

Exploring the WWII Relics Micronesia

Intro
What plane?
Where's
Micronesia?

Dave & Sherry McCampbell
svsoggypaws.com / Presentations / WWII
22 Aug 2026, rev 9-18

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Bio for David P. McCampbell

Dave McCampbell is a US Naval Academy graduate and career naval officer in Surface Warfare and the Special Operations/Diving and Salvage communities. As a senior Diving Officer he spent a good deal of time working with the US National Park Service documenting Pacific World War II sites leading up to the fiftieth anniversary of the start of the War. After retirement he took up ocean cruising with his wife, Sherry, an accomplished sailor in her own right. Separately they have circumnavigated the Caribbean, and together spent 6 years crossing the Pacific, including 18 months in Micronesia. They are now in western SE Asia and are 19 years into a planned world circumnavigation.

Dave's special interest in Pacific World War II aviation stems from his famous WW II aviator father, Capt. David McCampbell, who is the US Navy's top Ace and a Medal of Honor recipient.

This 90 minute presentation highlights the many remote, mostly Japanese, World War II sites they visited while cruising on their sailboat in Micronesia. Their explorations included the island nations of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau. Some of these sites included very rare planes such as the US TBD Devastator and Japanese G3M Nell.

SV Soggy Paws Florida to the Philippines 2007-14

PACIFIC OCEAN



2013-4 Micronesia Cruise

- Fiji thru Tarawa, Marshalls, FSM to Palau
- Places we stopped w/ WWII sites:

***Marshalls**

- Majuro
- Kwaj/Roi
- Bikini
- Maloelap
- Mili
- Jaluit
- Tarawa

***Federated States**

- Pohnpei
- Satawan/Mortlocks
- Chuuk/Truk Lagoon
- Puluwat/Alet
- Woleai
- Ulithi
- Yap

***Palau**

- Peleliu
- Helen Reef
- Koror

- **More at svoggypaws.com / Presentations / WWII**

**More 2019 SPaws cruise
Philippines, Indonesia, PNG,
Solomons & return
7,000 nm, 11 mos.
Lots of WWII relics!**



Dave & Sherry McCampbell
SVSoggypaws.com/Presentations/WWII
22 August 2026

2019 PNG and Solomons Cruise

- **11 months-** Amazing amount of WWII relics still there in jungle and under water
- **PNG-** Ninigos Isl, Admiralties, Kavieng New Ireland, Rabaul, New Britain, Bougainville, Shortland and Treasury Isls
- **Solomons-** Vella LaVella, Kolombangara, New Georgia, Rendova, Russell Isl, Tulagi Florida Isl, Guadalcanal
- **[See at: SVSoggypaws.com/Workshop/WWII/New Guinea & Solomons](http://SVSoggypaws.com/Workshop/WWII/New%20Guinea%20&%20Solomons)**

