

Chapter 1 : 30th Division (Imperial Japanese Army) - Wikipedia

Chapter 6: LEYTE: 6 TO 11 DECEMBER 31 JAPANESE PARACHUTE ATTACK AND SITUATION ON 6 DECEMBER 48 5: ATTACK THROUGH MAHONAG 54 Scanner Internet Archive.

Pangasugan Ecopark For a detailed list of things to see in Leyte Province, please visit: Like what we always do when visiting other places, we try their local food. Here are the must try when you visit Tacloban City: Sunzibar This is my favorite restaurant here in Tacloban. Their specialty, Nachos Salad, is to die for! If only I can order a take home, without spoiling the nachos I would! Visit to Tacloban is not complete without eating here. I loved their breakfast and I made sure my friends have breakfast at Cafe Teresa. Their sumptuous food is all worth it Must try: Starz Rock Cafe A very homey cafe. This cafe tends to get busy late at night. Their sans rival is a must try. What amazed me was the decorations, very interesting! Moron Moron is my favorite! Naturally no festival is complete without dancing, singing and colorful costumes. Pintados-Kasadyaan Two festivals merged celebrated in Tacloban every June 29 of every year. The word Pintados refers to the body tattoos of the native warriors. It represents courage, beauty and bravery. Bravery because getting a tattoo before is life risking with risk of infection and very painful. So the man getting a tattoo before was considered strong and brave. And the more tattoo a man has in his body from head to toe , the more strong and brave he is. One of their oldest tradition is the Penitentes, a penitential fraternity of cassocked, barefoot, and hooded members. This is supposedly the replacement for fanatics who whipped themselves or have themselves whipped to atone for wrong doings. Turugpo This long day affair is a traditional jousts of native carabaos pasungay and horses paaway celebrated every Black Saturday in Brgy. Cockfight karambola is another attraction during the event. Like the other Sunduan celebration in the country, it commemorates the resurrection of Christ. Sanggutan Festival The Sanggutan Festival celebrated every May 18 in Barugo honors the age-old process of coconut wine tuba. From the word "Sangut", Sangutan or Scythe is a tool used to gather sap from the coconut buds where the coconut wine came from. Sanggutan comes from the word "sanggut" or scythe which is a tool used to gather sap from the coconut buds. The collected sap is then fermented to make coconut wine tuba. The color in the festivals is dominated by red because they believe that tuba dyes everything and everyone it touches. Pasaka is the native word for assumption and connotes warm welcome, progress, and religious homage. There are street dancing and merrymaking depicting the origin of the town. Calubian means "abundance of coconuts, locally called Lubi, which is considered the "tree of life". Buyogan Festival It is said to be one of the ten best festivals in the country. Celebrated every August 16 in Abuyog, showcasing the artistic choreography, realistic and colorful honeybee themed costumes. Honeybee is locally called Buyog, where the name of the town originated. We only have 3 days and 2 nights to explore these two islands so I had to plan carefully as to what to visit. Below is the sample itinerary of our trip to Leyte and the neighboring province, Samar. DAY 1, April 6,

Chapter 2 : 42d Air Base Wing - Wikipedia

D-Day, the day chosen for the invasion to begin, was June 6, Nuremberg Trials A series of trials that took place in Nuremberg, Germany charging Nazi war criminals with waging a war of aggression, violating laws of war, and committing "crimes against humanity"-murdering 11 million people.

Educational Measures The Preventive Medicine Service of the Office of the Surgeon General prepared a number of publications on the prevention and control of schistosomiasis for use by military personnel both in the United States and overseas. This letter was intended for use in the Caribbean Defense Command. As yet, the United States was not at war with Germany or Japan. In February , another circular letter dealing with all three types of schistosomiasis appeared. It should be noted that in these publications schistosomiasis japonica was considered to be of potential military importance in China and Japan, whereas, in the Philippines, the disease was considered a serious one but of nonmilitary importance and likely to affect only small numbers of troops. Eventual experience in the Philippines showed that the dangers to troops had not been correctly appraised. Whether schistosomiasis japonica would have been a serious military problem in China or Japan is a matter of speculation. After the appearance of hundreds of cases of schistosomiasis japonica in troops on Leyte, Philippine Islands, early in , TB MED , a rather comprehensive discussion of this disease, was published in June This publication placed particular emphasis on the life history of the parasite and on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of the disease. Early in , the Preventive Medicine Service arranged that two motion pictures on schistosomiasis japonica be made in the United States, primarily from footage acquired in the Philippines. One production, a short training film on S. This film was not completed until October , more than a month after the end of the war in the Pacific. The second production, a professional technical version in color for the instruction of personnel of the Medical Department, was begun in April but was not released until after the end of the war. Sanitary Precautions About the middle of , the policy of the Army was to concentrate at two tropical disease centers, Harmon General Hospital, Longview, Tex. At first, both the Army and the U. Public Health Service were concerned³ about the possibility that raw sewage from these hospitals flowing into streams might create a hazard if viable schistosome eggs were being discharged and suitable snail hosts of S. No precautions were taken at Harmon General Hospital because the sewage flowed into brackish water, but at Moore General Hospital the raw sewage was chlorinated for a few weeks. History would appear to support this action, since no species of schistosome ³Letter, Thomas Parran, Surgeon General, U. Public Health Service, to Gen. Kirk, The Surgeon General, U. Van Cleave⁵ was apprehensive that returning servicemen might be responsible for the establishment of human blood flukes in the United States. On the other hand, Stoll⁶ did not regard the introduction of schistosomes after World War II as a public health threat. He cites Peltier who, in , noted that no autochthonous case of schistosomiasis had been known to occur in France, although infected soldiers had been entering that country for more than years. Failure of the disease to become established there may be due to the lack of a suitable molluscan host. Brumpt and other French workers have exposed a large number of species of snails to schistosome miracidia without finding any that were susceptible. Returning soldiers were reported to have been responsible for the establishment of a limited, and now extinct, focus of infection in western Australia after the Boer War. Similarly, it was determined that S. Green, Government Printer, , p. Public Health Service, 27 May , subject: Experiments on the Transmission of Human Schistosomiasis in India. A Potential Intermediate Host of Schistosoma mansoni. Experimental Molluscan Infection With Schistosoma japonicum: During the war, these studies were classified, and observations resulting from them were circulated only among civilian schistosomiasis investigators, Army, Navy, and U. Public Health Service personnel, and other responsible individuals. The bulk of the research work was carried on by personnel at universities under contracts with the Office of Scientific Research and Development; the Naval Medical Research Institute; and the National Institute of Health, U. Public Health Service, which conducted extensive investigational programs. The Preventive Medicine Service had proposed many of these projects, and certain studies on schistosomes were conducted in Army medical laboratories. Contributions from Army installations resulted mainly from investigations on the preparation and testing of

