

Exploring the WWII Relics of PNG & the Solomons



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Sherry & Dave McCampbell
s/v Soggy Paws 2019
www.SVSoggypaws.com



Cruising in Melanesia, Solomons & PNG

Exploring South Pacific World War II Relics



Sherry & Dave McCampbell
s/v Soggy Paws 4/2020



**Our SE Asia Cruising Base
HOV Marina Samal Island, Mindanao,
Philippines in 2015**



HOV Marina & Condos on Samal Island in 2019



SPaws

S/V Soggy Paws

Florida to the Philippines 2007–2015



Sherry & Dave McCampbell
s/v Soggy Paws 2019





Cruising in SE Asia 2015-2017



Puerto Galera

Busuanga

Coron

Palawan

Bonbonon

Surigao Strait

Mindanao

2018 Cruising Visayas Central Philippines

2,000 NM 6 Months



2019 Cruise Philippines, Indonesia, PNG, Solomons & Return 7,000 nm, 11 mos 25 nights underway



Why Cruise Melanesia?

- **Indonesia**

- Past cruising experience
- Best SCUBA diving in Pacific
- Some World War II History

- **Papua New Guinea (PNG)**

- Spectacular World War II history
- Very good SCUBA diving
- Exotic Culture- remote islands, highlands, rivers, tourism
- Remote islands, access to Highlands & Sepik river

- **Solomon Islands (SI)**

- Spectacular World War II history
- Very good SCUBA diving
- Exotic Culture- remote islands, minimal tourism

Why are we WWII Enthusiasts?

**My Dad – Top Navy Ace of WWII
Flew Hellcats in the Western Pacific**



**Hellcat Minsi III
Landing on USS
Essex CV-9 1944**



A6M Zero
engine



**Sherry sez: Where are we
and what the heck is this?**

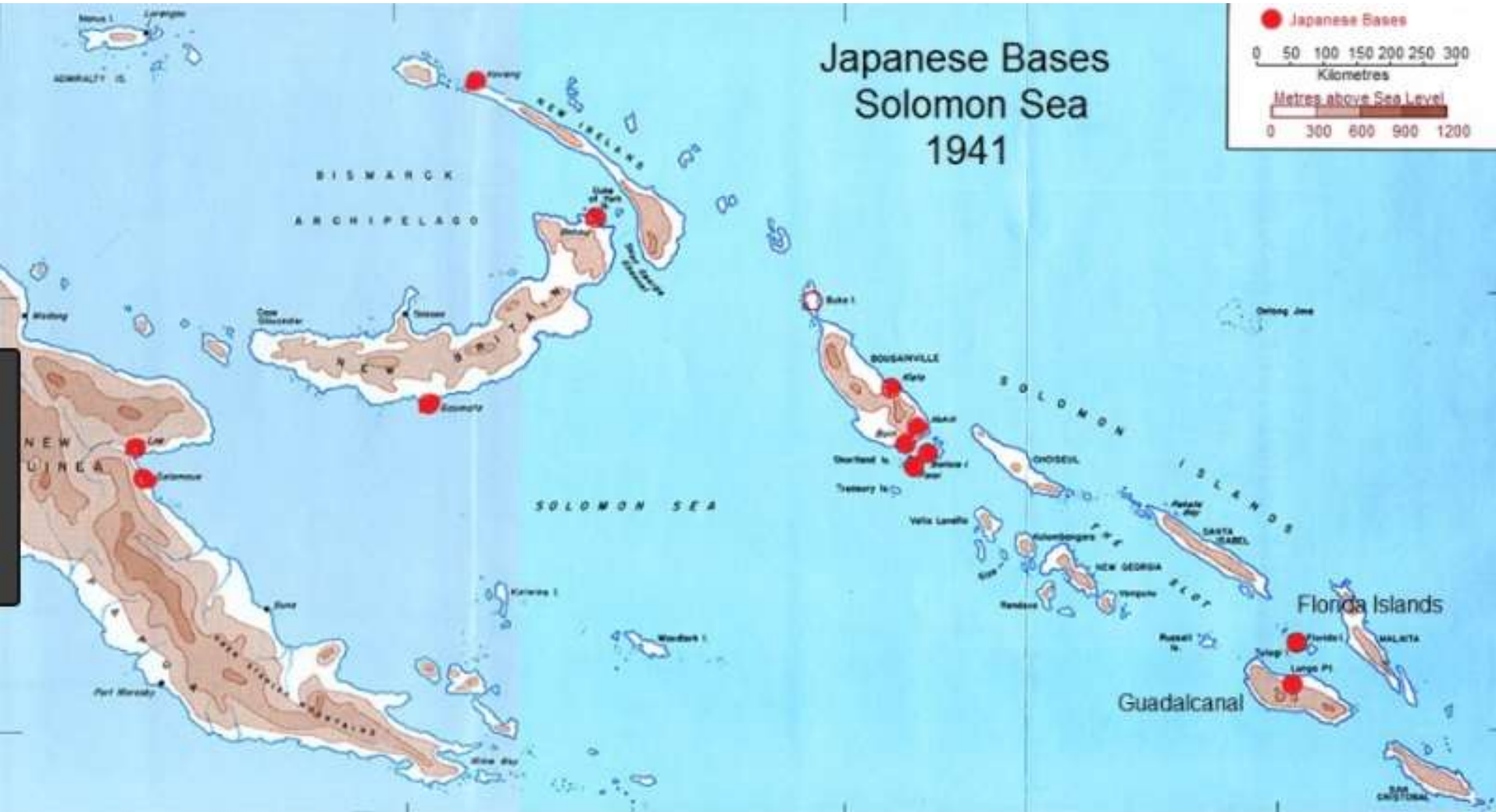
THE PACIFIC AND ADJACENT THEATERS 1942

— Japanese Limit of Advance

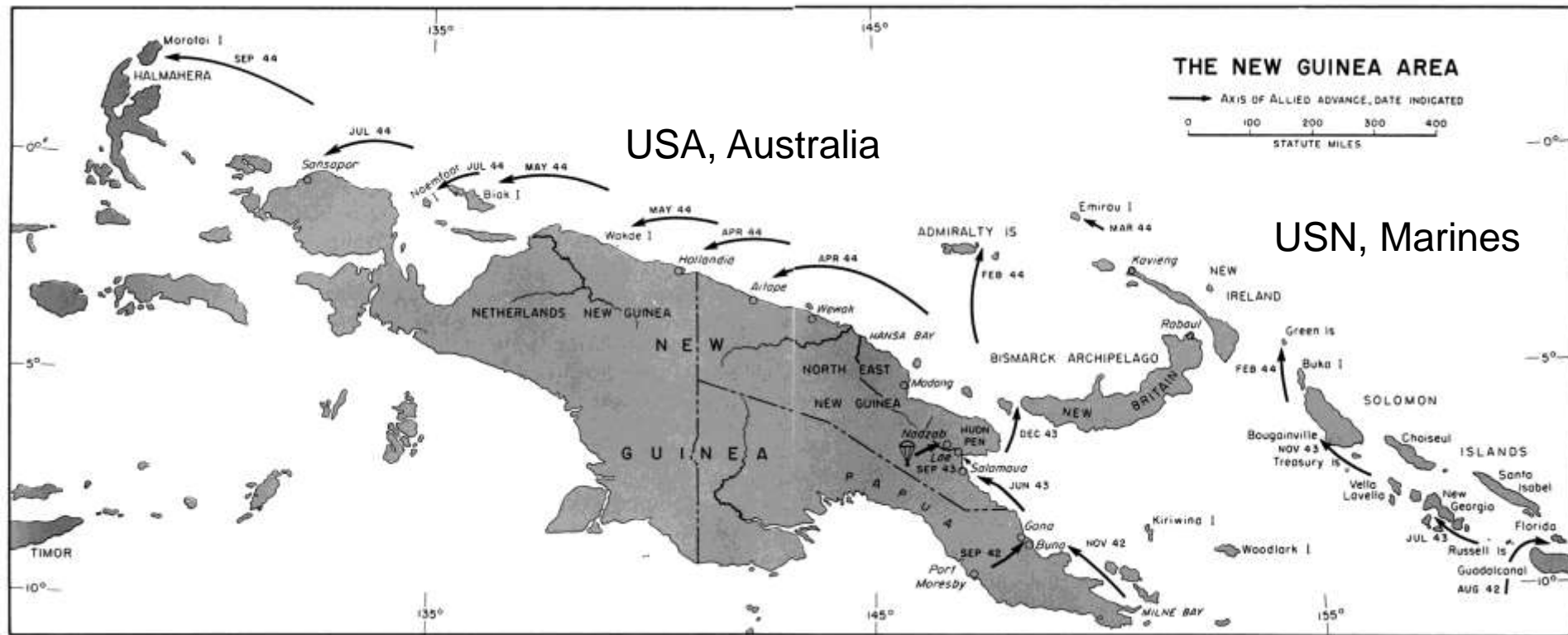
0 1600
Miles at the Equator



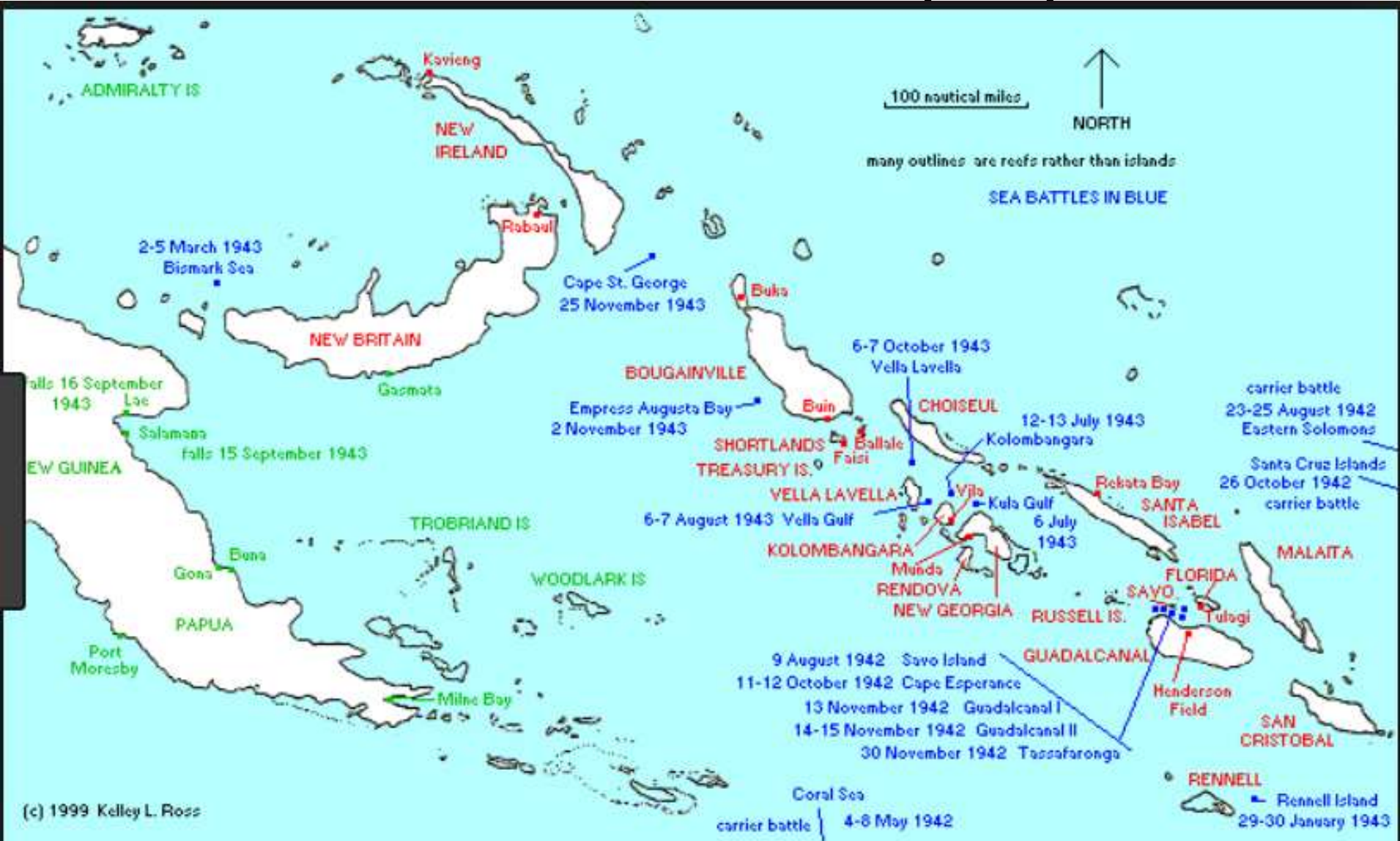
Major Japanese Bases PNG & Solomons Start of WWII



WW II Allied Movement up PNG & Solomons 1942-1944



Major Sea Battles PNG & Solomons 1942-43 (blue)



Solomon Islands

American Invasions

Operation
Cherryblossom
1 Nov 1943

Operation
Blissful 21 Feb 1943



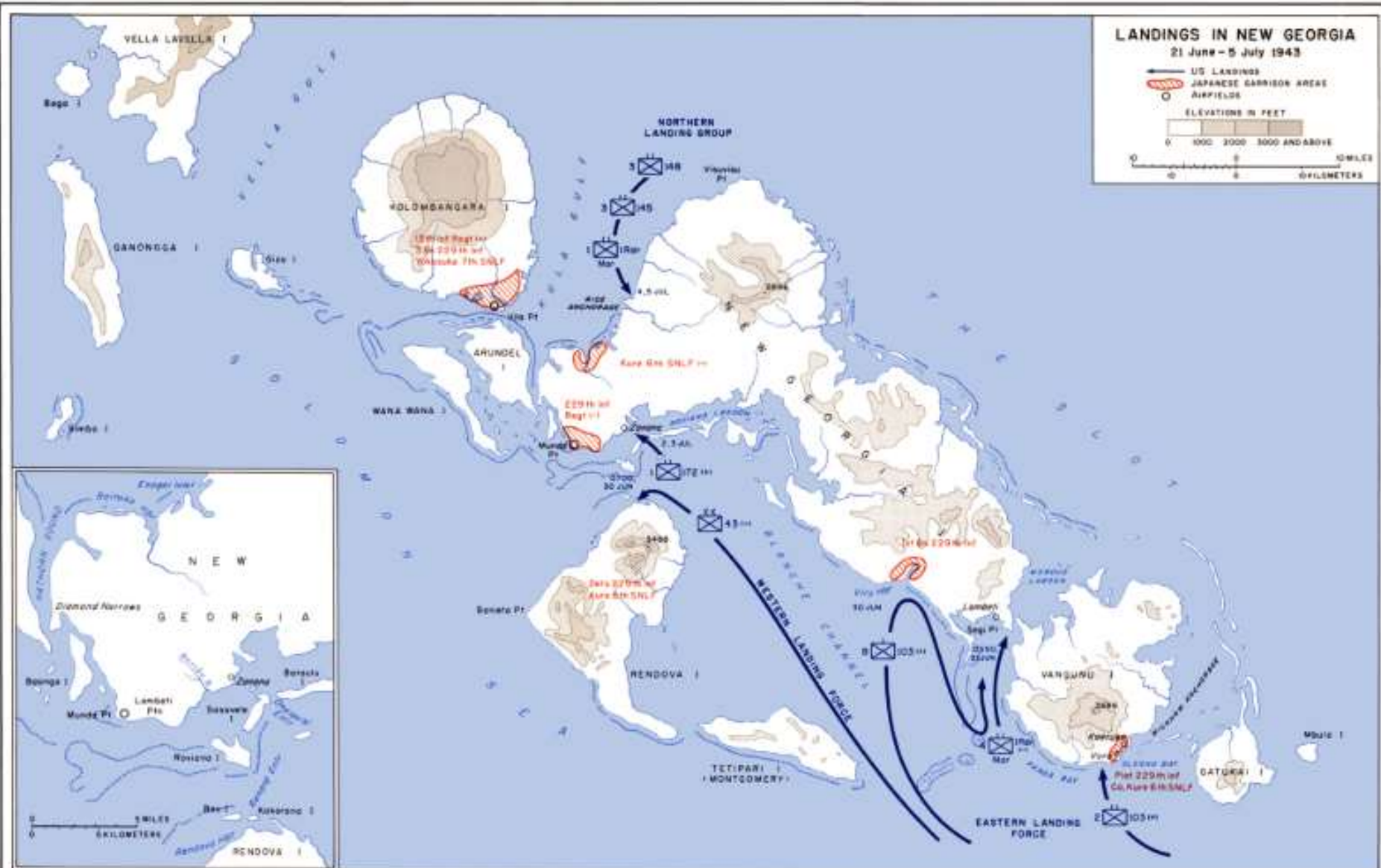
Operation
Cleanslate
21 Feb 1943

Operation
Toenails
June-July
1943

Operation
Cleanslate
21 Feb 1943

Operation
Watchtower
7 Aug 1942

Allied Landings in New Georgia Solomons, June & July 1943



Major WWII Dates SW Pacific

(start dates of major Allied Campaigns)

- Guadalcanal – 7 Aug 1942
- New Georgia (N Solomons) – June 1943
- Stirling Island (N Solomons) – Oct 1943
- Bougainville (S PNG) – Nov 1943
- Rabaul (Mid PNG) – October 1943
- Kavieng (Mid PNG) – April 1943
- Biak (Indo) – April 1944

Tactics

- Japanese:
 - Dig in & build for permanent occupation
 - Harass and prevent Allies to push N
- Allies:
 - Keep moving toward ultimate goal (Philippines & Japanese home islands)
 - Disable shipping and airfields
 - Maintain nearby air forces to keep airfields and shipping from returning
- Most bypassed places were not fully liberated until after Japanese surrender
 - Lots of war material left “as is, where is”

Step 1:
Meeting our buddy boats
in Raja Ampat
3 overnights, 550 Miles in 12 Days

Morotai

Halmahera

Wind
Dec-Mar



Maluku Utara

Wayag

Raja Ampat

Sorong



Our Buddy Boats





**Ocelot – Kronos 45, Jon & Sue, Americans
Adventurers, Divers, Birdwatchers**



Indigo II

- **Lagoon 410**
- **Chris & Liz**
- **Australian**
- **Birdwatchers**

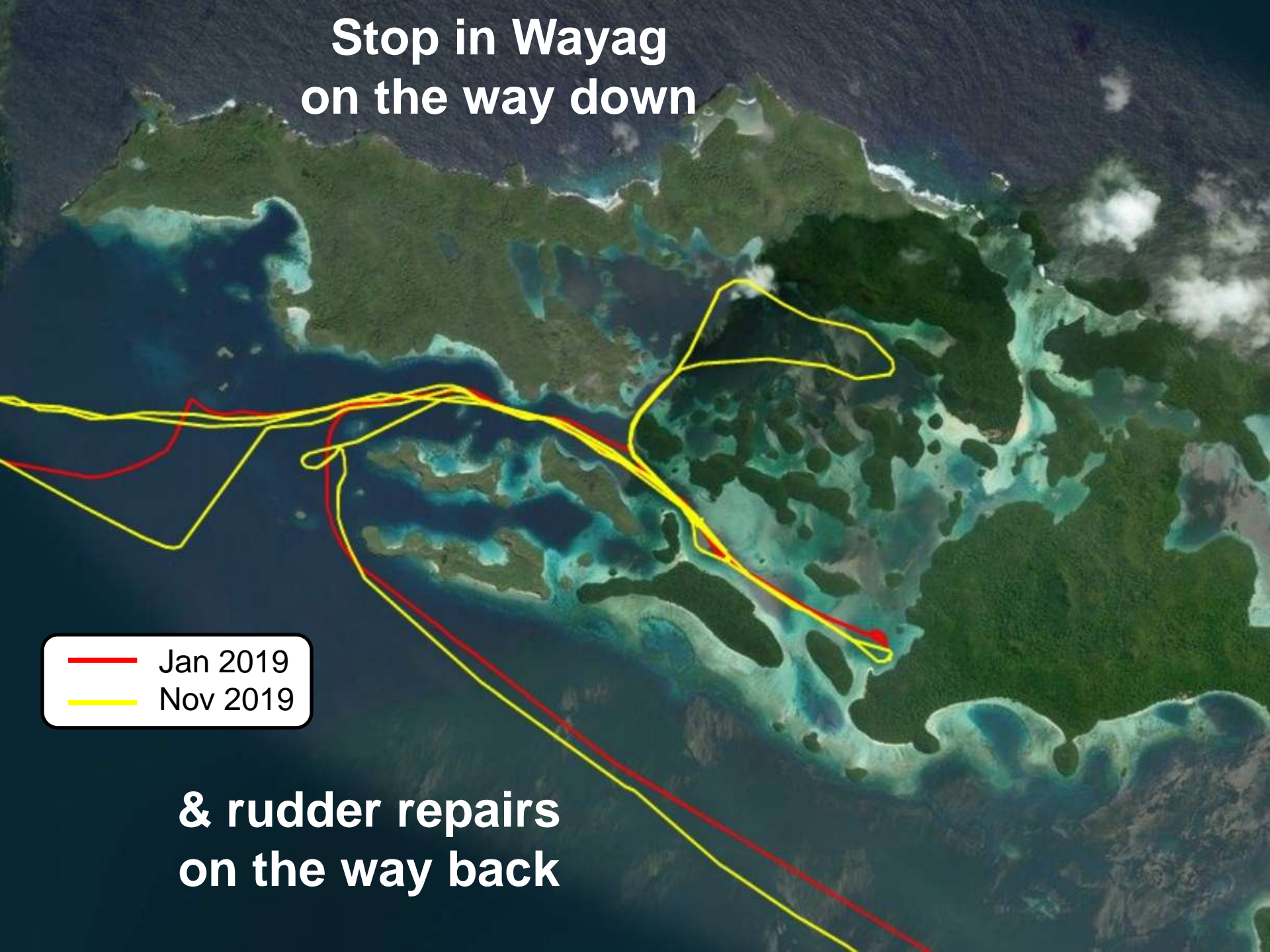


**Berzerker – Selection 37, Craig & Pam, Kiwis
Adventurers, 1 Diver, Foodies**



**Soggy Paws – St. Francis 44, Americans
Adventurers, Divers, WWII Enthusiasts**

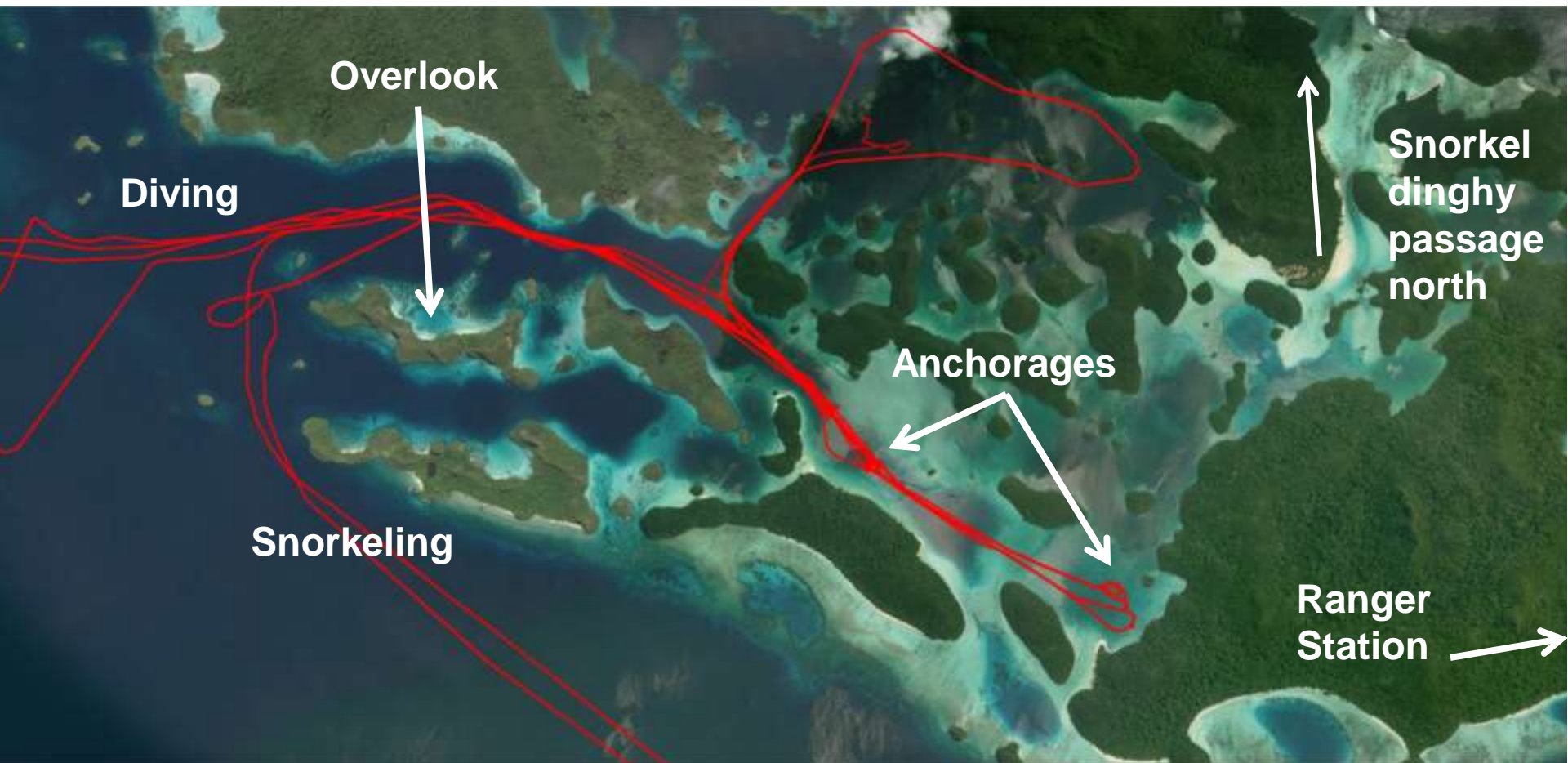
**Stop in Wayag
on the way down**



— Jan 2019
— Nov 2019

**& rudder repairs
on the way back**

Wayag National Park



Indonesian live aboard charter boats



**Dave & Sherry at
top of overlook**



Wayag NP looking NW



Wayag NP looking West





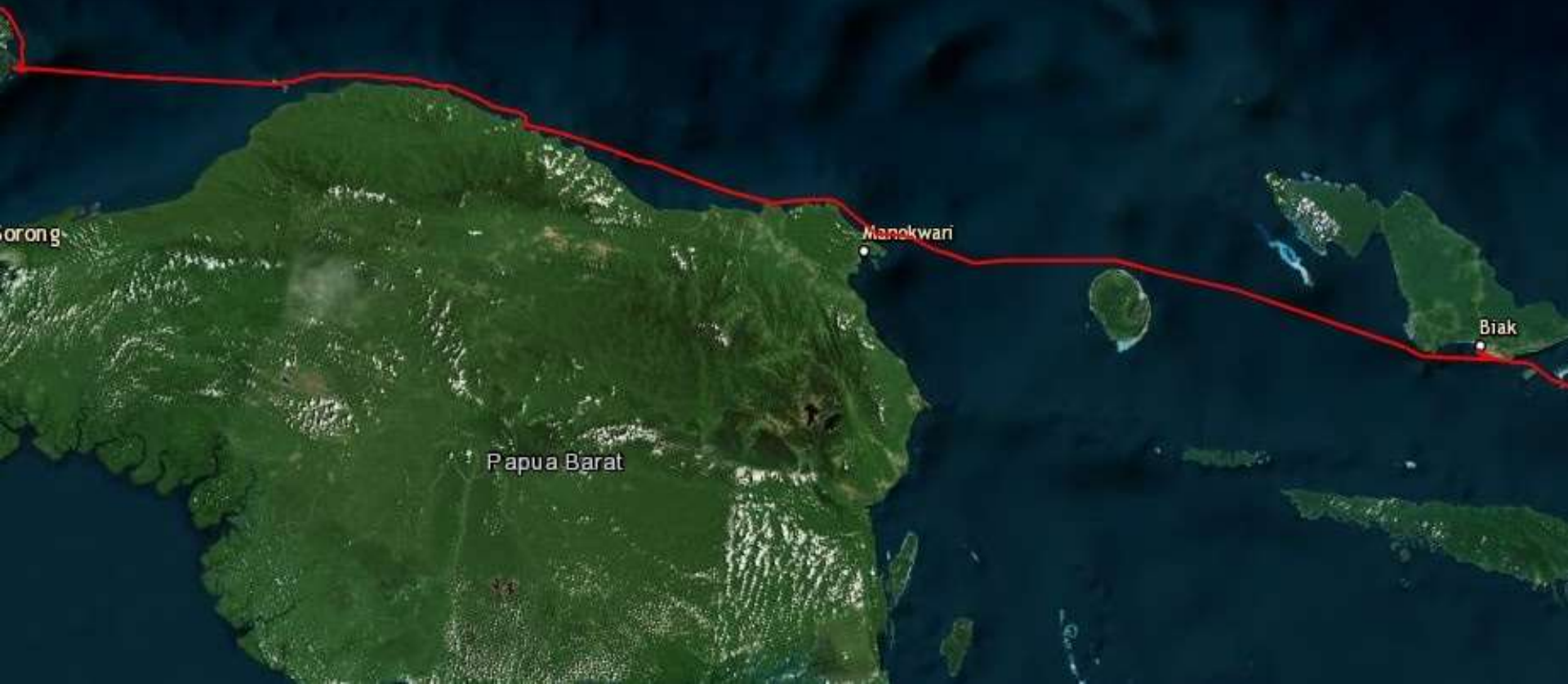
**Sea cave on Wayag
North shore**

Biak Indonesia (check in/out port)



Coast-Hopping Raja Ampat to Biak

- avoiding logs, FADs, and fishermen
- rocky, exposed anchorages



**Logs! A real problem for a
catamaran with exposed sail
drives**



**We hit a big log!
Big dent in rudder**





Biak, WW2

Bosnek Town on the south coast of Biak, site of U. S. Army landing on May 27, 1944



BOSNEK TOWN ON BIAK



Biak, Indonesia



**Disabled Japanese Army Type 95
Ha Go Light Tank on Biak
destroyed in battle with U. S. Army
on May 29, 1944 or June 15, 1944**

**Biak- stop for Customs,
provisions, fuel, diving.**

**Winds in
January**



**Best
anchorage**

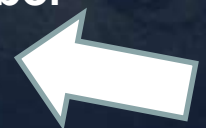
Samofa

**Bad town
anchorage**

Biak Kota

**Routes in & out
of Biak Harbor**

**Winds in
October**



Consolidated PBY5A Catalina Maritime Patrol Amphibian Bomber



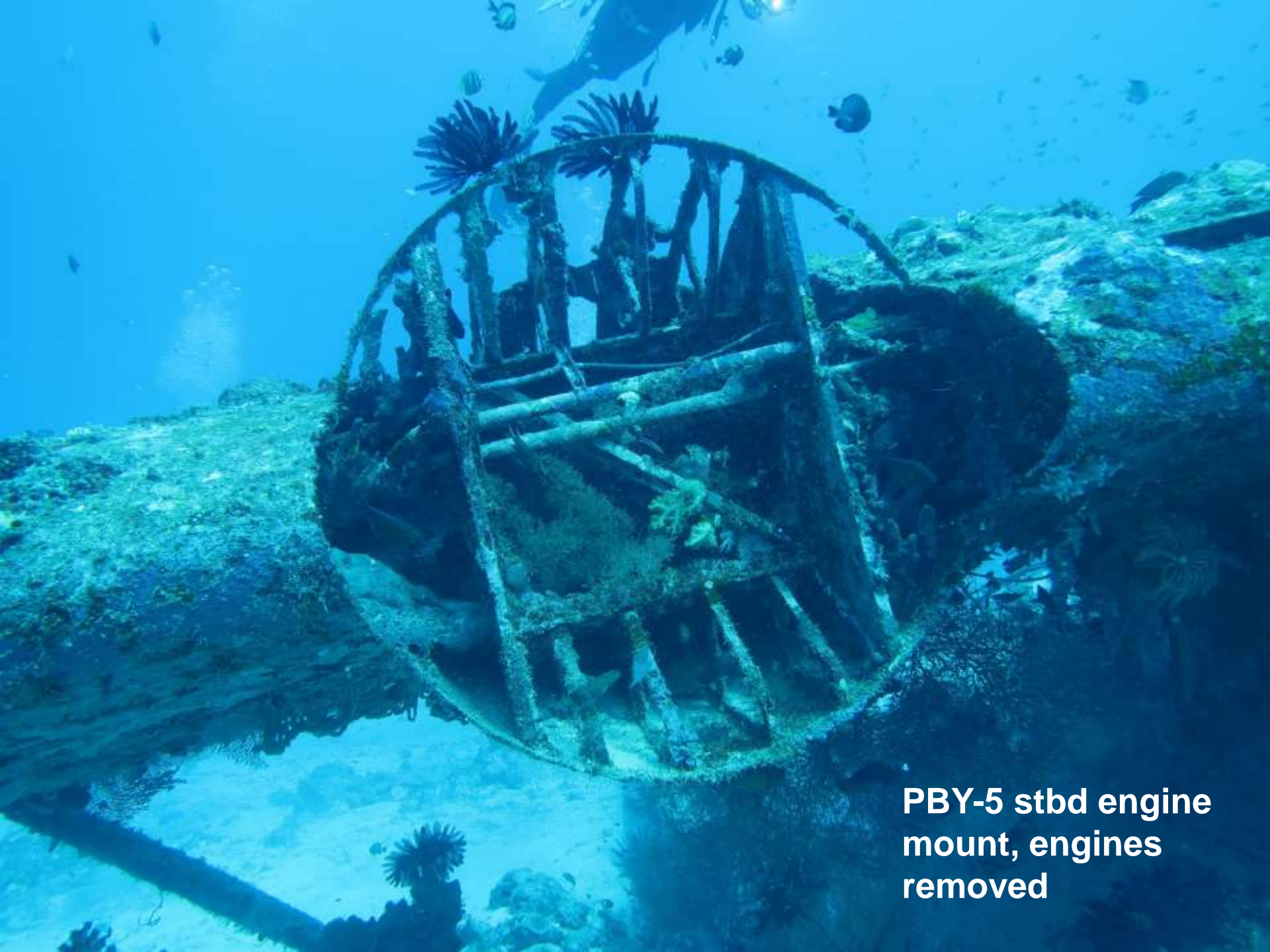
7 crew, 2x1200hp,
175mph, 3050mi, 18k',
2x50cal, 3x30cal, bombs,
dpth chgs, 3300 ea

Consolidated PBY-5 *Catalina* Flying Boat





**Biak PBY-5
in 90 fsw**



**PBY-5 stbd engine
mount, engines
removed**

**PBY-5 port
gunner's blister**

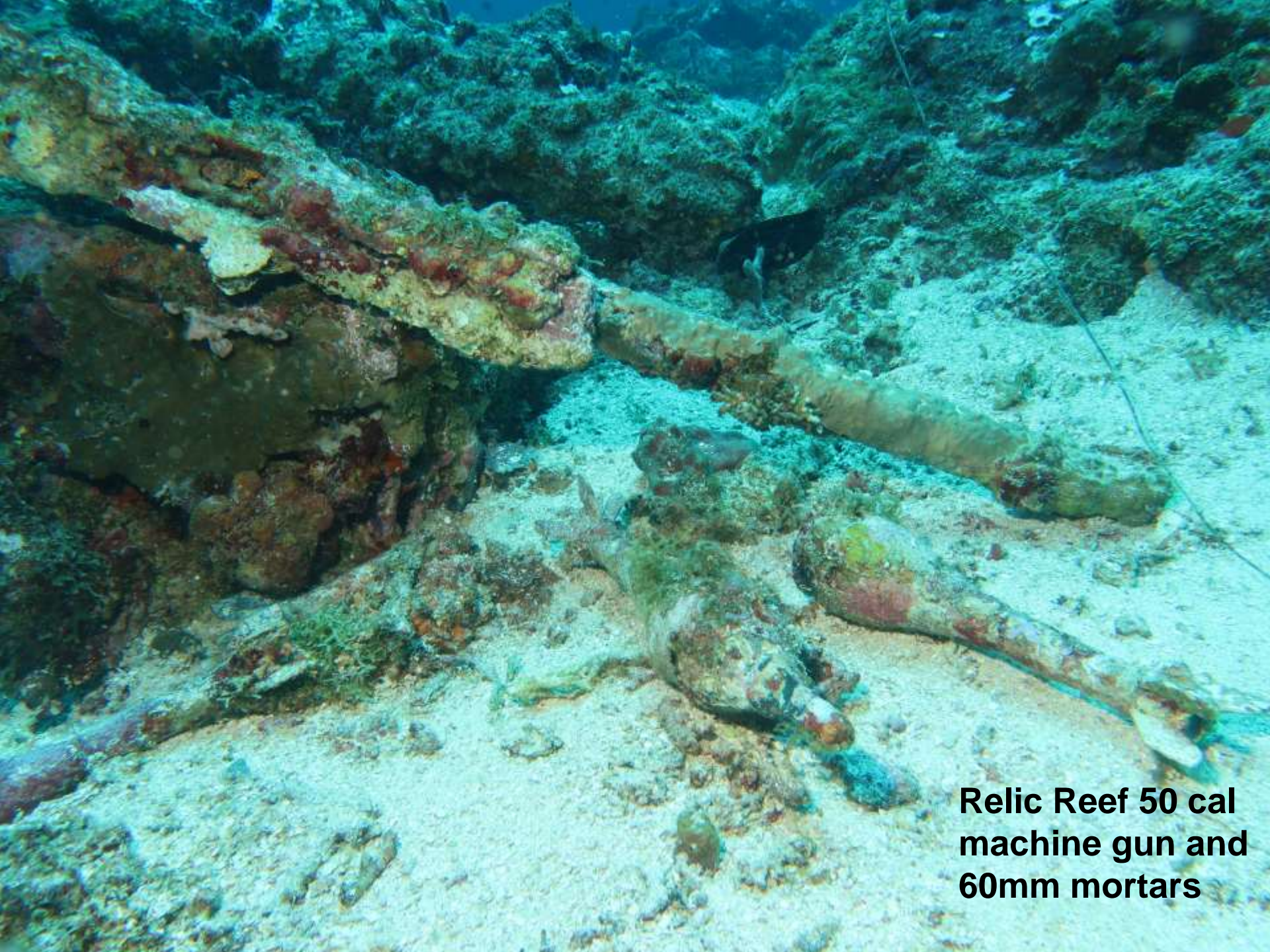




Me inside
port blister



**PBY-5 pilot's seat
and glass fish**



**Relic Reef 50 cal
machine gun and
60mm mortars**

**Relic Reef 60mm
mortars**



Sail drive repair
on the beach SE
of Biak



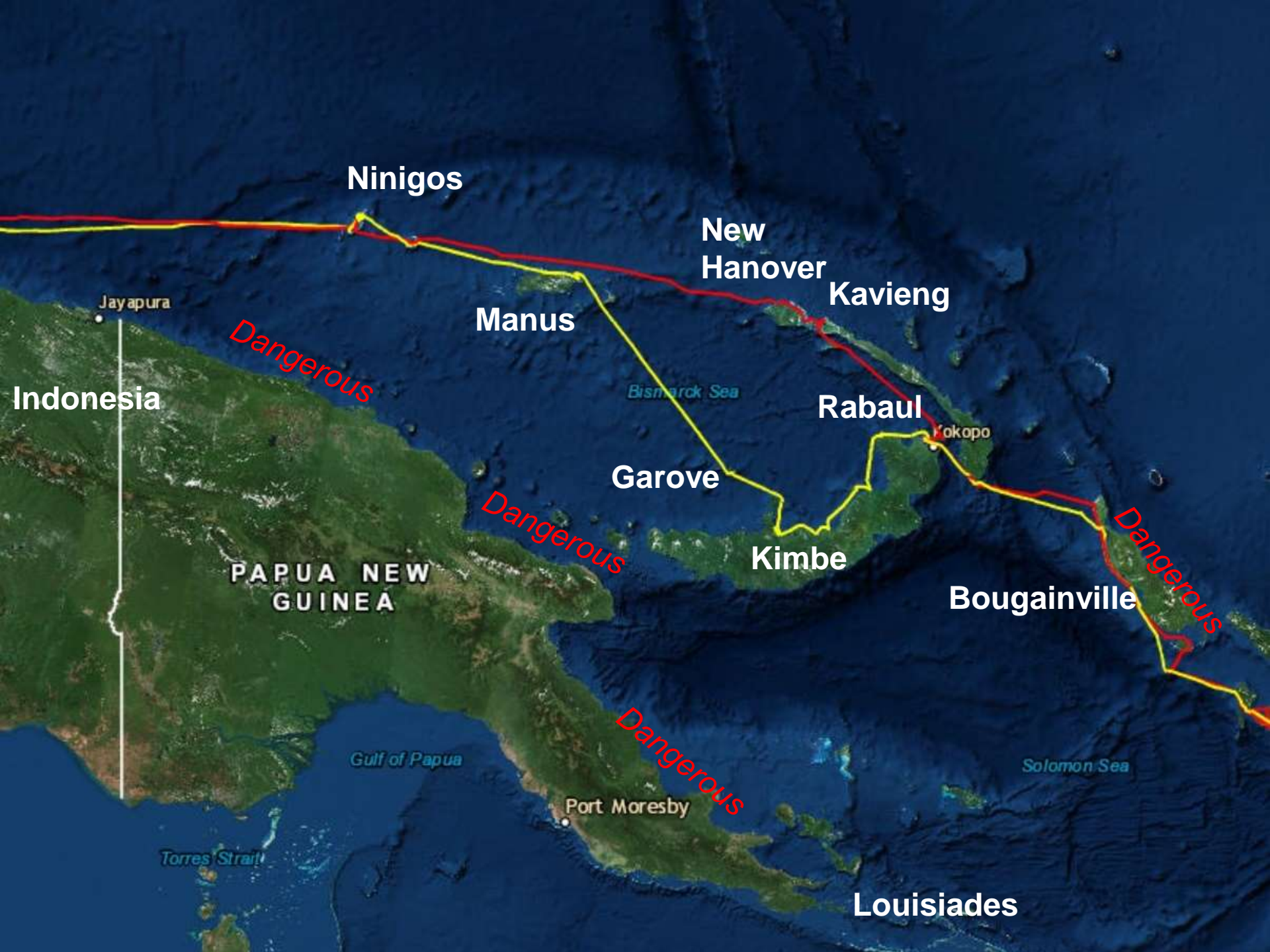
**Midnight mechanics
replacing the upper orings on
both sail drives in 3 hours**