Soggy Paws
South East Asia
2015–2022





SV Soggy Paws
1980 CSY 44 WT Cutter
1996-2015

SV Soggy Paws 2004 St Francis 44 Mk II

2015 – current boat

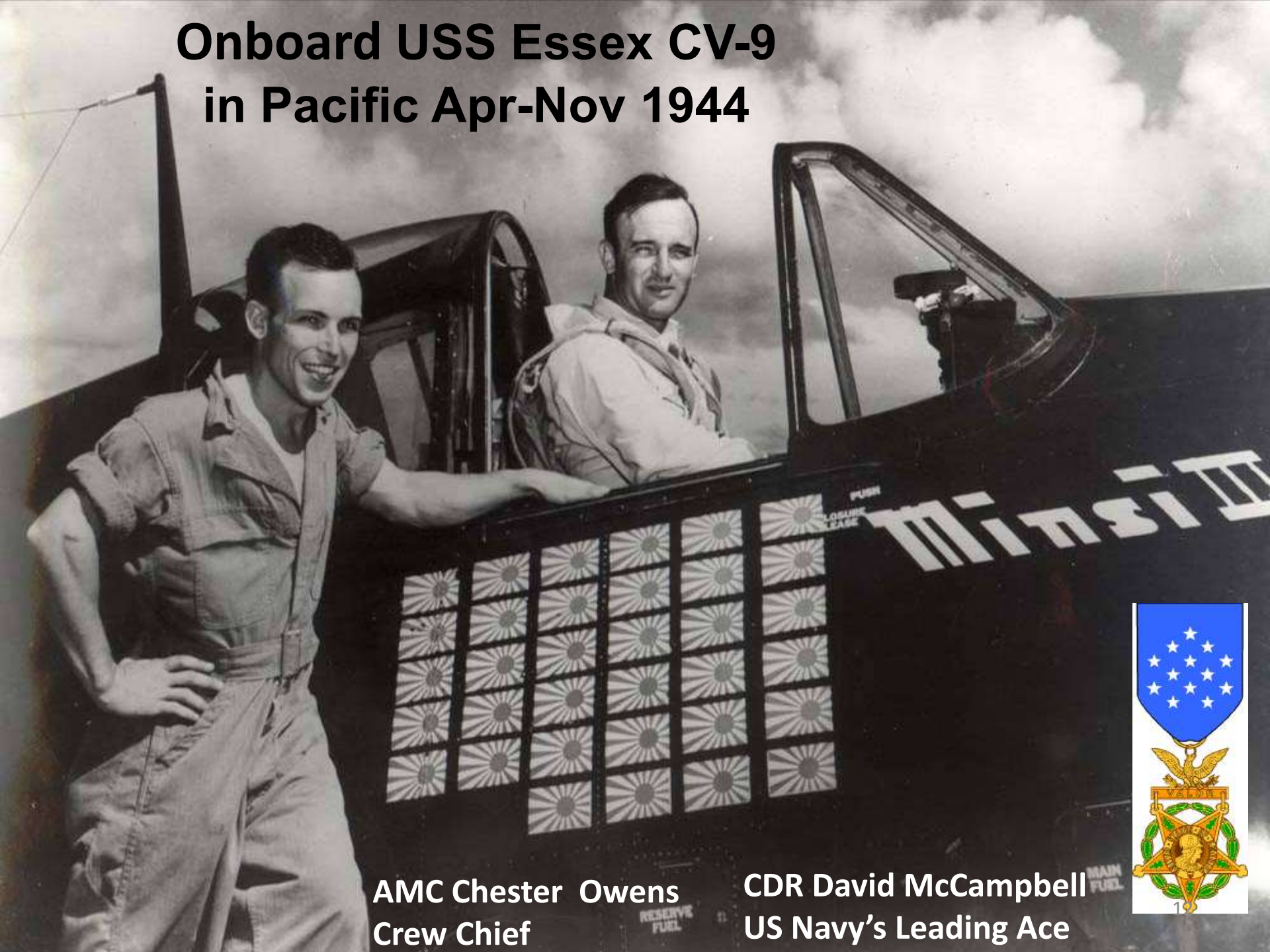


Why are we WWII Aviation Enthusiasts?



**F6F-5 Hellcat Minsi III landing
on USS Essex CV-9 1944**

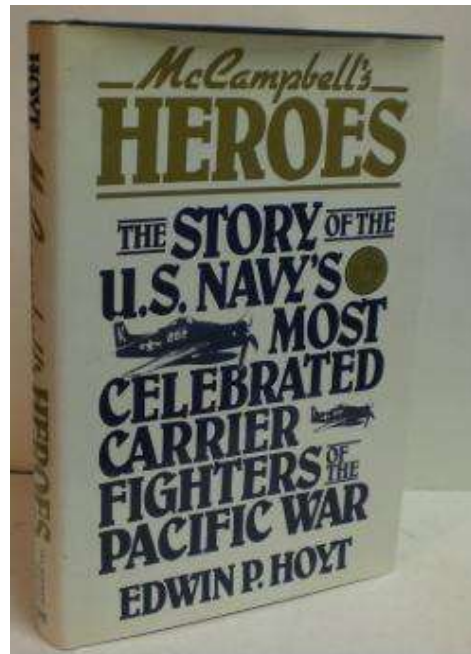
Onboard USS Essex CV-9 in Pacific Apr-Nov 1944



AMC Chester Owens
Crew Chief

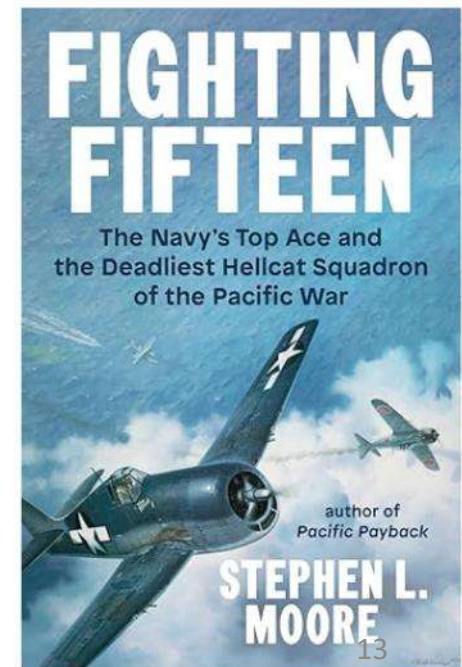
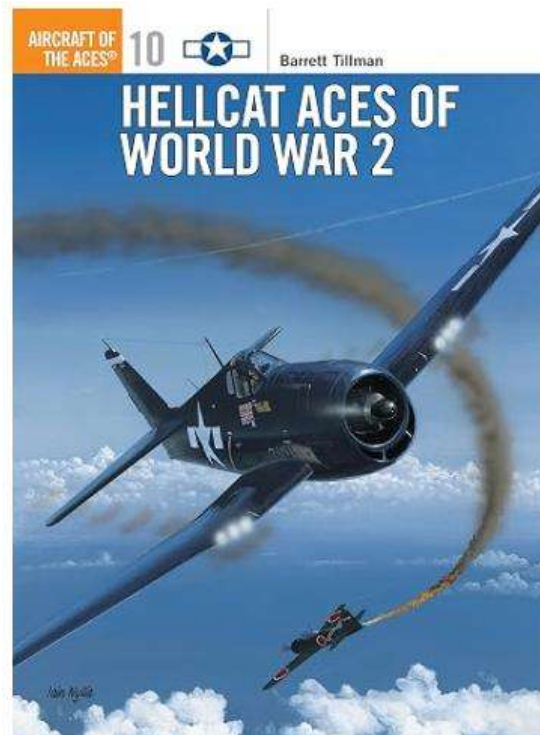
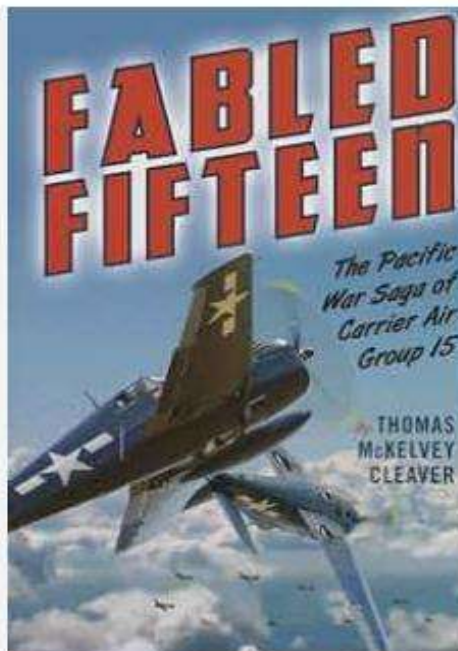
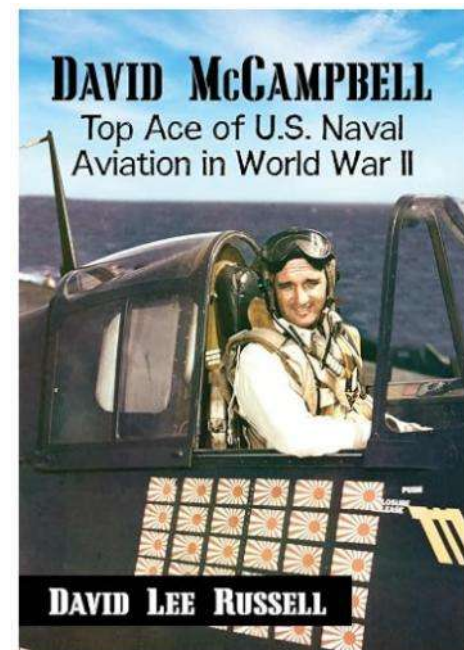
CDR David McCampbell
US Navy's Leading Ace