antigenic materials and on the detection of schistosome ova in feces. The latter research yielded several techniques of definite value in diagnosing schistosome infections. Studies at centers other than those of the Army were concerned with- 1. A search for possible snail hosts of human schistosomes in the United States. Research on the development of the schistosomes in experimental mammalian hosts. The cercaricidal effects of water-treatment processes. The effects of sewage treatment on schistosome ova. The protective value of untreated and chemically treated cloth fabrics. Repellent ointments to protect the skin from cercariae. Intradermal and serologic tests to determine infection. The chemotherapy of schistosomiasis. In these investigations, the Army contributed information and advice from those members of the Medical Department who had had experience with schistosomiasis. It also supplied materials for the experiments and a continuous supply of live snails collected in the Far East. Two months earlier, eggs of the molluscan host in Puerto Rico had been received and used in establishing colonies of *Australorbis glabratus* in the United States. Tests of the susceptibility of American snails to infection with *S.* The infected baboon had been brought to this country from Egypt by Dr. Barlow, who had exposed himself a few weeks before to cercariae of *S.* Barlow proposed to go about the United States with a trailer and use the ova being excreted in his urine to determine whether any native species of snails would become infected with this parasite in its natural habitat. It was thought that a human infection would give more conclusive results than an infection in lower animals because man apparently is the only natural host in endemic areas and also because of the possibility that passage through laboratory animals might produce biological changes which would alter the susceptibility of snails to infection. It did not prove feasible for Barlow to use his infection for field studies in the United States. As early as 3 April, the U. It was not until 23 January, some months after the invasion of Leyte, that dogs and live specimens of the snail host *Oncomelania quadrasi*, infected with *S.* Subsequently, when infected snails were collected by Army personnel and forwarded regularly from Leyte to the National Institute of Health, it was possible to initiate experimental work with the cercariae and adults of the oriental schistosome. It should be mentioned at this point that the Preventive Medicine Service of the Office of the Surgeon General decided early in that it would be desirable for a group of specialists on schistosomes to go to the Philippines to undertake the study of a number of militarily pertinent problems concerning schistosomiasis japonica. Before this, however, infection with both *S.* As nearly as can be determined, no investigational work on *S.* On the other hand, several important studies on methods of diagnosing infections due to *S.* Although troops were stationed in countries of Asia Minor where the parasite occurs, there were no known cases of infection. It may be significant to note here that Asia Minor was not a 11Letter, R. Since the disease occurs all across northern Africa from Morocco to Egypt, in both coastal areas and oases, it is surprising that so few cases of infection occurred during the fighting in Tunisia. The low incidence of infection with this parasite cannot be attributed to a special educational program regarding schistosomiasis or to supervisory efforts of medical personnel. Need for avoiding contact with untreated fresh water in endemic areas was stressed in an article in the Medical Bulletin of the North African Theater of Operations, May, but schistosomiasis was not considered to be an important communicable disease. Only about 22 cases of infection with *S.* Army in the Mediterranean theater; exposure data are available for 17 of these. During July, 14 men from a U. Army Air Corps service squadron bathed in a fresh-water pool close to Gafsa, Tunisia. Subsequently, after repeated urine examinations, three of these soldiers were proved to be infected with *S.* The infections were apparently light, since the men were asymptomatic. Army Air Corps personnel swam in a fresh-water pond 5 miles east of Gafsa, Tunisia. These men had become separated from a convoy traveling from Oran, Algeria, and spent several days crossing the desert. With no medical officer to warn them, and understandably in the mood for contact with water, 35 of the 60 men went swimming. Of these 35 soldiers, 12 were later proved to have acquired schistosomiasis. The majority of the men developed clinical symptoms of the disease, only two being asymptomatic. The small number of cases reported for this area were in men who had become infected with *S.* Regulations were issued concerning contact with fresh water in Puerto Rico, but there was a disregard for them, and maneuvers were even held in endemic areas. However, only one U. Cases of *Schistosoma haematobium*. Reported Case of Schistosomiasis enclosure I. Army, for April This man became infected in Puerto Rico in, about 2 months after reaching the island. No information is available regarding his method of exposure. On the other hand,

medical officers of the Army did encounter a considerable number of cases of infestation with *S.* Cases of the disease in Puerto Ricans within the United States and in oversea areas were also discovered during the war; for example, 55 men in an anti-aircraft gun battalion stationed in California in were found to be infected. Medical records indicate that about infections due to *S.* Before April , Puerto Ricans were taken into the Army without any screening for schistosome infection. After that date, however, a man otherwise physically and mentally fit was rejected if he was found, on the basis of one stool specimen, to be passing eggs of *S.* This screening led to the rejection of from 9 to 14 percent of the Selective Service registrants each month. Even so, it was estimated that about 10 percent of the infected men were missed by the screening process. This was possible because most of those eventually found to be infected were asymptomatic. The large number of infected troops led to a consideration of the possibility that schistosomiasis might be endemic in the Canal Zone and in the Republic of Panama, since an infantry regiment of Puerto Ricans had been stationed at Empire, Canal Zone, during and following World War I. No screening of these troops for schistosome infection had been done, and the men had bathed in natural fresh water in both the Canal Zone and the Republic of Panama. In , with the arrival in the Canal Zone of known infected Puerto Rican soldiers, the question of the health hazard of *S.*

Chapter 3 : The History of the USS Cabot - CVL

The TA Operation, by which name the Japanese program for the reinforcement of Leyte was known, continued from 23 October through 11 December. The numerical weakness of the U.S. land-based aircraft enabled the Japanese to land many thousands of troops and tons of supplies on Leyte.