Highlights/Lowlights of Indonesia

- Wayag
 - Beautiful anchorage
- Long reverse of “Bird’s Head” shoreline
- Biak
 - Catalina dive
 - Final provisioning
- Saildrive maintenance on the beach
- Logs & Log Damage





Ninigos

New Hanover

Kavieng

Manus

Indonesia

Jayapura

Dangerous

Bismarck Sea

Rabaul

Kokopo

Garove

Dangerous

Kimbe

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Bougainville

Dangerous

Gulf of Papua

Port Moresby

Dangerous

Solomon Sea

Torres Strait

Louisianades

Highlights of Papua New Guinea

- **Ninigos Islands (very remote)**
- **New Hanover River Trip**
- **Kavieng & Rabaul WW2 Relics**
- **Rudder Repairs in Kavieng**
- **Volcanos!**
- **River trips & waterfall hikes**
- **Fishing**
- **Diving in Kimbe Bay**
- **Garove Island**

— Jan-Feb
— Oct

Ninigos
Islands

Hermit
Islands

Our First & Last Stop In Papua New Guinea
A 4 day Passage to/from Biak





Ninigos Islands, PNG

USN 7th Fleet War Diary June 1944 with patrol routes shown

S E C R E T

APPENDIX I

ANNEX "B" TO TASK FORCE SEVENTY-SEVEN OPERATION PLAN No. 6-44

ROUTES

ABLE - SEEADLER to HOLLANDIA N. of NINIGOS (GUN-HOT-DET-KID).
 SEEADLER to KID - 430 mi.
 BAKER - CRETIN to HOLLANDIA (or AITAPE) - coast route N. of LONG
 IS. (AHE-BOY-COW-NOI-MAN-(WOW)-KID)
 CRETIN TO "WOW" - 475 mi. CRETIN to "KID" - 575 mi.
 CHARLIE - SEEADLER to HOLLANDIA S. of NINIGO Gp (GUN-KID)
 SEEADLER to KID - 400 mi.
 DOG - AITAPE to HOLLANDIA - 112 mi. (WOW-APE-BOY-KID).
 EASY - HOLLANDIA to WAKDE - 127 mi. (KID-CUB-ELK-ICE)
 FOX - TANAHMERAH BAY to WAKDE (JUG-IVY-JAW) obsolete.
 GEORGE - HOLLANDIA to BOSNIK - 308 mi. (KID-CUB-DEW-ERG-FOG-GEM)
 GEORGE - WAKDE to BOSNIK - 199 mi (ICE-KEY-DEW-ERG-GEM)
 GEORGE-HOW - HOLLANDIA to BOSNIK - 304 mi (KID-KEY-LAP-ORB-GEM)
 HOW - WAKDE to BOSNIK - 196 mi (ICE-KEY-LAP-ORB-GEM)
 GEORGE-ITEM -HOLLANDIA - KAMIRI -411mi (KID-DEW-ERG-MOB-NIB-QUE)
 GEORGE-ITEM - WAKDE - KAMIRI - 303 mi (ICE-KEY-ERG-MOB-NIB-QUE)
 GEORGE-HOW-ITEM - HOLLANDIA - KAMIRI- 400 mi (KID-KEY-LAP-NIB-QUE)
 HOW-ITEM - WAKDE - KAMIRI - 292 mi (ICE-KEY-LAP-NIB-QUE)

CTF 76 secret serial 00526 of 15 May 1944 describes the tie-in of MADANG and SAIDOR with Route BAKER. Briefly:



Oscar & the whole village singing a welcome



Local voyaging and racing canoes

**On our way
to the races**





**Ocelot anchored on the flats
northern lagoon for diving the
channel**

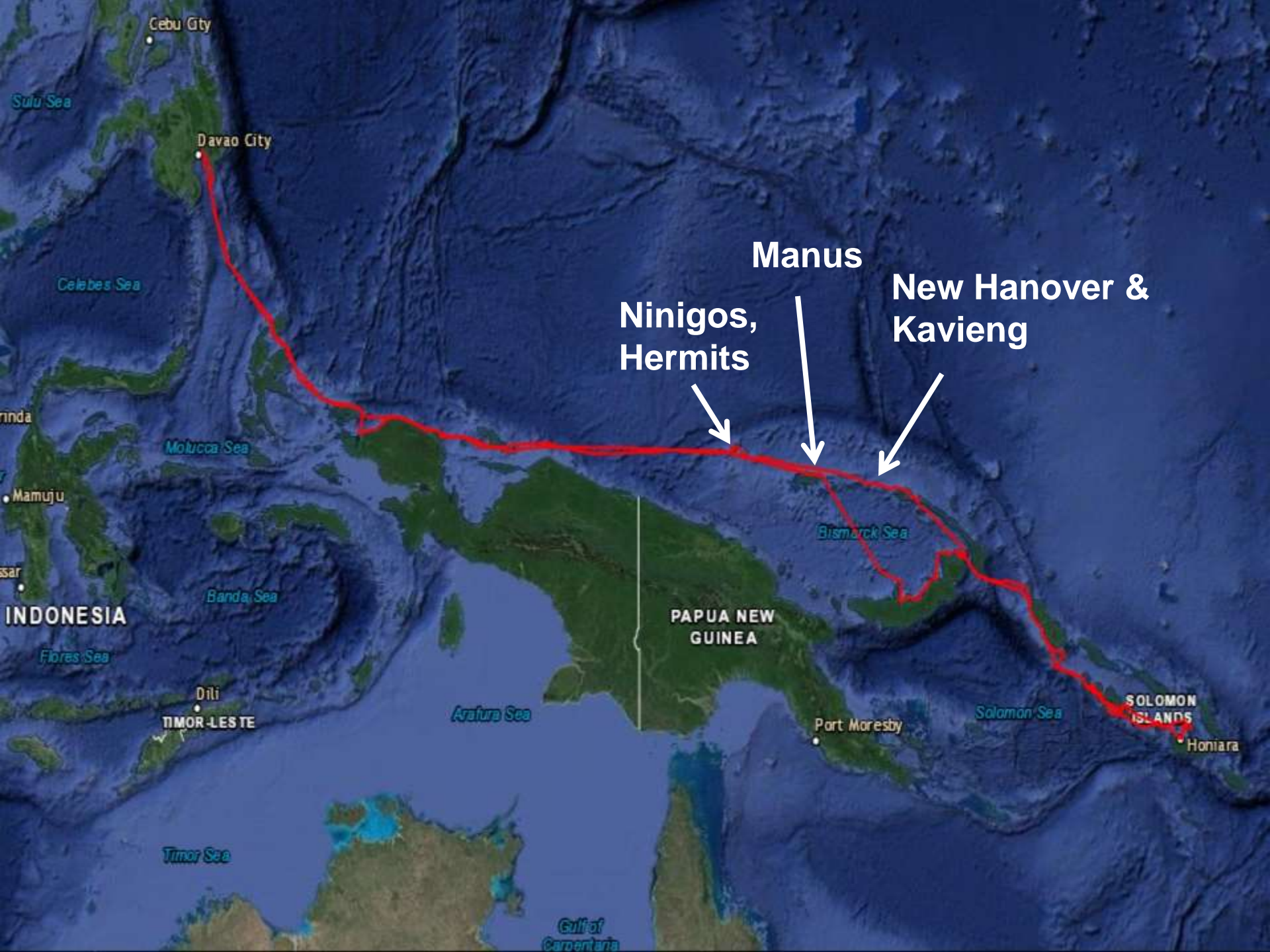


**Drone view of
Soggy Paws
anchored on
the flats for
channel diving**

Hermit Islands

We stayed in Alacrity Harbor for 3 days and southern anchorage 1 night





Cebu City

Davao City

Sulu Sea

Celebes Sea

Molucca Sea

Banda Sea

Flores Sea

Dili

TIMOR-LESTE

Timor Sea

Arafura Sea

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Bismarck Sea

Port Moresby

Solomon Sea

SOLOMON ISLANDS

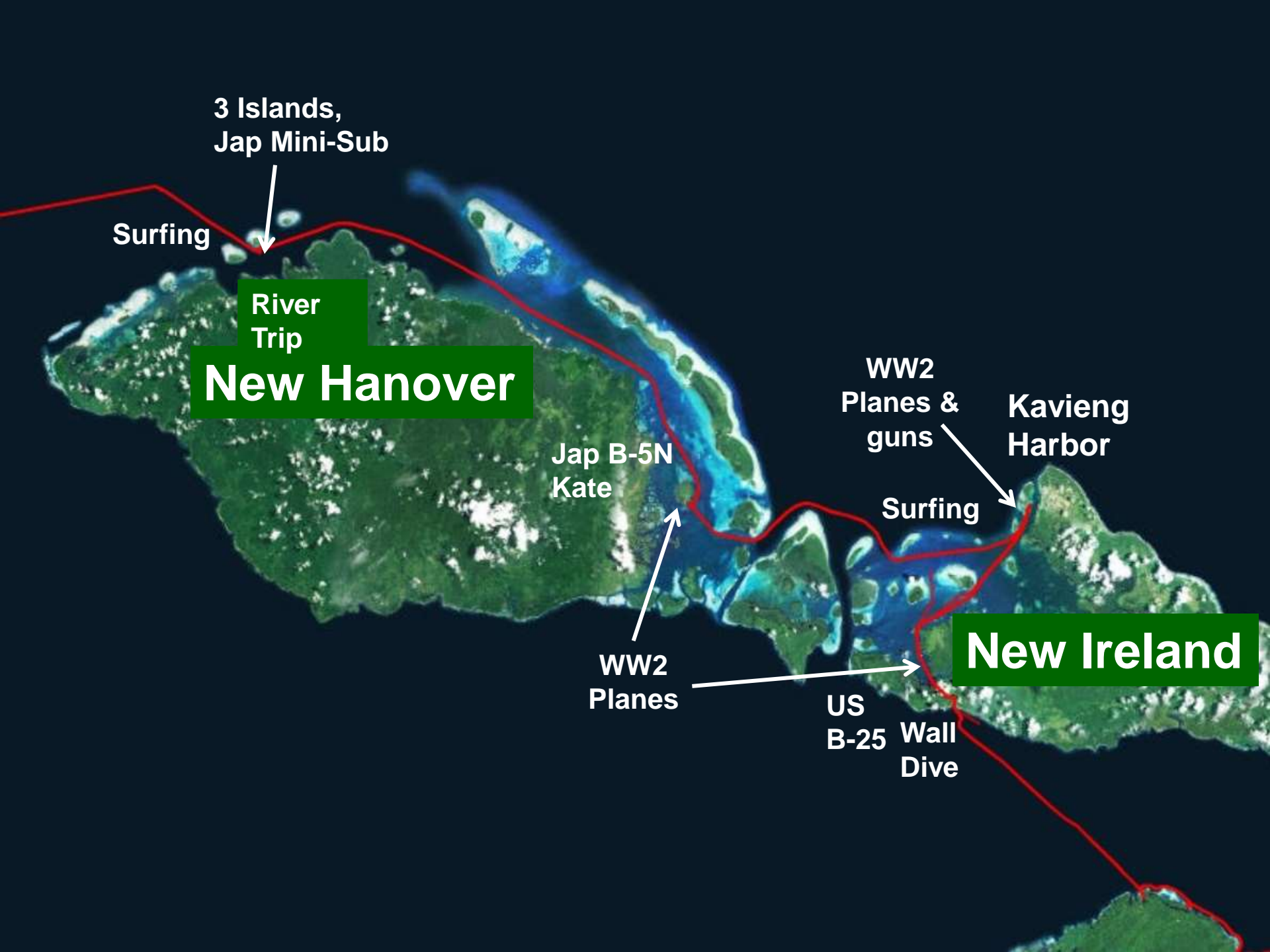
Honiara

Gulf of Carpentaria

Manus
Ninigos, Hermits
New Hanover & Kavieng

**Manus PNG- we stayed 25nm
north of Manus on way to
Kavieng, stopped to
checkout on return**





3 Islands,
Jap Mini-Sub

Surfing

River
Trip

New Hanover

Jap B-5N
Kate

WW2
Planes

WW2
Planes &
guns

Kavieng
Harbor

Surfing

New Ireland

US
B-25
Wall
Dive

**New Hanover, New
Ireland, PNG**

**New Hanover
Mini Submarine
torpedo tubes in
60fsw**





**New Hanover mini sub
counter rotating props**

**New Hanover
minisub sail hatch**



Our River Adventure



Festival
Teluk Taha





Hiking to the Village





The School

- 50 students, 1 teacher
- No chairs, no books



Sherry shows the kids the wonders of a Smart cell phone

Locals build bamboo rafts for us



And off we go, down the river!



“Dese white people so crazy!”



Nakajima Type 97 Carrier Attack Bomber B5N *Kate*



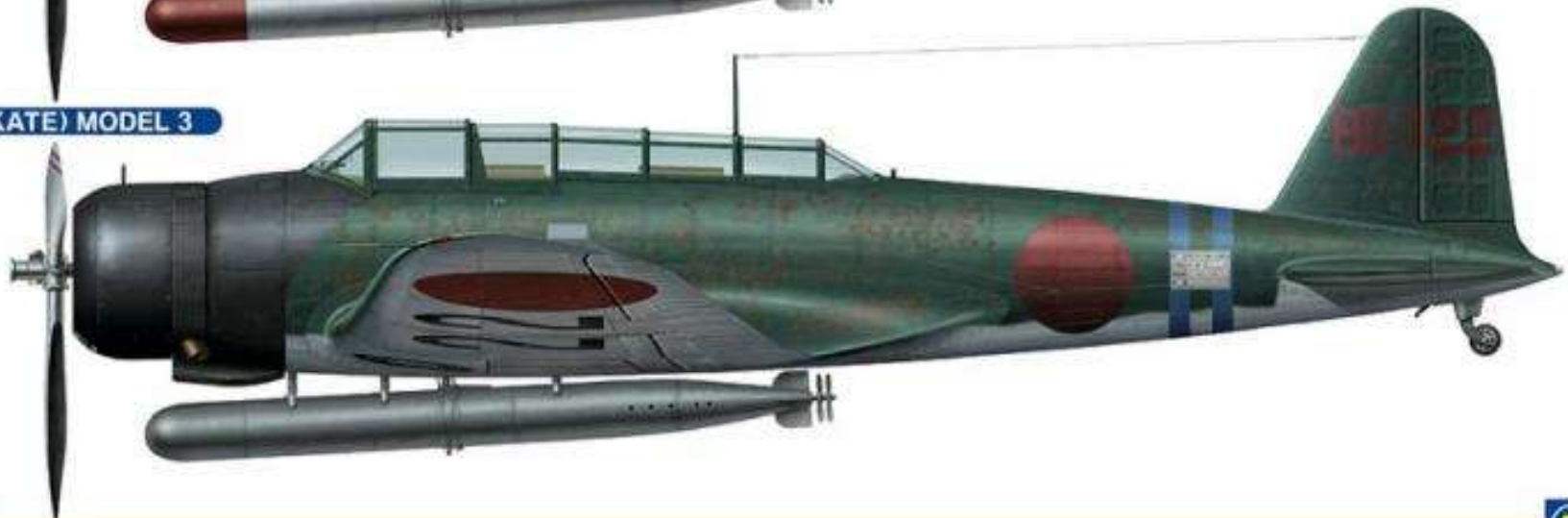
3 crew, 235 mph,
27k, 1240 mi, 1x7.7
gun, torpedo/bombs

Nakajima B5N Kate Torpedo Bomber

B5N1 (KATE) MODEL 1



B5N2 (KATE) MODEL 3



LIMITED
EDITION

Nakajima B5N1/2 TYPE 97 CARRIER ATTACK BOMBER (KATE) MODEL 1/3 COMBO

Microgram
Hobby kits

3 crew, 235 mph, 27k, 1240 mi, 1x7.7
gun, torpedo/bombs

**Nakajima B5N2 Kate
torpedo bomber in 30
fsw**

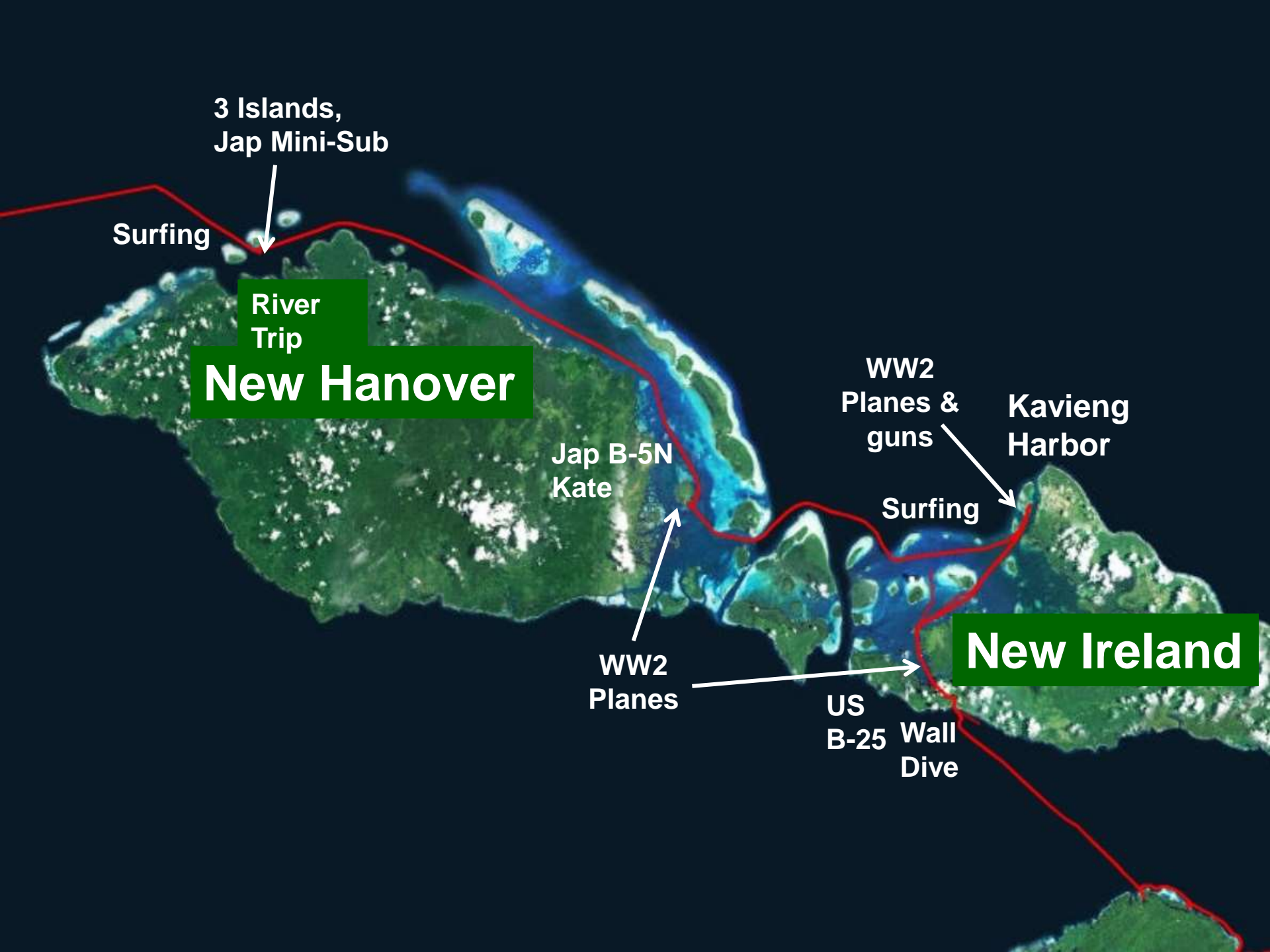


**Jap B5N2 Kate
torpedo bomber
with Sakae 11
engine**



**B5N2 Kate
throttle
levers**





3 Islands,
Jap Mini-Sub

Surfing

River
Trip

New Hanover

Jap B-5N
Kate

WW2
Planes

WW2
Planes &
guns

Kavieng
Harbor

Surfing

New Ireland

US
B-25
Wall
Dive



Kavieng, New Ireland, PNG

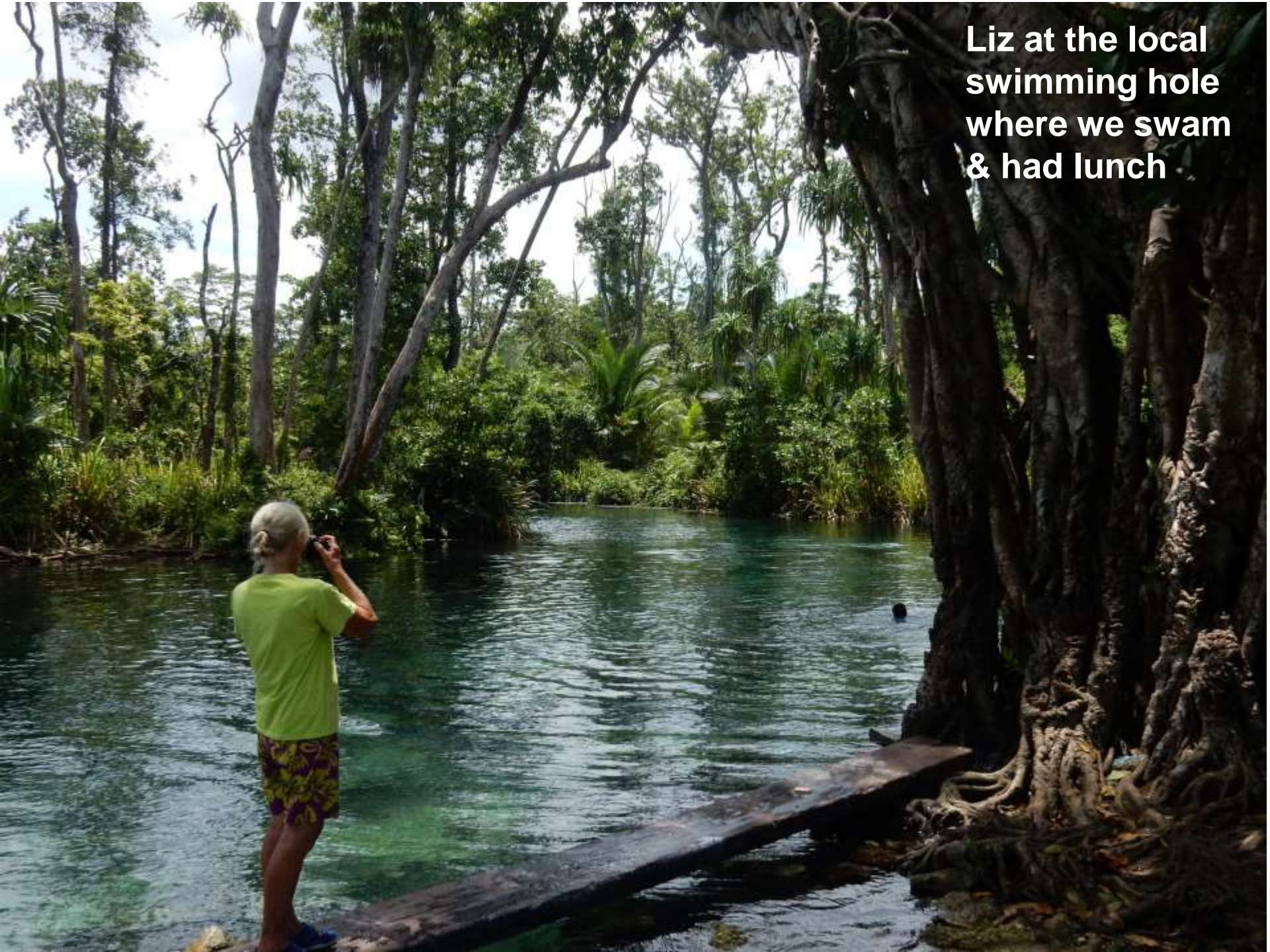
Low level strike photo by B-25 Mitchells over Kavieng and Kavieng Harbor. Main dock center right, March 1944



**Dave, Chris &
Craig feeding
the big eels**



**Liz at the local
swimming hole
where we swam
& had lunch**





**Old tree
house home
on the beach**

**Sherry and
a local
friend at the
tree house**



Friendly staff at
the road side fruit
supermarket





**Jap 100mm
shore gun in
front of church
Kavieng, note
exploded barrel
end and valuable
bronze carriage**



**Jap shore gun in
front of Tourism
Bureau Kavieng**

In front of Kavieng
Tourism Bureau-
what is it?? -
engine test stand?



Nusa Island Resort, Kavieng, PNG



WW2 Japanese
block house on
Nusa Island hike





**Japanese 100mm
shore gun in great
condition in the
jungle**



Another Japanese
100mm shore gun
overgrown in the
jungle

Japanese Aichi E13A Float plane, 3 crew



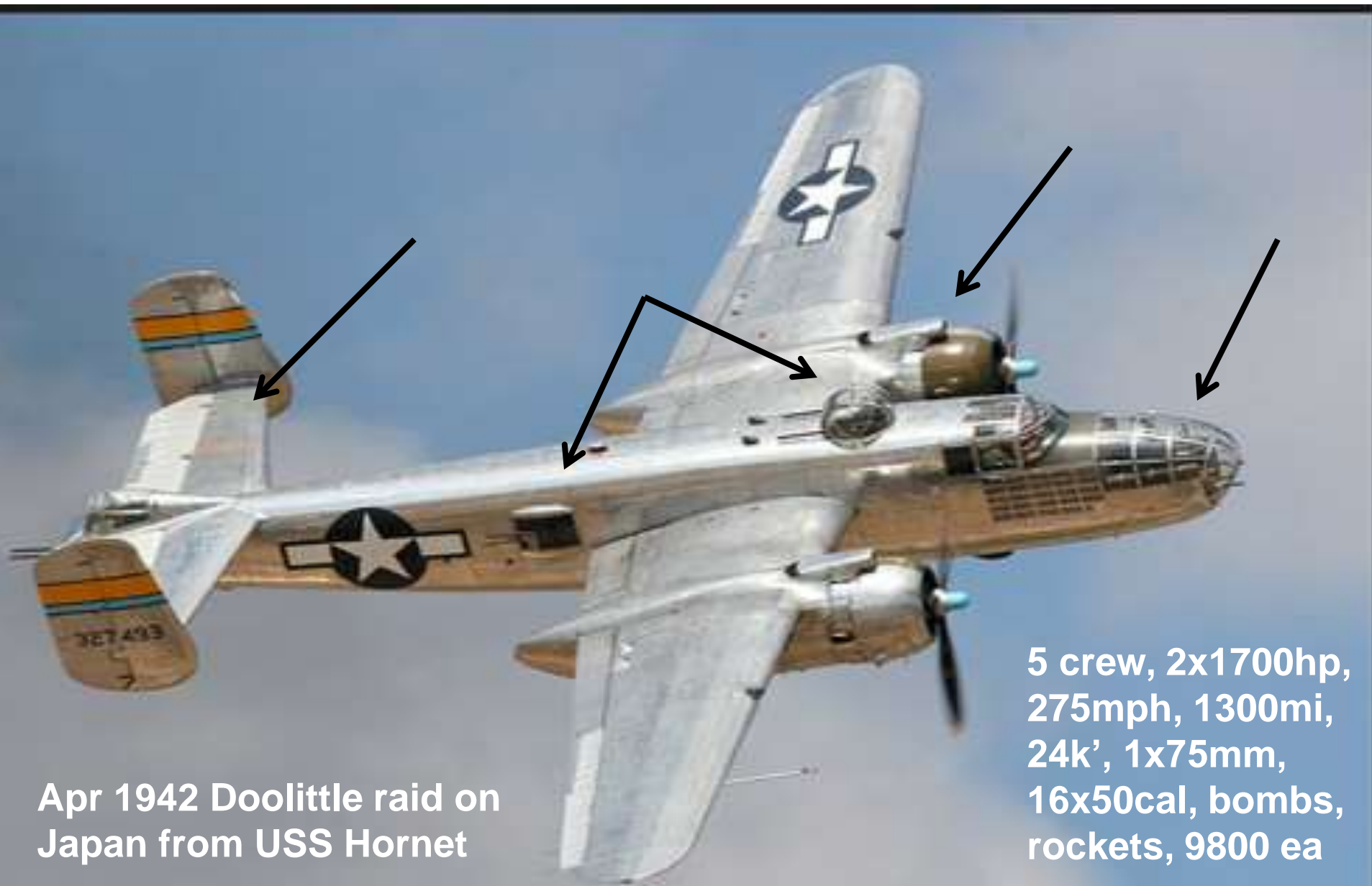


**Probable E13A Jake
float plane in 20fsw
Kavieng Harbor**



Kavieng Harbor shells

North American B-25 Mitchell Bomber



Apr 1942 Doolittle raid on
Japan from USS Hornet

An underwater photograph showing the wreckage of a B-25 bomber aircraft in 10 feet of water. The wreckage is heavily covered in green algae and other marine life. The cockpit yokes are visible, and several fish are swimming around the debris. The water is a murky green color.

**B-25 south of
Kavieng in 10fsw,
cockpit yokes**

**B-25 pitch and
throttle controls**



**B-25 stbd waist twin 50
cal machine gun**





**Jon & Chris
inspecting rudder
damage from log,
at Nusa Resort
anchorage**

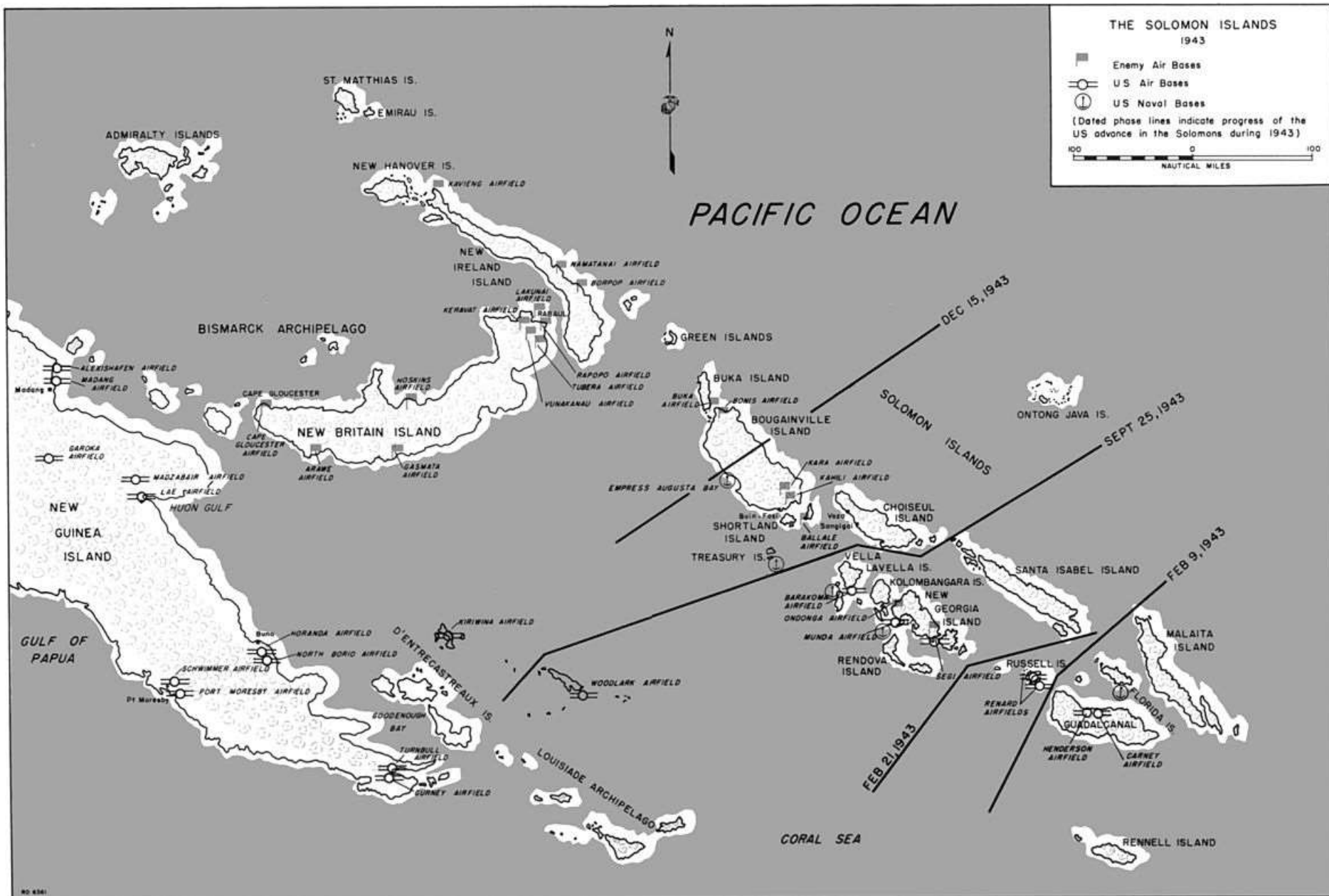
**Leading edge of
damaged rudder
with last piece of
cloth on**





**And back she goes-
ship's diver at work.**

Allied Advance Thru Solomons



RABAUL New Britain, PNG



Ninigos

New Hanover

Kavieng

Manus

Rabaul

Kokopo

Garove

Kimbe

Bougainville

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Jayapura

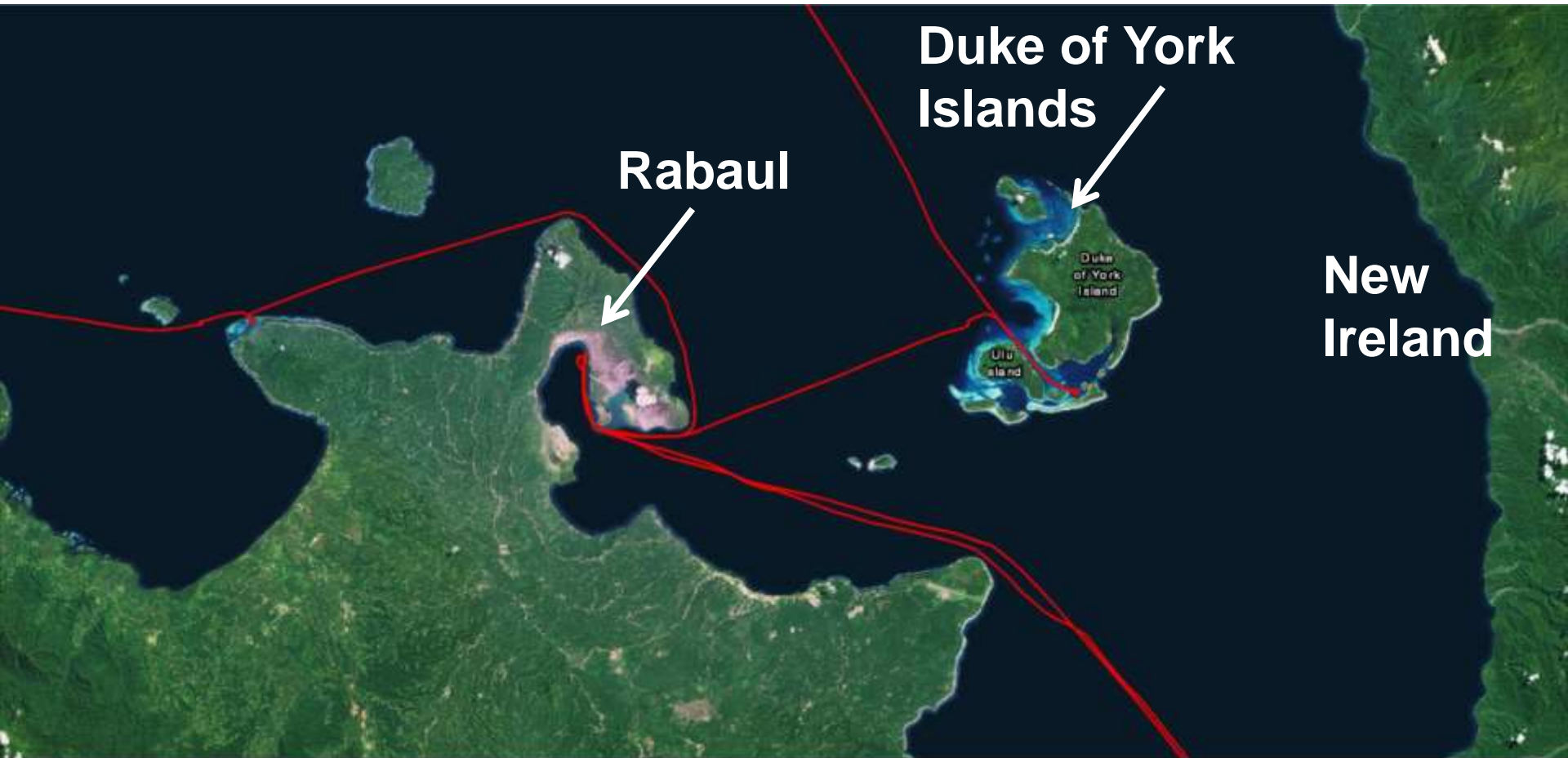
Port Moresby

Bismarck Sea

Gulf of Papua

Solomon Sea

— Feb/Mar
— Aug/Sep



Rabaul

Duke of York
Islands

New
Ireland

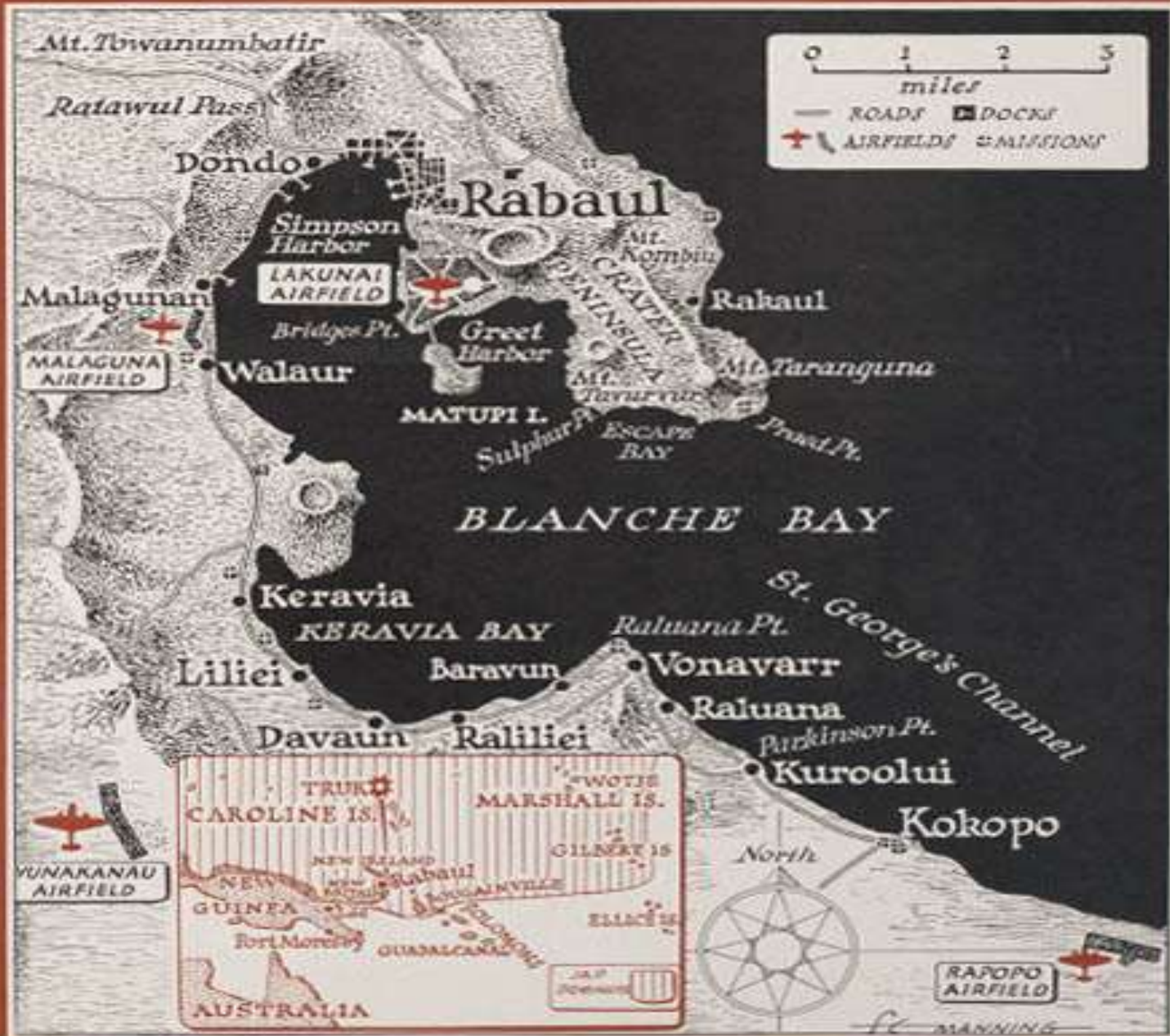


Duke
of York
Island

Ulu
island

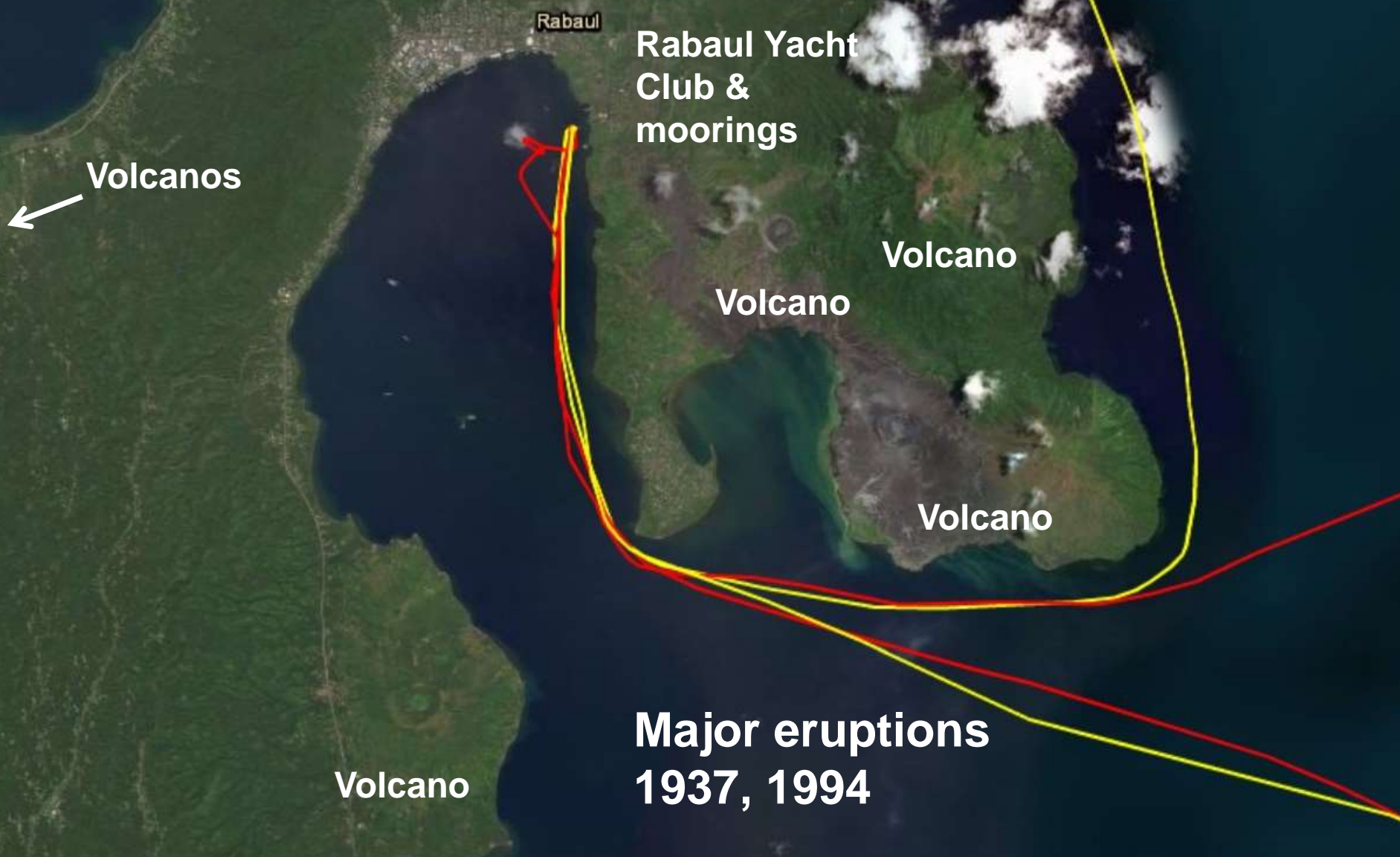


Rabaul, New Britain, PNG



RABAUL

Excellent Harbor in
Ancient Volcanic Caldera



Rabaul

Rabaul Yacht
Club &
moorings

Volcanos



Volcano

Volcano

Volcano

Volcano

Major eruptions
1937, 1994

**Rabaul, New
Britain, view
entering the
harbor**



On the edge of the caldera



Rabaul Yacht Club

(note volcanic ash in foreground)



Rabaul Yacht Club docks,
Barbarian and Rod Pearce



100mm shore gun in front of Rabaul Hotel

**ADMIRAL
YAMAMOTO'S BUNKER
NEW GUINEA CLUB
& MUSEUM**



Made here in
Rabaul

Yamamoto Bunker during early WW2





Japanese tank in front of museum



Dress
market
Kokopo



**EAST NEW BRITAIN
HISTORICAL &
CULTURAL CENTRE
KOKOPO MUSEUM**

P.O.Box 1879, Rabaul, East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea
Tel: (675) 982 8453 Fax: (675) 982 8439

OPEN ALL WEEK
9 AM TO 5 PM

ADMISSION
ADULTS - K10.00
CHILDREN FREE

PROMOTED BY:
NEW BRITAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
INSTITUTION OF THE
EAST NEW BRITAIN PROVINCIAL GOVT.