Air Group - 15 books

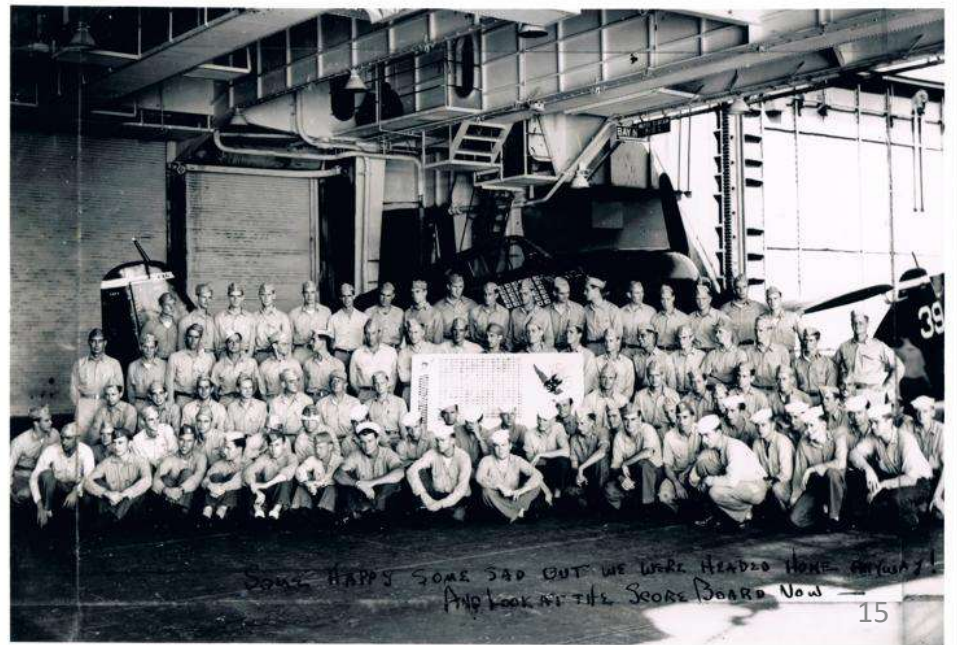
Plus numerous magazine
and newspaper articles



CDR D. McCampbell, CAG-15, Aerial Victories

Date	Total	Aircraft claimed (location)
June 11, 1944	1	Zero (Saipan , Mariana Islands)
June 13, 1944	1	Nakajima Ki-49 "Helen" heavy bomber (Saipan, Mariana Islands)
June 19, 1944	5	Judys (1st sortie, Marianas Turkey Shoot , Philippine Sea)
June 19, 1944	2	Zeros (2nd sortie, Guam , Mariana Islands)
June 23, 1944	1½	Zeros destroyed (1 shared credit with Ensign Claude Plant) (Orote Airfield , Guam, Mariana Islands)
September 12, 1944	4	2 Zeros, a Mitsubishi J2M "Jack" fighter and a Mitsubishi Ki-46 "Dinah" reconnaissance aircraft (Cebu Airfield , Philippines)
September 13, 1944	3	A Yokosuka K5Y "Willow" biplane trainer , a Nakajima Ki-43 "Oscar" fighter and a B5N "Kate" torpedo bomber (Negros Island , Philippines)
September 22, 1944	1	Mitsubishi G3M "Nell" bomber/transport (Manila Bay , Philippines)
September 23, 1944	½	Mitsubishi F1M2 "Pete" reconnaissance floatplane (credit shared with Ensign R. Nall) (Cebu Island , Philippines)
October 21, 1944	2	A Dinah and a Willow (Tablas Island , Philippines)
October 24, 1944	9	5 Zeros, 2 Mitsubishi A6M3 Hamps and 2 Oscars (Leyte Gulf , Philippines)
November 5, 1944	2	A Aichi D3A "Val" dive bomber and a Zero (Nichols Field , Philippines)
November 11, 1944	1	Oscar (Ormoc Bay , Philippines)
November 14, 1944	1	Oscar (Manila Bay, Philippines)
Total:	34	

Famous Photos





HONORING PACIFIC FIGHTER ACES — NAVY MARINES —



DDG-85

Various bits
of art work,
DDG-85 ship
namesake



Minsi Artwork



"The Ace Maker"
F6F Hellcat

© Mark Kohn



**Dad at his
retirement
1964**

Dad and I at West Palm Beach Airport terminal dedication 1988



**Lt. Gordon L Gray,
Jr. (Sherry's Dad) as
a test pilot.**

**VF CO in Korean
War. Set the World
Speed Record (500
km closed course),
700 mph in a
prototype A-4D
Skyhawk. Oct 1955.**

**Sherry born Dec,
1956.**

**Retired July, 1970 to
FL Keys as a Capt,
USN.**



Justin Taylan

**PacificWrecks.com,
since 1993, met in
Rabaul, PNG March
2019**



Missing In Action (MIA)

Prisoners Of War (POW)

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

Chronology

Locations

Aircraft

Ships

Submit Info

How You Can Help

Donate

**PW team at Maj
Dick Bong's P-38
Marge wreck site
in PNG 2025**



Top US Aces of all time:

1. **Maj Richard Bong**- USAF, P-38, 40, MOH, 'Marge'
2. **Maj Thomas McGuire**- USAF, P-38, 38, MOH, 'Pudgy'
3. **CDR David McCampbell**- USN, F6F, 34, MOH, 'Minsi'



— P-38J Lightning 42-103993 nicknamed "Marge" with Captain Richard I. Bong in the cockpit. (Credit: U.S. Army Air Force, ²⁴

Aircraft Nomenclature

- **US:** (example **F6F-3 Hellcat**)
 - **First letter F-** roll/mission, fighter
 - **First number 6-** design number
 - **Second letter F-** manufacturer, Grumman
 - **Second number 3-** model number
 - **Hellcat-** US theme name
- **IJN:** (example **A6M-5 Zeke/Zero**)
 - **A-** type, fighter
 - **6-** design number
 - **M-** manufacturer Mitsubishi
 - **5-** model number
 - **Zeke/Zero-** fighters men's names
 - Bombers/seaplanes- women's names
- **IJA-** (example **Ki-43 Zeke**)
 - chronological project Ki numbers
 - Same looking plane to IJN Zero

Identifying Plane Types

- **Fighter- 1 seat:** 1 eng, pilot only
- **Dive Bomber- 2 seats:** 1 eng, pilot & rear gunner
- **Torpedo Bomber- 3 seats:** 1 eng, pilot, bombardier, rear gunner
- **Light Bomber-** 2 engines, 2 pilots, ~6 crew
- **Heavy Bomber-** 4 engines, 2 pilots, ~8 crew
- **Float Planes-** 1 engine, 2-3 crew
- **Sea Planes/Amphibians-** 2-4 engines, 2 pilots, ~10 crew

Plane Engines

- **Radial** - most common w/ circular arranged cylinders
- **Arrangement** - one or two rows, odd number cylinders
- **Two row, 14 cylinders** - common, even number total
- **Inline or inverted V** - few, ex: D4Y Judy, P-51 Mustang
- **Blades** - bigger planes have bigger engines and 4 blades
- **Blades** - bent = crash landed, straight = spares or ground kill
- **Supercharge** - Some later engines water injected for more power, ex: F6F-5

Japanese Military Equipment 'Type' Nomenclature

- **Pre 1926** - military equipment named after the specific year of the Emperor's reign.
 - **Type 38** Arisaka rifle (1905–1906) was adopted in the 38th year of Meiji reign (1867).
- **1926 onward** - military used Kokki Imperial Japanese calendar's trailing two digits (660 BC).
 - Imperial year 2595 (1935 AD) = **Type 95** tank.
 - Imperial year 2600 (1940 AD) = **Type 0** Zero fighter .
 - 1941 became Imperial year 2601 = **Type 1**.
- **IJN, IJA, Maru**

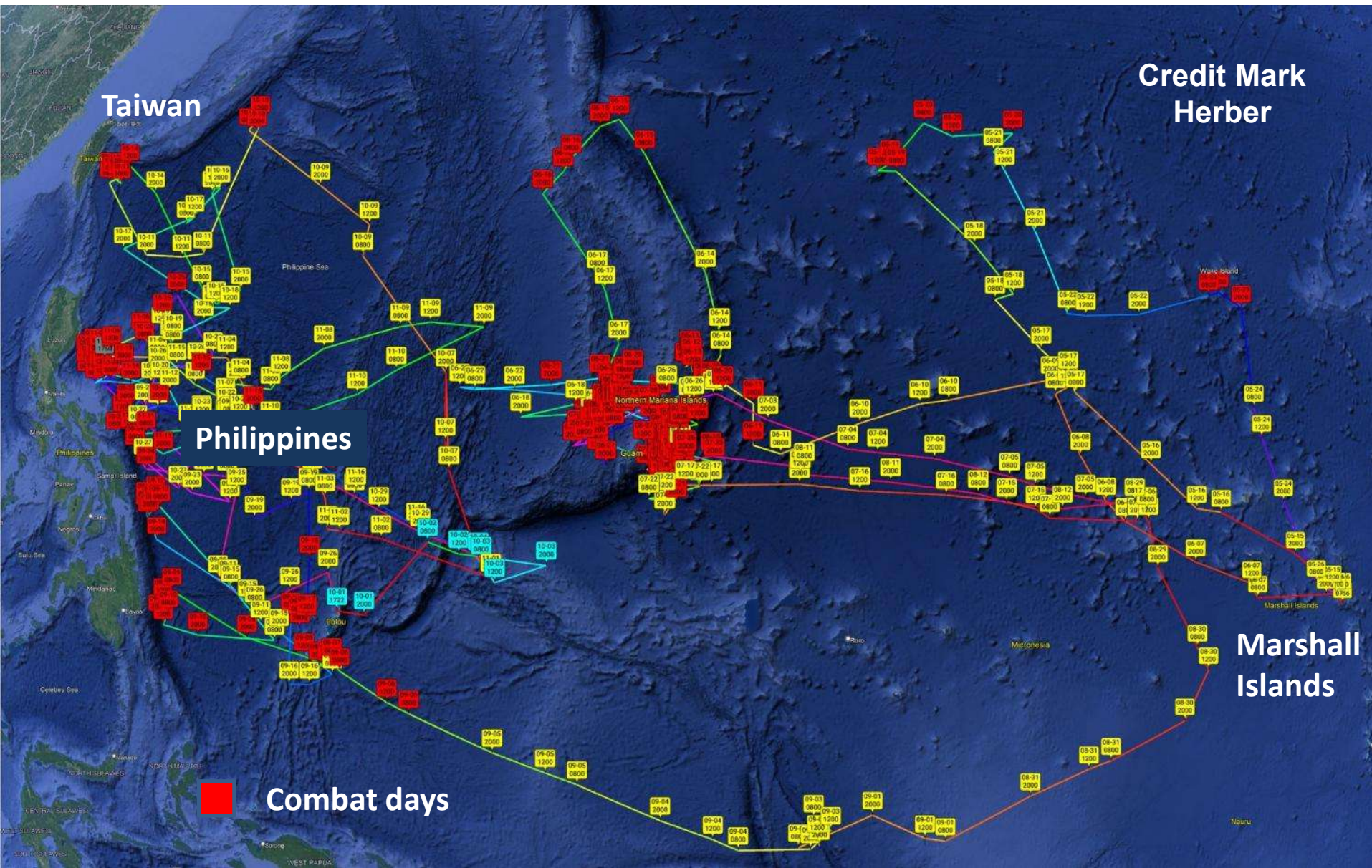
WWII Aircraft Production 1941-44

• Japan	58,822
• Germany	92,656
• USSR	116,365
• Total Above Countries	<u>267,843</u>
• US Total	<u>261,826</u>