The salute is widely misunderstood outside the military. Some consider it to be a gesture of servility since the junior extends a salute to the senior, but we know that it is quite the opposite. The salute is an expression that recognizes each other as a member of the profession of arms; that they have made a personal commitment of self-sacrifice to preserve our way of life. The fact that the junior extends the greeting first is merely a point of etiquette—a salute extended or returned makes the same statement. As they turned the corner and approached the building, PFC Robertson walked out carrying a large box. PFC Robertson said, "Good morning, sir," and kept walking past the two. The way you salute says a lot about you as a soldier. A proud, smart salute shows pride in yourself and your unit and that you are confident in your abilities as a soldier. In saluting, turn your head and eyes toward the person or flag you are saluting. Bring your hand up to the correct position in one, smart motion without any preparatory movement. When dropping the salute, bring your hand directly down to its natural position at your side, without slapping your leg or moving your hand out to the side. Any flourish in the salute is improper. The proper way to salute when wearing the beret or without headgear is to raise your right hand until the tip of your forefinger touches the outer edge of your right eyebrow just above and to the right of your right eye. When wearing headgear, the forefinger touches the headgear slightly above and to the right of your right eye. Your fingers are together, straight, and your thumb snug along the hand in line with the fingers. Your hand, wrist, and forearm are straight, forming a straight line from your elbow to your fingertips. Your upper arm elbow to shoulder is horizontal to the ground. All soldiers in uniform are required to salute when they meet and recognize persons entitled by grade to a salute except when it is inappropriate or impractical in public conveyances such as planes and buses, in public places such as inside theaters, or when driving a vehicle. A salute is also rendered: To uncased National Color outdoors. On ceremonial occasions such as changes of command or funerals. At reveille and retreat ceremonies, during the raising or lowering of the flag. During the sounding of honors. When pledging allegiance to the US flag outdoors. When turning over control of formations. To officers of friendly foreign countries. Salutes are not required when: Indoors, unless reporting to an officer or when on duty as a guard. Saluting is obviously inappropriate. In any case not covered by specific instructions, render the salute. Either the senior or the subordinate is wearing civilian clothes. A good rule of thumb is this: Outdoors includes theater marquees, shelters over gas station pumps, covered walkways, and other similar shelters that are open on the sides. Military courtesy shows respect and reflects self-discipline. Consistent and proper military courtesy is an indicator of unit discipline, as well. Soldiers demonstrate courtesy in the way we address officers or NCOs of superior rank. Some other simple but visible signs of respect and self-discipline are as follows: When talking to an officer of superior rank, stand at attention until ordered otherwise. When you are dismissed, or when the officer departs, come to attention and salute. When speaking to or being addressed a noncommissioned officer of superior rank, stand at parade rest until ordered otherwise. When an officer of superior rank enters a room, the first soldier to recognize the officer calls personnel in the room to attention but does not salute. A salute indoors is rendered only when reporting. When entering or exiting a vehicle, the junior ranking soldier is the first to enter, and the senior in rank is the first to exit. The first person who sees an officer enter a dining facility gives the order "At ease," unless a more senior officer is already present. Many units extend this courtesy to senior NCOs, also. When you hear the command "At ease" in a dining facility, remain seated, silent and continue eating unless directed otherwise. When you report to an officer of superior rank, approach the officer to whom you are reporting and stop about two steps from him, assuming the position of attention. Give the proper salute and say, for example, "Sir, Private Smith reports. If you are armed, however, do not remove your headgear. SFC Stone, the platoon sergeant was present to monitor the counseling. Standing at parade rest is what junior enlisted soldiers do when speaking with or being addressed by an NCO. This is a great unit to soldier in. It is a fact that most

people respond positively to genuine politeness and courtesy. Walk down a street in most towns and cities and see the response you get from people when you just say "good morning. Some units substitute the greeting with their unit motto, such as "Deeds, not Words," or "Keep up the Fire.

Chapter 4 : Brightwood Boys WWII History, Chapter 25, Battle Fronts

On 27 October , 7 days after the invasion, copies of reports on the 6-month schistosomiasis survey that had been carried out by the Philippine Government on Leyte during and were obtained in Tacloban, Leyte, from the Provincial Public Health Office.

Chapter Hospitalized Chapter Hospitalized with Christmas over it was time to face reality. January and February were long cold months. Even then we often experienced an icy cold wind along the river. One Sunday in the very early spring I was at Sunday school. One minute I felt fine and the next minute I felt very strange. I remember clearly having everything go dark and almost passing out. It was fortunate that our Sunday school teacher was still Dr. He immediately took me to the hospital. By then I was suffering a blinding headache. In the midst of this pain they gave me a spinal tap, which is very painful. They stick a number of long needles into your spine and drop off liquid. My diagnosis was spinal meningitis. Daly immediately prescribed sulfa drugs. They immediately took effect and in a short time my headache was gone. But I did still feel absolutely terrible. All I wanted to do was sleep. I was alone in isolation in a basement ward. The first night I was delirious and wandered around the floor looking for my mother. Somehow I found my way back to my bed. The hospital was very short of staff due to the war. As a result a nurse who is not practicing was called in to be my nurse. She arrived at next morning bright and cheerful. She was wonderful and within a few days had cheered me up. She was a small lady with a ton of freckles and flaming red hair. Her cheerful nature and positive attitude were mainly responsible for bringing me out of my depression. One of the other members of the Trail Hospital staff that really helped was a young lady who cleaned my room each day. She was a bodacious dark-haired Italian " Canadian. We talked about everything under the sun. I look forward every day to her visits. She was a very compassionate human being. Needless to say I had shots in the behind about every two hours day and night. A nurse from upstairs was assigned to looking in on me occasionally and getting my shots. There was one nurse who was a beautiful blonde with blue eyes. I never minded when this lady woke me up in the middle of the night. Daly was marvelous and came to see me every day. Occasionally he would stop and we would have a game of checkers. Just to break the boredom. It was a very kind and gentle man. It was a slow process and in the end I was in hospital for four weeks. After the first week I was able to read and I also did jigsaw puzzles. After a time I got good at doing these puzzles. Caring the time that I was in hospital my grade 7 classmates all wrote letters to me. I believe that they were done during English class. They were wonderful even if they all said basically the same thing. I treasured these letters for many years. Finally I was able to go home. Mom and Dad came and picked me up in the car and drove me home. It was a very emotional time. I even shed a few tears. There were definite mixed emotions. All the way home in the car all I could think about was having poached eggs on toast. Then I recuperated at home for another three weeks. I read some books but mainly I drew pictures. Some were serious but others were cartoons. I can remember one particular cartoon, which was of me on the Chesterfield with a blanket over me, a thermometer stuck in my mouth and me drawing. Earl of Athlone Finally I returned to school. It was also a very emotional event. But it was only for a short time. In no time at all I was back into it. Somehow I managed to catch up and much to my amazement I passed into grade 8. Jan 6, " Soviet troops advance into Poland. January 9, " British and Indian troops recapture Maungdaw in Burma. Jan 22, " Allies land at Anzio. Jan 27, " Leningrad relieved after a day siege. March 4, " Soviet troops begin an offensive on the Belorussian front; First major daylight bombing raid on Berlin by the Allies. March 18, " British drop tons of bombs during an air raid on Hamburg, Germany. May 11, " Allies attack the Gustav Line south of Rome. May 12, " Germans surrender in the Crimea. May 15, " Germans withdraw to the Adolf Hitler Line. June 5, " Allies enter Rome. Carrier-based fighters shoot down Japanese planes, while only 20 American planes are lost.. July 9, " British and Canadian troops capture Caen. July 20, " German assassination attempt on Hitler fails. July 24, " Soviet troops liberate first concentration camp at Majdanek. July 27, " American troops complete the liberation of Guam. August 8, " American troops complete the capture of the Mariana Islands. Aug 25, " Liberation of Paris. Aug 31, " Soviet troops take Bucharest. October 11, " U. Air raids

against Okinawa. Oct 14, " Allies liberate Athens; Rommel commits suicide. Oct 21, " Massive German surrender at Aachen. October 25, " The first suicide air Kamikaze attacks occur against U. By the end of the war, Japan will have sent an estimated 2, aircraft. Nov 6, " Russians recapture Kiev in the Ukraine.

Chapter 5 : Pacific Typhoon, 18 December

July 24 - Aug 1, - (Nimitz) Located in Mariana Islands; this island was great for Airstrips, with 6 runways, and camps built to support troops. The airfield in this island is where the Enola Gay (carried the first atomic bomb) was launched.