**Kokopo museum
tanks, plane engines,
torpedoes**



Japanese searchlight

JAPANESE MODEL 97 (1937)
MOTORCYCLE PRE-WAR
MILITARY MOTORCYCLE
WERE MADE UNDER LICENCE
TO HARLEY-DAVIDSON

**Japanese model 97
military motorcycle
with sidecar, Harley
Davidson licensed**





Japanese triple 20mm AA machine gun

Japanese A6M Zero





Museum pet
crocodile



Welcome to
SUBMARINE BASE

Submarine Base is one of the Japanese remains of World War II. It was the main base for the Japanese army to store supplies. The remains left are tunnels, guns & submarines left after the war. A Japanese Submarine named Heno 4 was one of the main submarines which was destroyed by the allied forces & sunk off New Ireland. Submarine Base is also a well known diving & snorkeling spot. It has a 300m drop which is suitable for diving.

FEES

Submarine Base	K5 per person
Japanese Bunkers	K5 per person
Diving	K10 per person
Snorkeling	K5 per person
Underwater Photography	K30 per person

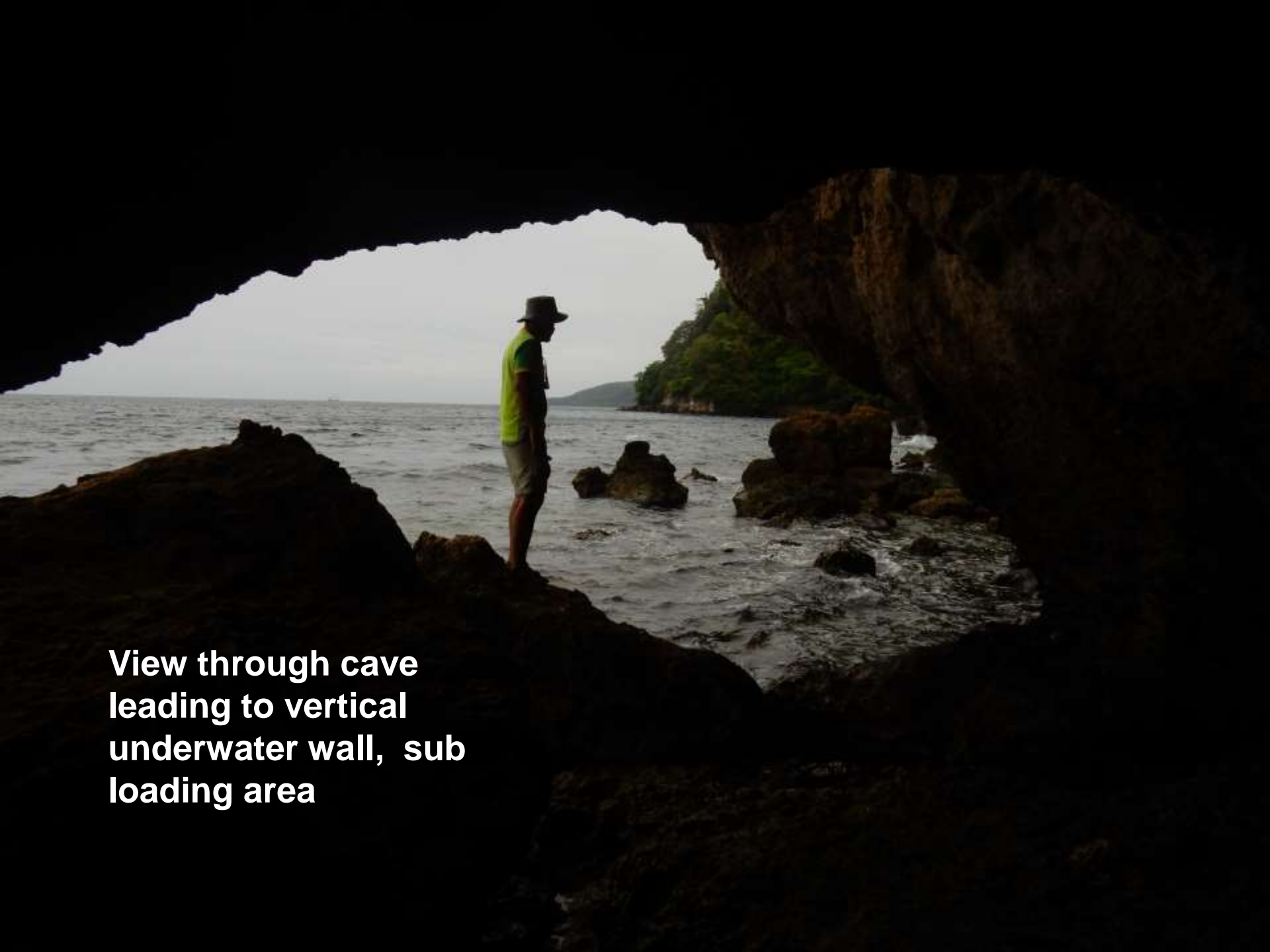


**Rabaul Japanese
submarine base**

OWN
Purified Water

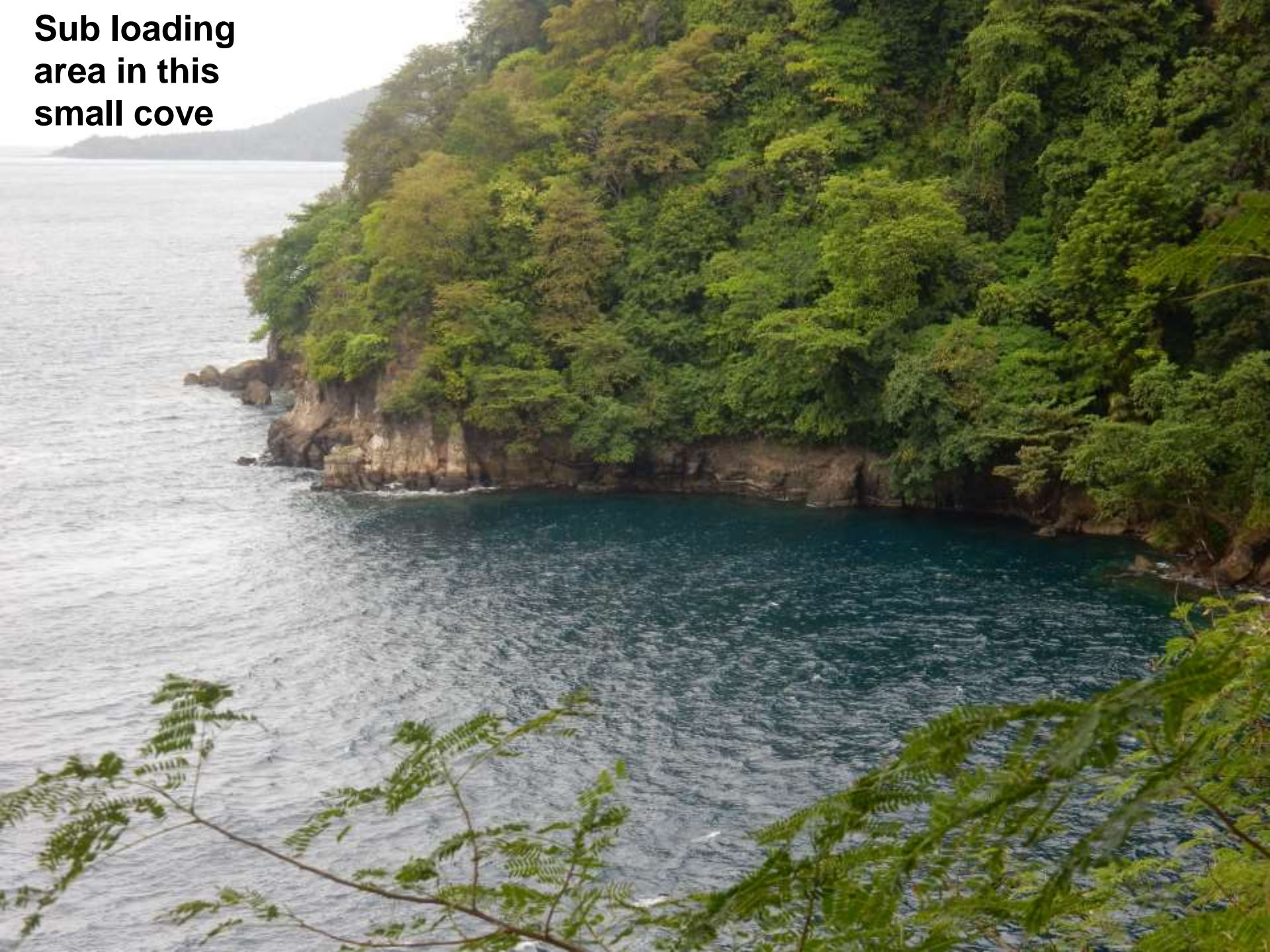



**Another big Japanese
shore gun, probably
100mm**



**View through cave
leading to vertical
underwater wall, sub
loading area**

**Sub loading
area in this
small cove**



A photograph showing a dual 20mm anti-aircraft gun in a tropical setting. The gun is mounted on a green-painted metal carriage with two large spoked wheels. It is positioned on a dirt path in a clearing surrounded by lush green trees and vegetation. In the background, there are several buildings, including a prominent one with a blue roof and light-colored walls. The ground is covered with grass, dirt, and some fallen leaves. A small blue and white object, possibly a piece of trash, is visible on the ground near the gun.

**Dual 20mm
AA gun at
Japanese
Sub Base**



**Japanese Barge
Tunnels**

Rear of one of 5
barges in tunnel





HANLEY'S TRIGGER (1814)

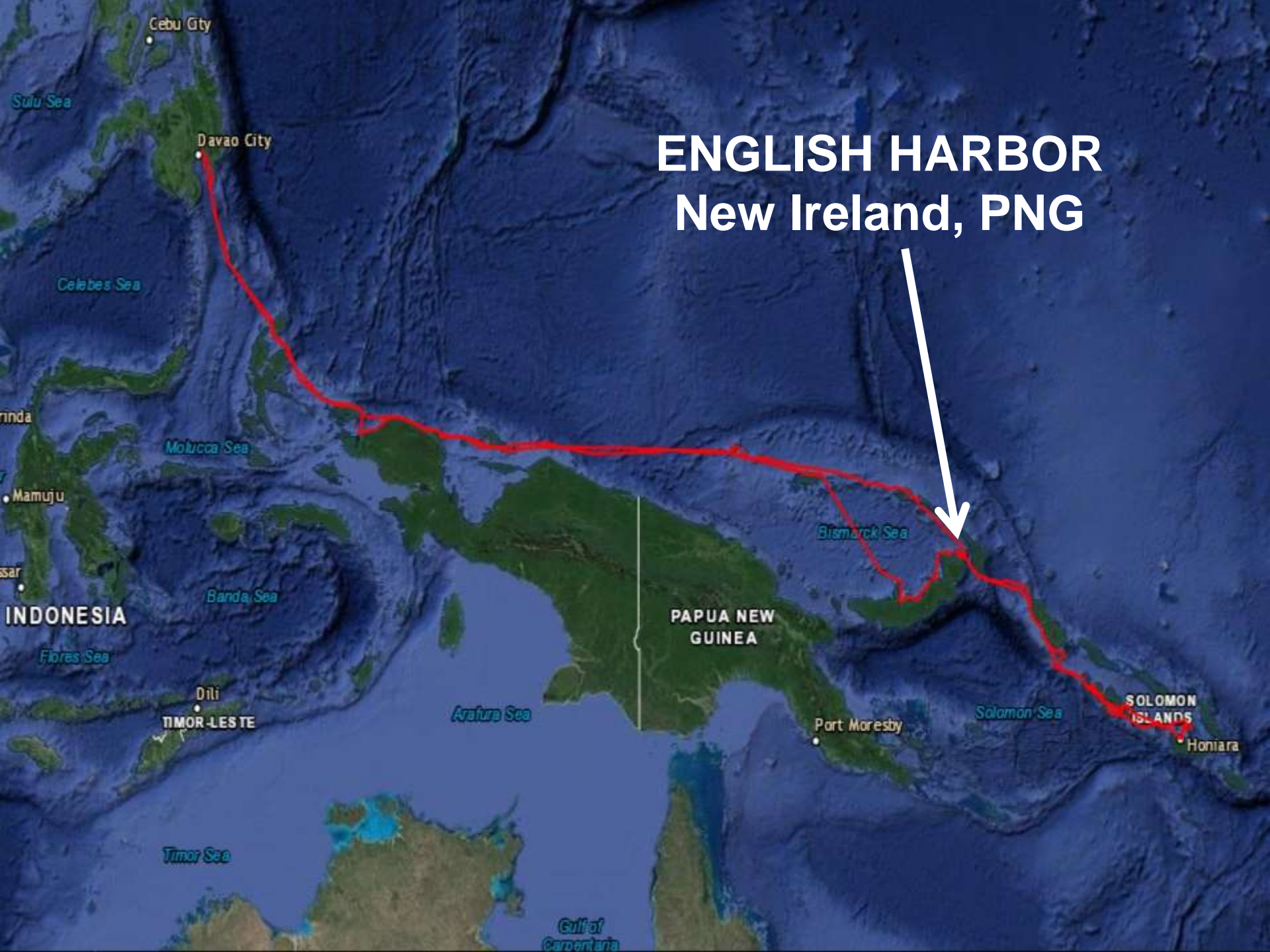
1814 (H)

Barge helm station

**View out tunnel entrance
leading down hill to water**

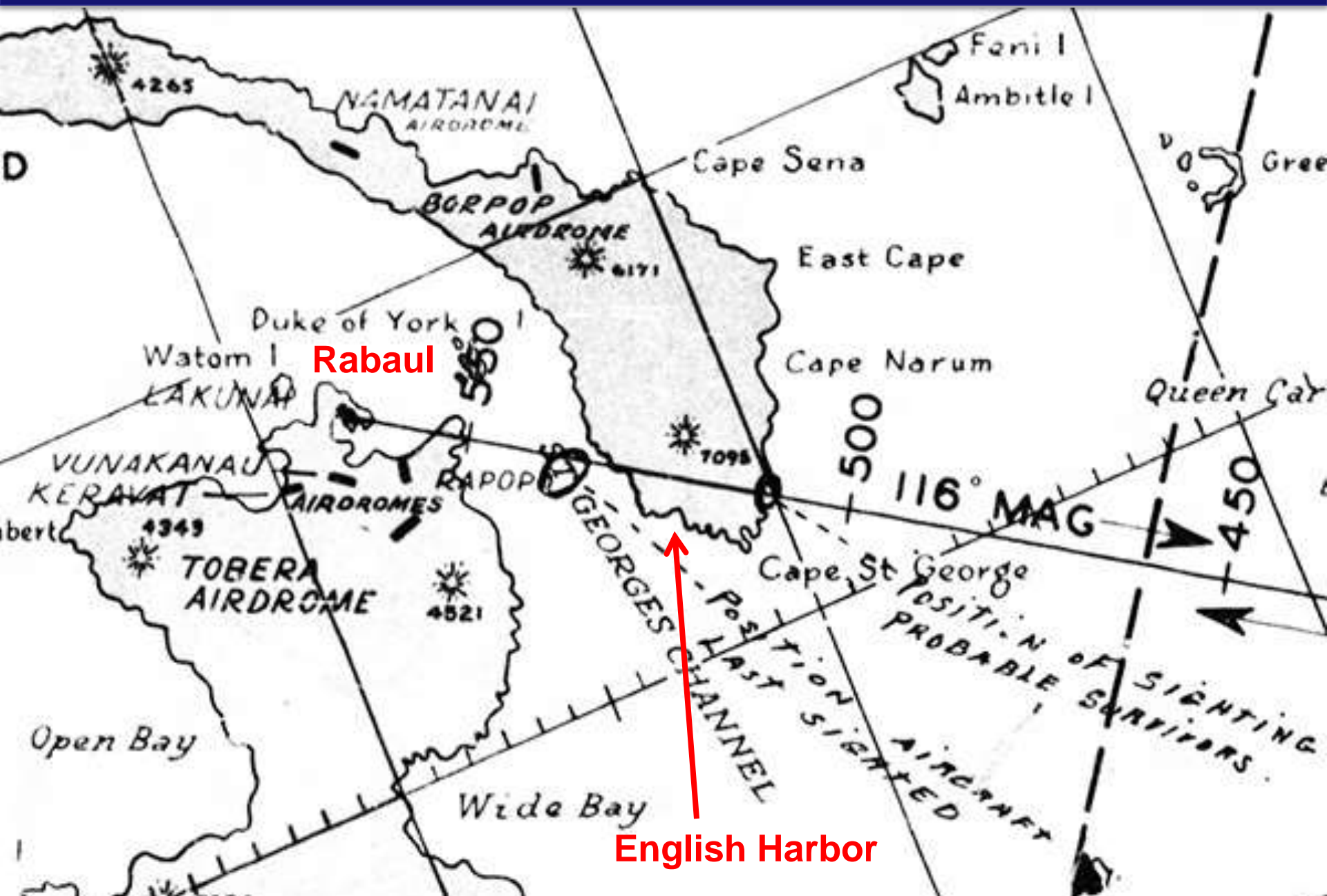


ENGLISH HARBOR New Ireland, PNG





English Harbor, New Ireland, PNG



English Harbor, New Ireland, PNG



**New France colony 1870-80s,
Marquis de Reys 4 failed
expeditions, hundreds died**



**Waterfall/creek hike at
English Harbor**



**A cold but
refreshing dip**



English Harbor

Buka

Bougainville

Torokina
Empress Augusta Bay
WW2 battles

Arawa

Shortlands

Treasuries

Vella Lavella

Highlights of the Solomon Islands

- Lots of WWII relics in jungle and under water
 - Bogainville, Shortlands/Treasuries, New Georgia, Russells, Rendova, Tulagi, Guadalcanal
- Carvers in Morovo Lagoon
- Hikes and waterfalls
- Friendly people
 - Roderick Bay
 - Marovo Lagoon
 - Rendova
 - Shortlands
 - Russells

Solomon Islands

07°00's to 09°30's



Arawa

Shortlands

Stirling

Vella
Lavella

Gizo

Kolombangara
New
Georgia

Viru

Rendova

Marovo
Lagoon

SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Tetepare
Seghe

Roderick
Bay

Russells

Tulaghii

Honiara

Guadalcanal¹⁴⁶

Copyright Dave McCampbell

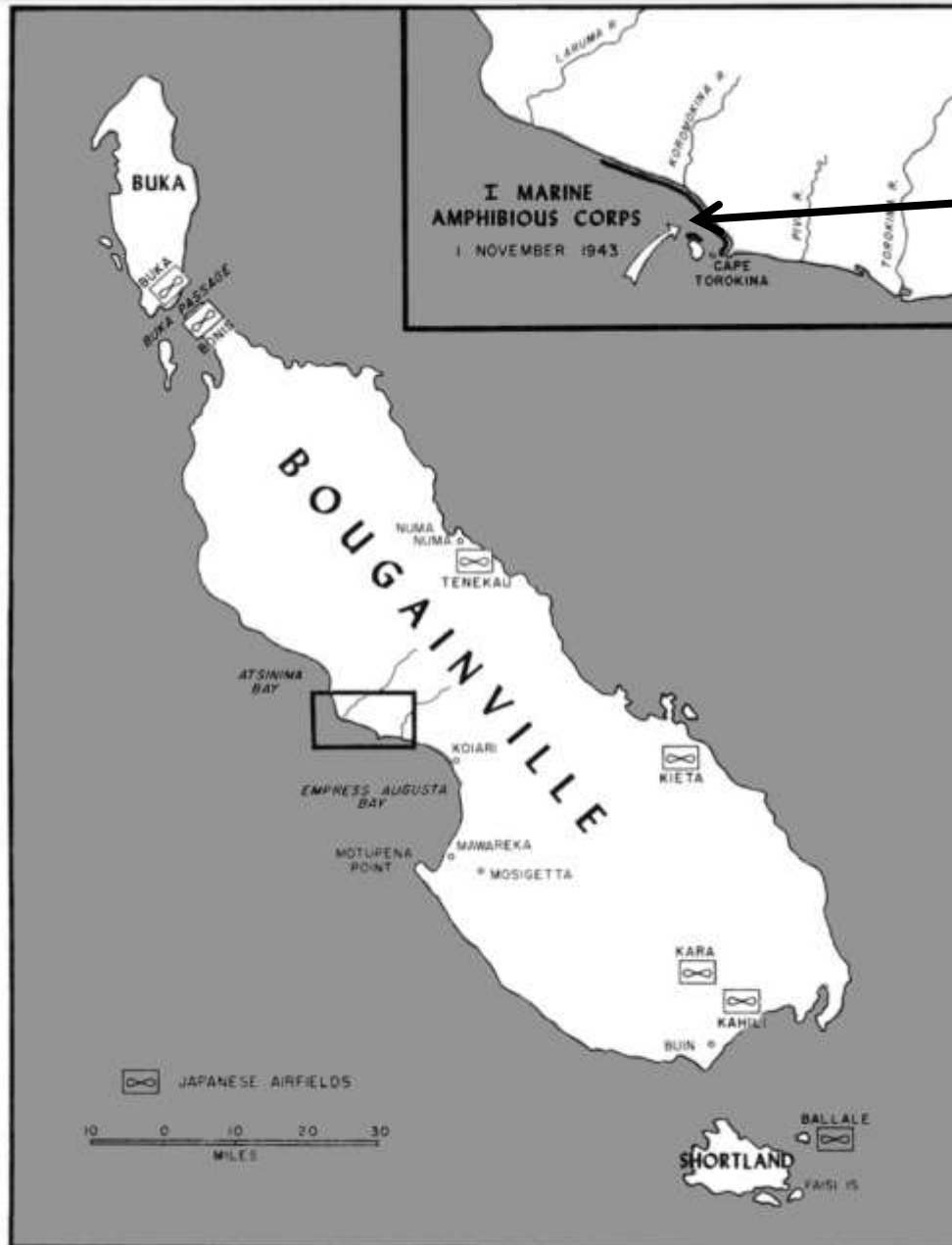
— Mar-June
— July-Aug



**Ocelot and us overnight
in Ramun Bay, Buka,
Bogainville**



Torokina, Bougainville, PNG



Our anchorage

WW2 I Marine Corps attack on Bogainville Nov 1943



SPaws

Cape Torokina on Bougainville after the Allies built an airstrip.

Puruata Island, assaulted by the 3d Raider Battalion on 1 November 1943, is in the foreground. Tiny Torokina Island lies in between Puruata and the Cape. *Department of Defense*

Photo (USMC) 68047



Demolition men of the 3d Raider Battalion landed on Torokina Island on 3 November, but found that supporting arms had already killed or driven off all Japanese. *Department of Defense Photo (USMC) 63165*

Torokina locals invited us
ashore to explore WW2 sites



**Mostly reject
dog tags from
Torokina**





**Bagana and Billy Mitchell
volcanoes, central Bogainville**



**English
Harbor**

Buka

**Bagana
volcano**

Bougainville

Torokina

Arawa

**Empress
Augusta Bay
WW2 battles**

Shortlands

Treasuries

Vella Lavella

Shortlands Islands tracks





Shortlands, Solomon Islands

SPaws

Nila

Local Police station

WW2 sites

Satellite view of
(left) Shortland
Island and (right)
Faisi Island

374 m

© 2018 Google
Image © 2019 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth

2012

Imagery Date: 10/16/2012 7°04'24.56" S 155°51'38.19" E elev 1 m eye alt 1.62 km



Shortlands, Solomon Islands

Overlay of World War II recon photo
November 27, 1942, H6K Mavis & E13A
Jake sea planes

Nila



© 2018 Google
Image © 2019 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth

374 m

2012

Imagery Date: 10/16/2012 7°04'24.56" S 155°51'38.19" E elev 1 m eye alt 1.62 km

**Shortlands Islands police
and Solomons Customs
officers welcome us**





Nila Ridge Trail
hike- Japanese
truck



**Nila Ridge hike-
Japanese radar
array on trailer, one
of two, still rotates**

**Nila Ridge hike-
Japanese
searchlight**



**Nila Ridge
hike- Japanese
75 mm AA gun**





**Our local guides
with Japanese 100
mm gun with
intact protective
shield**

**Nila Ridge hike
exploration team-
Soggy Paws, Ocelot,
Berzerker, Indigo 2**



**Nila Ridge hike- probable
Japanese model 97 motorcycle
with sidecar, similar to that in
Kokopo museum**





**Two cylinder engine
on Nila Ridge
sidecar motorcycle**

NO SMOKING AND CHEWING
OF BETEL NUT, CRUTTERING
OF ANY PLASTIC OR EMPTY
BOTTLE IS PERMITTED IN
and GROUND CLINIC
AREA

Nila medical clinic rules

Nila Cockapu



Aichi E13A Jake Reconnaissance Seaplane



**3 crew, 1100hp, 234mph,
29k', 1300 mi, 1x20mm &
1x7.7mm guns, bombs,
depth charges, 1418 ea**



**Craig inspecting E13A
Jake fuselage and floats
ashore on Nila Isl**

**E13A Jake
underwater in 15
fsw in Shortland
Harbor,
Poporang side**



Kawanishi H6K Mavis Large Flying Boat

Type 97, 9 crew,
4x 1000 hp, 211
mph, 31.5k, 4110
mi, 4x7.7,
1x20mm, 2
torpedoes, 1000
kg bombs, 131'
wingspan





**Mangled H6K Mavis
remains in
Shortland Harbor
on Nila side,
tsunami damage**

Ballalae Island



Ballalae Island

Site of probably
largest collection
of Japanese WW2
aircraft and parts



2D



PacificWrecks.com

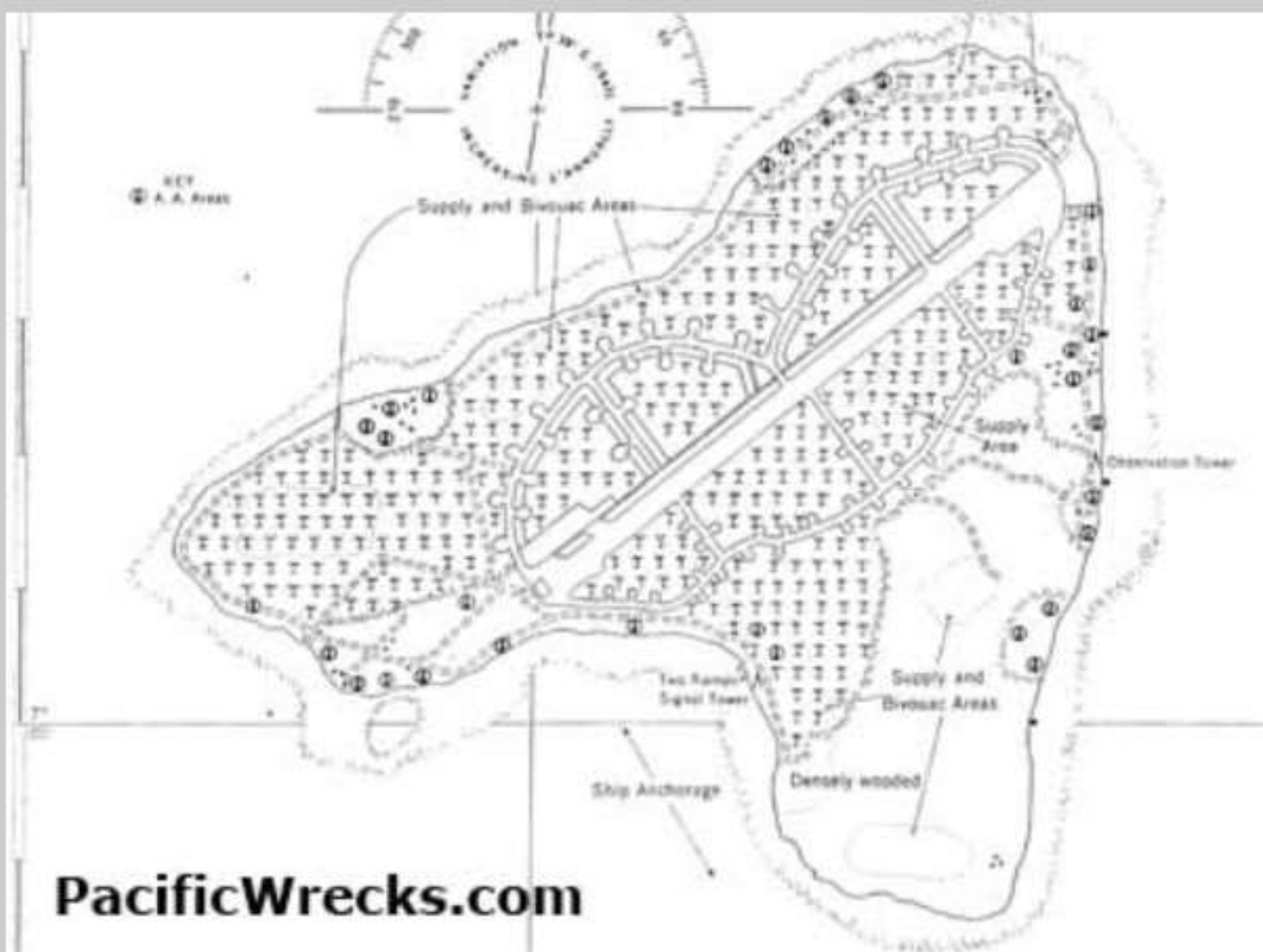
PacificGhosts.com

Approx. North



[Ballale Airfield](#) Aerial reconnaissance photo taken from 22,500'

Credit: USAAF, 13th AF Date: January 16, 1943



PacificWrecks.com

Map of [Ballale Island](#)

Credit: USAAF Date: August 4, 1943

Site of many Japanese
WW2 planes still in the
bush



**Ballalae beach
landing spot- G4M
Betty bomber and
A6M Zero fighter**





Inspecting lots of Japanese plane wreckage ashore in the bush



**Ballalae G4M
Betty, A6M Zero
wreckage & more**



**Ballalae A6M Zero
engine**

Mitsubishi G4M Betty Bomber



7 crew, 265 mph, 29k,
3750 mi, 1x20 mm & 4
7.7 mm guns, bombs
or torpedoes



**G4M Betty bomber
fuselage wreckage in
shed on Ballalae**

**G4M Betty
bomber nose
in bush on
Ballalae**





G4M Betty bomber
interior on Ballalae



**G4M Betty
bomber interior
in Balallae bush**

**G4M Betty
bomber dragged
by thieves out of
Balallae bush**

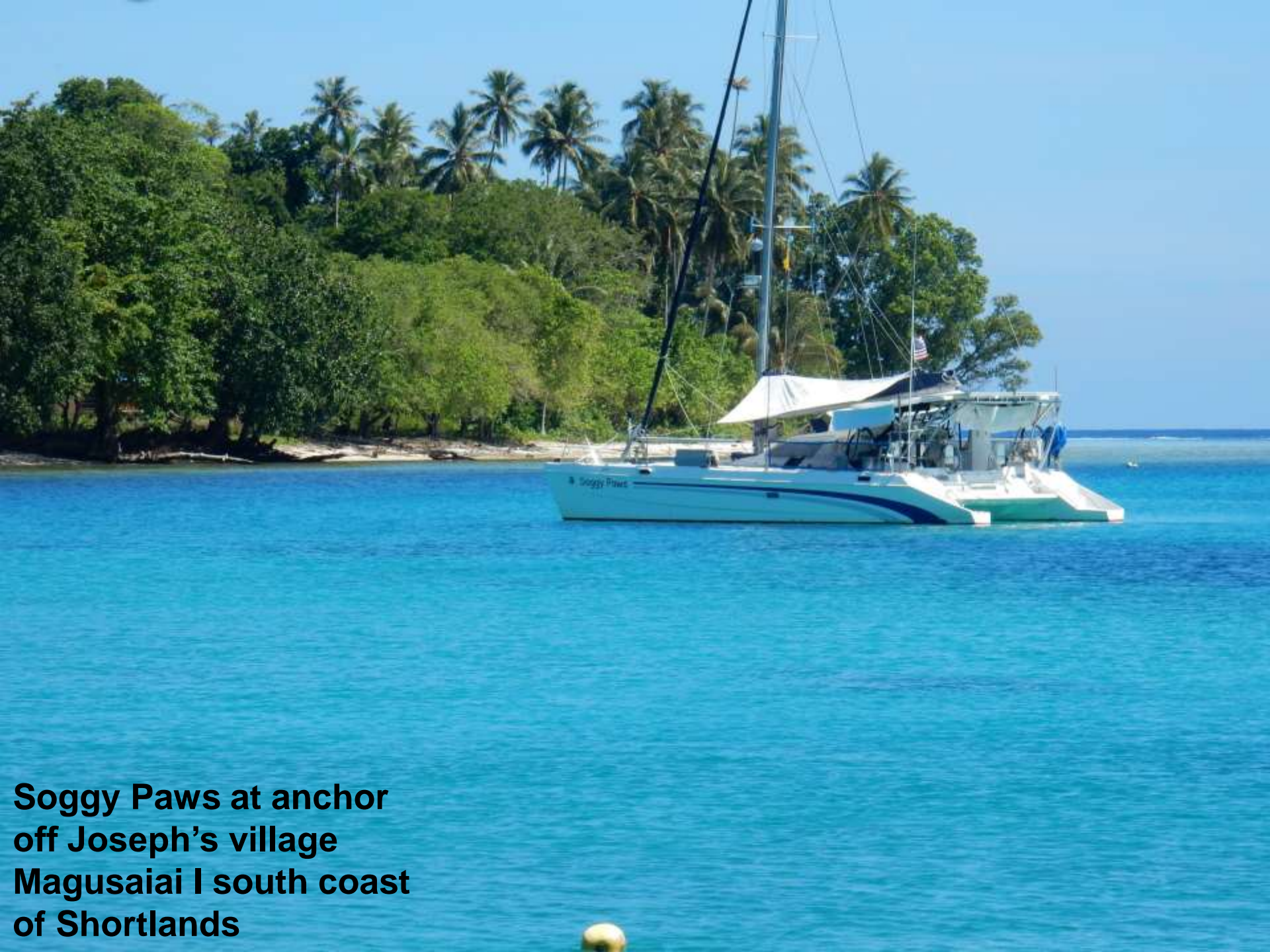


A wide-angle photograph of a long, straight, green grassy runway. The runway is flanked by dense, lush green tropical forest on both sides. In the distance, a small red vehicle is visible on the right side of the runway. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is a well-maintained, open-air runway in a tropical setting.

**Ballalae runway
as of June 2019**



**Waterfront
bar/restaurant in
Shortlands
channel**



**Soggy Paws at anchor
off Joseph's village
Magusaiai I south coast
of Shortlands**



**Leaf house in
Shortlands**



**Joseph & 100mm
Jap shore gun
south coast of
Shortland Island**

100mm shore gun
south coast of
Shortland Island,
pointing inshore?



**Boy in local
Kayak**



**Visitors in local
canoe**





Torokina
Bouganville

Arawa

Shortlands

Treasuries

G-70



**Mono
Island**

Mono village



PT boats



**Coca cola
pile**

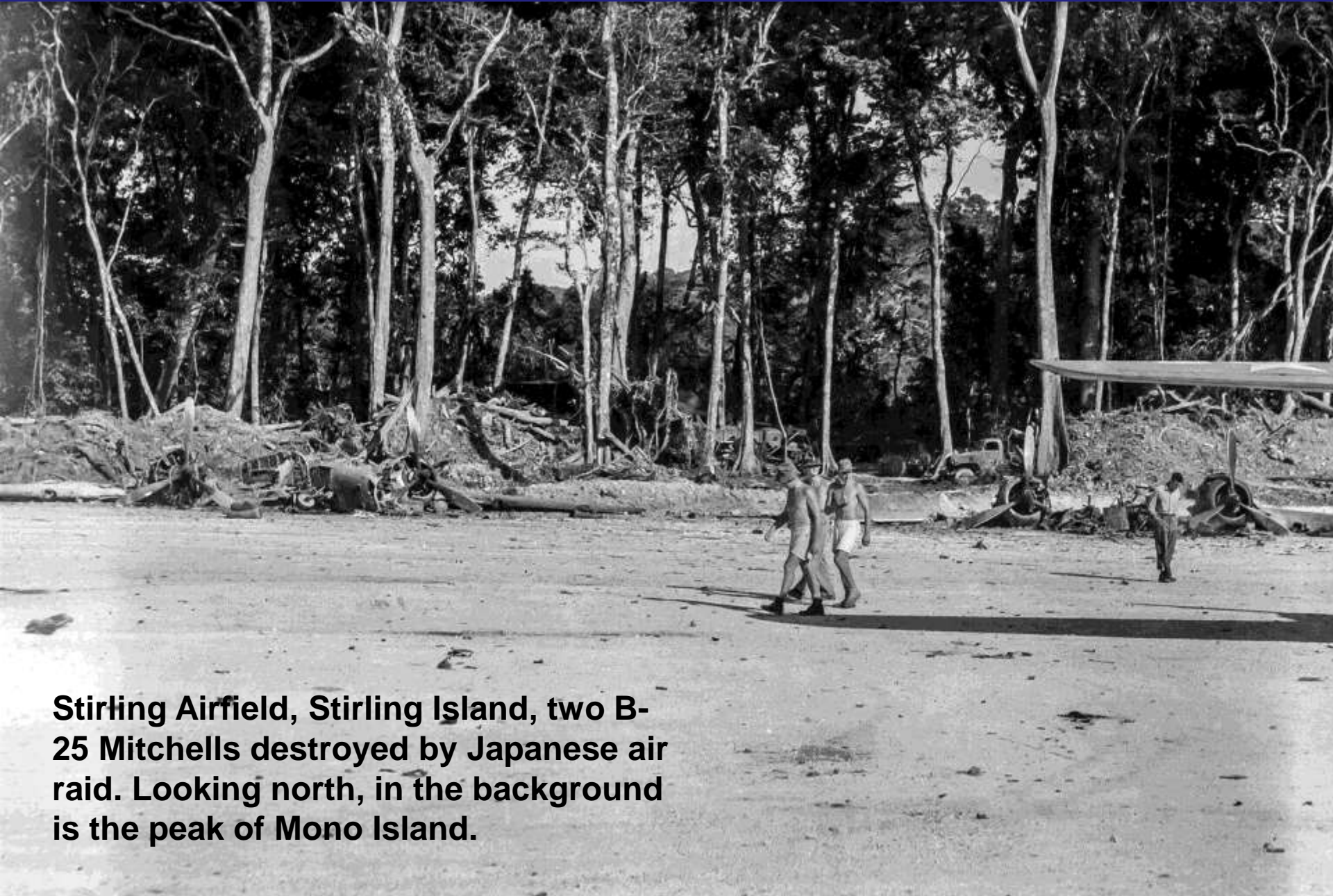


**Junior's land-
planes, junk
pile, guns**

Stirling Island WW2
- US airfield
- US PT Boat base



Stirling Airfield, Solomon Islands



Stirling Airfield, Stirling Island, two B-25 Mitchells destroyed by Japanese air raid. Looking north, in the background is the peak of Mono Island.

