached Pearl Harbor.

The pilots were given new helmets and uniforms and were flown to Pearl Harbor. The first thing Bush did on arriving at Pearl was to send a telegram to his parents letting them know he was safe. His younger brother Bucky recalls how every night his family prayed for George's safety. When they got the telegram from him, both parents burst into tears. "I remember asking them why they were crying if he was all right," he says. After pulling herself together, Dorothy Bush called Barbara to relay the good news.

"I thought George was missing in action because I hadn't heard from him in such a long time (it took a month for mail to arrive from the Pacific war zone), and I was sick with worry," Barbara recalls. "Then I learned in a letter from Doug West that he had been shot down. My worst fears were realized. And then, four days later, his parents called to say they had a telegram from him and he was all right. I cried for joy."

The pilots went to the mansion of businessman Alexander Holmes, which had been turned into a rest home for pilots



in Honolulu. There they spent a brief R&R (rest and recreation) sunning on the beach, playing volleyball, and sight-seeing in Waikiki.

Bush was in the air again for a refresher flight on October 13, 1944. In his flight log of that day he noted: "Forced landing at Barber's Point." "I really think I imagined difficulty," he now says. "I hadn't flown in a long time, and the plane just didn't feel right. Maybe some minor glitch, but nothing serious. Some of the older TBFs made strange sounds. But I've often wondered if it wasn't just 'coming-back syndrome.'"

The *Finback* arrived at Pearl Harbor within a few days; its crew enjoyed a rest at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. The pilots threw the party they had promised for their submarine friends at the Holmes mansion.

Bush had the option of rotating home after his experience, but he was determined to rejoin his ship and get back into combat. "We were supposed to stay in Hawaii for two weeks' R&R," said Keene, who had become good friends with Bush aboard the sub. "But Bush was concerned about what had happened to his crewmen. He wanted to get back to the *San Jacinto*, and Beckman and I wanted to return to our carriers. We were not getting much cooperation from the navy until George took the matter in hand and somehow got us seats on a DC-3 to Johnson Island and finally Guam. We spent a few days there trying to find our carriers and finally located them at Ulithi. We said good-bye at Guam and went back to our separate carriers."

Keene had borrowed twenty dollars from Beckman and sent him a letter with the money in it. It was returned. Beckman had been killed over Leyte Gulf on his first mission back in action.