This is because at approximately they were ordered to form a defensive circular formation to maximize their anti-aircraft protection from air attacks, expected to arrive shortly. The six small CVEs were taxed to their fullest, each day more difficult than the one before. Although it is out of his area of responsibility, he closes to investigate. The voices heard are definitely Japanese, and they sound very excited. By this point Centre Force may have been reacting to the approaching American reconnaissance aircraft or they may have already sighted some of the warships of Taffy III, hull-down. Flak is put up in an attempt to down the shadowing U. The pilot of the plane definitely identified the task force as enemy. This information was conveyed to this ship over the Inter-fighter Director Net. Immediately after this report, excited Japanese voices were heard over the IFD net. A frequency test was made and it was found that the Japanese were directly on. This report was made to Commander Task Unit. That will be about a fifteen minute job. While the ack-ack was still chasing Brooks, we made visual contact with the Japs. Out of the fog loomed his big battlewagons. He had committed his whole task force to an attack on us. Annoyed by the transmission, he immediately orders, "Third Fleet warships Halsey. He theorized, as did all Seventh Fleet, Task Force 34 was guarding San Bernardino Strait and he therefore had no worries concerning his northern sectors. He had no reason to believe otherwise, until now. The Japanese believe they have sighted destroyers. Next, three carriers, three "cruisers," and two more "destroyers" are also sighted. The Pacific war was one of long-range carrier action. The Japanese misidentification of the American warships would play an important part in their logic and tactics throughout the battle. Ensign Brooks follows suit in his TBM. This was followed by the sighting of three carriers, three cruisers, and two destroyers. It was a surprise encounter since no situation reports had been received since the previous night, and although we had long considered various measures for such an event, the ships, I thought, were extremely slow in reacting because of their lack of enemy information. Measures taken by the fleet headquarters, too, occasionally seemed lacking in promptness. At any rate at Battleship Division 1 opened fire with its forward guns at a range of 31 kilometers. Both fleets are now in visual contact with each other. Although visibility was very poor, the pagoda-like masts of the Japanese battleships could be seen astern. We intercepted a rather frantic voice transmission from a plane we believed was in an adjacent task unit, Task Unit. The gist of the message was that the Jap fleet was there somewhere about 40 miles from his home station. Almost simultaneously there reached me on the bridge a report from the radar room, and there was visible in the PPI on the bridge a force which could be nothing but enemy since we knew of no one that should be in a position 25 miles to the northwest of us. The radar plot confirmed the report from our anti-submarine patrol. The Japanese had no knowledge of U. Ensign Brooks reports, "The remaining warships of Centre Force continue on a southeasterly heading. However faulty their air reconnaissance, they could hardly avoid drawing conclusions from the regularly maintained schedule of air support by carrier planes from a time when the fast carriers were still in the Luzon-Formosa area. Presumably they felt confident of countering this threat with their own landbased air; in any case the risk was squarely faced. Therefore it appears unlikely that the damage inflicted by the CVE groups on the morning of the 25th was the decisive factor in forcing the Japanese to retreat. It is believed more likely that it was about this time - allowing for the usual delay in overcrowded communications - that they had word of the decisive defeat of the southern force in the night battle in the Gulf, that this new led them to overestimate our forces inside and to choose to retire. It is determined to be anti-aircraft fire of unknown origin. This warning came when the enemy main body was only about 17 miles away, closing very rapidly on a nearly opposite course, and only shortly before major caliber shells began to fall in our midst. By no coincidence, he was nicknamed "Chief" at the Naval Academy, a term that caused some confusion within the Navy, as it is also the term used to address Chief Petty Officers, the U. At this time the enemy fleet was about thirty four thousand yards distant bearing approximately from us. The Japanese force was closing the range rapidly, their speed being 22 - 25 knots. The Captain immediately gave orders to

the engine room to light off all boilers and make maximum speed. The Captain also ordered the engine room to commence making funnel smoke and ordered the smoke screen generator detail to make FS smoke. This ship then commenced zig zagging back and forth between the enemy and our own formation, laying heavy smoke screen. Immediately thereafter lookouts sight anti-aircraft fire to the Northwest. As the remaining ships of Taffy III become aware of the situation, General Quarters is sounded and the men of the task unit man their battle stations. The thirteen ships of Taffy III, with the six escort carriers grouped in the middle, must have appeared as a formidable fleet to the Japanese. Believing six large carriers lay before them, they rationalized there must be a sizeable screening force too, including several cruisers. Likewise, the sight of the twenty-three warships of Centre Force by Taffy III must have seemed like the end of the world. Due to the tropical humidity, the smoke lays low on the water, an ideal condition for the defending ships of Taffy III. Commander Evans was credited with much that day. His ability to foresee unfolding events and commandeer each situation without prompting is clear indication of his professionalism, war fighting expertise, and is also evidence of his superb fighting character. This is going to be a fighting ship. Now that I have command of a fighting ship, I will never retreat from an enemy force. All ships of the task unit quickly comply. The final course taken by Taffy III would enable the carriers to launch aircraft and at the same time, draw away from the bearing on the Japanese fleet. He orders the ships of Centre Force to advance at 24 knots to close the range on the American carriers. All ships reply and increase their speed accordingly. This limited the pace of the other battleships, if they were to stay together and fight as an organized unit. This organization would be thrown out the window unintentionally shortly thereafter by another order issued by VADM Kurita. Anti-aircraft fire from the Japanese warships is seen. Up to this time, from information available to Commander Seventh Fleet, it was assumed that Third Fleet forces were guarding the San Bernardino Straits in position to intercept and destroy any enemy forces attempting to come through. All available aircraft are hurriedly readied to be launched from the decks of all six escort carriers. More anti-aircraft fire is observed on the horizon, forward on the port beam. The weather at this time was very squally which limited visibility. Full speed is ordered. I managed to launch all ten remaining fighters on deck and in addition, the seven torpedo planes that were on deck. Unfortunately the torpedo planes were not fully loaded with bombs or torpedoes due to the situation. You see we had our planes loaded for missions involving direct support of shore troops and the loading for that was a combination of some planes with pound bombs and others with pound general purpose bombs. More gunfire is sighted astern. The other Japanese warships open fire with their large caliber guns at 35,000 yards, approximately eighteen miles. With the largest active naval guns in World War II, the Japanese had high expectation as to what she could do with them. The shell fall is marked with green and purple dye. A TBS report is immediately made. At least three salvos are observed. Local rain squalls off Samar had significantly slowed the launch.