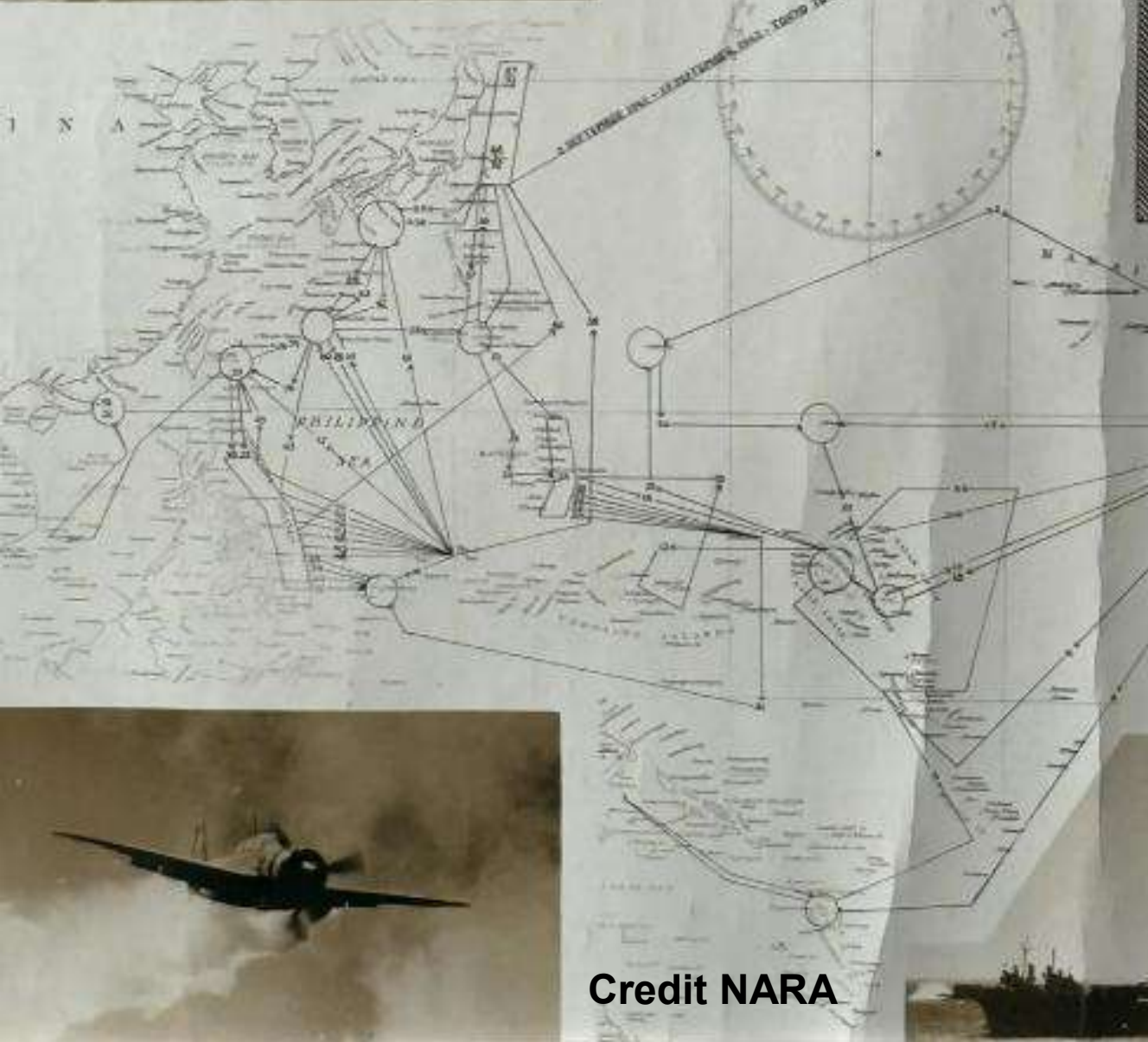
(Fleet tracks- blue, Major assaults- yellow)