Finding an anchorage in SW Sterling Isl, Treasury Islands



**Locals greeting us
at the Mono village
town dock**





**Meeting Junior and his
parents, the Chief and
wife, in Mono village**



**WW2 aluminum
aircraft fuel tanks**



**Rainy day tour of
Sterling Island,
WW2 pilings**

**South coast of Sterling
Island**



South coast of Sterling Island



Sherry and
Junior's gun,
US 40mm??





**WW2 debris in jungle
next to Junior's shed**



**Sterling airfield
still in use, Adm
Halsey once
visited here**

North American B-25 Mitchell Bomber



1942 Doolittle raid on
Japan from USS Hornet

5 crew, 2x1700hp,
275mph, 1300mi,
24k', 1x75mm,
16x50cal, bombs,
rockets, 9800 ea

**B-25 wreckage
hidden in jungle**





**Junior and B-25
engine mount**

**B-25
fuselage
from under
port wing**



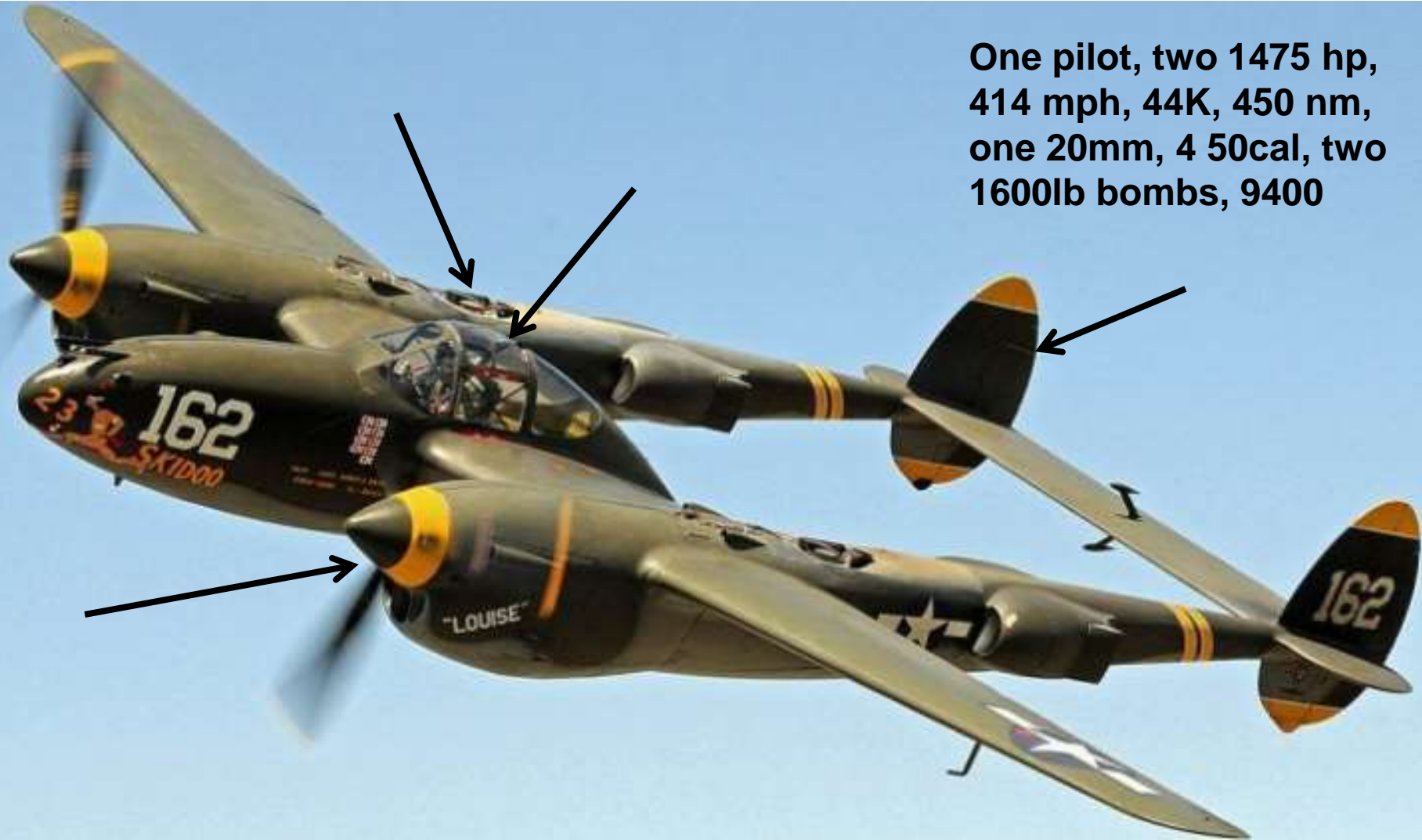


B-25 wing root

**Tractor transaxle in
bush undergrowth**



P-38 Lockheed Lightning Fighter Bomber



One pilot, two 1475 hp,
414 mph, 44K, 450 nm,
one 20mm, 4 50cal, two
1600lb bombs, 9400

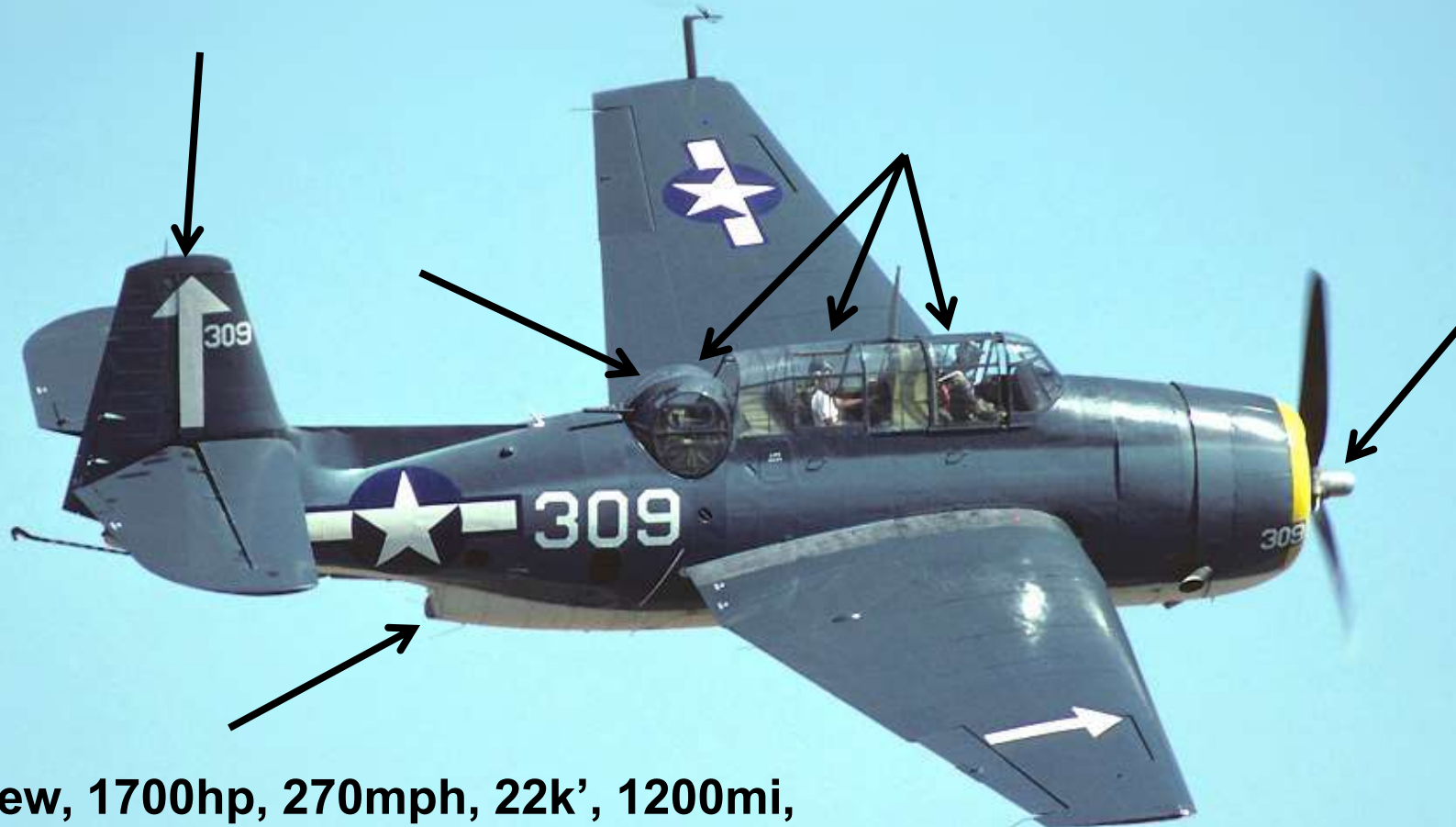
P-38 wreckage
hidden in
undergrowth





Engine stand?

Grumman TBF/M Avenger Torpedo Bomber



**3 crew, 1700hp, 270mph, 22k', 1200mi,
3x50 cal, internal torp, bombs, 9839ea**

TBF/M fuselage in bush





**Jon inspecting
TBF/M Avenger
fuselage**



**TBF/M self
sealing fuel
tank**

TBF/M tail section



**Chris looking
at thousands
of WW2 coke
bottles**





Sherry and a couple of WW2 coke bottles



**Hundreds of WW2
fuel barrels**

RHEEM

16 55 44

ICC-5 B

"U.S.N."

USN Rheem 1944
fuel barrel

BOYCO
1942
FUEL
BARREL
CORPORATION

Boyco 1942 fuel
barrel

A close-up photograph of a tree trunk in a forest. The trunk is covered in vibrant green moss and patches of white lichen. A large, dark, curved buttress root extends from the base of the trunk, forming a ring-like structure. The ground is covered with fallen leaves, twigs, and other forest debris. The text "Fuel barrel tree ring" is overlaid in white on the image.

Fuel barrel tree ring



**P-38 supercharger
in Junk Pile area**

**Junk Pile-
large area of
WW2 relics**



Sherry taking a break
in the Junk Pile area





Vella LaVella, Solomon Islands



**New Zealanders
landing on Vella
Lavella 1943.**

Solomon Islands

07°00's to 09°30's



Arawa

Shortlands

Treasuries

Vella
Lavella

Gizo

Kolombangara

New
Georgia

Viru

Rendova

Morovo
Lagoon

SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Tetepare

Seghe

Russells

Roderick
Bay

Tulaghii

Honiara



Where we saw
WWII Relics

Guadalcanal²³³

Copyright Dave McCampbell

Andrew's Dive Resort, Vella Lavella, Solomons





Vella Lavella

Mbava

Scuba
diving

DC3

Liapari
marina



**SuSu the cat sleeping
on watch at the helm**

Nudibranch







**Banga Harbor
anchorage**

**Binskin family
cemetary Baga
Harbor**



Joseph Binskin
grave marker

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
JOSEPH KITNEY BINSKIN
AGED 72 YEARS
BORN MAIDSTONE, KENT 1869
DIED 1881
REMEMBERED BY HIS LOVING
WIFE, FLORANCE AND HIS CHILDREN
FLORENCE, JOSEPHINE & MARTIN

ALICE ELIZABETH BINSKIN

AND THEIR MOTHER UNCA,

WHO WERE MURDERED SEP 23RD 1909

**Binskin murders
by local chief 1909**

Douglas Navy RFD Skytrain (DC-3 Mod) Troop & Cargo Transport



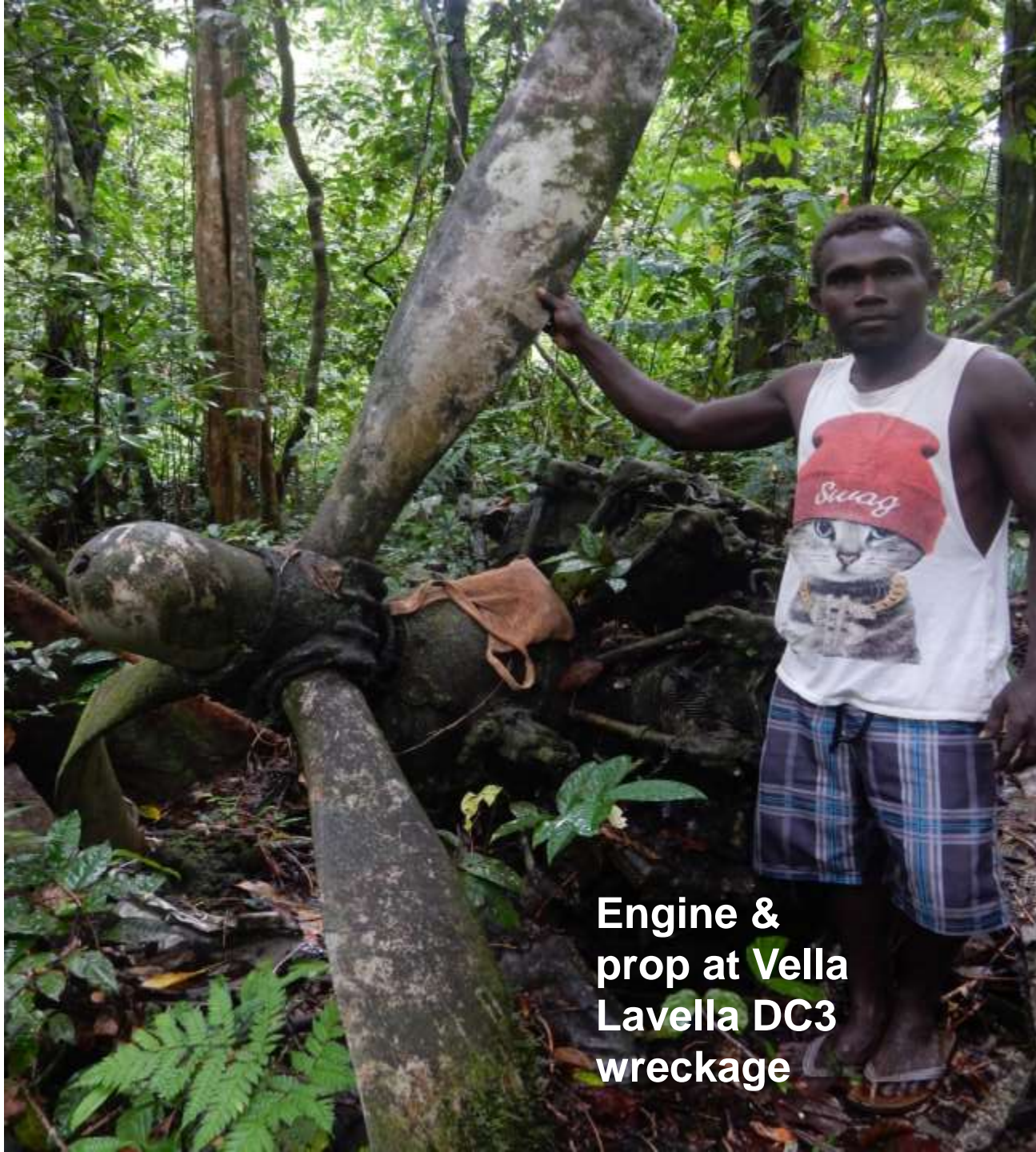
4 crew, 28 troops,
2x1200hp, 224mph,
1600mi, 26.4k', 10,174 ea,
many variants



**Dave & guides
at Vella Lavella
DC3 wreckage**



**Vella Lavella DC3
wreckage**



**Engine &
prop at Vella
Lavella DC3
wreckage**

Engine at Vella
Lavella DC3
wreckage



Throttle stand at
Vella Lavella DC3
wreckage





Port engine mount
at Vella Lavella DC3
wreckage

Wing eschelon
at Vella Lavella
DC3 wreckage



Solomon Islands

07°00's to 09°30's



Arawa

Shortlands
Ballalae

Treasuries
Stirling

Vella
Lavella

Kolombangara

New
Georgia

Gizo

Viru

Rendova

Marovo
Lagoon

SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Tetepare

Seghe

Roderick
Bay

Floridas
Tulaghii

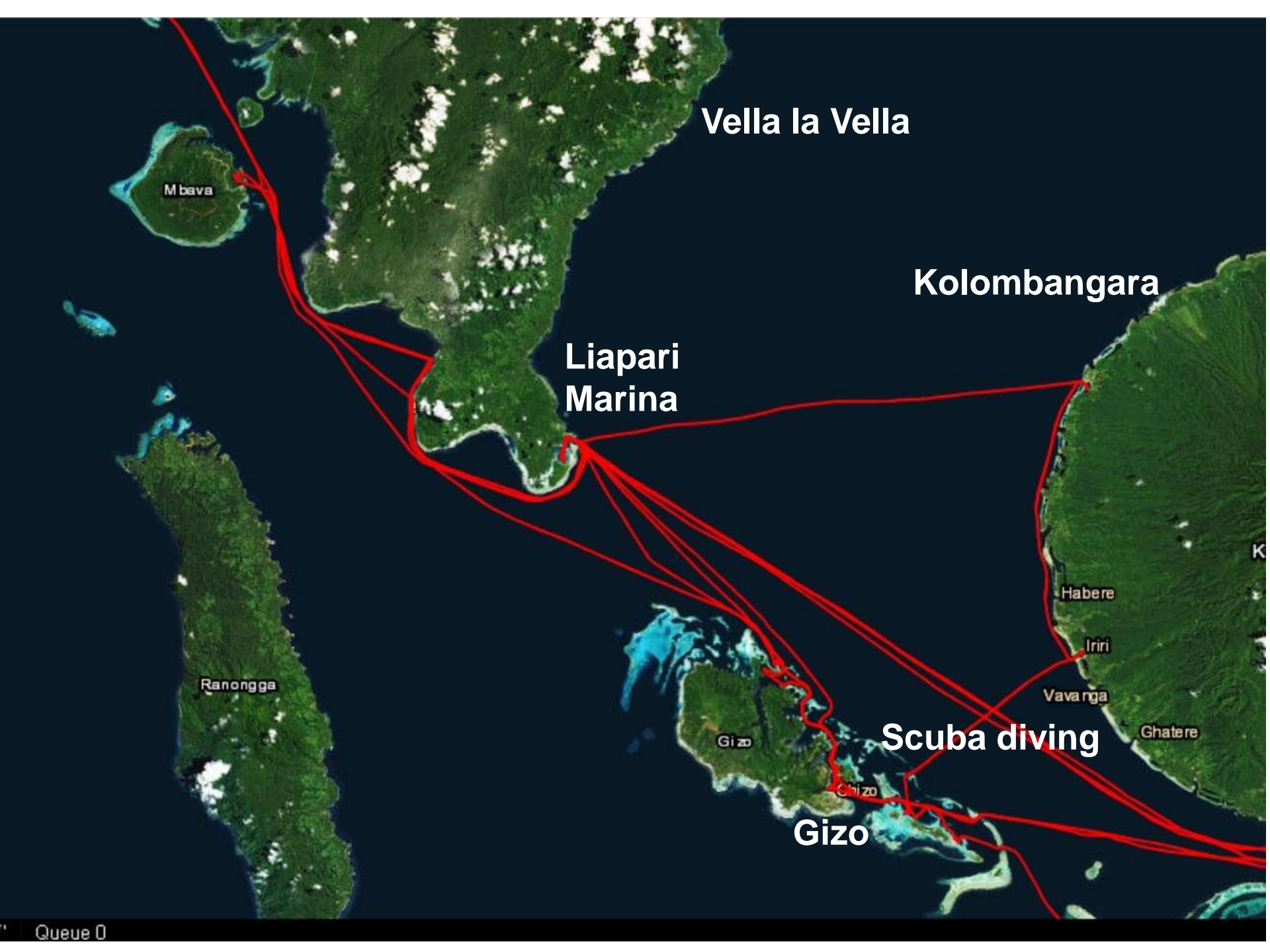
Russells

Honiara

Guadalcanal²⁵¹

Copyright Dave McCampbell

— Mar-June
— July-Aug



Vella la Vella

Kolombangara

Liapari
Marina

Scuba diving

Gizo

Mbava

Ranongga

Gizo

Gizo

Habere

Iriri

Vavanga

Ghatere

Liapari Haulout Facility



Gizo Solomons



**Mousetrap 90'
catamaran, Logitec,
dinner and diving**

Camouflaged
Crocodile fish



Nudibranch



Lizardfish



Nudibranch



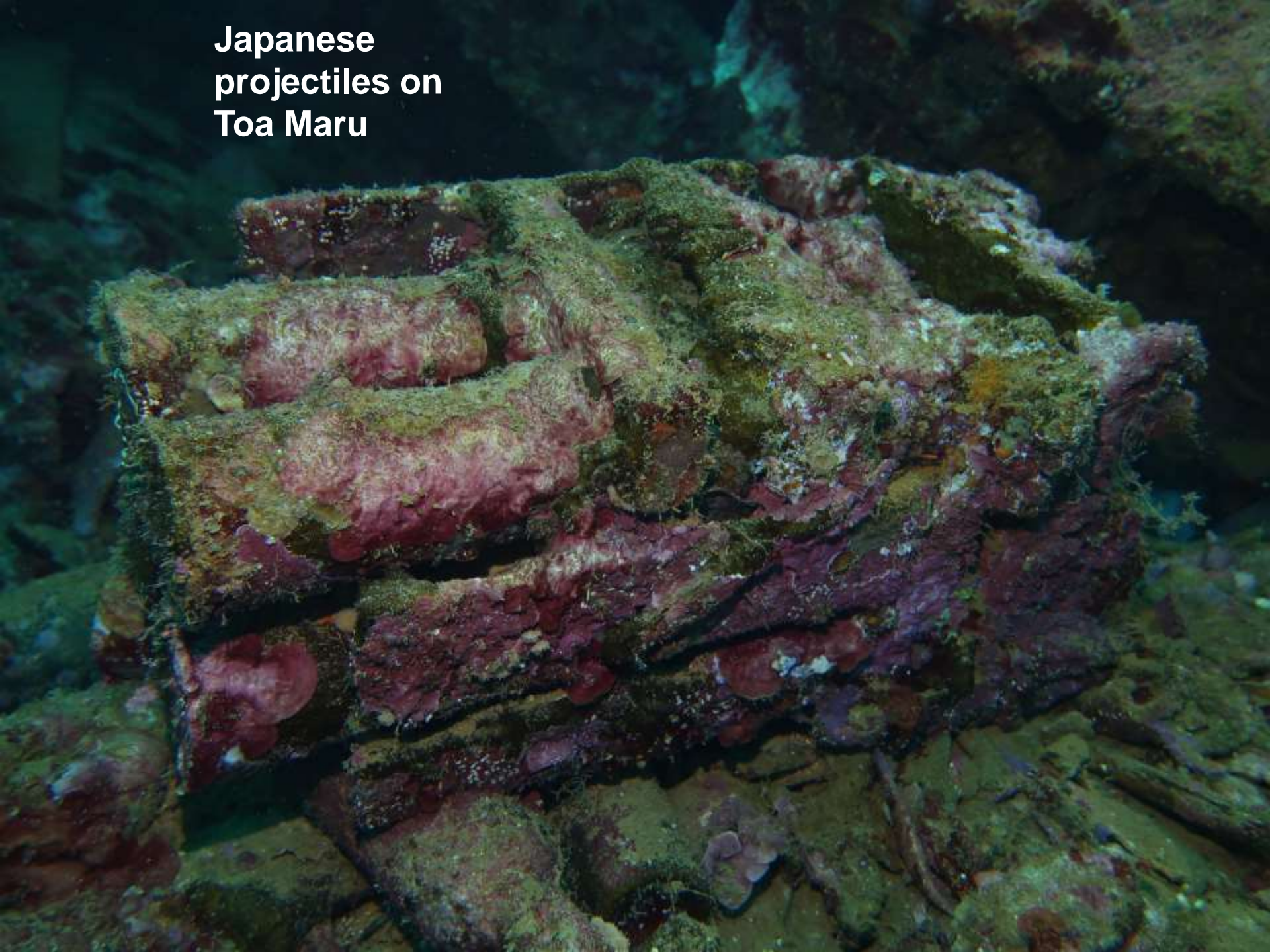
**Sherry looking at WW2
relics on Japanese Toa
Maru shipwreck in 60fsw**



**Gas mask
cannister full
of WW2 relics**



Japanese
projectiles on
Toa Maru



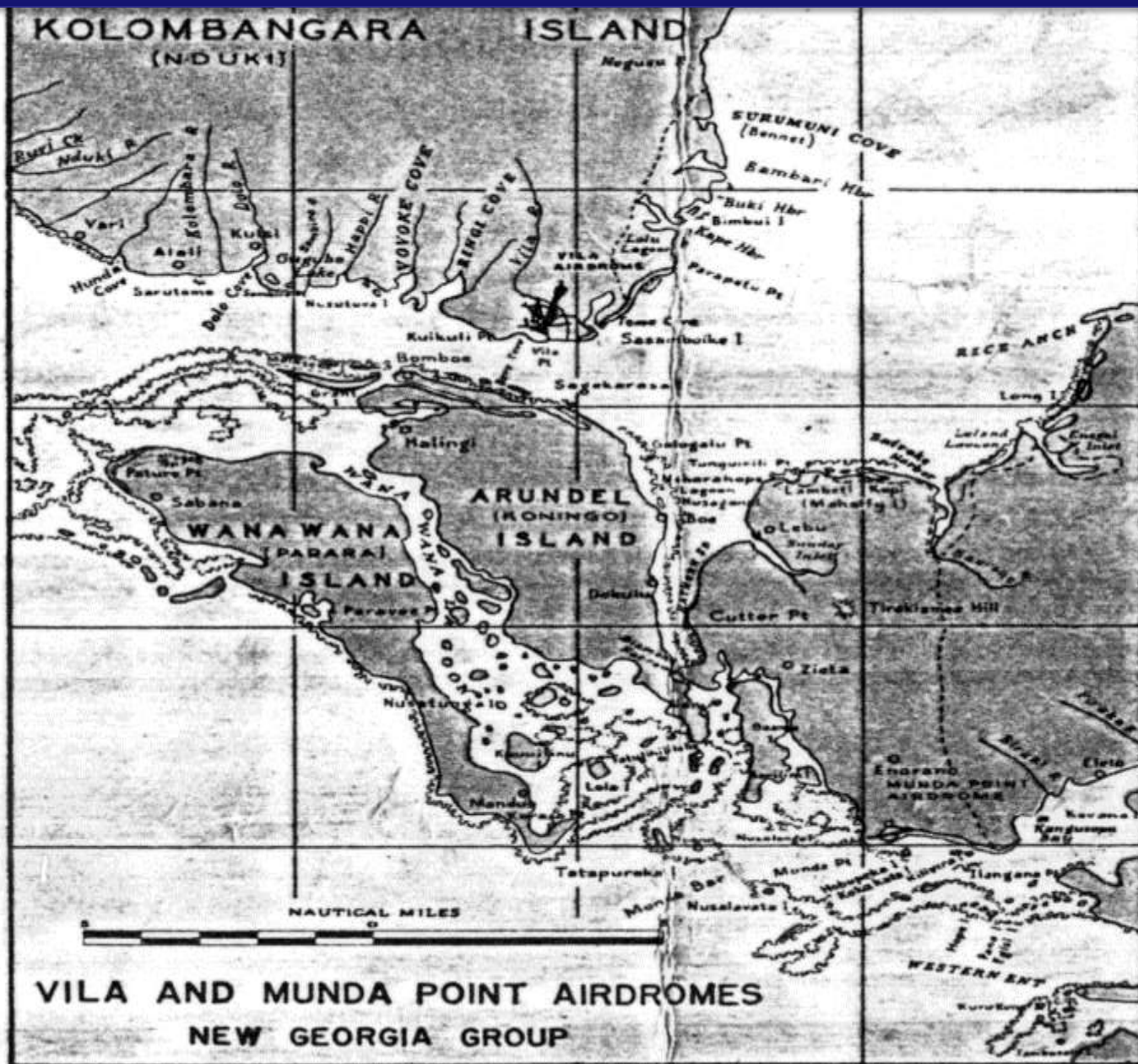


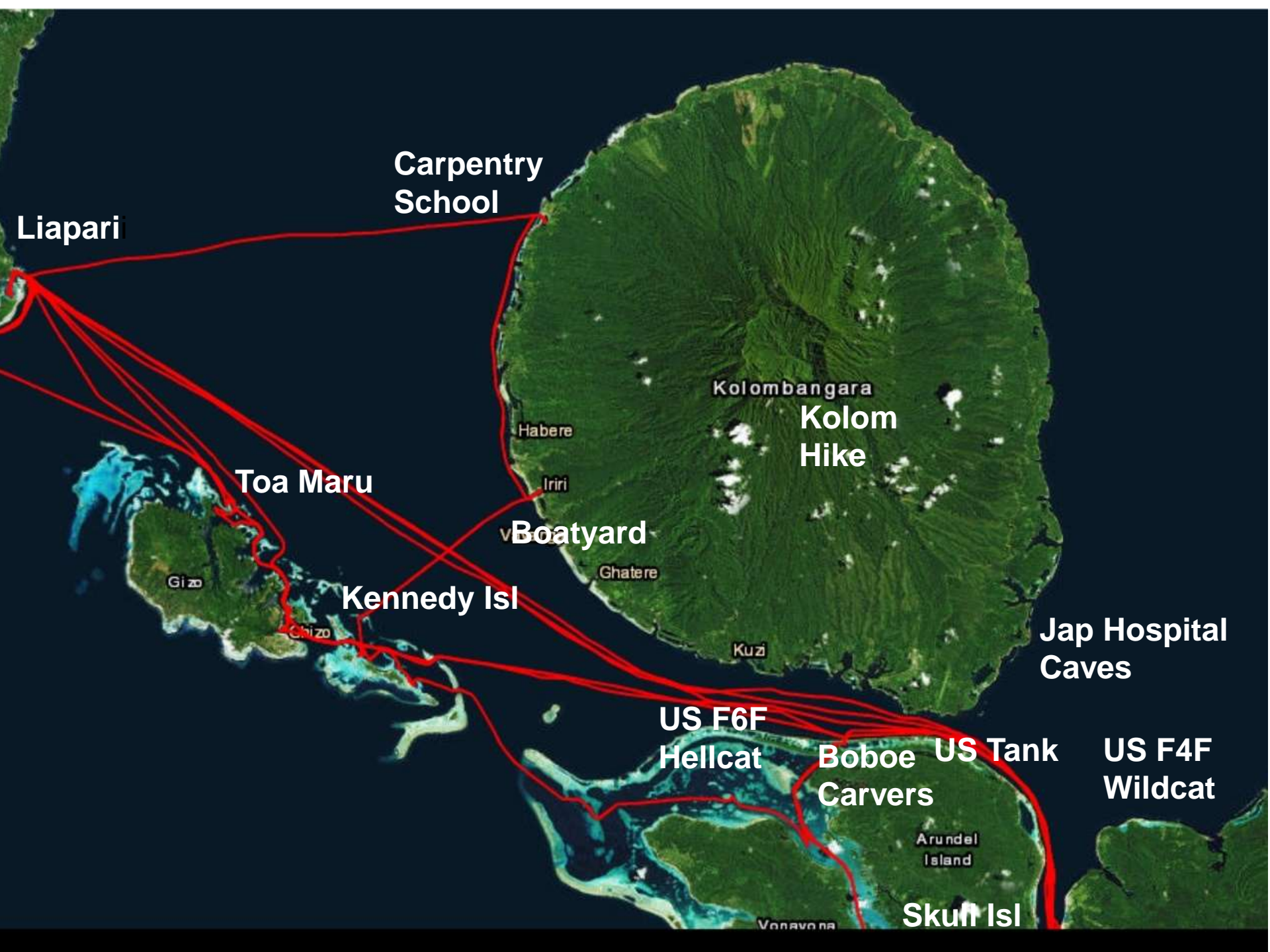
Japanese bottles
on Toa Maru



Kolombangara & Arundel Islands, Solomons

WW2 era map





Liapari

Carpentry School

Toa Maru

Kennedy Isl

US F6F Hellcat

Boboe US Tank Carvers

US F4F Wildcat

Skull Isl

Kolombangara
Kolom Hike

Habere

Iri

Boatyard

Ghatere

Kuzi

Jap Hospital Caves

Gizo

Chiyo

Arundel Island

Vavavona

Skull Island
tour





Skull Island



Skull Island

WELCOME TO
BOBOE SDA
COMMUNITY



Vonavona Lagoon,
Boboe village,
home of Billy
brothers



Boboe carving
display sale

Village girls





**Boboe carvings for
sale from another
Billy brother**

**Rena Billy
with WW2
rifle for sale**



**Spaws cat
carving by
Ripea Billy**



**Cruisers'
WW2 relic
day trip with
Ripea Billy**





**Jon inspecting
WW2 US Stuart
Tank on Arundel Isl**

WW2 Stuart Tank
on Arundel Isl



WW2 Stuart Tank
on Arundel Isl



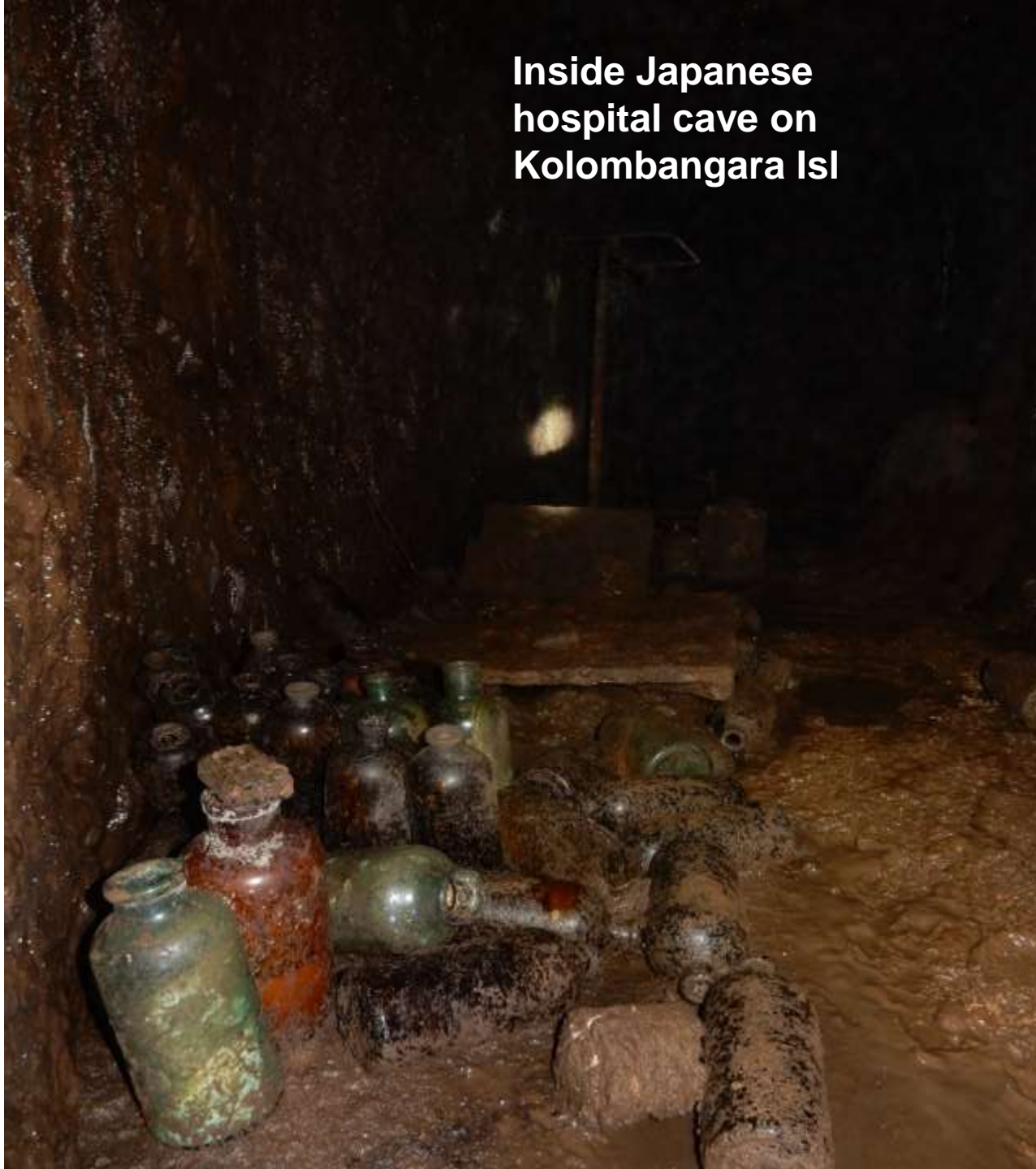
**Japanese hospital cave
on Kolombangara Isl**



Japanese hospital cave
bottles on Kolombangara Isl




**Inside Japanese
hospital cave on
Kolombangara Isl**



Snake in Japanese
hospital cave on
Kolombangara Isl



A photograph showing several rusted metal canteens and other items on a dirt floor. The canteens are cylindrical with a bulbous body and a narrow neck. One canteen in the foreground has a dark, possibly black, cap. Another canteen to its left is partially covered in a thick layer of rust. A small, round, flat object, possibly a lid or a small container, lies on the ground between the two canteens. In the background, there are more items, including a cylindrical object with a reddish-brown cap and a dark, possibly black, object. The ground is uneven and appears to be made of dirt or sand.