Chapter 6 : Federation and Meteorology, War History of the Australian Meteorological Service, page

A Day: 20 October Bombardment of the Shores of Leyte. The waters of Leyte Gulf were glassy calm as the convoys bearing the assault forces steamed into their appointed positions off the shores of Leyte in the very early morning hours of 20 October

Model of Gambier Bay at USS Midway museum After shakedown out of San Diego , the escort carrier sailed on 7 February with troops embarked for Pearl Harbor , thence to rendezvous off the Marshalls, guarded by the destroyer Norman Scott , where she flew 84 replacement planes to the fleet carrier Enterprise. She returned to San Diego via Pearl Harbor, ferrying aircraft for repairs and qualified carrier pilots off the coast of Southern California. She departed on 1 May to join Rear Admiral H. Gambier Bay gave close air support to the initial landings of Marines on Saipan 15 June , destroying enemy gun emplacements, troops, tanks, and trucks. On the 17th, her combat air patrol CAP shot down or turned back all but a handful of 47 enemy planes headed for her task group and her gunners shot down two of the three planes that did break through to attack her. The following day, warning of another air attack sounded. As her fighters prepared to take off, they found intense anti-aircraft fire of the entire task group covering their flight path. Captain Goodwin called the event "another shining example of the adaptability and courage of the young men of our country". Eight pilots of Composite Squadron 10 VC did take off to help repulse the aerial attack. Gambier Bay remained off Saipan, repulsing aerial raids and launching planes which strafed enemy troop concentrations, bombed gun emplacements, and supported Marines and soldiers fighting ashore. Meanwhile, American carriers slashed the carrier air strength of the combined Japanese Mobile Fleet and turned it back in defeat in the Battle of the Philippine Sea. Gambier Bay continued close ground support operations at Tinian 19â€”31 July , then turned her attention to Guam , where she gave identical aid to invading troops until 11 August. The Gambier Bay underway. After a respite for logistics in the Marshalls, Gambier Bay spent 15â€”28 September supporting the amphibious attack which drove ashore and captured Peleliu and Angaur , Southern Palaus. She then steamed by way of Hollandia currently known as Jayapura , New Guinea , to Manus Island , Admiralties, where the invasion of the Philippines was staged. Screened by four destroyer escorts, Gambier Bay and her sister ship Kitkun Bay escorted transports and amphibious landing ships safely to Leyte Gulf before joining Rear Admiral Clifton A. The task unit comprised six escort carriers, screened by three destroyers and four destroyer escorts, and was known by its radio call sign: Under the command of Rear Admiral Thomas L. Sprague, 18 escort carriersâ€”divided into three, six-carrier task units "Taffy"s â€”maintained air supremacy over Leyte Gulf and eastern Leyte. During the invasion their planes destroyed enemy airfields, supply convoys, and troop concentrations; gave troops driving inland vital close air support; and maintained combat air patrol over ships in Leyte Gulf. While " Taffy 1 " and " Taffy 2 " were respectively stationed off northern Mindanao and off the entrance to Leyte Gulf, "Taffy 3" steamed off Samar. Meanwhile, the Japanese threw their entire fleet against American naval power in a desperate gamble to destroy the large concentration of American shipping in Leyte Gulf. Powerful Japanese forcesâ€”composed of carriers, battleships, cruisers, and destroyersâ€”attempted to converge on the Philippines in a three-pronged attack to the south, center, and north. Battle of Samar[edit] Main article: The smudge in the upper right corner is a Japanese heavy cruiser , likely Chikuma. American commanders were unaware of night-time movement of the Japanese Center Force toward Samar. However, shortly after sunrise on 25 October, a gap in the morning mist disclosed the pagoda-like masts of enemy battleships and cruisers on the northern horizon. The still dangerous Center Forceâ€”consisting of four battleships, six heavy cruisers, two light cruisers and 11 destroyersâ€”had slipped undetected through San Bernardino Strait and down the fog-shrouded coast of Samar, bound for Leyte Gulf. Visibility was approximately 40, yards with a low overcast and occasional rain squalls which the American ships would use to their advantage in the coming battle. Immediately, an urgent call for help went out from "Taffy 3" as the escort carriers steamed eastward to launch planes before gradually turning south to seek concealment in a heavy squall. American pilots attacked the Japanese formation with torpedoes, bombs, and strafing runs until their ammunition ran out, after which they made "dry runs"â€”dummy attacks with no ordnance or

ammunition” to break up the enemy formation and delay its advance. In spite of these efforts, Gambier Bay was fired on and hit by multiple Japanese ships. Gambier Bay on fire. Shells from Japanese surface forces splash down beside her the circled ship is a Japanese battleship, probably Yamato. Around , Gambier Bay was severely damaged by a shell hit which flooded her forward engine room, cutting her speed in half. Yamato is clearly seen in the background of photographs taken during the attack on "Taffy 3". The majority of her nearly survivors were rescued two days later by landing and patrol craft dispatched from Leyte Gulf. Sharks killed many drifting crewmembers. Three other ships” Hoel , Samuel B. Roberts , and Johnston” were also lost in the battle. The events that followed were described by Admiral Sprague: However, it took a whole series of reports from circling planes to convince me. And still I could not get the fact to soak into my battle-numbed brain. At best, I had expected to be swimming by this time. Three enemy cruisers were sunk, and much damage was inflicted on the other ships. Overall, the overwhelmingly powerful Japanese surface fleet had been turned back by the escort carriers and their screen of destroyers and destroyer escorts.

Chapter 7 : Chapter 6 - calendrierdelascience.com

Formation 5 Roger Scale 1/2" = yards. Formation 5R placed the 6 CVEs on circle and the 7 DDs and DEs on circle 6. The screening vessel within whose sector the course line takes station at the intersection of the designated circle with the median of his sector.

If an historian would have to pick the most outstanding month for the Cabot, it would be 1 October. Admiral Halsey used us as "bait" to lure the Japanese Fleet to combat against the heart of the 3rd Fleet. Later in the month, the Cabot was to participate in the greatest sea battle of all—the Battle of Leyte Gulf. On 1 October, the Cabot was anchored in Ulithi Atoll and got underway on the 3rd because of a storm. The ship was underway again on 6 Oct. The enemy then harassed the fleet all night, dropping flares and sending search planes to attack. A sweep on 13 Oct. In addition, Cabot planes set fire to a hangar on Shinchito. Later, a fighter sweep was launched over Miyako Shima and damaged three Bettys on the ground. This cruiser was the first American ship to be named for a foreign city—Canberra, Australia. The Cabot was ordered to clear the disposition and form a separate Task Unit to protect the damaged Canberra. Japanese planes tried to finish her off, but our CAP shot down two Jills, two Tonys and damaged others. One VF fighter piloted by Lt. At hours, a large Japanese plane, identified as a Betty approached the starboard beam and was taken under fire. The target was big, and the automatic weapons deadly accurate. The plane began to burn, and flames cast weird shadows on the deck as it passed over the ship. There was a tense moment as everyone wondered if it might fall on the ship, but the plane splashed into the water about yards from the starboard quarter. Enemy searchers were sent to try to locate the "cripples" and the two escorting carriers. The SK radar was nothing short of phenomenal; the Cabot was at times conducting intercepts of the missions when other ships had no radar indication at all. Fighter direction of the Cabot was excellent then and afterward and gained respect of other vessels operating with her. The towing and escorting groups became known as "the Streamlined Bait" because the commander of the 3rd Fleet expected to draw the Japanese out of hiding so we could wipe them out with one clean stroke. The anxiety was terrific as the next day unfolded. The speed of the towing group was about 4 knots on 16 Oct. At hours, two large groups of enemy planes were spotted on radar about 70 miles away and coming from Formosa. The northern group was closing on a collision course while the southern group was on a parallel course about 50 miles away. The enemy jammed radar for five minutes, but stopped abruptly and the picture was clear: A helpless feeling ran through everyone aboard and undoubtedly throughout the Task Group, as the raids were estimated to consist of about 60 planes each. All available fighters were launched immediately. It looked like the enemy had sent everything available to kill off our ships. Dive bombers and torpedo planes were in one group with the fighters above. It was suicidal for just eight fighters to attack that many planes, but they did. Radio traffic was almost at a garble when Lt. Only vital information could be sent on the radio. Immediate compliance by the fighters was almost unbelievable in the face of what was happening. The first division consisted of: The enemy wanted to finish off the crippled cruisers and thought they had enough force to do it. The Japanese planes consisted of about 25 Jills torpedo planes, a formation of Vals dive bombers, 20 Franceses twin-engine medium bombers and 20 Zekes A6M Eighters. The Jills and Vals were at 9,000 feet while the Franceses were 10,000 feet above the torpedo planes. The Zekes were on top to provide cover. To help the eight American pilots, six more fighters were scrambled at hours and diverted west toward the enemy force. EDER, air group commander Ens. COOK, his wingman Lt. In this division were: His engine quit, and he made a water landing. The later groups of fighters shot down six planes making the total. Historians have not seen fit to write much about this action, but considering, eight American pilots against approximately 70 enemy planes and destroying 27 of their aircraft to our one has to be among the most outstanding victories in U.S. The Marianas Turkey Shoot a few months earlier got the media attention when enemy planes were shot down in one day, but one must remember there were 15 fast carriers involved in that action. The pilots and their kills included: The southern raid orbited as soon as the northern group was attacked and the Cowpens planes were dispatched. Twelve Japanese "Kates" were forming to attack the towing group. The American raiders shot down nine enemy aircraft, three broke away and pressed the attack