USS Essex CV-9 Engagements July-Oct 1944



USS Essex CV-9 Track WW II



1944

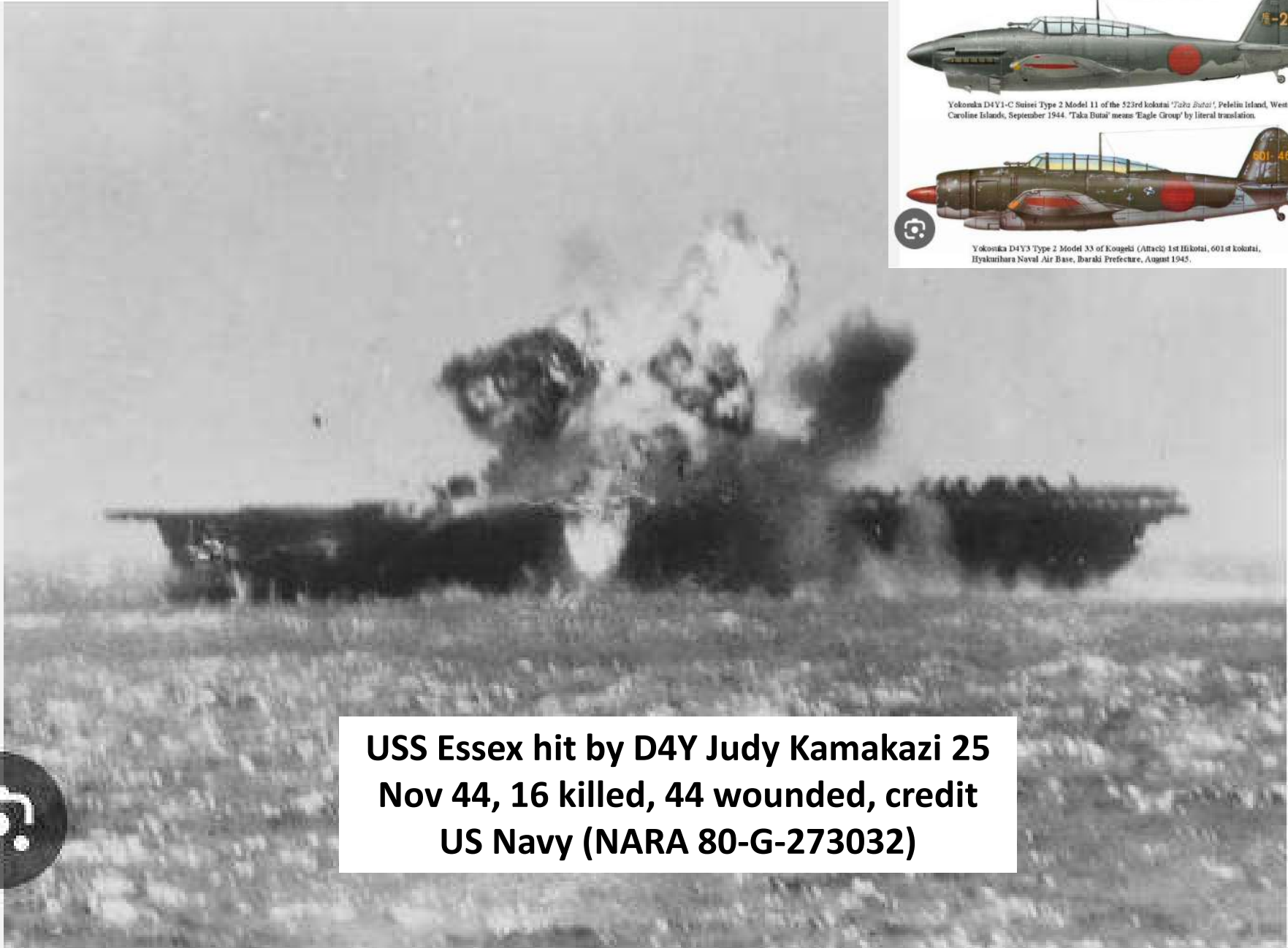
11 To Marshalls Occupation 29 January - 4 February
12 Truk Assault 16 - 17 February
13 Saipan - Tinian assault 21 - 22 February
14 Back to Majuro
15 Then to Pearl
16 and on to Frisco and Home
17 Frisco to Pearl
18 Pearl to Majuro
19 Marcus Assault 19 - 20 May
20 Wake Assault 23 May
21 To Majuro
22 Saipan and Pagan Assault 11 - 13 June
23 Iwo Jima Assault 15 - 16 June
24 Pagan Assault 17 June
25 First Battle of Philippine Sea 19 June
26 Marianas Assault 20 June - 3 July
27 To Eniwetok
28 To Guam Occupation 18 - 21 July
29 To Tinian Occupation 23 - 24 July
30 To Eniwetok
31 To Fanning Occupation 6 - 8 September
32 Mindanao, Cebu, Bohol, Negros Assault 9 - 14 Sep
33 Manila Assault 21 - 22 September
34 Cebu assault 24 September
35 To Kossol Pass
36 To Ulithi
37 Okinawa Jima Assault 10 - 11 October
38 Formosa Assault 12 - 14 October
39 Battle of Leyte Gulf 24 - 25 October
40 To Ulithi
41 Luzon Assault 5 - 14 November
42 To Ulithi
43 Luzon Assault 25 November
44 To Ulithi
45 Luzon Assault 14 - 16 December



**Struck by D4Y Judy
Kamakazi 25 Nov**

**Typhoon Cobra 18-19
Dec**

Credit NARA



Yokosuka D4Y1-C Suisei Type 2 Model 11 of the 523rd kokutai 'Taka Butai', Peleliu Island, Western Caroline Islands, September 1944. 'Taka Butai' means 'Eagle Group' by literal translation.



Yokosuka D4Y3 Type 2 Model 33 of Kougou (Attack) 1st Hikotai, 601st kokutai, Hyakuniha Naval Air Base, Ibaraki Prefecture, August 1945.

**USS Essex hit by D4Y Judy Kamakazi 25
Nov 44, 16 killed, 44 wounded, credit
US Navy (NARA 80-G-273032)**

USS Essex CV-9

leaving San Francisco 14 Apr
1944 in Measure 32 camouflage



Credit US
Navy NAM

USS Essex CV-9 (circa 1944)