Canteens in
Japanese hospital
cave on
Kolombangara Isl



Gas mask parts in Japanese hospital cave on Kolombangara Isl

Grumman F6F-5 (early mod) Hellcat Fighter

Single pilot
2000hp, 380mph
1040mi, 38k'
2x20mm & 4x50cal
or 6x50cal
bombs & rockets
12,275 ea

'Minsi III'
McCampbell, Oct 1944



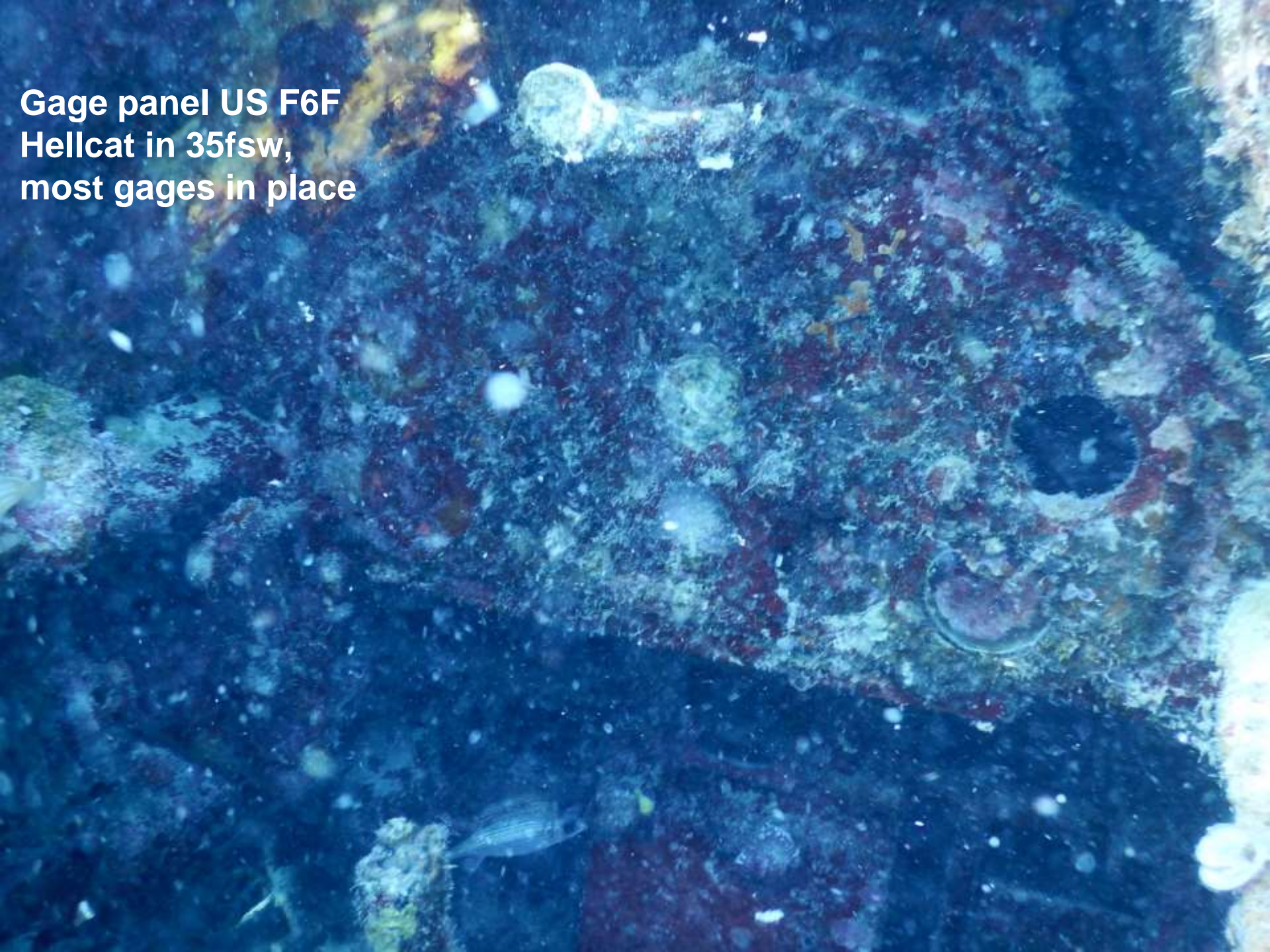
**US F6F Hellcat in 25
fsw Vonavona Lagoon**





**Dave inspecting
engine of US F6F
Hellcat in 25 fsw**

Gage panel US F6F
Hellcat in 35fsw,
most gages in place





**Wing 50 cal guns
on US F6F Hellcat
in 25 fsw**

Identifying
model of US
F6F-3 Hellcat in
25 fsw



**Kolombangara
Plantation, road to
the top**

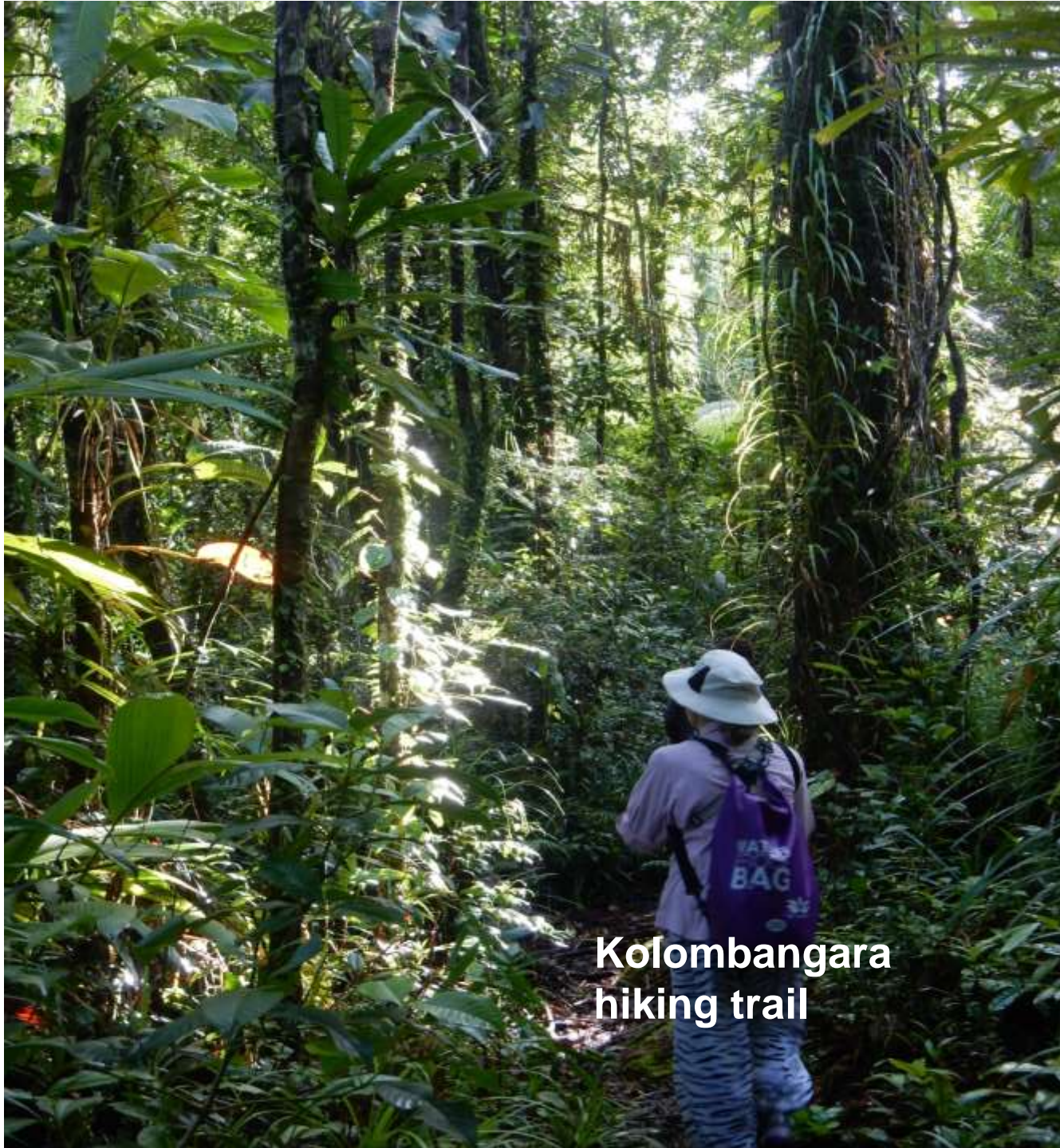


**Kolombangara Plantation
road to the top gets worse**



**Kolombangara Guest
House view from the top**





**Kolombangara
hiking trail**



**Kolombangara
boat yard,
slipway behind**



**West Kolombangara
logging operation**



ST DOMINIC'S
RURAL TRAINING CENTRE
VANGA POINT



St Dominic's
Carpentry Training
Center



**St Dominic's
chief carpentry
instructor, note
drawings on
blackboard**



**St Dominic's pier
and work shed**



**Lunch with St
Dominic's
head master
Charlie and
wife Frieda**

**Soggy Paws anchored in
St Dominic's lagoon**

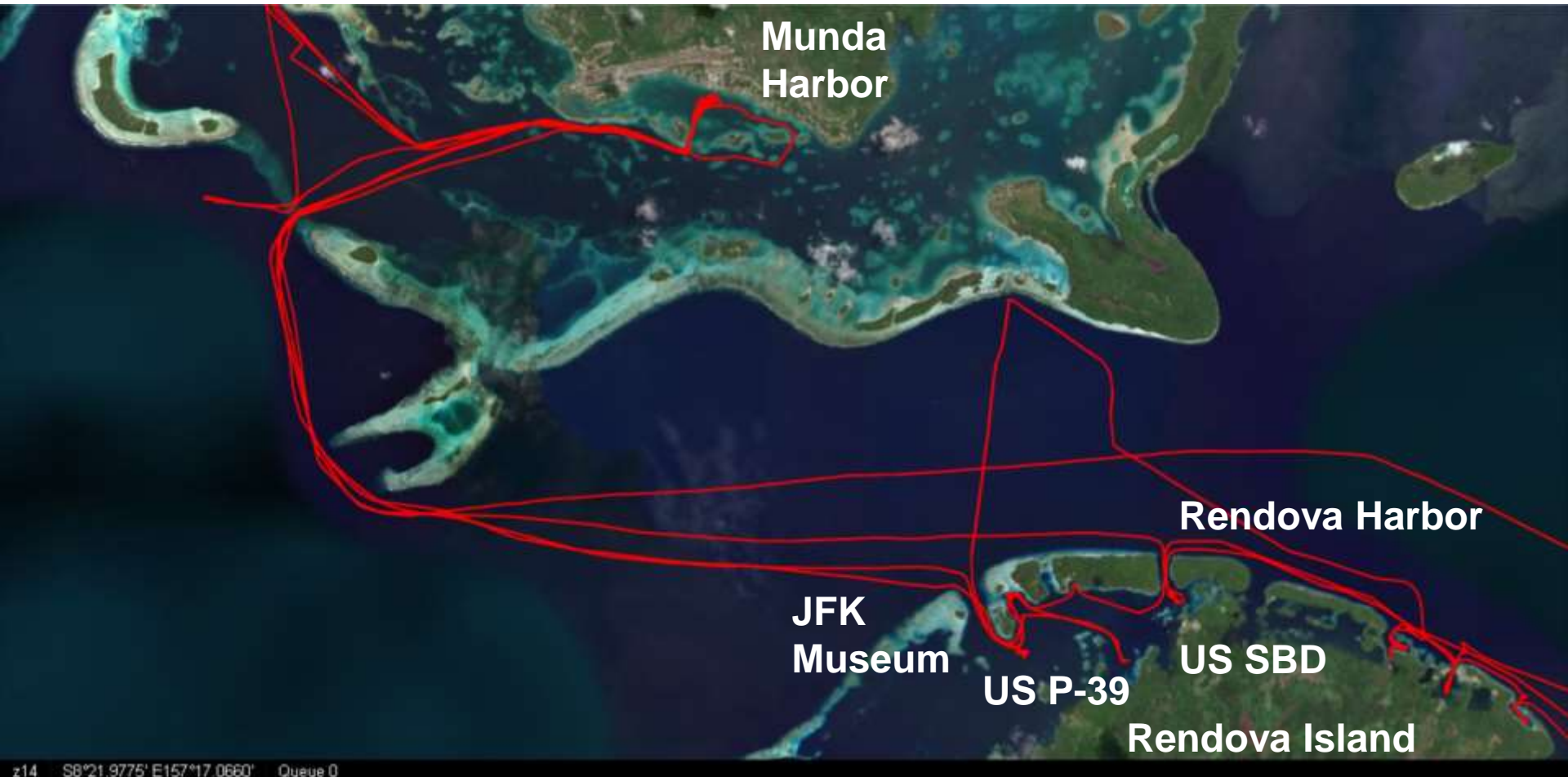




Munda, New Geogia, Solomon Islands



Munda airfield after
US takeover,
Rendova in upper
right corner 15 nm
away



Munda Harbor

Rendova Harbor

JFK Museum

US P-39

US SBD

Rendova Island

Jap AA
guns

Resort &
market

F6F, F4U,
G3M

WW2 Relics &
museum

**Flabillina
Nudibranch**



Nudibranch



Nudibranch



Anenome
shrimp



US Grumman F4F Wildcat Fighter

Crew-single pilot
engine-1200 hp
max speed-330 mph
ceiling-37K
range-850 mi
arms-4x50 cal, bombs
prod-7825 ea



**Upside down F4F
Wildcat, from astern in
30 fsw, North New
Georgia**



US F4F Wildcat
engine





**US F4F
Wildcat
engine &
prop in 30
fsw**

Sherry inspecting a barrel anenome on F4F Wildcat wing



**F4F Wildcat
tail wheel**



Vehicle dual wheels,
cargo ship wreck,
Enoghe Harbor, NW New
Georgia



Japanese writing on
piece of wood, cargo
ship wreck, Enoghe
Harbor, NW New Georgia



Lizard fish



**Munda Resort
waterfall hike on
New Georgia
Island**



**Sherry at
waterfall
on New
Georgia
Island**





**Dave & Liz at
waterfall on
New Georgia
Island**

**Japanese 40mm AA
guns near Munda
on New Georgia
Island**



**Entrance to
Peter Joseph
WW2 Museum
near Munda**



**Peter Joseph
Palatini dog tag
at WW2 museum**



PETER
JOSEPH
PALATINI
224-57-32
T-
USN

**Collection of
swords, knives,
grenades, rifle,
etc**



Museum
interior with
many WW2
relics





**Museum
collection
of WW2
rifles and
shells**



Many more WW2 relics in the museum, US helmet

WW2 era bottles
and canteens





WW2 US Halftrack??

Japanese
WW2 40mm
AA gun??

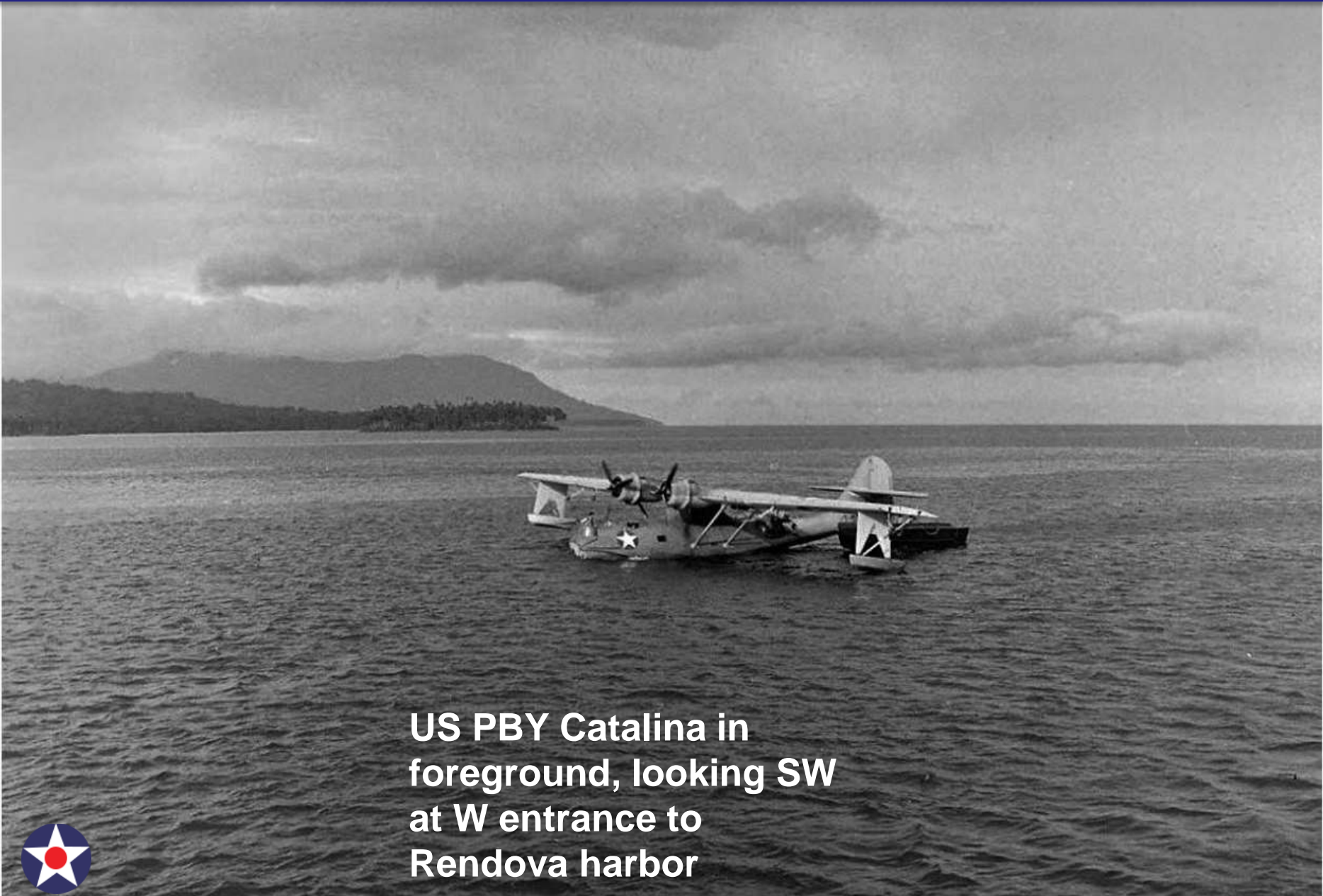




Japanese
20mm AA
gun ??



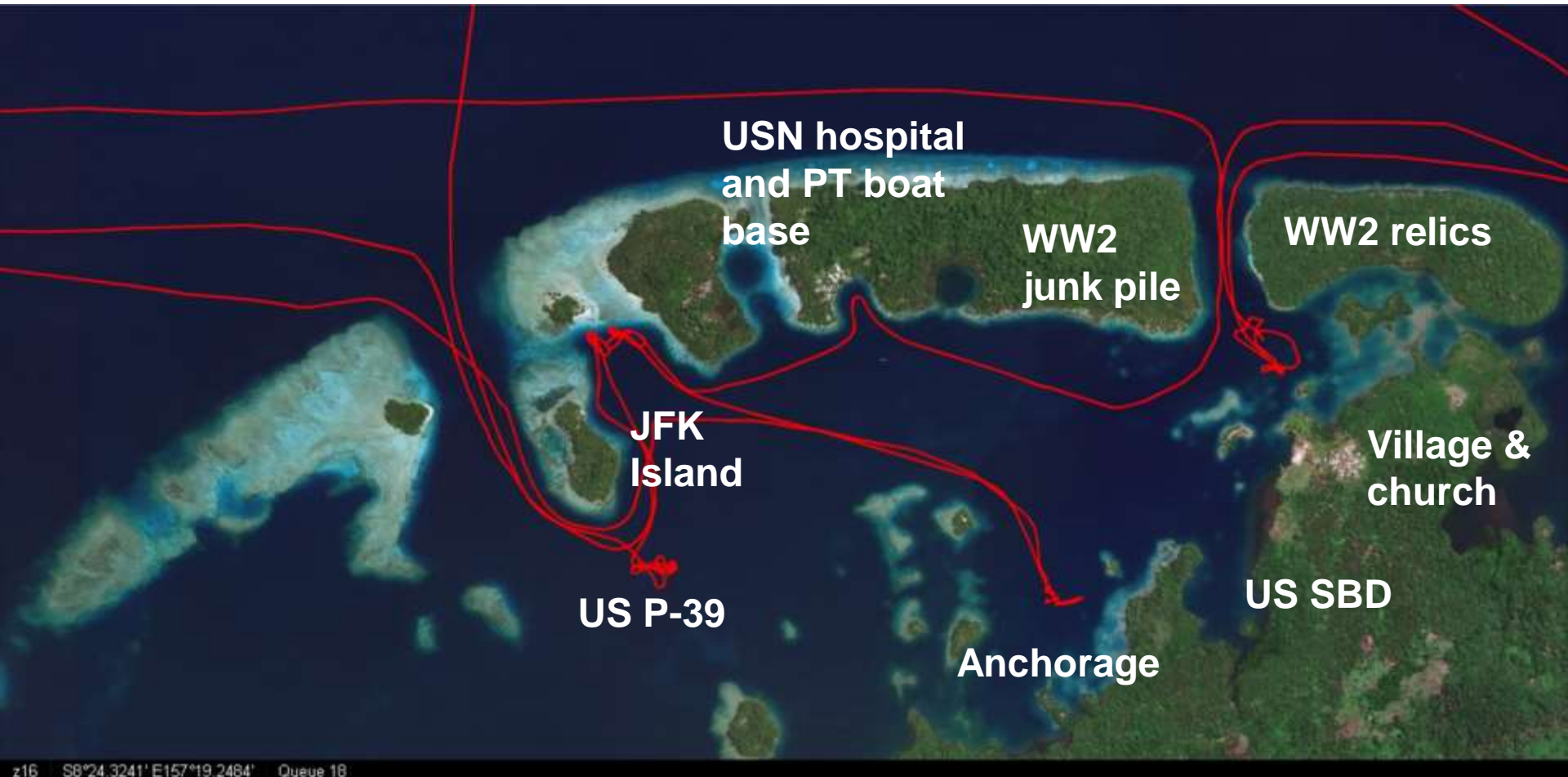
Rendova Island, Solomon Islands



US PBV Catalina in
foreground, looking SW
at W entrance to
Rendova harbor



Rendova Harbor



DIVE MUNDA



MORO LIGHT HOUSE

DREAM ISLAND

WILD CAT

GIZO

YOU ARE HERE

DIVE MUNDA

BASIVELE DUMPEITE

HELL CAT

CORFATRU

NELL BOMBER

AMERICAN DUMP SITE

TOBATUNI POINT

CORO AIR

POZER AT THE BAR
MUNDA BAR

MUSSE POINT

CUSTOM SHARK CAVE

MARLONS CRACK

PATU QOQO

CORAL CORNER

TURTLE EYE

PINNACLE

DOKEDONE IS

BIGOBIGO

BLUE PATAMAS
KIDUKUDU IS

TIE POND

BILUKING

LANGARANA IS

ENGL NEST

BARRYS BREAKFAST

SECRET SPOT

NUSA ROMANA WALL

SHARK POINT

SUSU HITE

BELOBELO IS

TOP SELF

HILLS OF HAEPE

RINSOW WALL

HAEPE REEF

NIAS CONSOLATION

DOUGLAS BOMBER

BABATANA PASSA TIRU

B.39 AIR COBRA

TITIRU

TEEPAPARE IS

YAMNA ENTRANCE



**Rendova Island interior where
US guns shot at Japanese
Munda facilities, looking SE**



**Indigo 2 trading with
locals in Rendova
Harbor**

JOHN F. KENNEDY'S
PT 109 BASE during
WORLD WAR II
LUBERIA ISLAND, RENDOVA
WESTERN PROVINCE, S.I.

Nicely's JFK Base
museum on Luberia Island



**Dave & Chris
looking at WW2
relics in Nicely's
JFK Museum**

Cooking
equipment,
canteens, lantern
& ??? at JFK
Museum



**Local Rendova
village girls**






**More WW2 relics
collected by locals from
the jungle**

Douglas SBD Dauntless Dive Bombers



Two crew, 250 mph, 27k, 1345
mi, 4x50 cal, 650lbs bombs,
5300

An underwater photograph showing a large, rusted metal propeller and engine component of an SBD Dauntless dive bomber. The object is heavily encrusted with green and brown marine growth. The background is a murky, greenish-brown water with some small fish visible. The text is overlaid in the bottom left corner.

**SBD Dauntless
dive bomber
engine and prop in
murky 25 fsw,
Rendova Harbor**

SBD Dauntless dive
bomber rear gunner's
seat





**SBD Dauntless dive
bomber cockpit seat
& joystick**

**SBD Dauntless
dive bomber
cockpit wind
screen & canopy**



P-39 Bell Airacobra Fighter

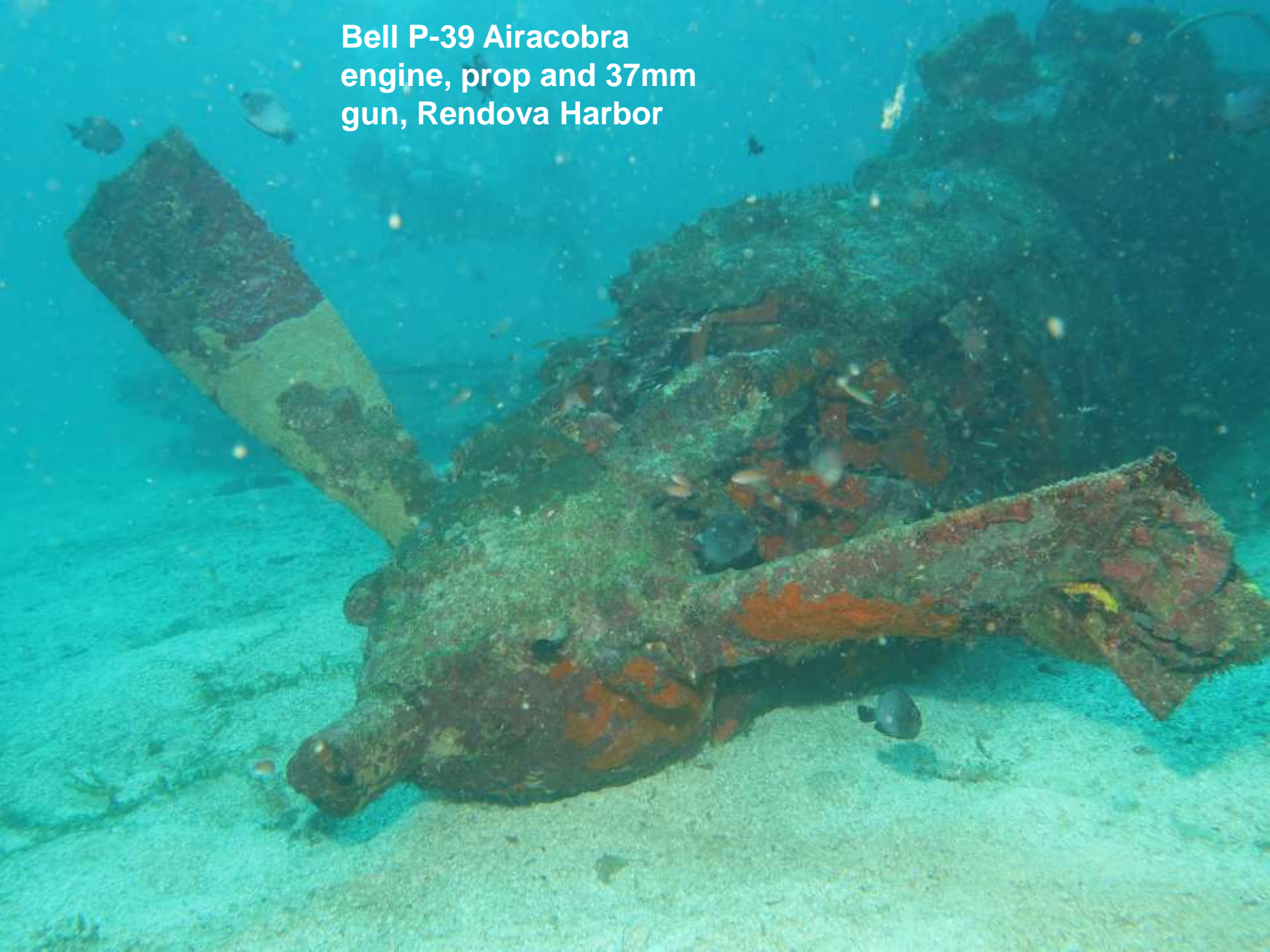
One pilot, 1 1200hp,
38.5 K, 400mph,
750nm, 1 37mm, 2 50
cal, 4 30cal, 1 500lb
bomb, 9500



**Bell P-39 Airacobra in
100 fsw Rendova
Harbor**



**Bell P-39 Airacobra
engine, prop and 37mm
gun, Rendova Harbor**



**Bell P-39 Airacobra
side view, Rendova
Harbor**





**Remains of PT boat landing,
in small lagoon, Rendova
Harbor**



Local homes built on hospital slabs, note WW2 gun and fuel tank



**Hospital slab
in jungle**



Nicely & the
mystery slab-
for shuffle
board?

Logging
operation near
WW2 junk pile



**WW2 road
bed from
hospital to
junk pile**



WW2 radio tube
base plate at junk
pile area



**Anchorage along the
NE coast of Rendova
Island**

Villages

**US B-17
wreckage**

Our guides to the
B-17 wreckage site



Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress



**10 crew, 4-1200hp, 289
mph, 2000 nm, 36k,
13-50 cal, bombs 8
klbs, 12,700**

**B-17 wreckage
site, mostly
under fresh
water pool**

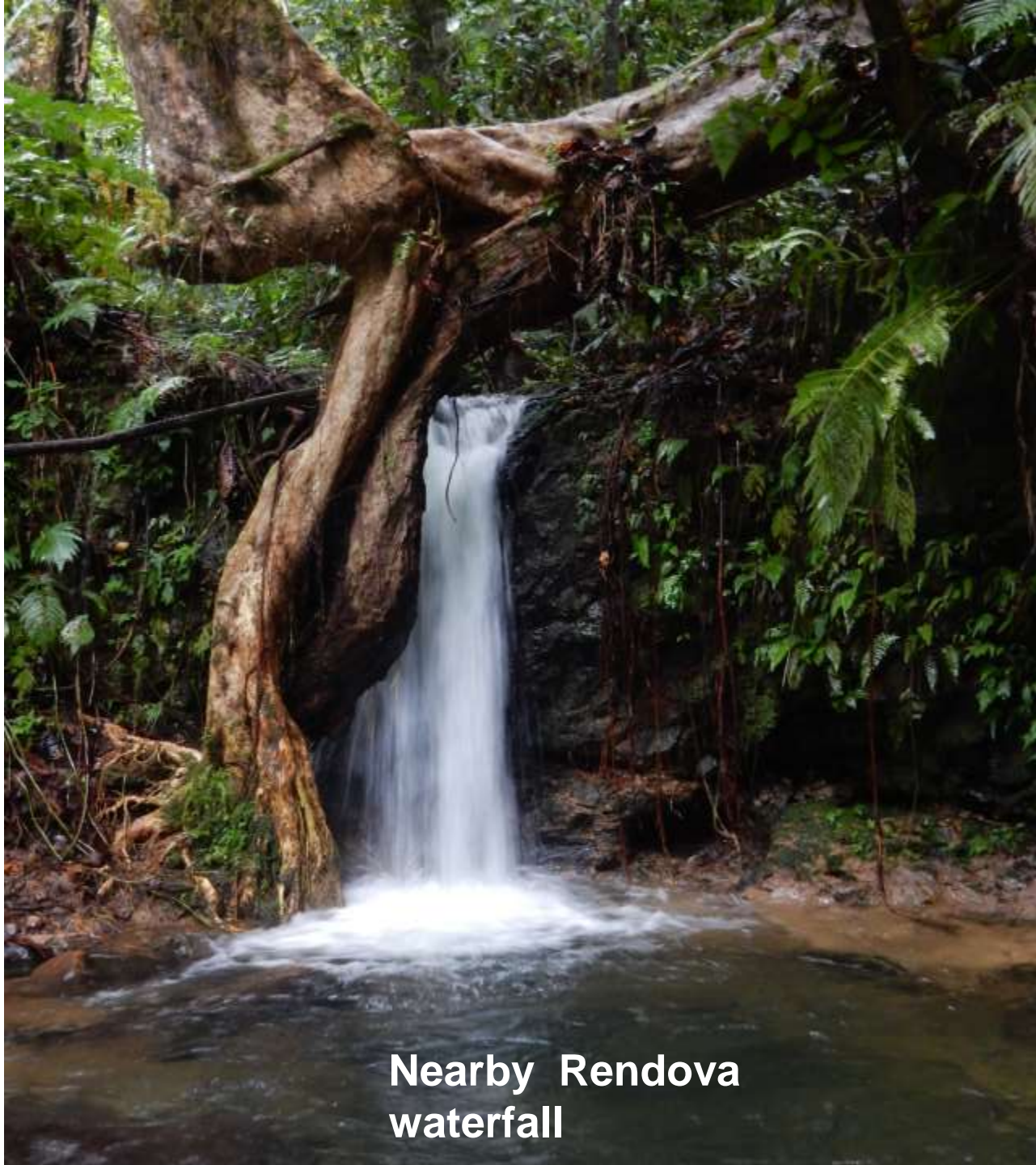




**Buried B-17
engine and
cowling**

Local guides
& B-17 engine
and prop





**Nearby Rendova
waterfall**



Ranger station
ashore

Very tight but
beautiful Tetepari
anchorage for 2
boats



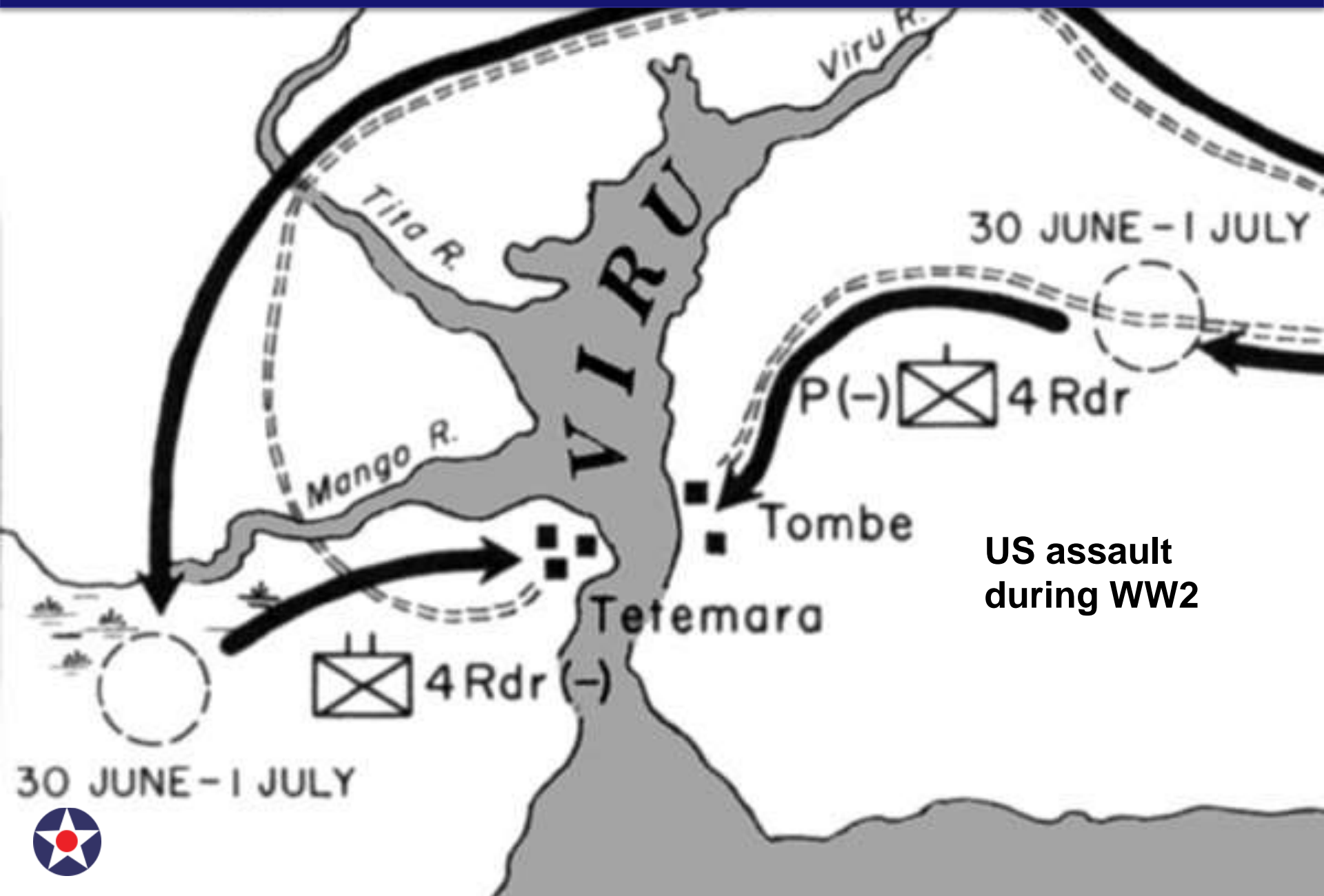
**Tetepari shoreline
looking south
from clubhouse
dining facility**



Tetepari sunset



Viru Harbor, New Georgia, Solomons



30 JUNE - 1 JULY



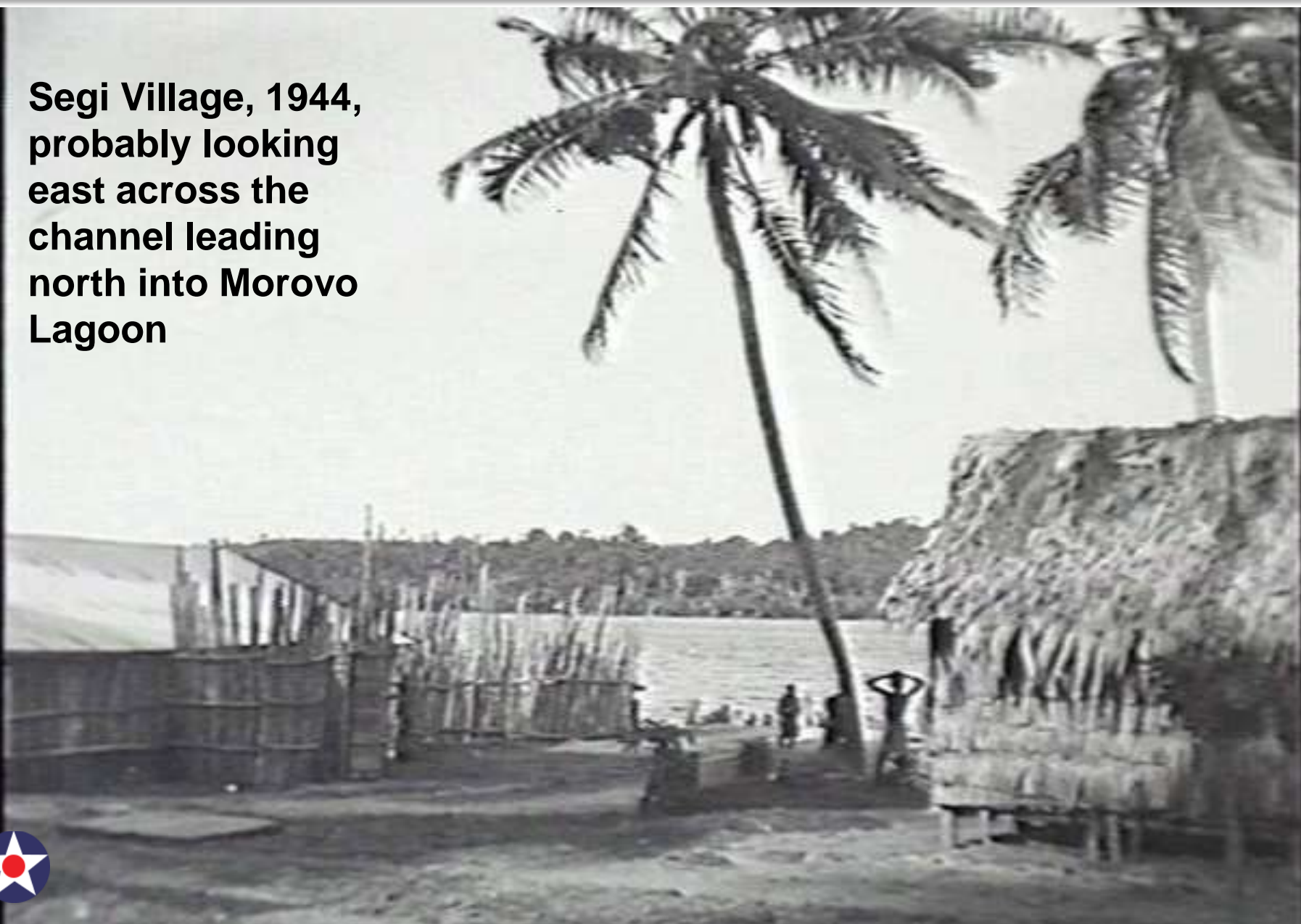


SUPPLY-LADEN LCT's landed in Viru Harbor only a few minutes after Marines had cleared the enemy from the area. These vessels entered the harbor's mouth as the Marines attacked from the jungle-swamp inland, thus giving the appearance of a coordinated land and amphibious assault. July 1, 1943, New Georgia, Solomon Islands.



Seghe (Segi) New Georgia, Solomons

**Segi Village, 1944,
probably looking
east across the
channel leading
north into Morovo
Lagoon**





Uepi Resort

Morovo Lagoon

Viru Harbor

New Georgia

Seghe Village & air strip

Snorkel trip

Many carvers

Waterfall

Spectacular diving

Local resort

Vangunu

Mbili Passage

B24

Tetepari I

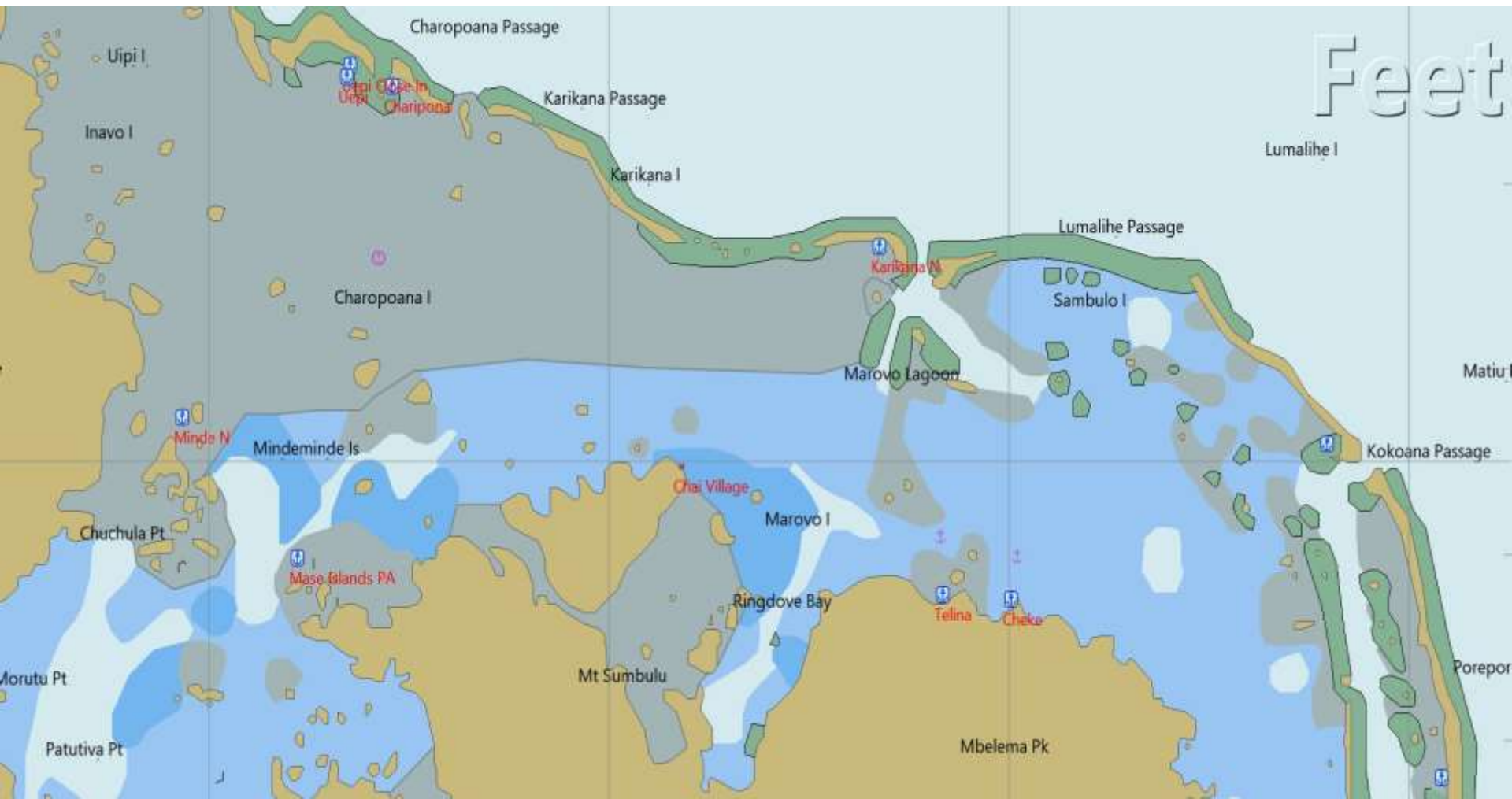
Wickham Harbor

Canoe carvers

Kingguru

Commercial charting challenges

- Depths, shoals?
- Markers?
- Shoreline accuracy?



Satellite Charting

Which would you prefer to use?