home, but were shot down by anti-aircraft fire from the towing group. At the same time, USS Houston received another torpedo hit. The large group of enemy planes retreated to Formosa. The "Bait" was as happy to see them leave as they must have been to get out. The pilot, from Brainerd, Minn. He turned slightly, lined up the target and reported, "Splash one Zeke. Many congratulatory messages were sent to the Cabot afterwards, including tributes from Admirals Nimitz and Halsey. Cripple Division I CriDiv performed one of the most outstanding achievements in saving damaged ships. All men involved were given an unofficial certificate, "Society of Streamlined Bait" for their action off Formosa. Early on 20 Oct. Upon arrival, the USS Independence sent the message, "Salutations to the return of the wandering hero. Feel just like a Wave. Have released a man to fight. The Task Group also searched for the Japanese Fleet, but was unsuccessful after a mile radius was covered. Strikes from the Cabot worked over Cebu airfield, strafing and bombing available targets. It involved every type of ship including aircraft carriers, battleships, submarines, cruisers, destroyers and PT boats. Without doubt, this battle will be discussed for generations, but what made it so important was that it finished the Japanese Fleet as a serious foe, thus shortening the war in the Pacific, which ended within a year. Between 23 and 26 Oct. They knew if they lost these Islands they had lost the War. A Cabot plane spotted this Force which had several battleships and reported this to the Third Fleet. Planes from the Third Fleet attacked the Japs and thought they had damaged them to the extent that they would retreat. We did sink the Musashi but the rest were able to fight, they did turn back, but later resumed their mission. Over optimistic reports from our pilots convinced Halsey that he could leave this Force and find the Carriers. They were ambushed by the Seventh Fleet under Admiral Kincaid and totally destroyed. Action 3 Battle off Samar When Kurita broke out through the San Bernardino Strait into the Philippine Sea he met a force of small escort carriers which were no match for his large battleships. He could have completely destroyed them and proceeded to Leyte but at the last minute he turned around and missed the best opportunity of the Japanese Navy to set the War back many months. Action 4 Battle off Cape Engano Adm. Halsey did not know the carriers to the north were acting as decoys to pull his Third Fleet north so Kurita could break out. He went after them and sunk a number of the carriers and could have sunk the entire Force except he was ordered back south when the situation became desperate at San Bernardino Strait. At hours, the Task Group commander sighted four Japanese battleships, eight cruisers and 13 destroyers seven miles from the southern tip of Mindoro. Planes from the Intrepid CV 11 and Cabot found them a little past hours on the 24th. Fighting Hellcats from the Cabot flew cover at 14, feet and at 16, feet for the torped planes. The Avengers from Cabot were directed to attack the leading battleship from the starboard side. But as the day further unfolded, she was to help sink the Musashi, one of the two largest battleships in the world. The Cabot logs of 24 Oct. She can take credit for hits on the Kongo and the Musashi, but not on the Fuso-class-Fuso and Yamashiro-as they were not attacked by TG These latter two battleships were sunk on 25 Oct. During the war, many mistakes in identification were made. Pilots had to drop bombs or torpedos in the face of intense AA fire and had few seconds to count masts or gun turrets for positive ID. Then, his main concern was to get out of the heavy AA fire. He did take a direct hit on the starboard side of his aircraft, leaving a hole big enough to see the ocean below. He then flew into a path of tracer bullets from a cruiser, but jammed his stick forward and managed to take only a couple more hits. Because of the wounded crewman, the TBM was allowed to land on the Cabot before other returning planes. With oil on the windshield, SKIDMORE could barely see the landing signal officer, but he did land safely with only three feet to spare from the port catwalk. Another attack from the Cabot was made in the afternoon with two divisions of Hellcat fighter pilots including Lt. Bombs were dropped, and presumably much damage was done to the enemy, but positive identifications could not be made. Another Avenger was missing after the raid with Ens. Meanwhile, Admiral Halsey was making what many historians consider a grave error: Halsey was told that this fleet had turned back due to heavy damage.

Chapter 8 : USS Gambier Bay - Wikipedia

Chapter 1 - Operation Sho-Go ^{â™™!} *Chapter 2 - The U.S. Pacific Fleet* ^{â™™!} *Chapter 3 - The Imperial Japanese Combined Fleet* *Chapter 4 - A Glorious Opportunity* ^{â™™!} *Chapter 5 - San Bernardino Strait (to)* ^{â™™!} *TBS & Shackle Code* ^{â™™!} *Chapter 6 - "General Attack" (to)*.