Ocelot, Morovo Lagoon Sunset



**Exquisite Nuzu-nuzu carvings
for sale at Uepi Resort**
Holding birds of peace or skulls of war





Uepi carver's
bowl with
inlaid with
Nautilus shell
of ?? wood



**Uepi carver's Spirit
of the Solomons
board**

**Uepi carver's
nusu nusu head
& scuba tank**



**Exquisite war canoe &
other things for sale at
Uepi Resort**



Consolidated PB4Y Privateer Heavy Bomber

Same as B-24,
Need new pic of
twin rudder early
model, one dorsal
turret



11 crew, 300 mph, 2820 mi,
21k, 12x50 cal, bombs,
mines, torpedoes, 739 ea

**B24-D wreckage
near Mbili**



Mbili B24-D
wing
wreckage



Mbili
B24-D ID
numbers

B24-D NO. 7034

ENGINE NO. 4-11-11

BOTTOM

Mbili B24-D
engine and
prop



Another
Mbili B24-D
engine and
prop



Mbili Hermit Crab



Mbili
Octopus



Mbili same
Octopus



Mbili same
Octopus





**Sherry on our
canoe maker's
day trip with her
cell phone**

A photograph of a tropical riverbank. The foreground is dominated by a large, dark tree trunk leaning over the water. The background is a dense wall of green foliage, including various trees and hanging vines. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding greenery. The overall scene is lush and vibrant.

**Up the river to
the canoe
maker's village**

Sherry & kids
showing photos



The Coconut Song

Pick A Hairy COCONUT
And Shake-Shake-Shake. Cut
The hairy COCONUT And Break-Break
Break, Drink up All The Milk. It's
So Yum, Yum. Yummy.
Eat up All The Meat, And
Rub Your-TUM-TUM-
TUMMY...



**Chris & Liz
watching
traditional
dugout canoes
under
construction**





**Dave watching
how to use the
right dugout
carving tool**

Carver
explaining
the canoe
carving
process

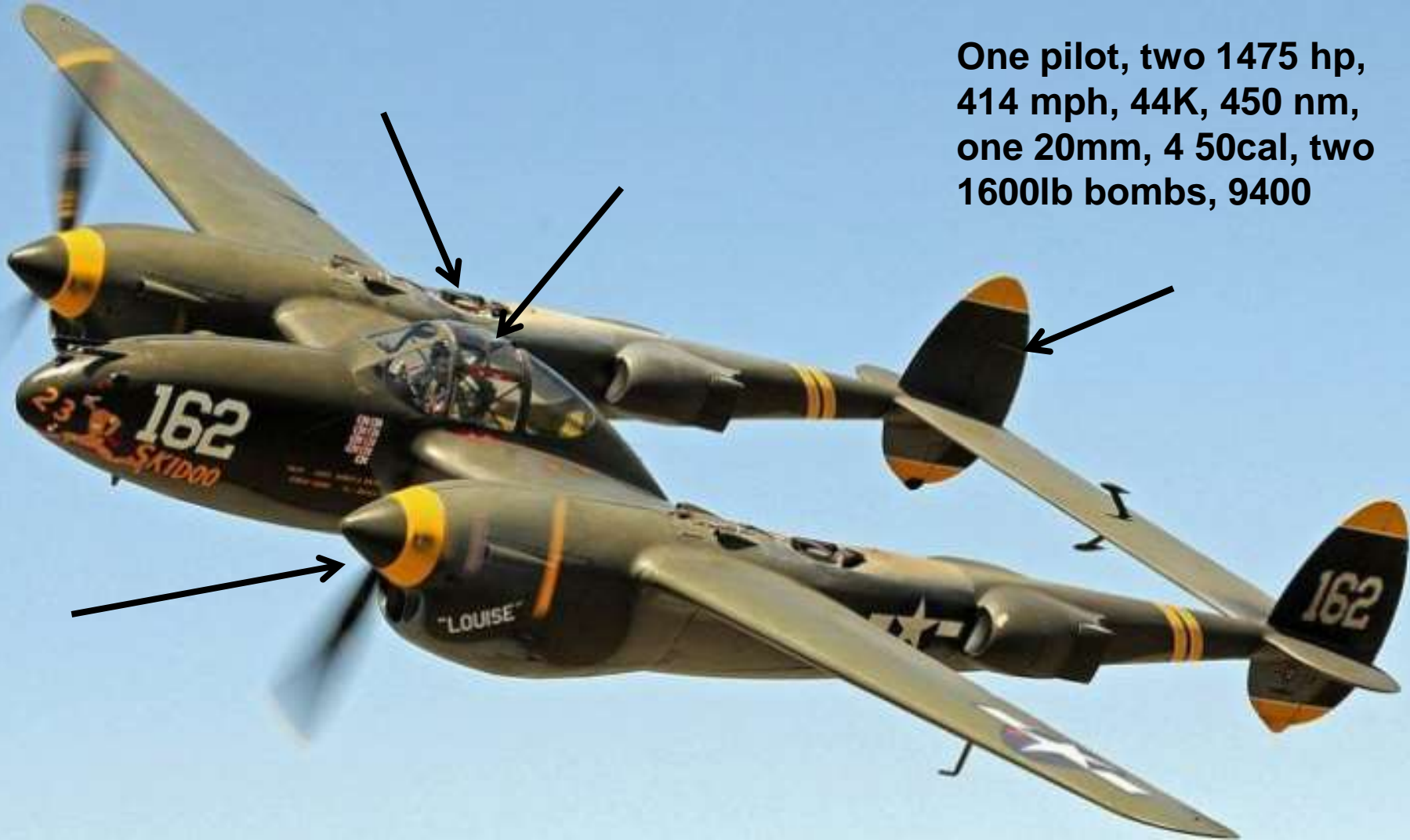




Cargo ship with
load of local logs,
why Morovo
Lagoon is not a
Unesco world
heritage site

P-38 Lockheed Lightning Fighter Bomber

One pilot, two 1475 hp,
414 mph, 44K, 450 nm,
one 20mm, 4 50cal, two
1600lb bombs, 9400



**Seghe P-38
engine mount &
cockpit in 15
fsw**




**Seghe P-38
port engine
and prop**



Seghe P-38
cockpit seat and
engine controls



An underwater photograph showing a large, dark, cylindrical engine component, identified as a Seghe P-38 engine supercharger. The component is heavily encrusted with brown and white marine life, including coral and sponges. It is resting on a sandy seabed. In the background, a blue fish is visible swimming in the clear water. The overall scene is dimly lit, typical of an underwater environment.

**Seghe P-38
engine
supercharger**

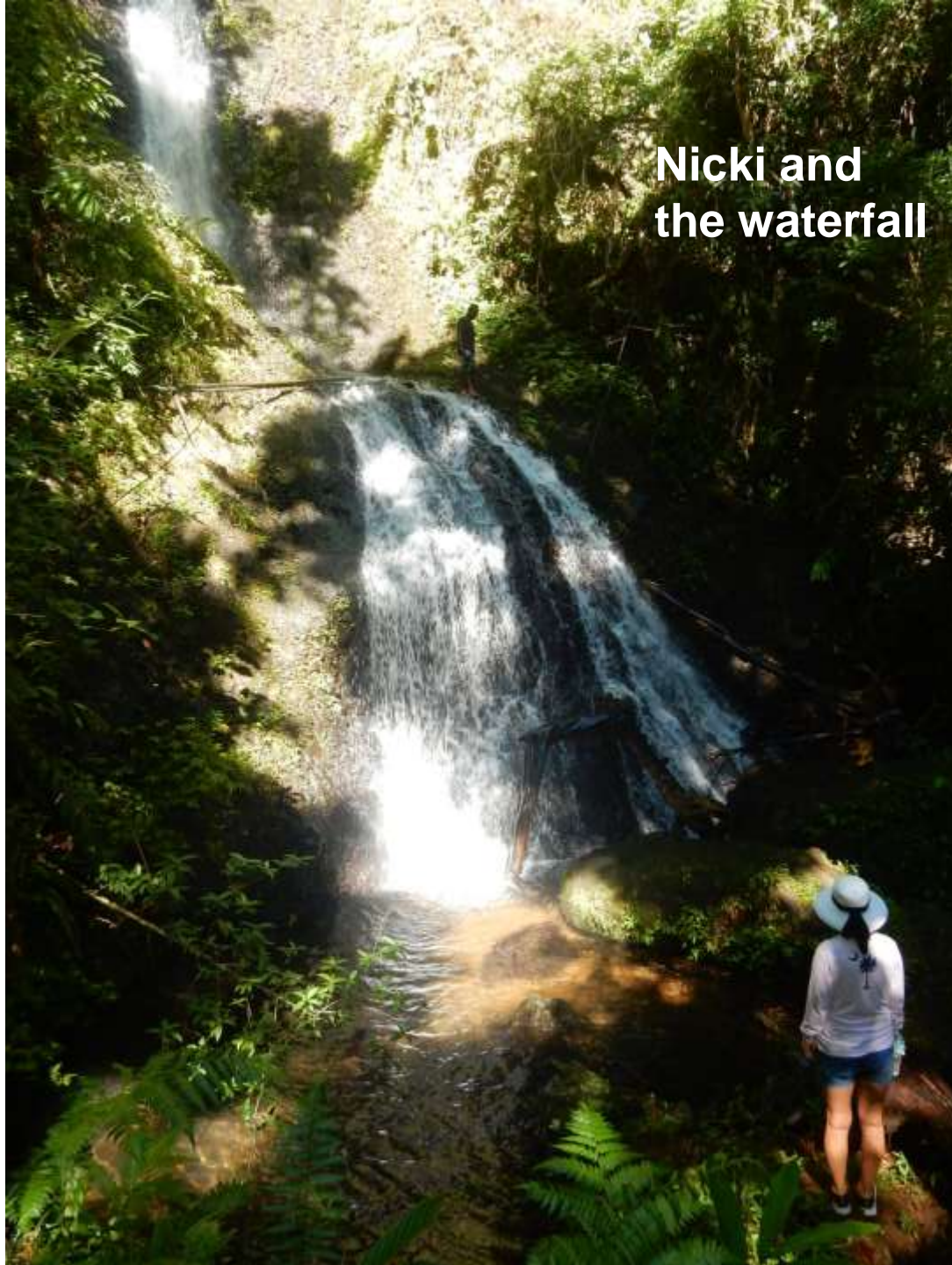


**Seghe P-38
starboard
engine & prop**

**Jungle
waterfall hike
near carver
villages with
Nicki**



**Nicki and
the waterfall**





More exquisite carvings

**A carver's workshop
Cheke Village**



A workshop or outdoor area where wooden carvings of sea creatures are being made. The carvings include an octopus, a manta ray, a fish, a turtle, and a sea horse. The scene is cluttered with wood shavings, tools, and other items. A person's legs in blue and white checkered shorts are visible in the upper right corner. A yellow bag with a logo is on the left. The carvings are made of light-colored wood and are in various stages of completion. The octopus is the most prominent, standing upright with its tentacles curled. The manta ray is lying flat, showing its wings and head. The fish is a simple, stylized carving. The turtle is shown from a side profile, and the sea horse is a small, intricate carving. The background shows more wood and tools, suggesting an active workspace.

Carvings in progress

Octopus, Manta Ray, Fish, Turtles, Sea Horse

**Bonito carving
Cheke Village
Marovo Lagoon**



Dave discussing
bone carvings
with Master
Carver Rocky,
Telina Village



**Rocky's elaborate
mask Nicki traded
for an iPhone**



**Pre WW2 era
homestead house
near Cheke
village**



Solomon Islands

07°00's to 09°30's



Treasuries
Stirling

Shortlands
Ballalae

Vella
Lavella

Kolombangara

New
Georgia

Gizo

Viru

Rendova

Marovo
Lagoon

SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Tetepare

Seghe

Roderick
Bay

Russells

Florida
Tulaghii

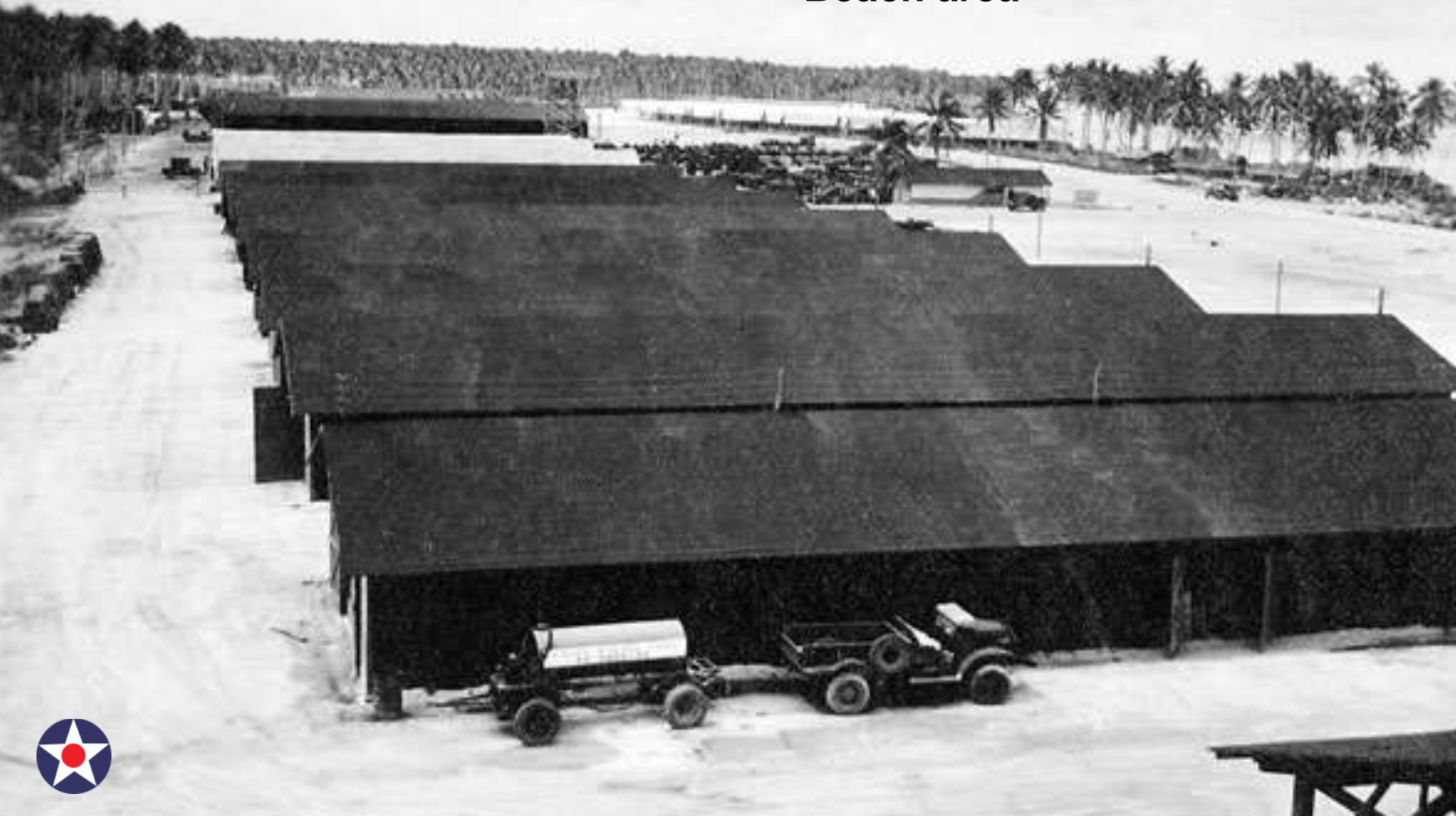
Honiara

— Mar-June
— July-Aug



Russell Islands, Solomon Islands

Major base for USN & USMC with
airfields, camps, etc, possibly White
Beach area

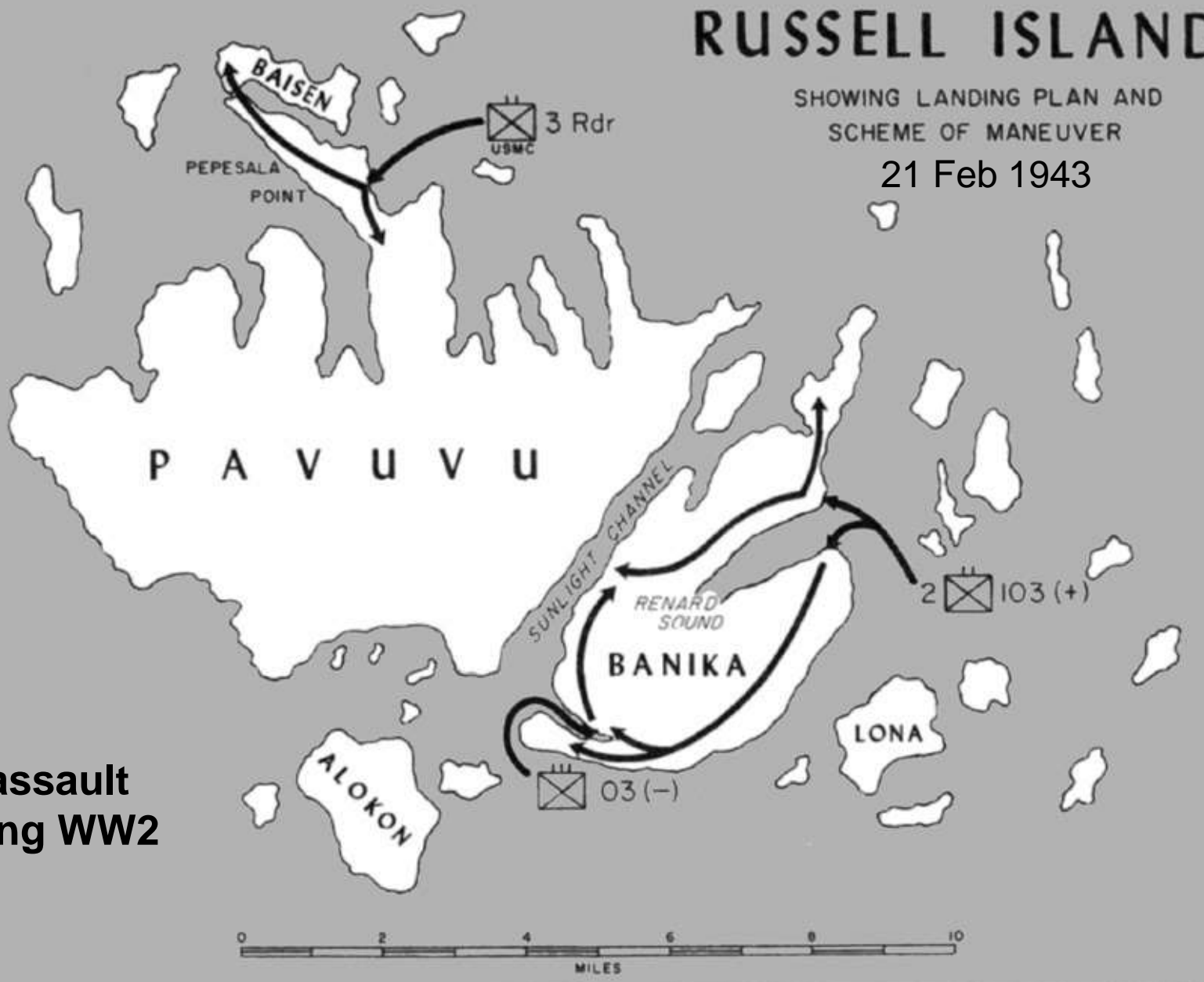


RUSSELL ISLANDS

SHOWING LANDING PLAN AND
SCHEME OF MANEUVER

21 Feb 1943

US assault
during WW2



Russell Islands Banika Island airfields, roads & White's Beach camp



PacificWrecks.com

IF 536

TOWER
REMARK: 6970 NO
140 58 Mc
RGK-3
ZD 540
AJ

Russell Islands



Anchorage

UXOrd

US Whites
Beach
Base

Anchorage

Yandina
village

Airfield

PT boat
base

Lots of WW2
development, 2
airfields, PT boats

Pavuvu

Mbanika

**A6M Zero wreckage
in palm grove Russell
Islands, Feb 1943**





**US WW2
Quonset hut
remains,
Yandina**

**Prop at police
barracks near
airfield**





**Road to White's
Beach base from
airfield**



**Huge machinery
gear in Trash Pile**

Unexploded 75mm
ordnance deep in
mangrove swamp
NE White's Beach



John & Sherry with
huge mushroom
mooring anchor in
Sunlight Channel





**Sherry and big 1942
WW2 stockless
anchor at White's
Beach area**



**Pier piling
remains at
White's Beach**

Yandina Police Station sign



YANDINA 
POLICE STATION



Sherry inspecting tractor remains off Yandina wharf



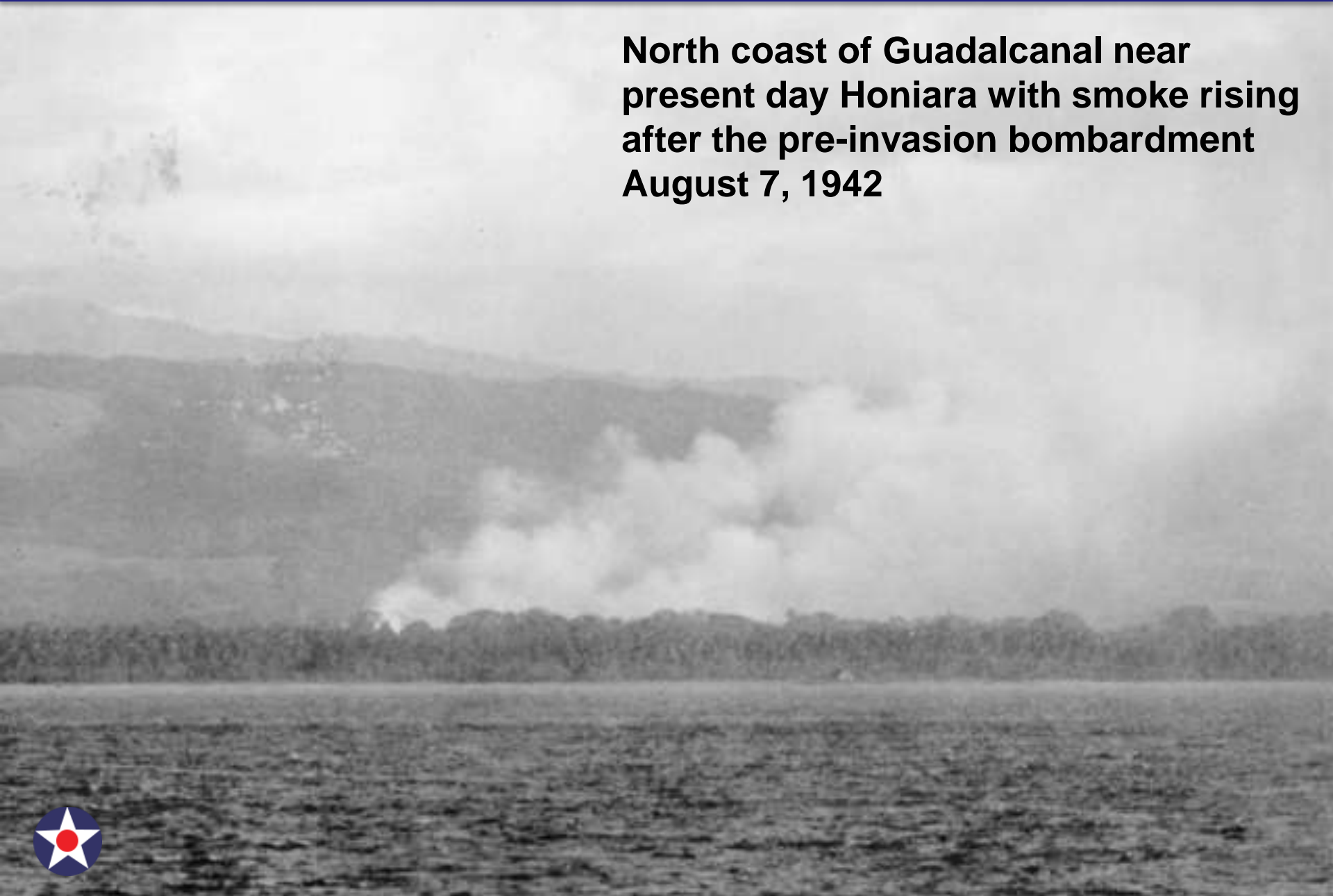
WW2 50 cal rounds
off Yandina wharf

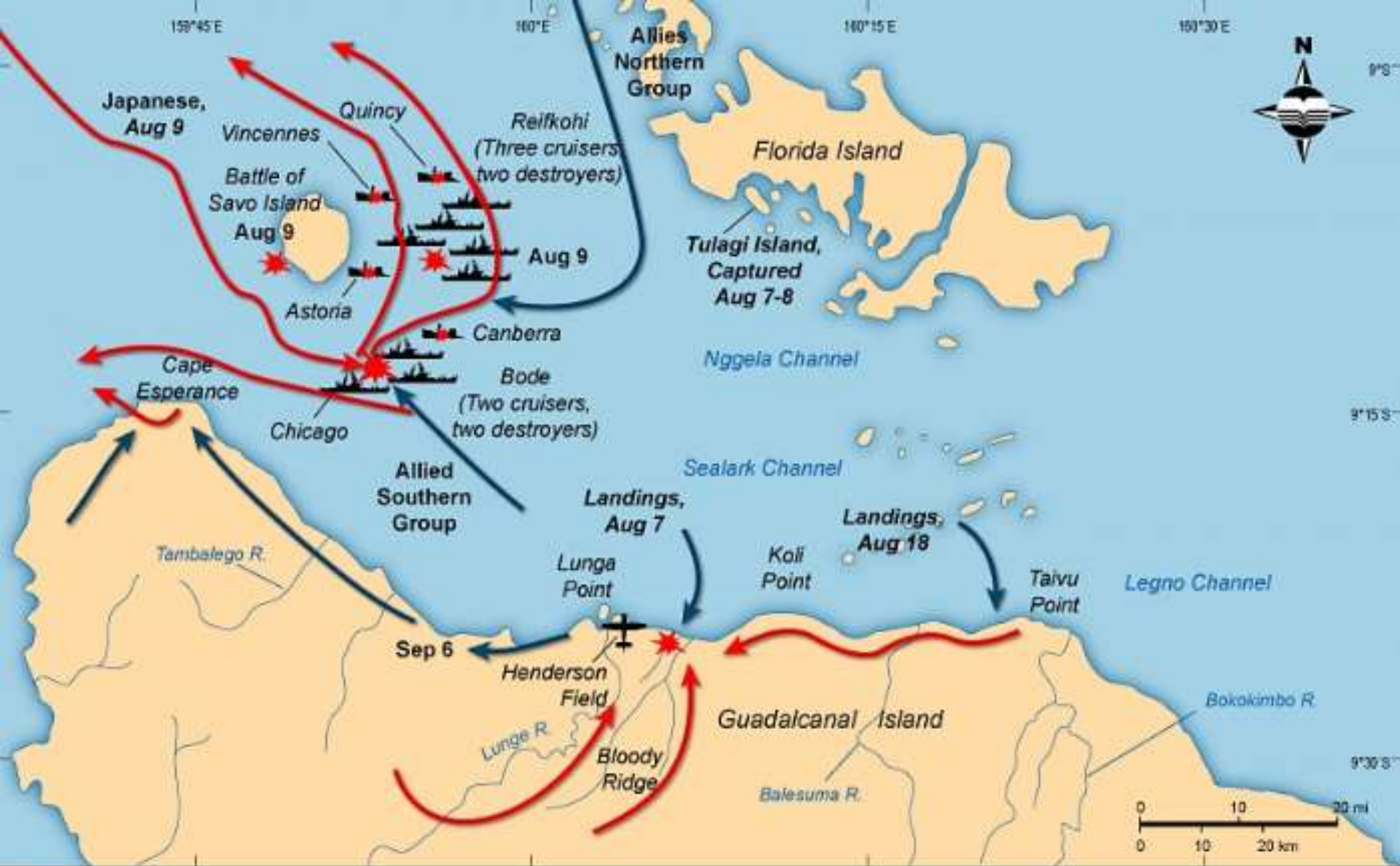




Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands

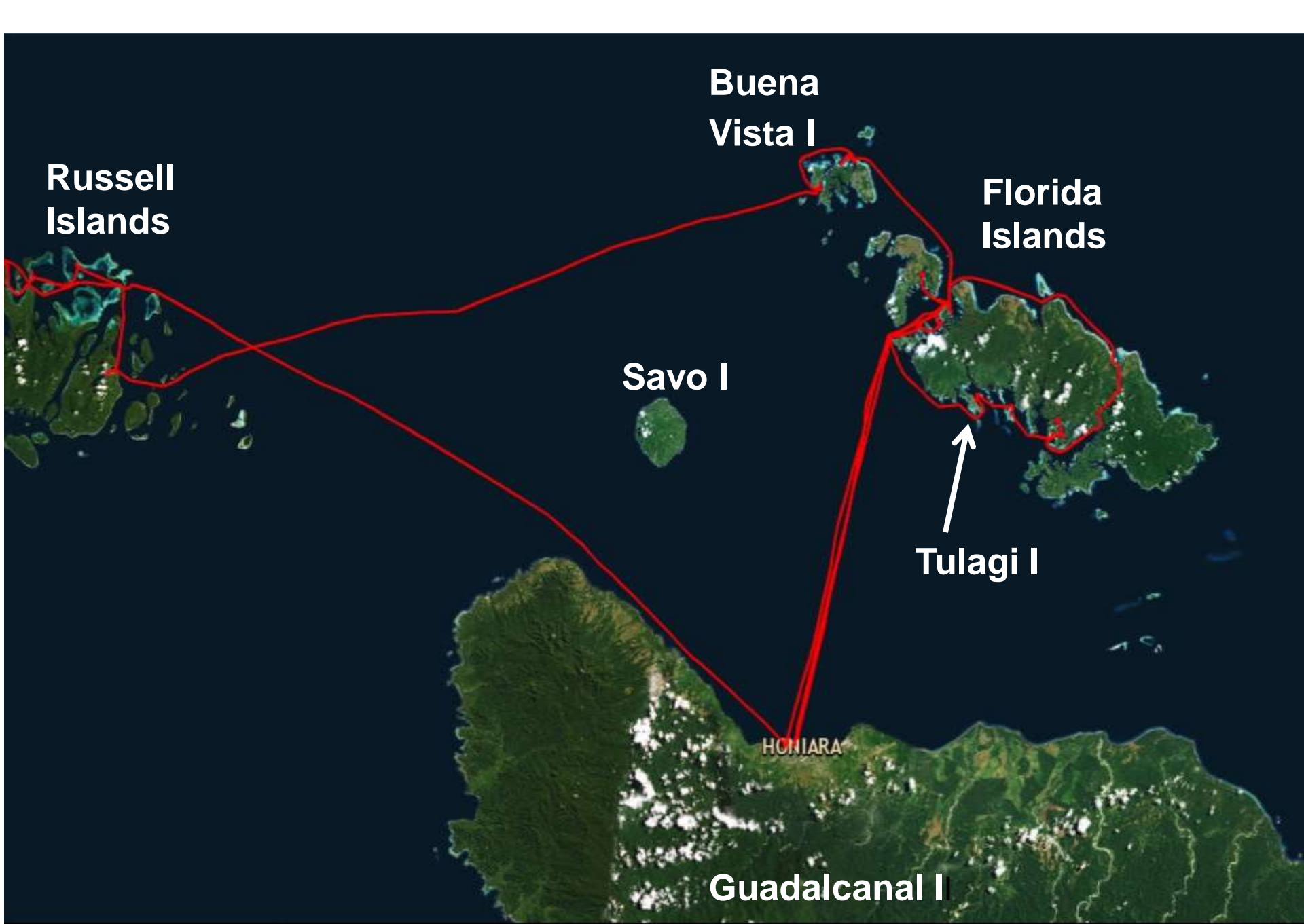
**North coast of Guadalcanal near
present day Honiara with smoke rising
after the pre-invasion bombardment
August 7, 1942**





-  Japanese movements
-  Allied movements
-  Ships sunk
-  Airfields
-  Transport vessels
-  Naval engagements

Guadalcanal Invasion & naval actions 7-18 Aug 1942



**Russell
Islands**

**Buena
Vista I**

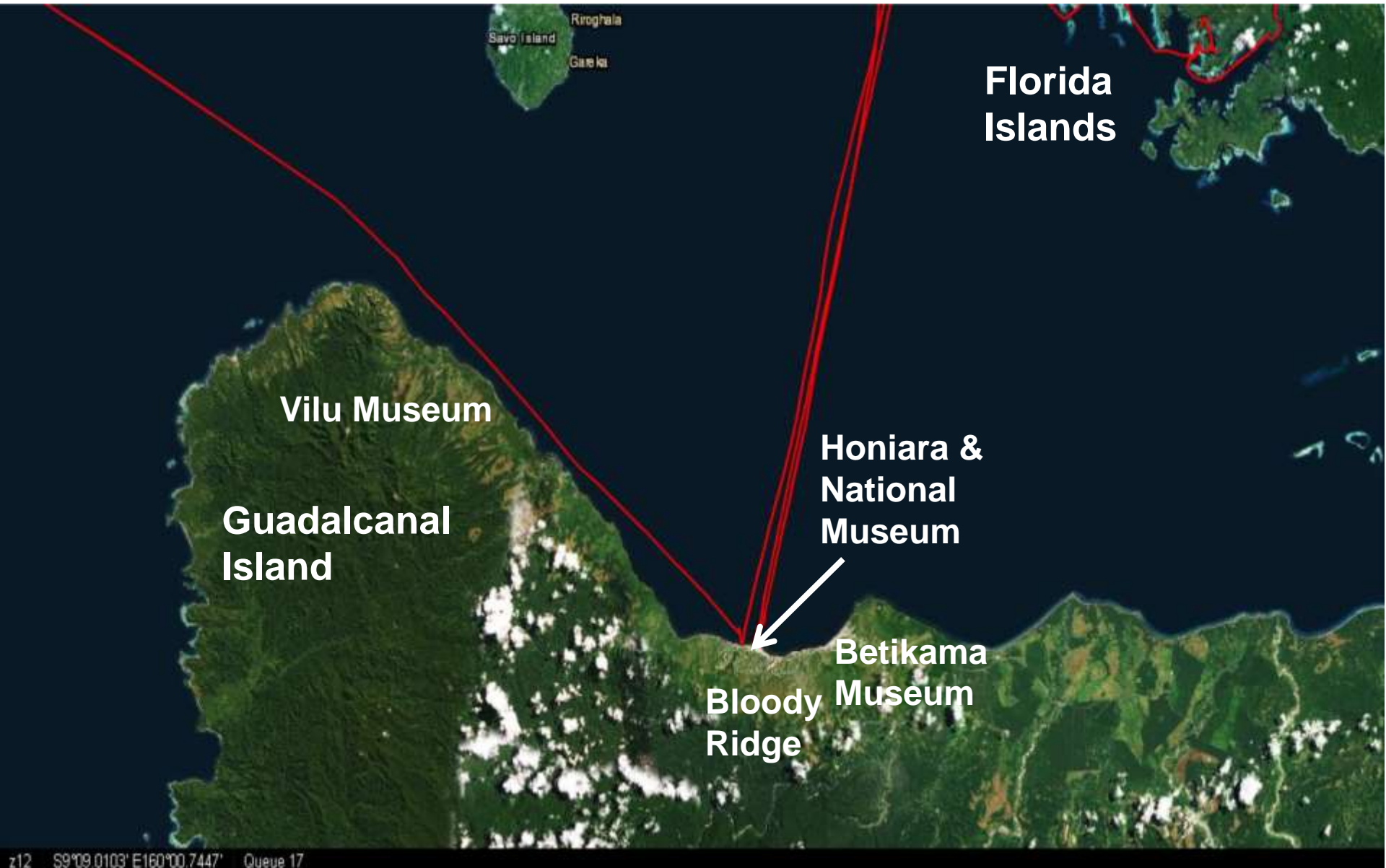
**Florida
Islands**

Savo I

Tulagi I

Guadalcanal I

HONIARA



Florida
Islands

Vilu Museum
Guadalcanal
Island

Honiara &
National
Museum

Betikama
Museum
Bloody
Ridge

**Spaws
anchored off
Coral Resort,
Honiara**



Solomon Islands Peace Park Guadalcanal



碑文 INSCRIPTION

第二次世界大戦においてソロモン地域で勇猛果敢に戦い散華されたソロモン諸島、アメリカ軍及び日本将兵 118,700 人に対し、名誉と尊厳の念をもって 1980 年 10 月、本慰霊公苑を建立し、2011 年 10 月改修工事を実施した。

1942 年 8 月 7 日、日本国海軍設営隊、1850 名構築のルンガ飛行場は、米軍により奪取された。この戦闘で 8 月 16 日タイボ岬に上陸した一木支隊 916 名は大多数の将兵を失い戦力を消耗し、10 月 2 日以降諸隊と共に第二師団の指揮下に入った。
10 月 2, 3 日、第二師団先頭部隊はコカンボナに上陸、後続部隊は 10 月 14, 15 日にタサファロングに上陸した。
10 月初旬には川口支隊、一木支隊他各部隊は第二師団に合流。
11 月、第 38 師団が上陸、過酷な持久戦に入った。
12 月 31 日、御前会議にてガダルカナル島撤退が決定した。
1943 年 1 月、米軍によるアウステン山、ギブ高地、見晴台への攻撃があつて、終戦を迎えた。
犠牲となられた全ての御霊が心安らかに眠られ、ソロモン諸島国民と日本国民の親交が永代継がれることを念じます。
ソロモン諸島政府のご協力と認可により両国の英霊を鎮魂する本公苑は 1980 年に建立され、2011 年に改修が行われ、感謝の意を表します。

公益財団法人 太平洋戦争戦没者慰霊協会

This monument is being dedicated on October 1980 to honor and give respects to the People of Solomon Islands, the Americans and also to the 118,700 Japanese Soldiers who bravely fought and gave their precious lives in this specific area during World War II.

On 7th August 1942, the American Navy captured the Lunga runway. This runway was erected by 1,850 strong soldiers. During the fight, majority of the soldiers composed of the Japanese Navy Construction Party and the other half of 916 soldiers from ICHIKI Unit, which landed in Cape Taka, lost their lives. The KAWAGUCHI Platoon, which landed in Tasimboko on 29th August to 2nd October 1942 was later joined by the survivors of ICHIKI Unit to continue the battle. From 2-3 October, the first group of the No.2 Division landed at Kakambona and the second group of the No.2 Division arrived at Tsaverong on 14-15 October.

The KAWAGUCHI Platoon, ICHIKI Unit and other companies were united with the No.2 Division in early October.

In November No.38 Division also landed and a fierce and protracted battle took place. A council in the Imperial presence met and decided to withdraw from the Guadalcanal on 31st December 1942.

In January 1943, the American forces decided to attack Mt. Austen, Gifu Hill and See Horse, which ended the war.

We sincerely pray for eternal repose of the souls who have departed in this tragic war and wish for lasting friendship between the people of Solomon Islands and Japan.

We greatly appreciate the support and cooperation of the Government of Solomon Islands in allowing us to erect monument in honor of both our fallen heroes.

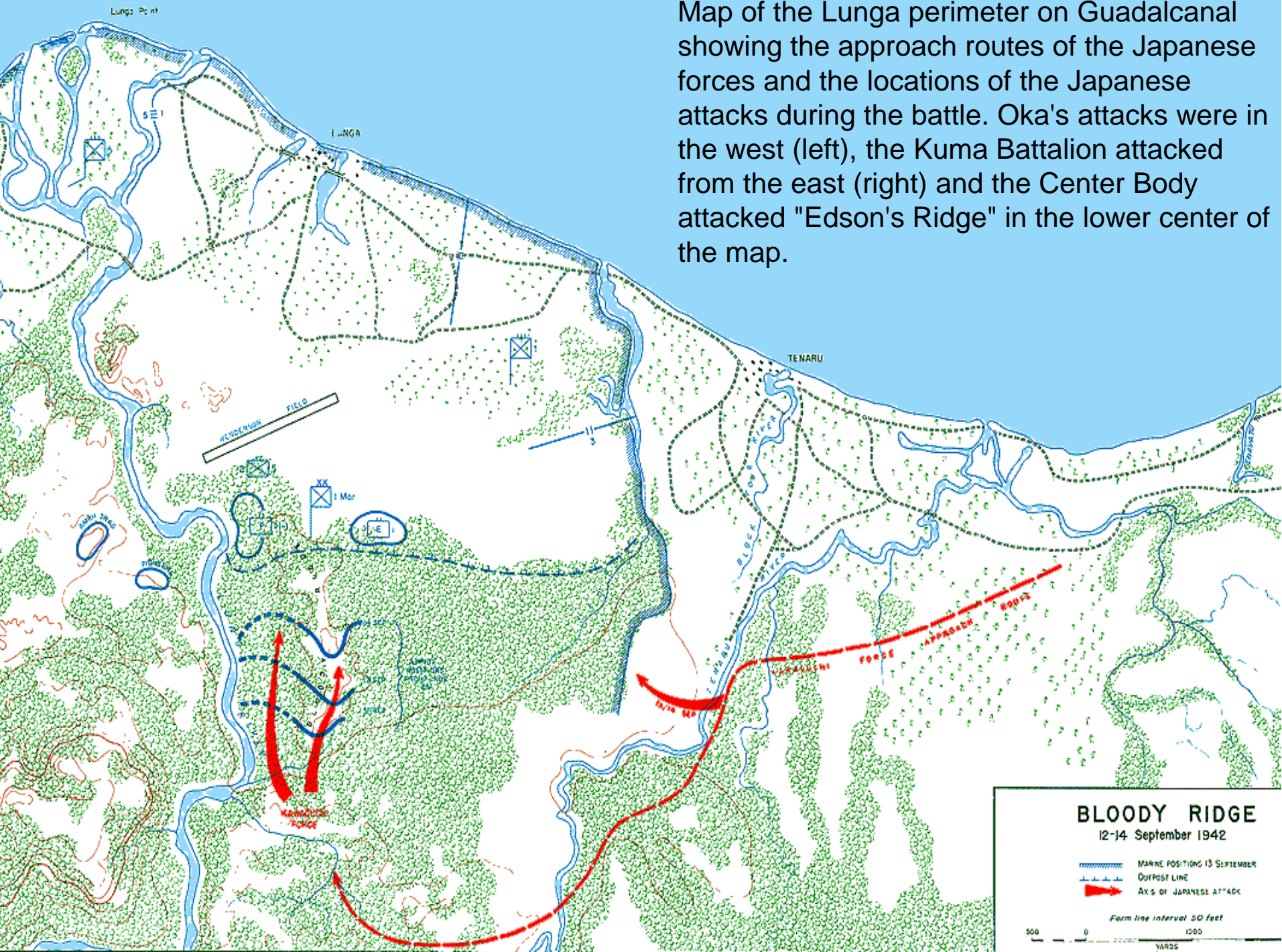
Pacific War Memorial Association

Interesting translation of what happened in Guadalcanal during WW2

Site of horrific
battle between
US Marines and
Japanese in
1942



Map of the Lunga perimeter on Guadalcanal showing the approach routes of the Japanese forces and the locations of the Japanese attacks during the battle. Oka's attacks were in the west (left), the Kuma Battalion attacked from the east (right) and the Center Body attacked "Edson's Ridge" in the lower center of the map.