The events in Chapters 5 through 13 are listed in the order in which the author believes they occurred. Entries listed simply as "EVENT" are also placed in a chronological, time-line order and are closely related in time to the last numbered "time" event. Comments by the author associated with events are often listed also. Entries are displayed as follows: A personal explanation of events by the author. Rear Admiral Sprague takes advantage of this opportunistic sanctuary and steers his task unit directly into its heart. As a result of the natural and man-made screen, the accuracy of the heavy caliber Japanese gunfire decreases significantly. The multicolored shell splashes exploding near the warships of Taffy III decline significantly. The destroyers and destroyer escorts zigzagged in and around the fleeing escort carriers, winding the smoke layers into a defensive shield. The hot, humid Philippine climate aided to combine the mixture of black fuel smoke and white chemical smoke, making them mix most effectively. Combined with the current intermittent rain squall, it greatly neutralized the Japanese gunfire accuracy and was a contributing factor to the escape of Taffy III Sprague, USN At , the enemy was closing with disconcerting rapidity, and volume and accuracy of fire was increasing. At this point, it did not appear that any of our ships could survive another five minutes of the heavy caliber fire being received, and some counteraction was urgently and immediately required. The Task Unit was surrounded by the ultimate of desperate circumstances. All escorts were ordered to attack the enemy with torpedoes. About this time we intercepted a fairly heavy rain squall and while in it changed course to the right. The combination of rain and smoke made visibility very poor and enemy fire slackened and fell off in accuracy. A series of four shells splash and explode in a line, the first shell hitting the water about yards from the ship. As mentioned earlier, their pilots were untrained in anti-surface ship strikes, but certainly made up for their lack of anti-ship training by their sheer determination. Several aircraft are unarmed or under-fueled due to their hasty launch. Only a handful of the bombers are armed with torpedoes. The fact that they were preparing to attack a powerful armored surface force with little or no armor piercing ordnance or formal training was extraordinary. It would be nearly impossible to stop the heavily armored Japanese warships without armor-piercing ordnance or torpedoes. After expending whatever ordnance they left their carriers with, many pilots made dry runs over the Japanese warships, breaking up their formations and interrupting their pursuit of the fleeing escort carriers. For the most part, this tactic worked well, significantly contributing to the final outcome of the battle. The American pilots first concentrated on the battleships since they were the most potent threat early in the battle. Elmo Waring alerted us that the Japanese fleet was 24 miles away and to man all aircraft. I took time to get him on the intercom and told him to get the pilots out of the wardroom. By this time I got to the flight deck. I discovered Dugan was in 2, I was 3, Rocky Phillips was in 4. We took off as the ship was getting into the wind and were vectored NW of the Task Unit to intercept two destroyers. We made two sets of strafing runs on them, going down through a thin cloud cover. They apparently had no radar fire controlled AA as their fire was very poor. After the second run they turned around and retreated on a course of about degrees. She pushes through the water at flank bell, creating a large bow wave. A long line of thick black funnel smoke is laid behind her as she goes. Commander Evans was displaying his true fighting spirit which led the way for the other screening ships of the task unit throughout the morning. The small Americans warships were commanded fearlessly in the face of their superior enemy. The Japanese had no idea what the attacking aircraft carried ordnance-wise and therefore had to treat all aircraft as a potential threat. They are the nearest threat to Taffy III. While maintaining their current course, they are on the verge of outflanking the escort carriers on their port quarter. All escort vessels now effectively contribute to the smoke screen as more ships enter the rain squall. All shells miss their small target, about nine miles away and closing rapidly. Her speed was unimpeded. There were several occasions where the ship still could have crept away and escaped further damage which she was continuing to receive. At this time we had

taken 12 to 14 hits. We had two guns that were fully in operation, two others that could have fired only in manual. Our maximum speed was still 15 knots. Killed and wounded littered our decks. The Captain, Commander Evans, was injured rather severely at , two and a half hours before we abandoned ship, to the extent of a couple of fingers blown off, an unknown number of shrapnel holes in his back and superficial wounds about his face and neck, all of which were drawing considerable blood. Despite these things the Captain fought the ship as no other man has ever fought a ship. Rightfully so, their removal from the early stages of the battle were another crucial decision which led to the escape of the American task unit. The major components were 1 a manned director, 2 computer, 3 Stable Element, 4 FD Radar Equipments, and 5 plotting room. In contrast to the U. Its function was to automatically aim the guns so that a fired projectile would collide with the target. Its reliable range was 30, yards. It contained the Mark 1A fire control computer, Mark 6 Stable Element, FD radar controls and displays, parallax correctors, a switchboard, and people to operate it all. An excellent gunfire solution was contained throughout and numerous hits were visually observed. The rain squall obscures visibility. All the escort carriers are laying smoke. They had a solid nose, base fuze and tracer. AA Common with Mark 18 fuze This was the basic, multi-purpose round for anti-aircraft or surface firing or in shore bombarding. The nose fuse could be set to detonate the projectile by clock work in a pre-set interval after firing or the base fuse could detonate the projectile on contact with surface or shore target. All rounds contained a red or white tracer. AA Common with Mark 32 fuze This type was for anti-aircraft. It required no pre-setting of the nose fuse and had no base fuse or tracer. Starshell Illuminating projectiles contained a parachute-suspended flare which was ejected in flight when the Mark 18 nose fuse functioned at the pre-set time. To ensure that it did so was the job of the Elevating Indicator Regulator. There was no base fuse or tracer. The CVEs flee in a circular formation about 2, yards in diameter. The escorts lay protective smoke in their rear, about 6, yards from the imaginary center of the formation. He knew the most damage would be inflicted to Centre Force in open water by the aircraft of the fleets. Taffy II was currently less than 25 miles, perhaps as close as 20 miles, southeast of Taffy III, just over the horizon. The interval between columns was several thousand yards about with the column leaders on a line of bearing about degrees T from north. The enemy bore about degrees T, distance 17 miles from this ship at the outset of the engagement. Knowing he was entirely out-gunned by the quickly advancing Japanese warships in every category, RADM Sprague was determined to use his destroyers primary weapons before it was too late. Main battery salvos from both the battleships and heavy cruisers had continued landing among the CVEs. Thomas, the destroyer screen commander. All orders to the screening ships concerning their attack were directed to them via CDR Thomas. Torpedo depth was set at 6 feet and a spread of one degree was used. Shortly thereafter we took a hit that knocked out the aft generator. The emergency diesel generator next to me started up and I was kept busy providing emergency power. I felt numerous hits that shook the whole ship and water started flowing into the compartment. While I was working in front of the switchboard a hit into the forward fire room buckled the bulkhead and knocked the switchboard onto me. It was then I decided it was time to get the hell out. It was likewise evident, with the enemy probably coming to a southerly course and with the wind being from T to T, this Task Unit while launching would be on a converging course with the enemy force. It seemed best to try to gain distance to the eastward away from Leyte Gulf, the probable objective of the enemy. This was based on the hope that the enemy might not see us, or if he did see us that he would not divert to attack us, or if he did so he would send a small portion of his force which we would destroy and thus gain time to enable us to cripple him by air attacks. It was apparent immediately that the major burden of destruction of the enemy force must be the responsibility of TU This was another pivotal point in the battle; a big gamble which paid off. Concealed by the rain squall and out of sight from the enemy, RADM Sprague gambled greatly by turning the task unit to the south and thereby decreasing the distance in which Centre Force could have to travel to cut off the task units retreat. RADM Sprague later wrote: Destroyer HOEL, still afloat, is now running on one engine and has to be steered by hand. There is no explanation why. They could have rubbed out every ship in our formation At we received the first hit on the bridge which destroyed our voice radio communications and also the remote Radar PPI on the bridge. This shell also killed several bridge personnel It was less than five minutes later that we received a hit on the main battery director putting it out of action and also killing our

anti-aircraft officer, making it necessary for the anti-aircraft guns to go into local control. We had an officer at each 40 mm mount

Chapter 9 : FM Chapter 4, Customs, Courtesies, and Traditions

World War II Today: December 11 Finnish ski troops attack Soviet supply line on Raate Road. Sidi Barrani is captured along with over 20, Italians, bringing the total captured to nearly 38, in 2 days, along with guns and 73 tanks.