**View SW toward island
interior & Lunga River
from top of Bloody Ridge**



**WW2 Marsten Mat
used for exterior
wall on local house**



**Remains of WW2
Quonset hut**



WARNING
PERSONS MAKING INAPPROPRIATE COMMENTS
CONCERNING - HIJACKING, CARRIAGE OF WEAPONS
OR EXPLOSIVES WILL BE PROSECUTED.



**WW2 propeller in lobby
of Honiara Terminal,
Henderson Field**



Craig looking at
WW2 75mm ?? AA
gun at Henderson
Field



DEDICATED
TO ALL THOSE INTREPID
MARINE RAIDERS
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
FOR THEIR COUNTRY
DURING WORLD WAR II

**WW2 Marine
Raiders plack
at Solomon
Islands
Memorial
Garden,
Henderson
Field**



WW2 Gun
US mm??



**Big collection
of WW2 fuel
cans, gun &
plane parts**



**Wreckage of
US Army P-39
Airacobra**

"BLONDIE," FROM A B24D THAT
CRASHED IN THE MAROVO LAGOON
AFTER A BOMBING RAID ON
RABAU.

Fuselage part of B-24D
Bundles, not Blondie, from
Mbili, Morovo Lagoon



**1942 US Army M2
Medium Tractor, well
documented**

NORMAL ENGINE SPEED 2500 R.P.M.
ENGINE MAY BE RUN 3280 R.P.M.
FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME
NEVER RUN ENGINE OVER 3280 R.P.M.

TRACTOR, MEDIUM M2
ORDNANCE DEPT., U.S. ARMY
MFD. BY THE CLEVELAND TRACTOR CO.
MFR. SERIAL NO. 4 TA 858 MODEL M/G 1
ORD. SERIAL NO. TA 858 CR. WT. 13500
MAX. SPEED 22 M.P.H. DELV. DATE 4/22
MAX. DRAG PULL 7000 LBS.
CONTRACT NO. W303-ORD.
RECOMMENDED BY MANUFACTURER
OCTANE RATING OF GASOLINE 70
OIL - SUMMER USE S.A.E. GRADE 30
OIL - WINTER USE S.A.E. GRADE 20

M2 Tractor
nameplate



SOLOMON ISLANDS
NATIONAL MUSEUM
CORONATION GARDENS

Solomon Islands
National Museum in
downtown Honiara



**Early photo of
Solomon Islanders
& their war canoes**

**Solomon Islander
Coast Watcher
guides ready for
action during WW2**



*Used by US army during
War II. Collected at Ridge
site by Troop
Spoons and fork
Acquired in 2009*

Japanese Army water bottles
Collected at Lelei Village Exton
Ridge (Tuvaruhū), Guadalcanal in
2009

**WW2 Japanese
water bottles &
canteens, US
Coke bottles,
canteen & table
utensils**



Lapita people early migration routes to the Solomons



Lapita migration routes



**Oldest stone hand
tools in Solomons
from 6000 BC**



Waisted Stone Tools

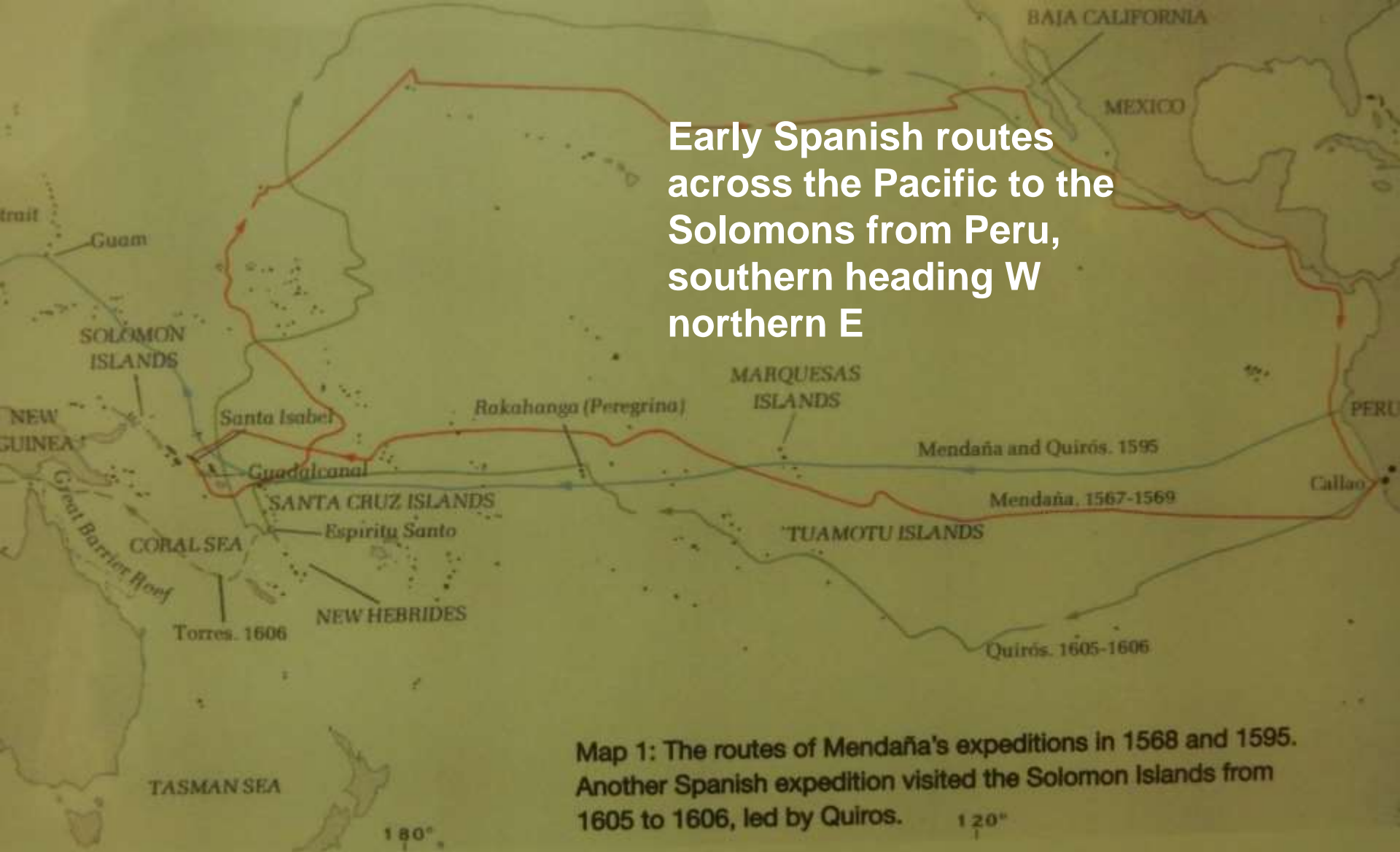
Waisted stone tools are the oldest stone tool found in the Solomon Islands. According to archaeological records, a waisted stone tool in Malaita is dated to approximately 6,000 BC.



Earliest Spanish exploration of the Solomons, 1568

Map 2: The route followed by the *Santiago* in 1568.

Early Spanish routes
across the Pacific to the
Solomons from Peru,
southern heading W
northern E



Map 1: The routes of Mendaña's expeditions in 1568 and 1595. Another Spanish expedition visited the Solomon Islands from 1605 to 1606, led by Quiros.

Sign sponsored by House Signs - Brisbane - Australia

Welcome to the
VILU WAR MUSEUM
WWII AIRCRAFT & RELICS



LOCKHEED LIGHTNING BETTY BOMBER WILDCAT

Entry Admission: Adult \$10 Child \$5 Professional Video / Documentary: \$1000

Family owned Vilu War
Museum entrance, N
Guadalcanal

US mobile 120
mm?? Gun at Vila
War Museum





WW2 Jap
100?? mm
mobile gun



**Craig & Pam
looking at
fuselage and
wing of US F4U
Corsair**



**Liz and museum
owner/guide looking at
US Army P-38 Lightning**



Early US
wing
insignia



US mobile
100?? mm
gun



**US F4F Wildcat
with folding wing
still working**



US F4F Wildcat with folding wing, note two holes in wing for 50 cal guns



**Berzerker
anchored off
Coral Resort at
sunset**



Florida Islands, Solomon Islands

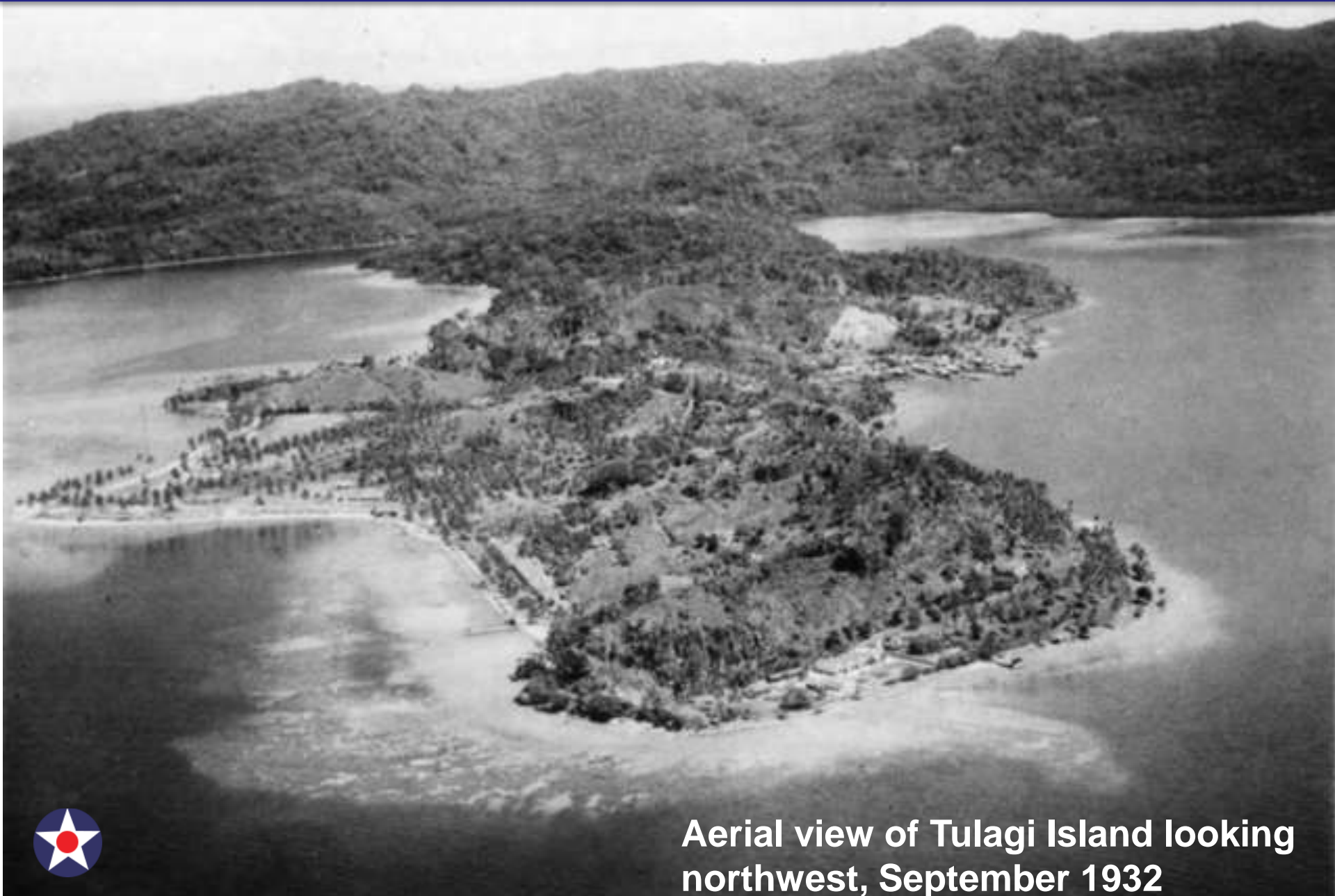


**USN OS2U Kingfisher
seaplanes at Halavo
Seaplane Base on
Florida Island**





Tulaghi Island, Solomon Islands



Aerial view of Tulagi Island looking northwest, September 1932



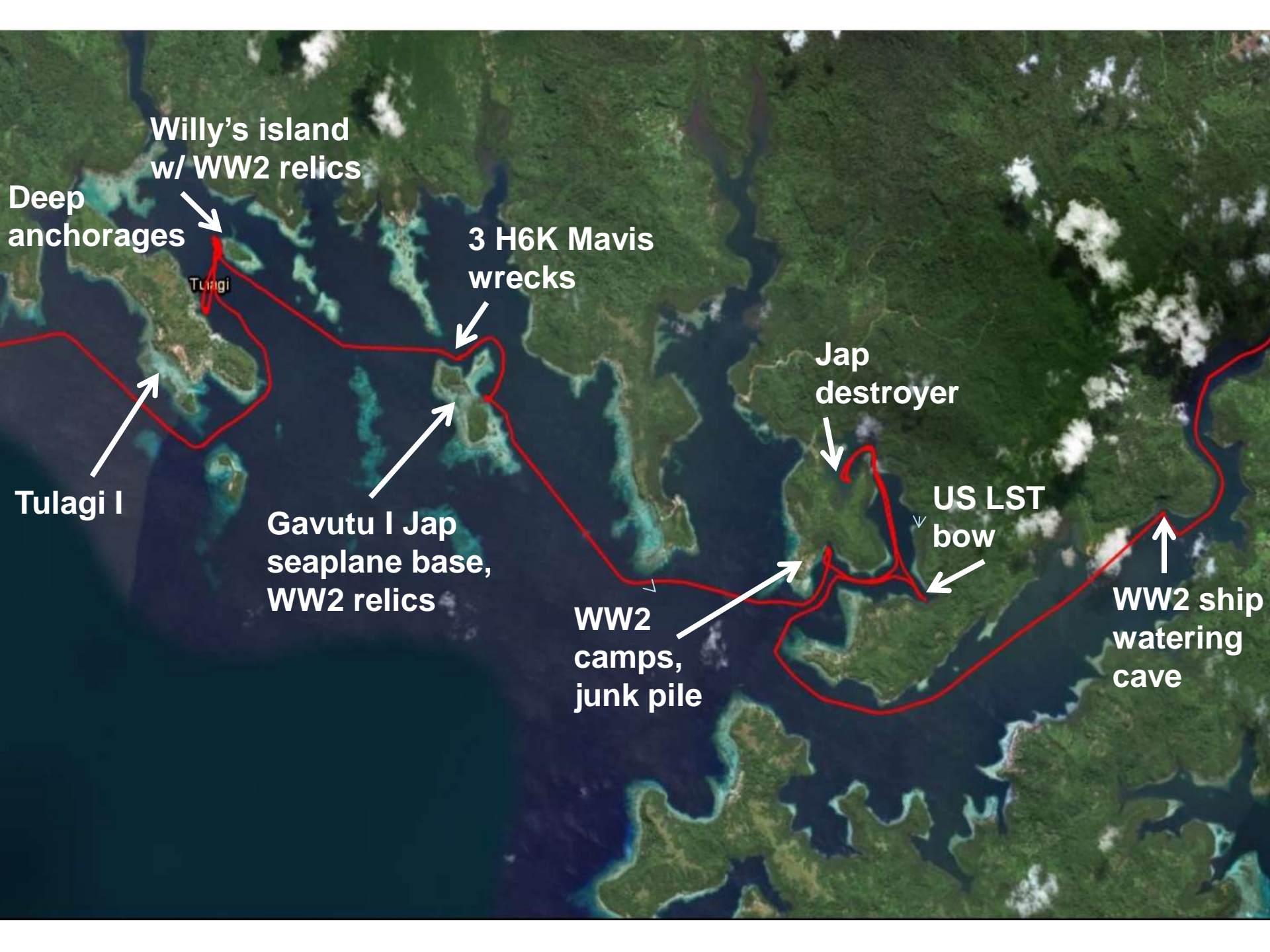
B-24
wreck?

A6M engine
on beach

John's
Roderick
Bay

Tulagi I

WW2 US LST bow,
Jap destroyer, water
cave, US camps



Willy's island
w/ WW2 relics

Deep
anchorages

Tulagi

3 H6K Mavis
wrecks

Jap
destroyer

Tulagi I

Gavutu I Jap
seaplane base,
WW2 relics

US LST
bow

WW2
camps,
junk pile

WW2 ship
watering
cave

Welcome to Rodrick Bay Hide Away



Chief John Ruka,
Roderick Bay

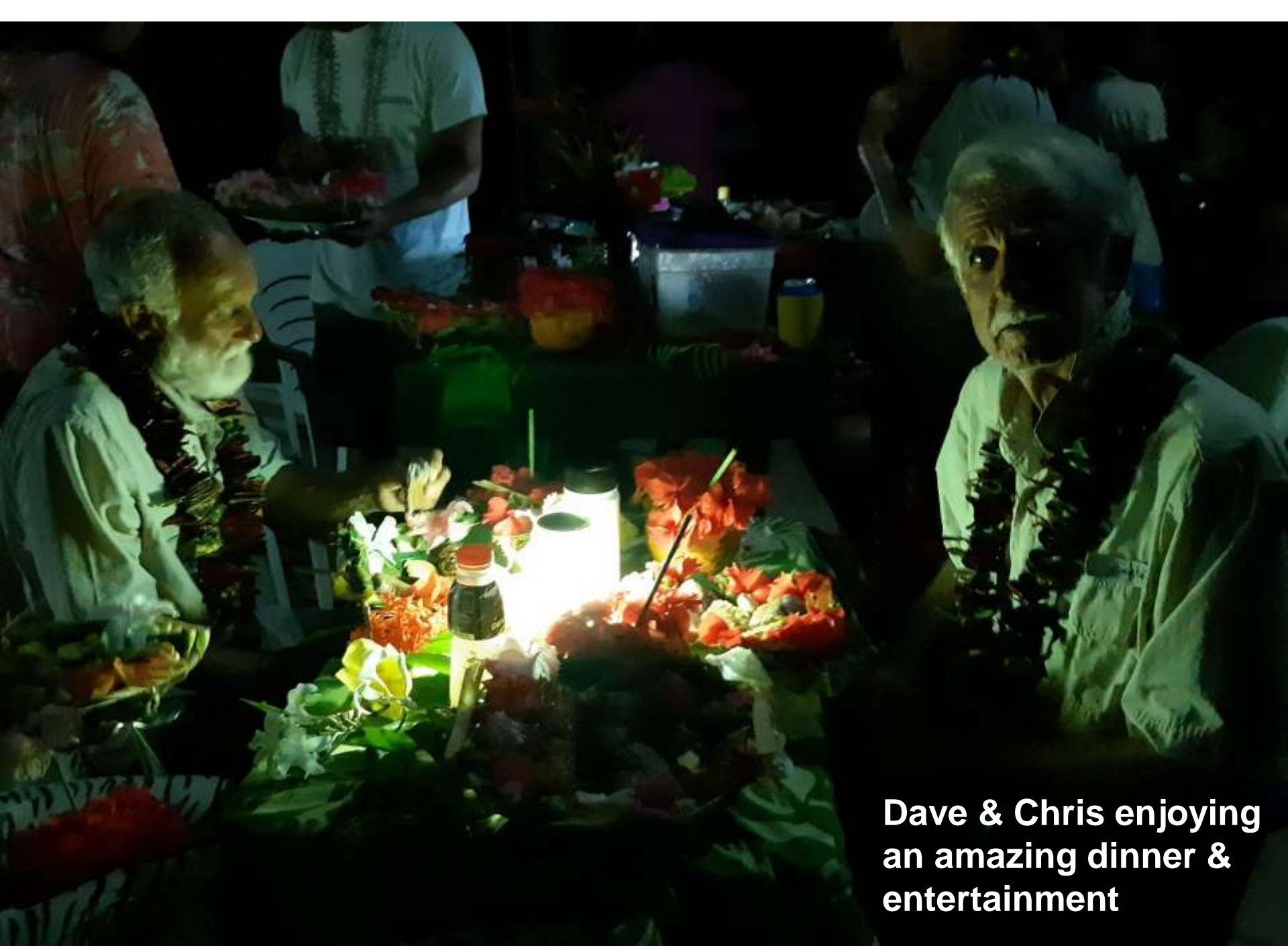


**John Ruka's
Grandson**



**Hideaway
traditional
welcome dinner-
unbelievable!**





Dave & Chris enjoying an amazing dinner & entertainment

**Indigo on a
mooring in
beautiful
Rodrick Bay**





**Rodrick Bay Hide
Away village**



**Rodrick Bay looking SW
at wrecked cruise ship**



**John Ruka and friends
visiting relatives near
Rodrick Bay**

**Old spoon
found by local
on Tulagi I**





HUGH-C.
DANIELS
893-78-70
T-4-44
USNR-0-P

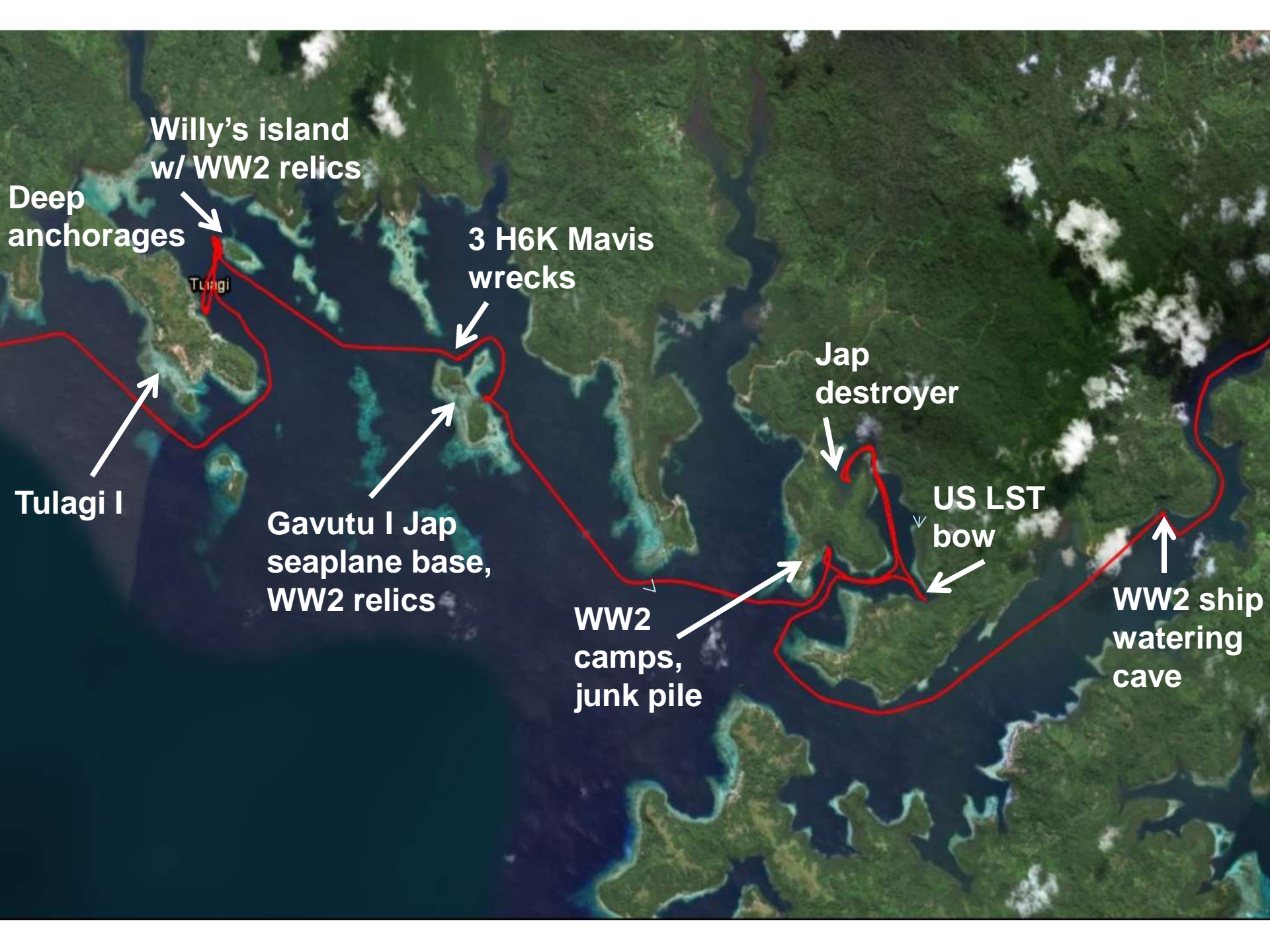
**Dog tag recovered by
local's father on Tulagi I**

Sherry with our guides, John & Willy, prior to round the island boat tour starting next day





**Local family along
our route, headed to
town for shopping**



Willy's island
w/ WW2 relics

Deep
anchorages

Tulagi

3 H6K Mavis
wrecks

Tulagi I

Gavutu I Jap
seaplane base,
WW2 relics

WW2
camps,
junk pile

Jap
destroyer

US LST
bow

WW2 ship
watering
cave

First stop- WW2 ship
watering cave





Deep inside the watering cave with our guides

**Beached WW2 LST 342 bow,
Tokio Bay, Florida Group**



LST 342 bow
section



**Craig exploring
onboard
beached LST**





**Craig inspecting
LST 342**

**Japanese destroyer
sunk and deteriorating
in shallow lagoon,
guarded by big croc**





Kids welcome us to nearby village built at site of US WW2 base



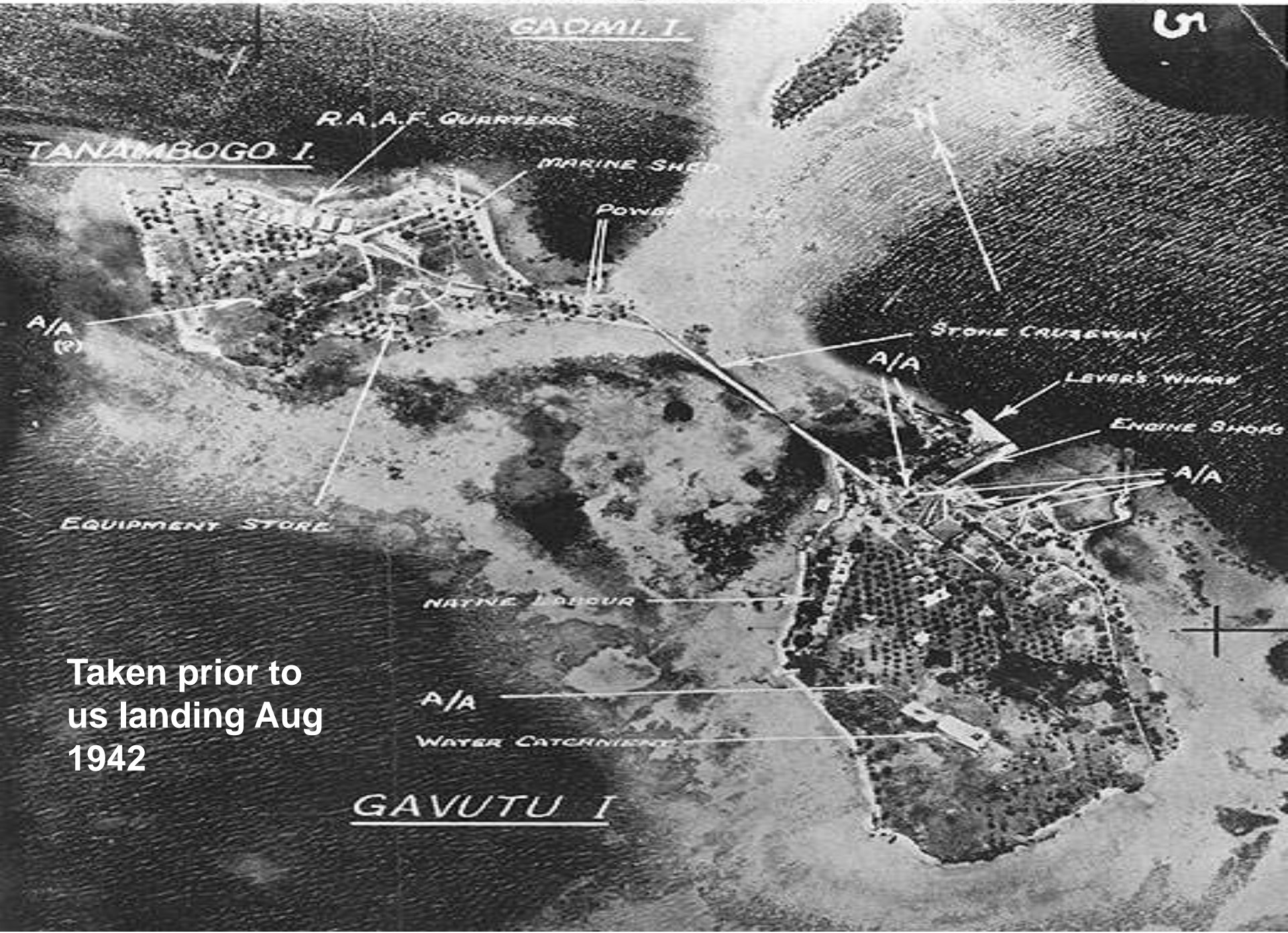
**Lots of WW2
Quonset slabs
around village**

**Bronze 4 blade prop in
local WW2 Trash Pile**





**Machinery
remains in WW2
Trash Pile**



Taken prior to
us landing Aug
1942



**View of historic Gavutu
Island looking toward
seaplane ramp, SPaws
anchored off wharf**

**Gavutu Island
guide with WW2
iron wheel**





**Gavutu Island
looking west at old
pier facilities**



Gun barrel in
grass on
Gavutu Island



Japanese Mavis airplane sunk in 100fsw off Gavutu I during WWII on August 7, 1942 at the Tulagi Seaplane Base Xray Magazine Matthew Meier

**Visiting Willy's
Makambo Island with
our boats anchored
in background**





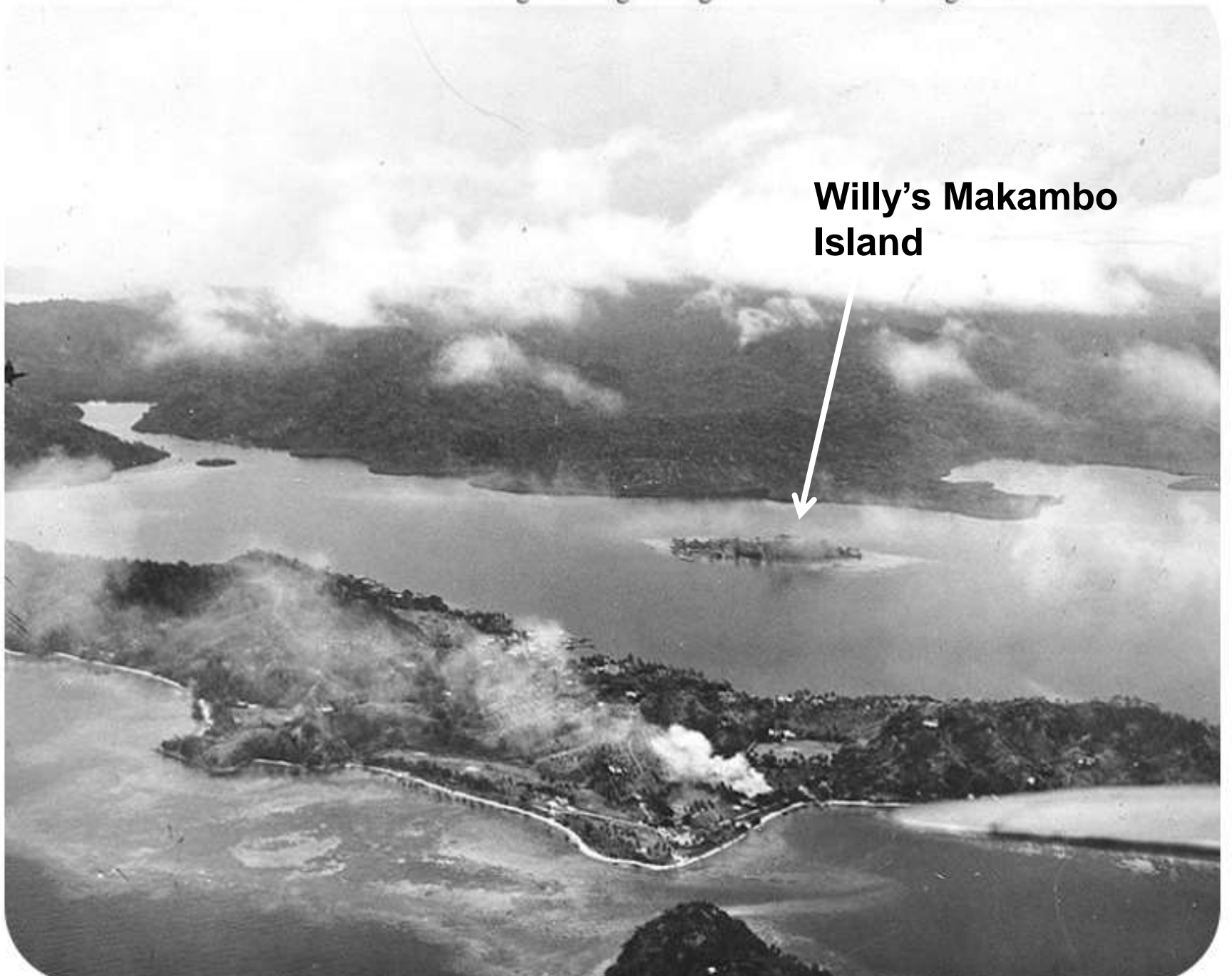
Willy's Island tour of explosives bunkers



**Sherry in front of
explosives bunker
on Willy's Island**

Photo # NH 97743 Fires burning on Tulagi during Allied invasion, 7 August 1942

**Willy's Makambo
Island**



Tulagi tour- pre WW2
commissioner's home
on highest hill top



THE BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE SITE

The first British Resident Commissioner for the then British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Sir Charles Morris Woodford had his Official Residence built on this very spot in 1904. It was exclusively chosen by him mainly to give him a panoramic view of Tulagi Island and surrounding areas.

Successive Commissioners also used the Residence until it was abandoned when the Japanese 3rd Kure Special Naval Infantry Unit invaded Tulagi Island in May 1942.

Ministry of Provincial Government & Institutional Strengthening



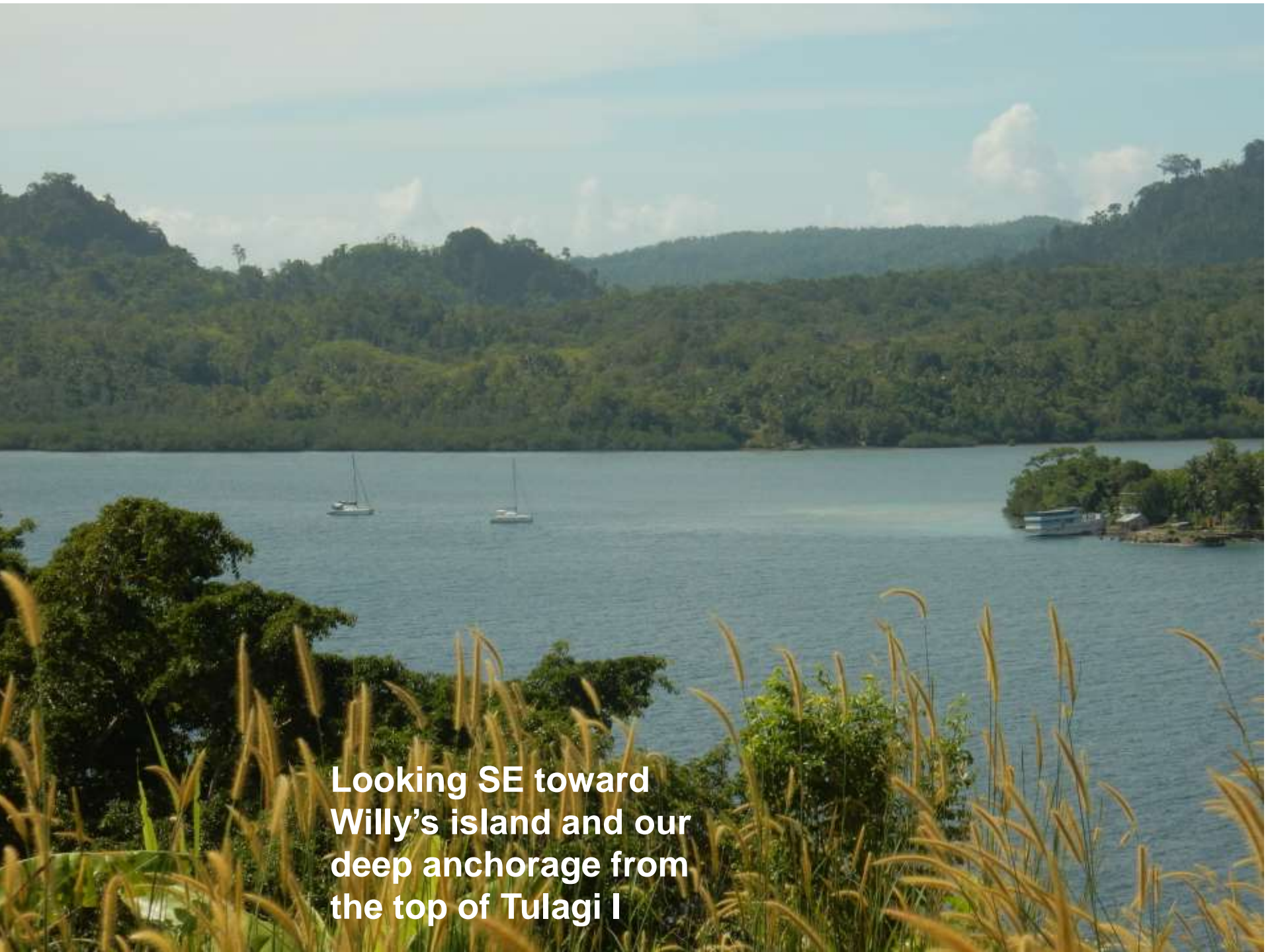
Provincial
Governance
Strengthening
Programme

"Mekem strong Provinsol Gavman for helpem iumi"





**British
Commissioner's
house foundation
ruins**



**Looking SE toward
Willy's island and our
deep anchorage from
the top of Tulagi I**



**John and Chris
in Japanese
cave on Tulagi I**



**B-24 u/w
wreck?**

**A6M engine
on beach**

**John's
Roderick
Bay**

Tulaghi I

**WW2 US LST bow,
Jap destroyer, water
cave, US camps**

Beach excavation
of all that remains
of intact WW2
plane crash site



Solomon Islands

07°00's to 09°30's



— Mar-June
— July-Aug



English Harbor

Buka

Bagana volcano

Bougainville

Torokina

Empress Augusta Bay
WW2 battles

Arawa

Shortlands

Treasuries

Vella Lavella

Our return route from Rabaul to Kimbe via the N coast of New Britain, PNG



Garove I

Kimbe &
Walinde dive
resort

Smoking
volcanos

Rabaul

**SPaws anchored
close inshore off
Cape Lambert
along N coast of
New Britain, PNG**



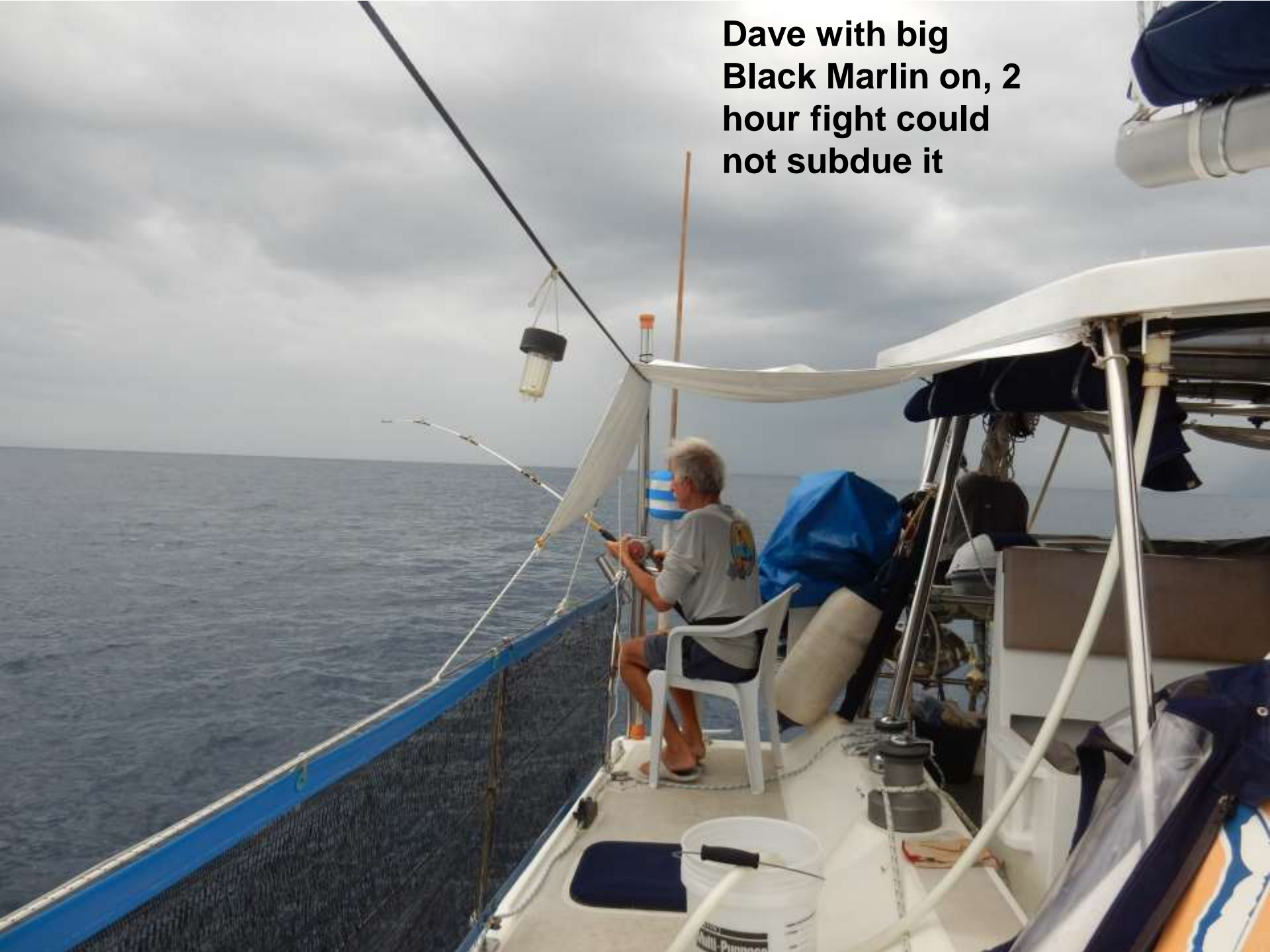
**View of smoking volcano from
our anchorage along N coast
New Britain**



**River exploration
& volcanos along
the N coast of
New Britain**



**Dave with big
Black Marlin on, 2
hour fight could
not subdue it**





**Sulfer hot springs,
river trip, N coast
New Britain**



Ocelot anchored off N coast of New Britain with volcanoes ashore



Kimbe, New Britain, PNG

Cape Hoskins Airfield near Kimbe after it was captured by USMC with parked L-4 scout planes and Japanese road roller, September 10, 1944.





**Walinde Dive
Resort, moorings**

Palm oil groves

**Scuba diving on
bommies**

Kimbe

**Kimbe town,
Liamo Resort
& anchorage**

**Spaws & Ocelot on
moorings off
Walindi Resort**





Sue and Sherry at
Walinde Resort
entrance sign

Dive Sites



A6M Zero





?? unusual
plane engine



**?? plane engines
and parts**

?? plane
engines and
props



Colorful
Walindi
diving



Nudibranch





**School of Chevron
Barracuda & 2 Jacks**

Ornate ghost
pipefish



?? Small
coral shrimp



**Anenome fish
in Barrel
anenome**



Banded coral shrimp





View
of W
Reso

**Sunset over
Ocelot from
Walindi Resort**



Kimbe/Walinde to Garove Island



Garove I

Kimbe &
Walinde dive
resort

Kimbe



Peter Haven &
Jap 75mm AA
guns

5 Jap barges in
shallows along E
caldera shore

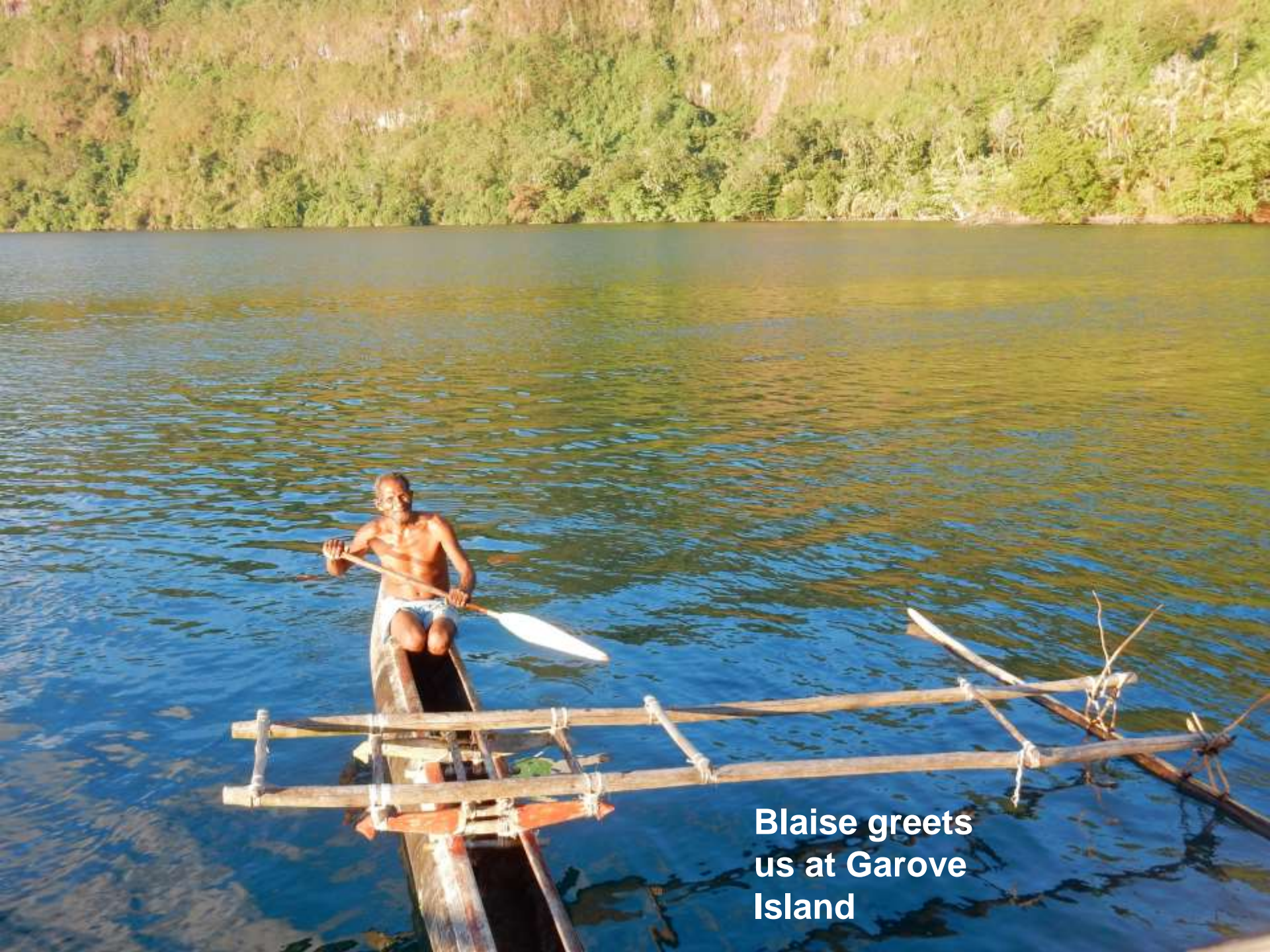
Caldera rim
hike

Anchorage

Jap small AA
gun & hill climb,
local ??

Village

Garove Island



**Blaise greets
us at Garove
Island**



**Blaise leads us
up to the caldera
rim then down**



**Paul on a tree
overlooking
Garove caldera
and the boats**



**Sherry and
Dave with
Garove
caldera and
boats in
background**



Blaise seated on the small Japanese ??mm AA gun, barrel missing, at family farm on rim



**Small
Japanese
??mm AA gun,
barrel missing**

Paul pointing
to small
Japanese cave
on caldera rim




Paul's kids



Japanese
Morphine
ampules





Visiting old ??
village across
the caldera

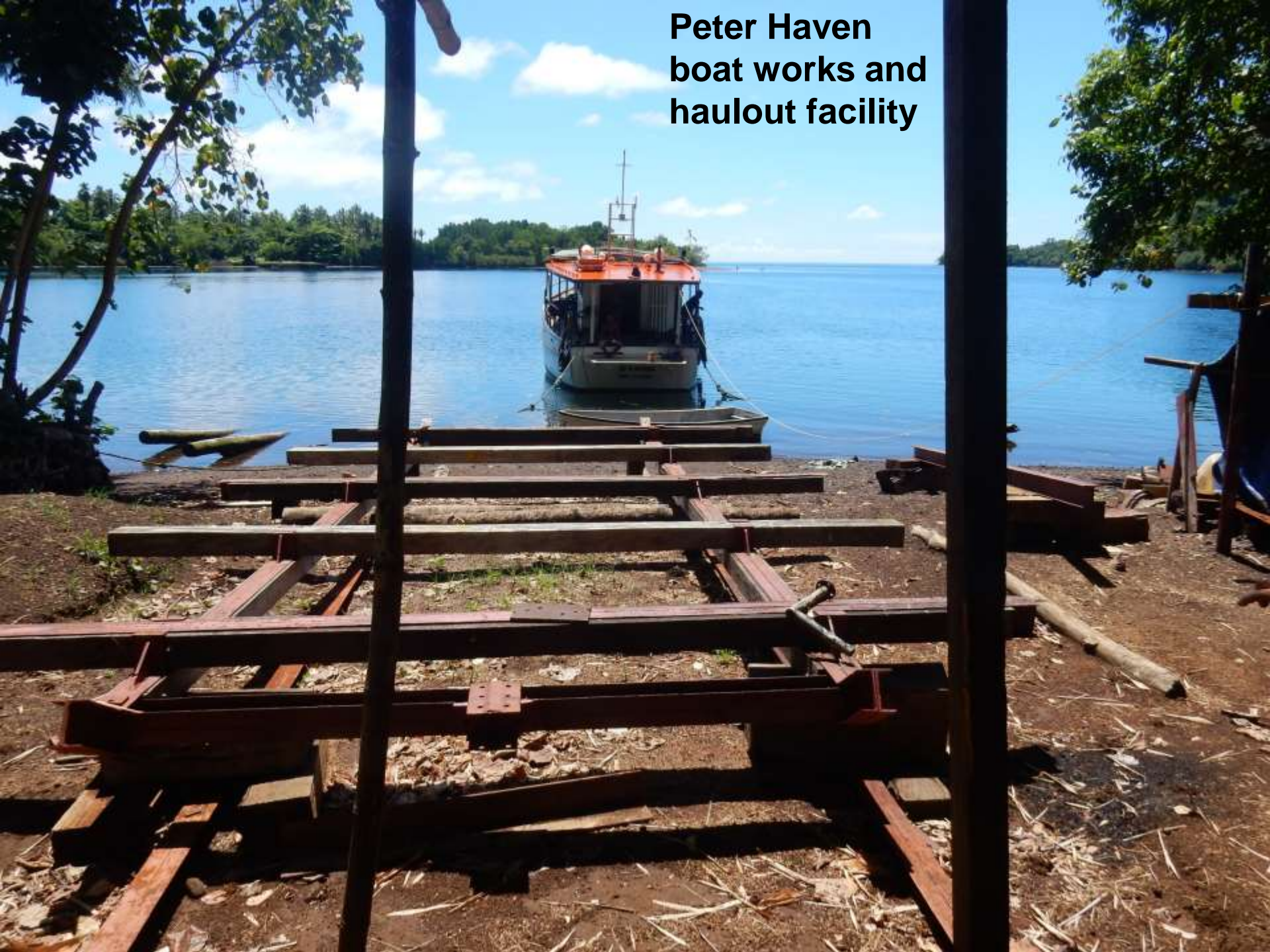


**Late 1800s
church and
school yard
in old village**

Blaise and Paul take us to Peter Haven for sightseeing



**Peter Haven
boat works and
haulout facility**




**Japanese 75mm AA
guns, 1 of 3,
overlooking Peter
Haven**





**John & Blaise
inspecting one
of the AA guns**

A photograph showing a large, dark, cylindrical anti-aircraft gun mounted on a wooden tripod base in a dense, overgrown jungle. The gun's barrel is long and extends towards the left. Three men are present: one in a green shirt and hat stands near the base of the gun; another in a white tank top and dark shorts is adjusting the gun's mechanism; and a third in a grey t-shirt and red shorts stands to the right, looking towards the gun. The ground is covered in fallen branches and dense vegetation. The background is filled with tall trees and thick foliage under bright sunlight.

**Another
Japanese
75mm AA
gun, Jon,
Blaise & Paul**



Manus

New Hanover &
New Ireland

Garove

INDONESIA

PAPUA NEW
GUINEA

SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Cebu City

Davao City

Sulu Sea

Celebes Sea

Molucca Sea

Banda Sea

Flores Sea

Dili

TIMOR-LESTE

Arafura Sea

Port Moresby

Bismarck Sea

Solomon Sea

Honiara

Gulf of
Carpentaria

Manus Island PNG





Lorengau town

Lobrum Base & harbor

Route in & out of Lobrum Harbor



Manus Island just after WW2

Lombrum
Jetty and
Loda Wharf

Anchorage

Aerial view of Manus
Island, Lombrum
USN headquarters,
September 1949.



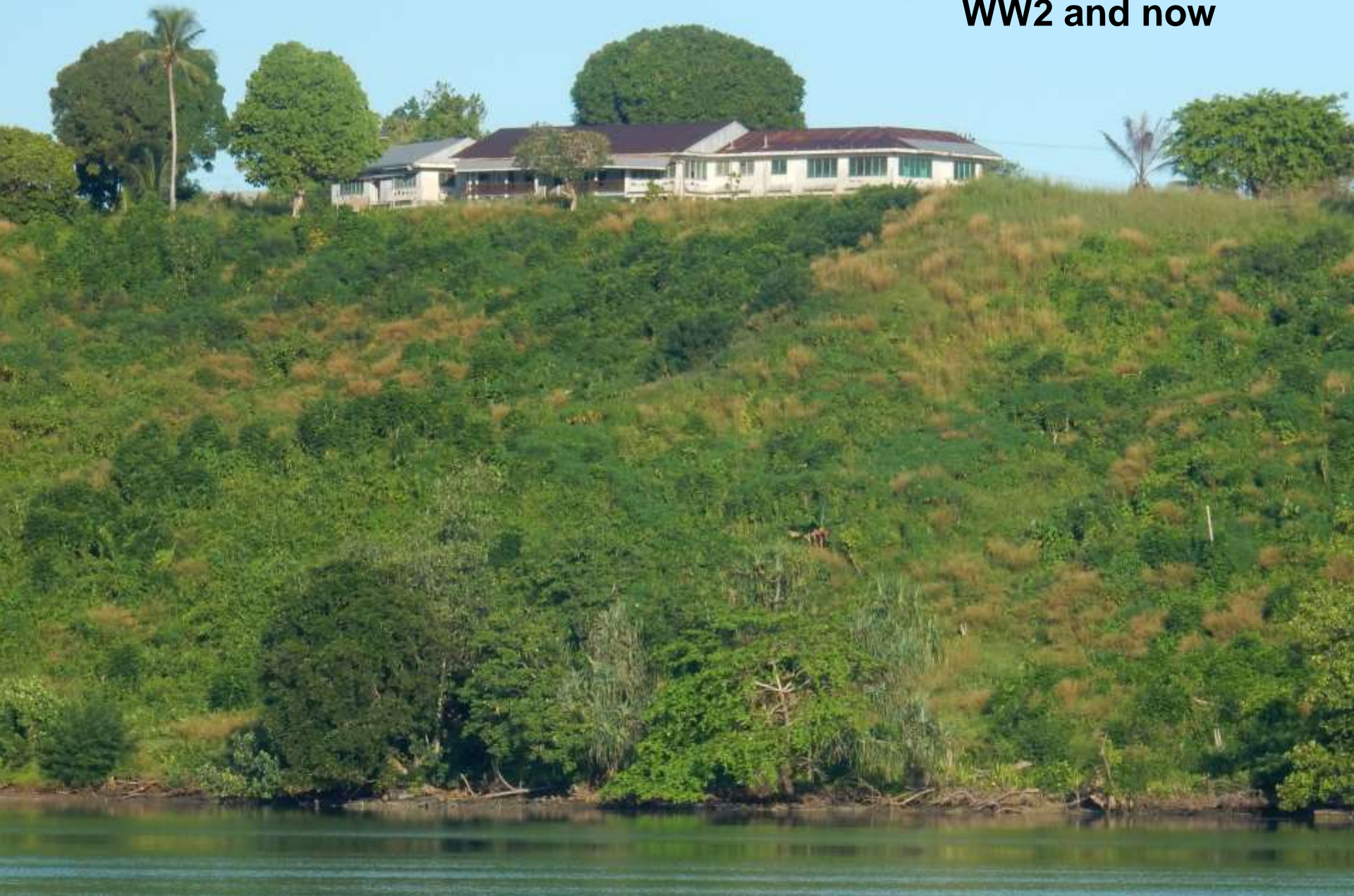


**Lombrum Jetty, PNG
base main pier with
PNG patrol boats**

**WW2 era Quonset
huts large and small**



**USN headquarters
buildings during
WW2 and now**





Flip flops for sale at the local market in Lorengau town

Fueling in the rain at Loda Wharf, Lombrum Naval Base



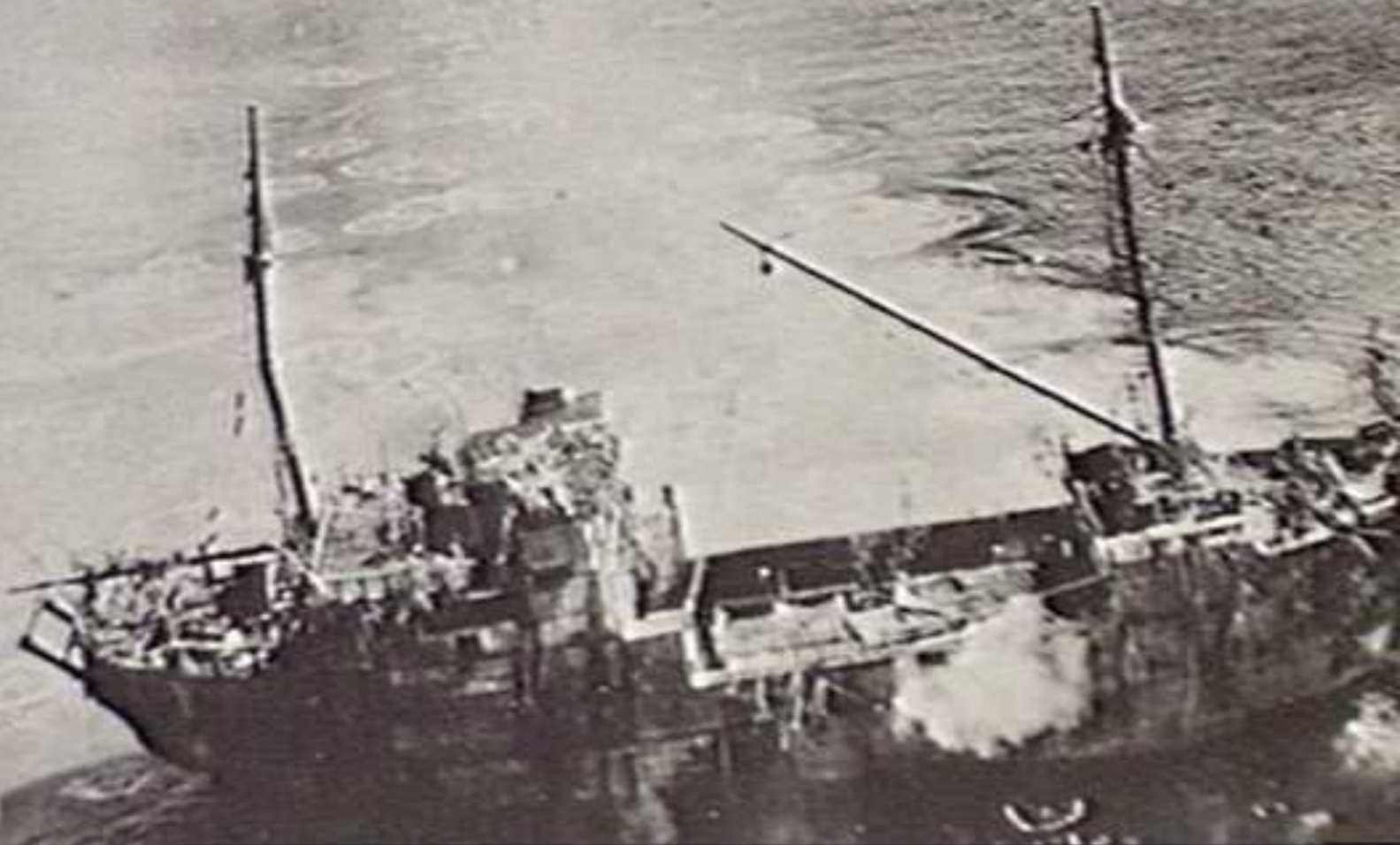


Checking out of PNG
with Base Manager
Customs, Immigration
& the Croc



Manokwari, Papua, Indonesia

**Manokwari – RAAF
Boston bombing
Japanese ship at
Manokwari April 1944**





Manokwari

Sorong

**Papua,
Indonesia**

Birding

Biak

Cenderawasih Bay

**Plane
wrecks**

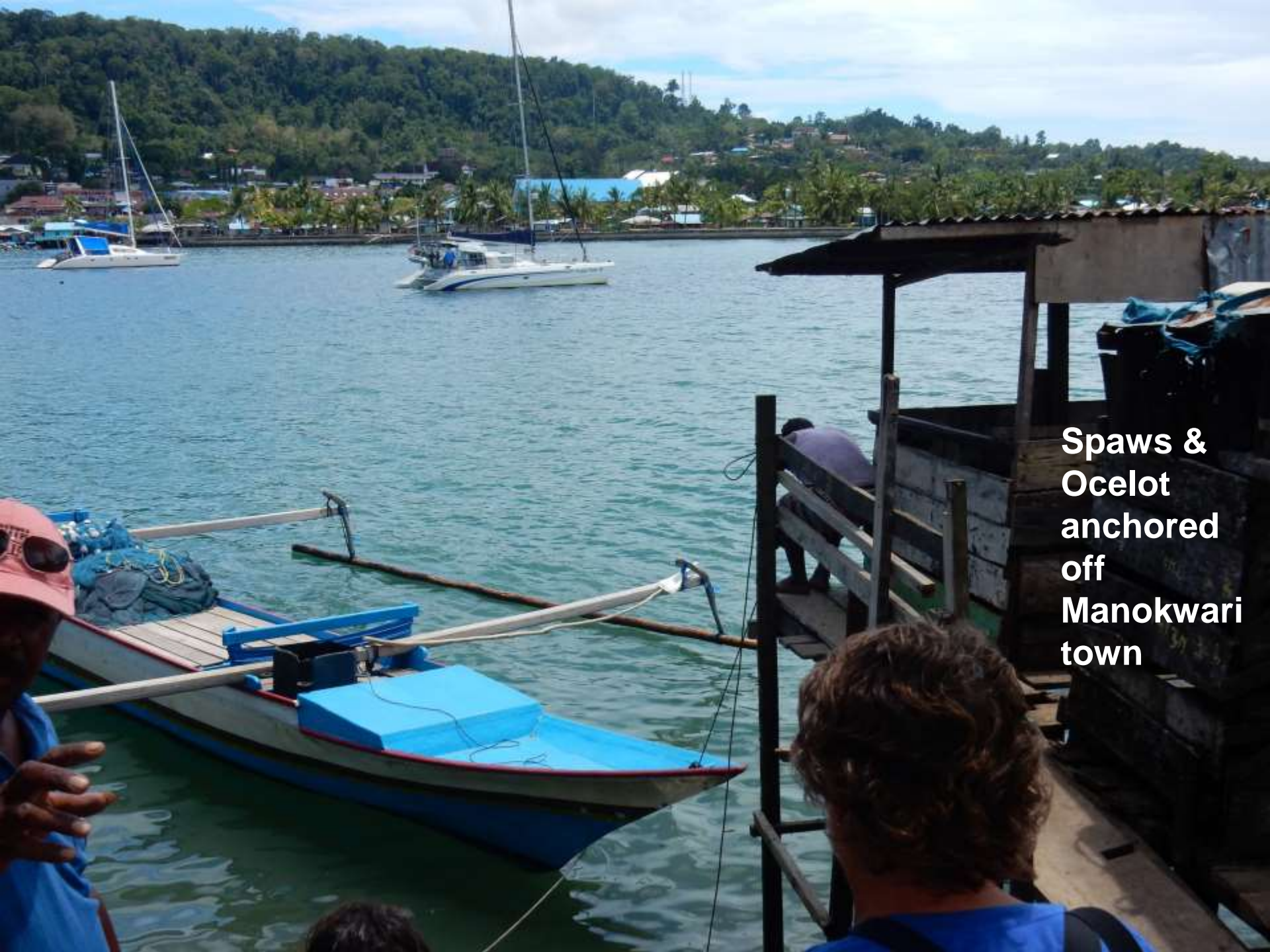
Papua

Nabire

z9 S2°14.7454' E135°52.8631' Queue 11'

Manokwari Area





**Spaws &
Ocelot
anchored
off
Manokwari
town**



Manokwari trash is everywhere along the shoreline, only safe dinghy landing is at one of the stilt houses

Birdwatching & bird ID map of the Mokwam area



THE BIRDS OF PARADISE
BY ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE



When seen in this attitude, the bird of paradise really deserve its name, and must be ranked as one of the most beautiful and most wonderful of living things.

-Alfred Russel Wallace, 1869

PLEASE HELP US TO CONSERVE THE BIRDS OF PARADISE'S AND THEIR HABITAT DURING YOUR VISIT (OBSERVATION, PHOTOGRAPHY, SOUND RECORDING AND/OR FILMING) BY:

1. Do not provoke birds
2. Keep your distance from nests, display areas and important feeding sites.
3. Use a blind or conceal yourself while observing the birds.
4. Avoid using artificial light for photography or filming
5. Limit the use of bird call recordings to attract birds
6. Stay on trails
7. Do not litter
8. Record observations and share informations

Birdwatching Area



Overcast days high in the interior Papua mountains

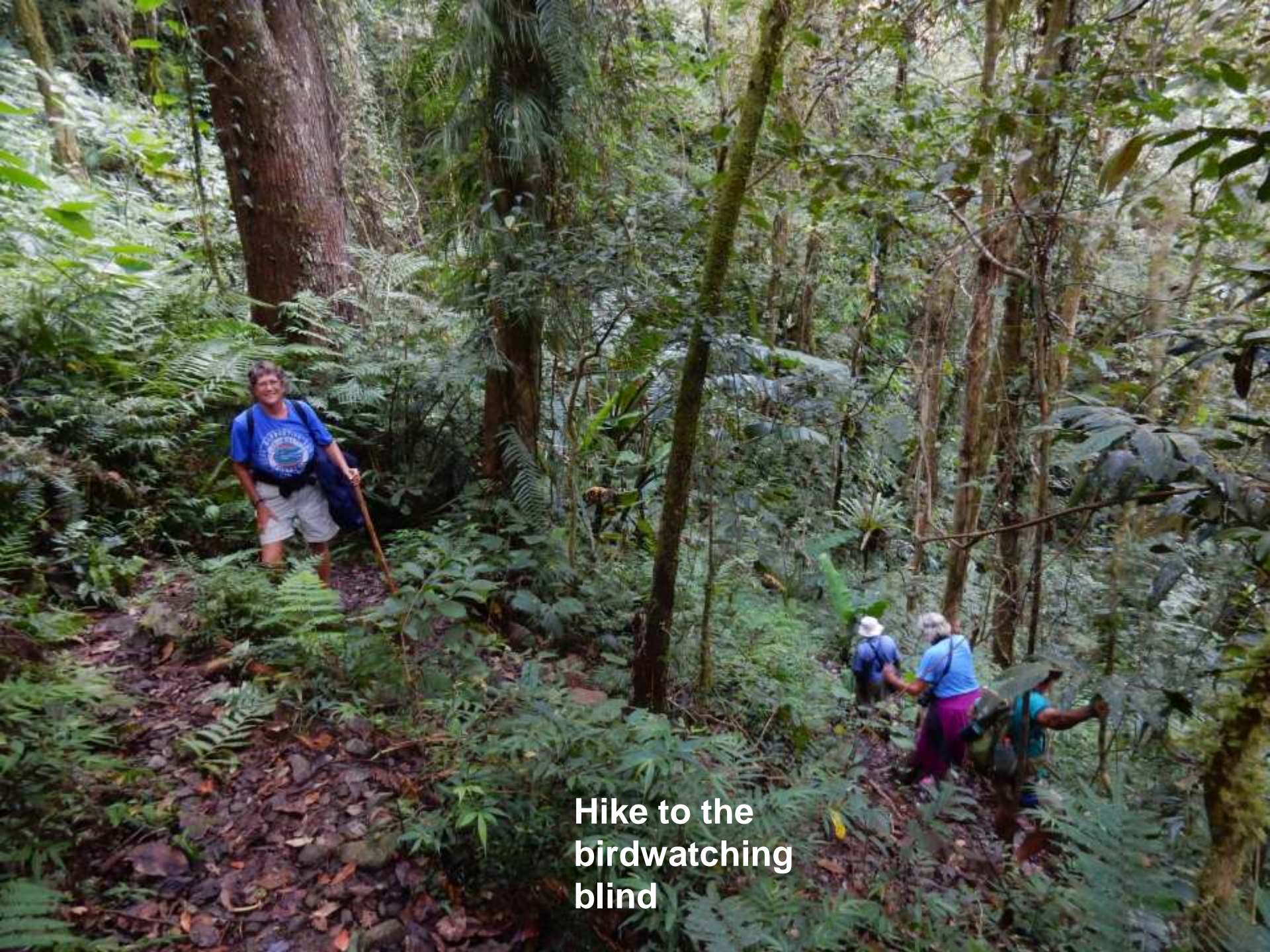


**Mountain road
repair on the
way to Mokwam
village**





**Zeth Wonggor,
birdwatcher
extraordinaire in
front of our
accommodations**



**Hike to the
birdwatching
blind**



Our view of the Bird of Paradise courting area out of the blind

Papua Birds of Paradise we never saw



**Shipwreck off
Mansinam
Island in 50fsw**



Capstan on
shipwreck off
Mansinam
Island



**Big octopus in bay N
of Mansinam Island**



**Colorful
Nudibranch in bay
N of Mansinam
Island**



**Spotted Moray
eel in bay north
of Mansingam
Island**





Davao City

**HOV Marina
Samal Island**

Wayag

Sorong

Biak

Ninigos

Manus

Molucca Sea

Banda Sea

Bismarck Sea

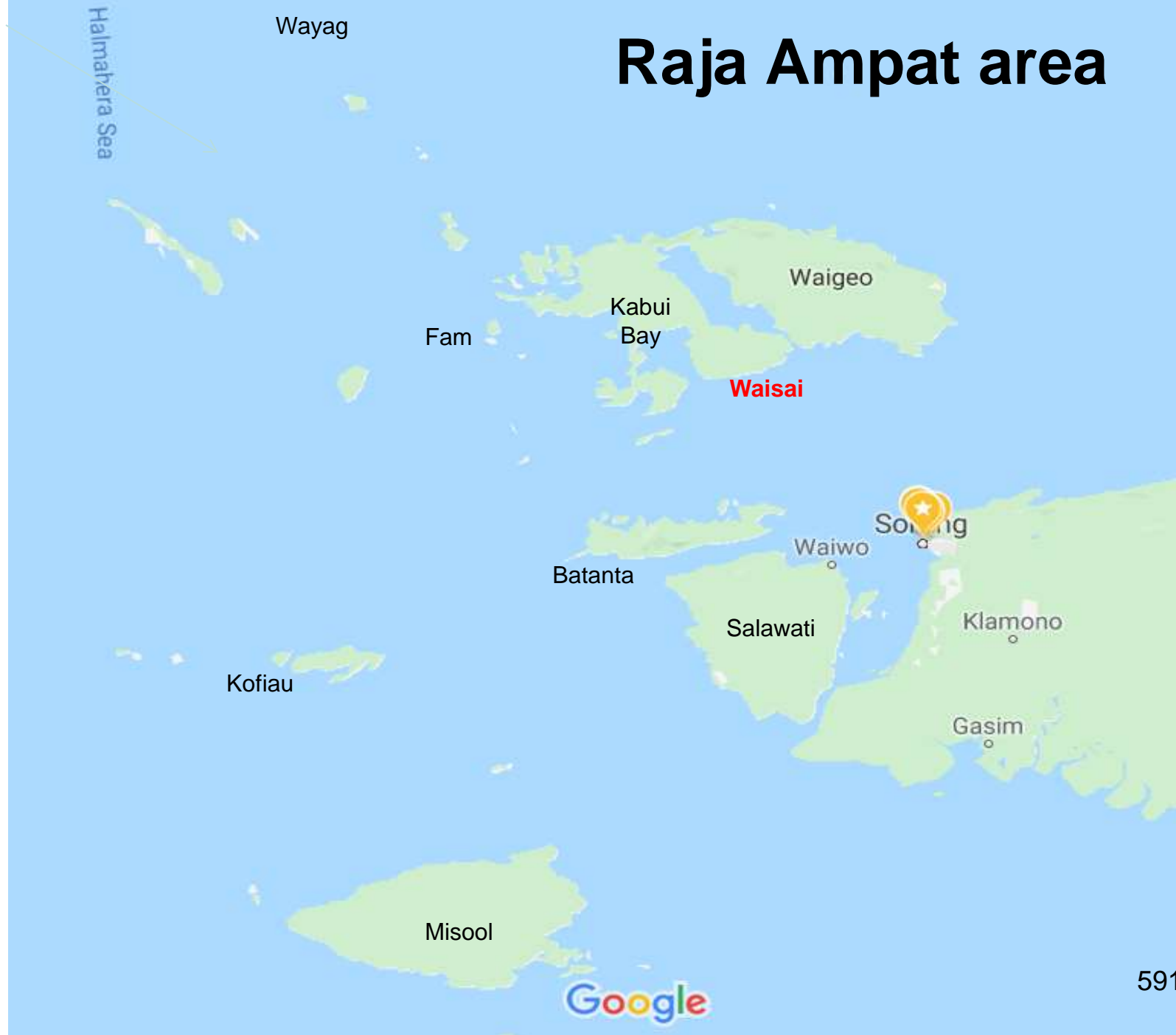
Arafura Sea

**PAPUA NEW
GUINEA**

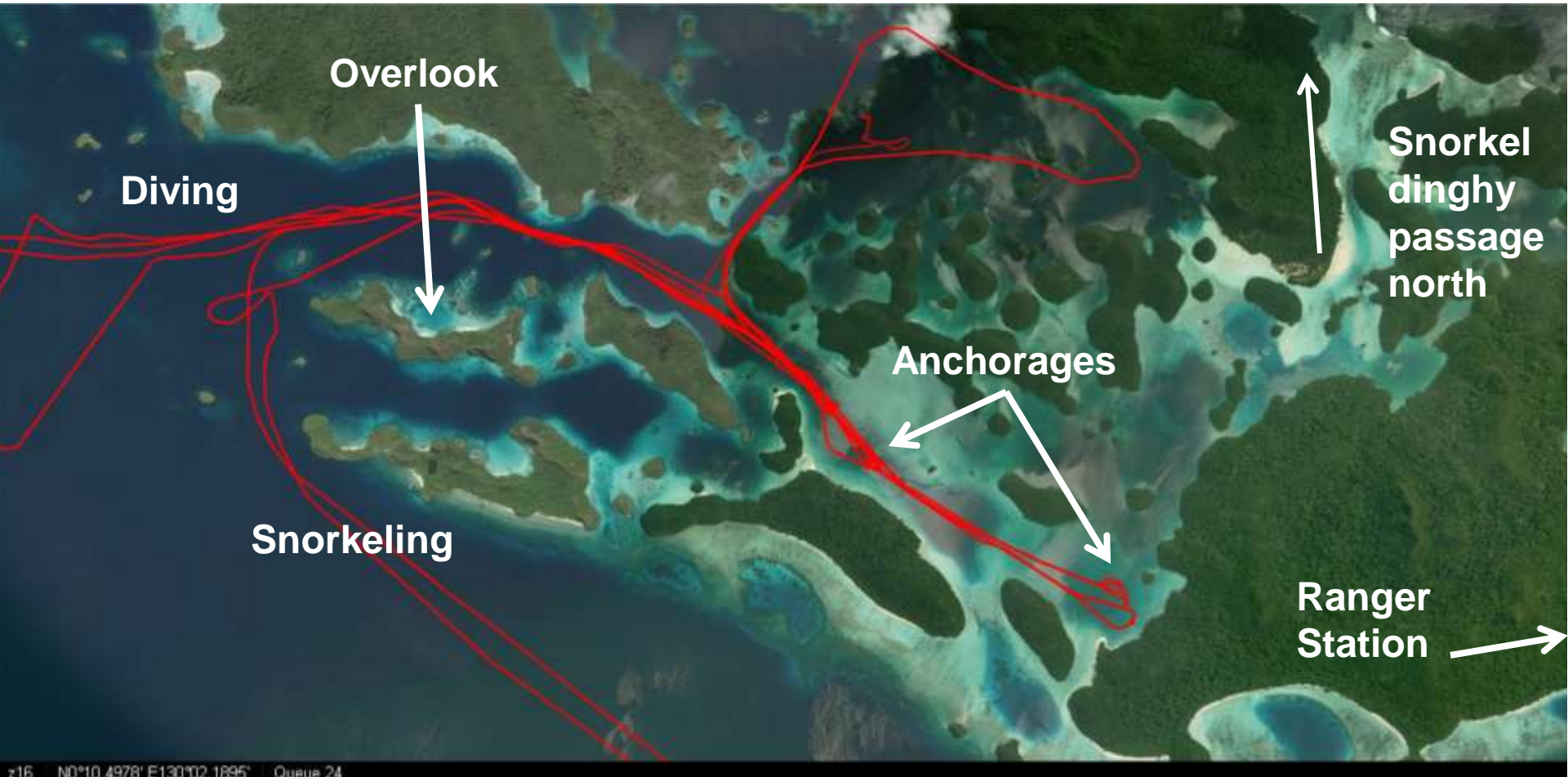
Dili
TIMOR-LESTE

Port Moresby

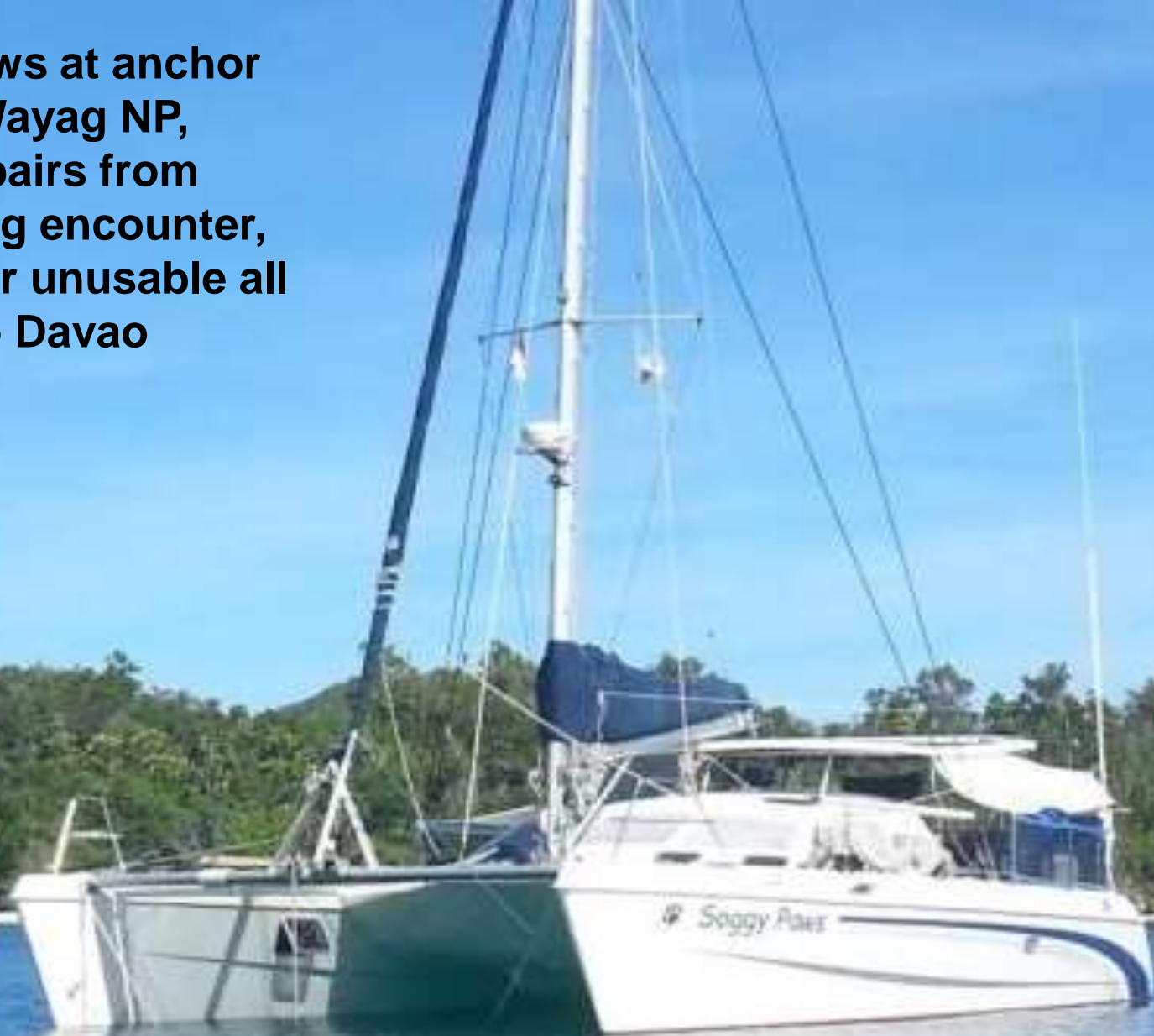
Raja Ampat area



Wayag National Park



**Soggy Paws at anchor
again in Wayag NP,
rudder repairs from
another log encounter,
one rudder unusable all
the way to Davao**





The End

More Info/Adventures

SVSoggypaws.com

PacificWrecks.com