It provides the foundation for Air University , the intellectual and leadership center of the Air Force; the 1st Airlift Wing ; the Business and Enterprise Systems Directorate; and more than 30 tenant units. The wing is also responsible for the safety and security of the base, which it accomplishes through force protection, maintaining and modernizing facilities and infrastructure, and seeking efficient new ways of conducting operations. It supports more than 12, active duty, reserve, civilian and contractor personnel. The group oversees Team ITT, which provides base operating support services through a multi-year contract. Ancillary services include pharmacy, radiology, a referral management center and a laboratory. Shortages of equipment in the pre-war Army meant that even drill was performed with broomsticks taking the place of rifles. Gowen was not ready for occupancy when the advance echelon arrived, so they were initially quartered at a National Guard armory near Boise , Idaho, named Camp Bonneville. By 4 June the group was assembled at Gowen Field. By August the group received its first six Douglas B Bolos and was able to begin flying training. The group was notified in October that it would be equipped with the Martin B Marauder. Several crews were sent to Patterson Field , Ohio, where they participated in the service testing of the Marauder. Once the testing was complete, the group began to pick up brand-new Bs at the Martin plant. However, soon priority was given to bringing the 77th squadron up to full strength when it was alerted for immediate movement to Alaska. On 19 December the squadron departed for Elmendorf Field and by February it had been reassigned out of the group. To provide greater coverage for antisubmarine patrols, detachments were organized to fly out of smaller fields. The group primarily used Lockheed A Hudsons for its antisubmarine work, but also flew several other types. In March, the place of the departed 77th was taken by the newly activated 1st Bombardment Squadron. At the same time, the 16th Reconnaissance Squadron was formally assigned to the group, changing its name to the 1st Bombardment Squadron. However, in May group strength was again reduced to three squadrons, when the air echelon of the 76th squadron departed for Miami , Florida and was attached to the 45th Bombardment Group as antisubmarine efforts focused on the German U-boat threat in the Caribbean Sea. One aircraft was lost en route to Hickam Field on the first leg of this shipment. Shipping attacks relied on what were referred to as "snooper" missions, armed reconnaissance sorties, flown at night, searching for Japanese shipping to attack. On 20 July, the group made a successful attack on Japanese combatant ships: The force, sighted by [a Navy Consolidated PBY Catalina] Black Cat patrol plane earlier in the evening, was estimated to consist of four destroyers, one light cruiser, and an unknown number of transports. Repeated skip-bombing attacks, with quarter-ton bombs driven into the face of a terrific barrage of automatic weapons fire from the warships, were observed by the Mitchell crews and the naval crews aboard the patrol plane to have accomplished the following results: Enemy losses-one light cruiser left burning and dead in the water; two direct hits scored on a destroyer , causing large explosions and certain destruction; damaging hits or near misses on a foot freighter. Although sorely wounded, her defense was still vicious, pouring anti-aircraft fire from at least 30 stations. Feints at various quarters divided the fire and allowed individual planes to launch masthead attacks. On 6 October, the group made an attack against the Japanese field at Kahili. The successful strafing and parafrag [note 2] attack shut down all enemy air forces in the area for the next two days, enabling the Navy to withdraw two crippled destroyers and continue rescue operations and permitting cargo ships to offload troops and supplies at Barakoma airfield without air opposition. Shortly thereafter, the 75th squadron moved to Renard as well. These replacements permitted most of the ground echelon of the 69th and 70th squadrons, which had been engaged in combat since before the group arrived in the theater, to rotate back to the United States. The As were not equipped with bombsights and could only make medium altitude attacks by "dropping on leader" flying in formation and releasing their bombload at the same time as the lead aircraft, equipped with a bombsight. Group aircraft also dropped food and supplies to isolated parties in the interior of the island. Little more than a week after the last elements of the air echelon arrived in the Hollandia area, the group air echelon

departed for the Mar Airstrip near Sansapor , linking up with its ground echelon, which had been there since late August, having arrived by ship from the Russell Islands. By the time it had settled in at Puerto Princesa Airfield , its original flying cadre from the Solomons campaign had rotated back to the United States after flying the required number of missions. However, few of the ground crews were returned to the States, although many had expected to be relieved when rotation policies were announced, only to be cancelled. Balikpapan was a center for oil refining on Borneo held by the Japanese. These attacks included bombing and strafing enemy shore installations. The round trip to the target was over miles and was among the longest flown by medium bombers during the war. Four of the missions encountered severe tropical weather fronts. Despite intense and accurate flak , the group destroyed gun positions, warehouses, roadblocks, fuel and ammunition dumps, a radar station as well as huge stores of gasoline and oil which the enemy had placed in position to be released into shallow pits on the beach and ignited when the Australian ground troops made their assaults. The group attacked the beach while naval underwater demolition teams operated offshore without losing a man. The attacks were so effective that the Australian Seventh Division was able to come ashore without enemy opposition. In August the group was alerted for a move to Okinawa. However, with the end of the war, the move was cancelled. During the war the group had flown missions a total of 14, sorties. At the end of , the th squadron returned to the United States for inactivation and the th was inactivated in the Philippines. At Itami, the unit began preparations to convert to Douglas A Invaders , but it was inactivated there on 10 May By 13 August all three operational squadrons were flying the Peacemaker. The entire wing deployed to Upper Heyford from 18 October to 18 November All 35 BCs in the Air Force inventory were initially delivered to the 42d. By the end of the year, the wing replaced the older Bs and was combat ready with the Stratofortresses. However, crew training lagged behind the delivery of new bombers and at the end of the year the wing had only sixteen combat ready crews. Its tankers flew from Goose Air Base , Labrador during this period. In Chrome Dome, the 42d flew fully combat-configured bombers along a routes across the Atlantic to the Mediterranean. Tasking to support these two operations typically lasted from thirty to sixty days during which the wing maintained two Bs airborne at all times. Kennedy informed the American public that the Soviet Union had installed missile sites in Cuba from which it could strike the United States. As a result, SAC canceled flying training and increased the size of its ground and airborne alert forces. During the Cuban Missile Crisis , wing bombers flew airborne alert missions and its tankers flew air refueling missions, transferring almost 24 million pounds of fuel to the Bs. In the same period, the wing deployed aircraft, aircrews, and support personnel periodically in support of Operation Arc Light and other operations in Southeast Asia. The crew members flew the damaged "Buff" over Thailand before they bailed out. All were recovered within a short period. Wing personnel and equipment remained active in Southeast Asia operations until late The newly consolidated organization retained the 42d Bombardment Wing designation. Tankers from the 42d also deployed to Diego Garcia. Bush ordered alert crews to stand down. One year later, after a decision by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission , the wing began preparations to close Loring.