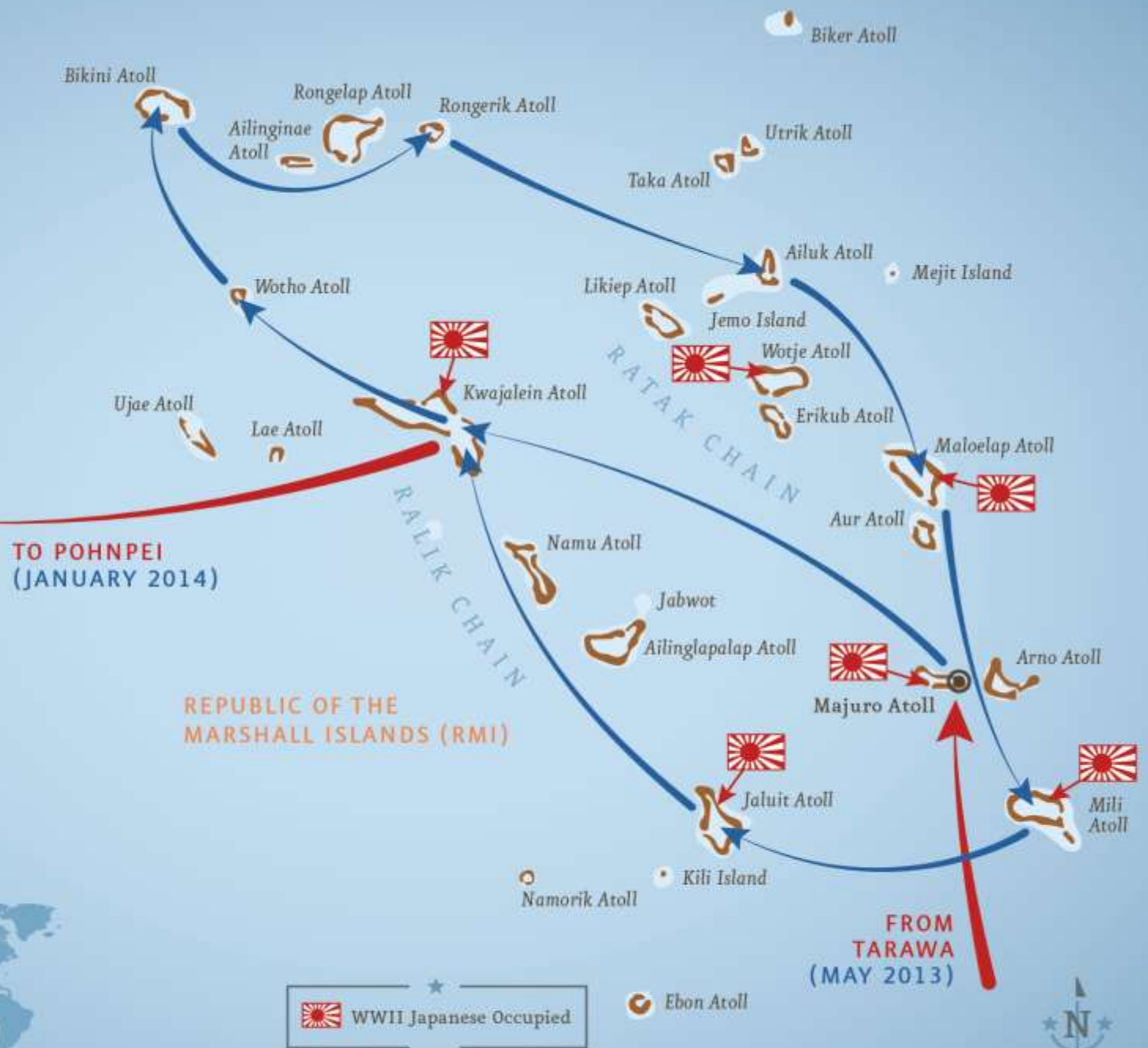
Credit Paul J
Madden MoF
Collection

A6M Zero
engine

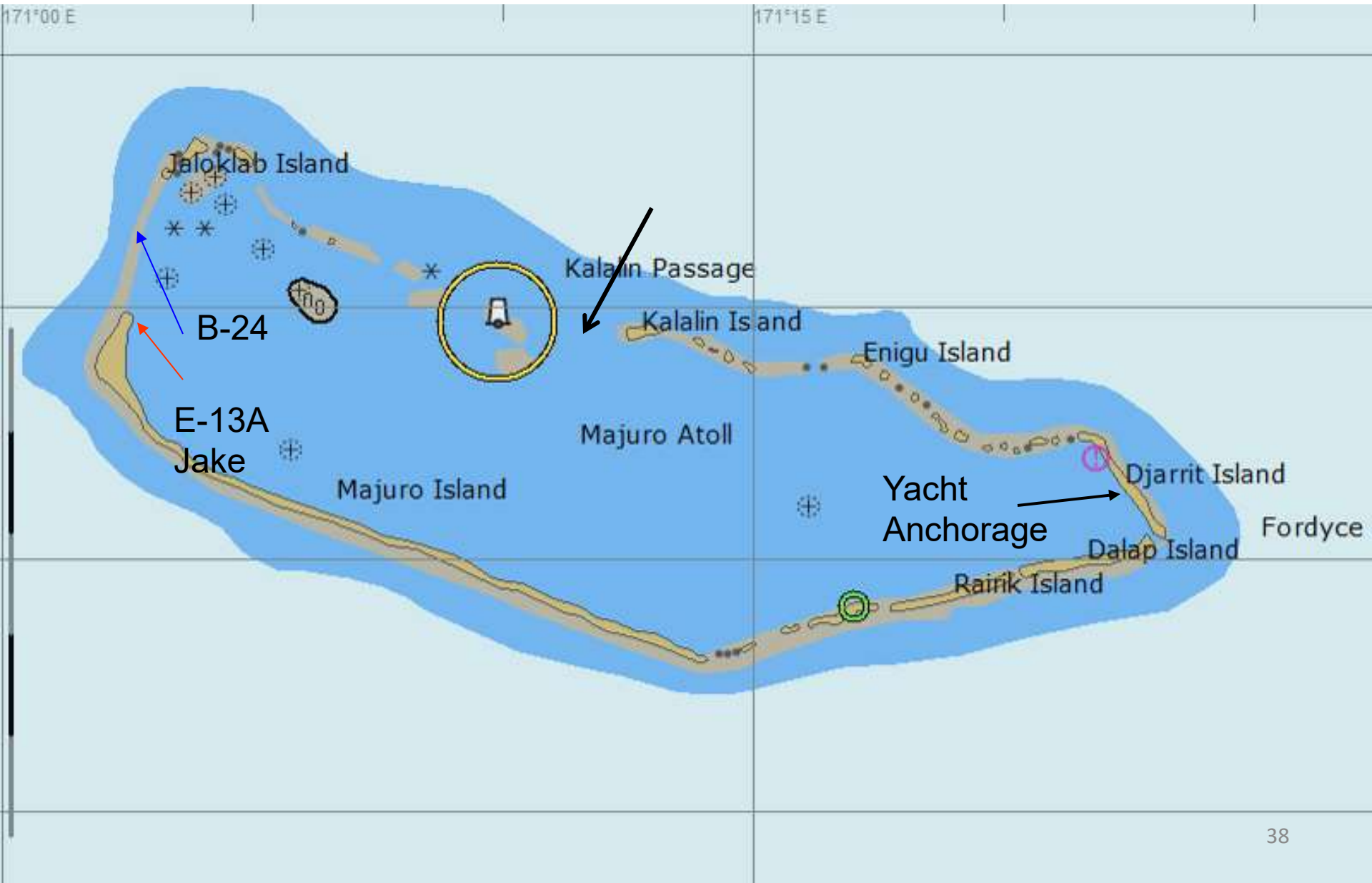


**Intrepid WWII aviation
explorer Sherry sez:
“Where are we, and
what the heck is this?”**

Marshall Islands
Soggy Paws'
8 month
cruise, arrival
10 May 2013,
Dad same day
69 years
earlier



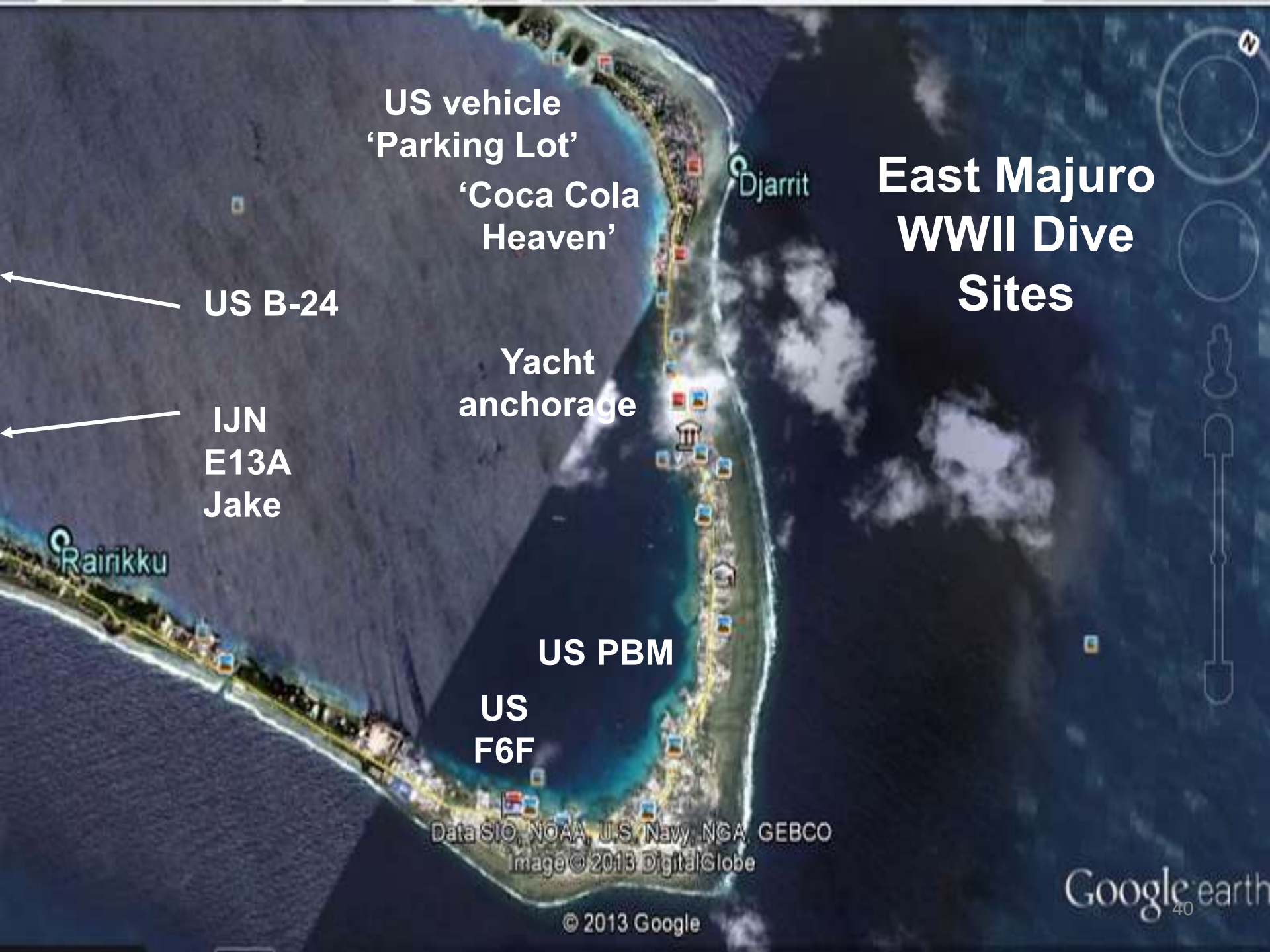
Majuro Atoll Chart



US 5th Fleet Ships at Majuro Atoll May 44

7 CVs - 3 Independence, 4 Essex (Dad aboard Essex CV-9) Enterprise (RF), 3 BBs, etc





East Majuro WWII Dive Sites

US vehicle
'Parking Lot'
'Coca Cola
Heaven'

Yacht
anchorage

US B-24

IJN
E13A
Jake

US PBM

US
F6F

Djarrit

Rairikku

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2013 DigitalGlobe

© 2013 Google

Google earth
40

Grumman F6F-5 Hellcat Fighter

**1 pilot, 2000 hp,
380mph,
1040mi, 38k',
2x20mm,
4x50cal,
bombs, rockets,
12,275 ea**

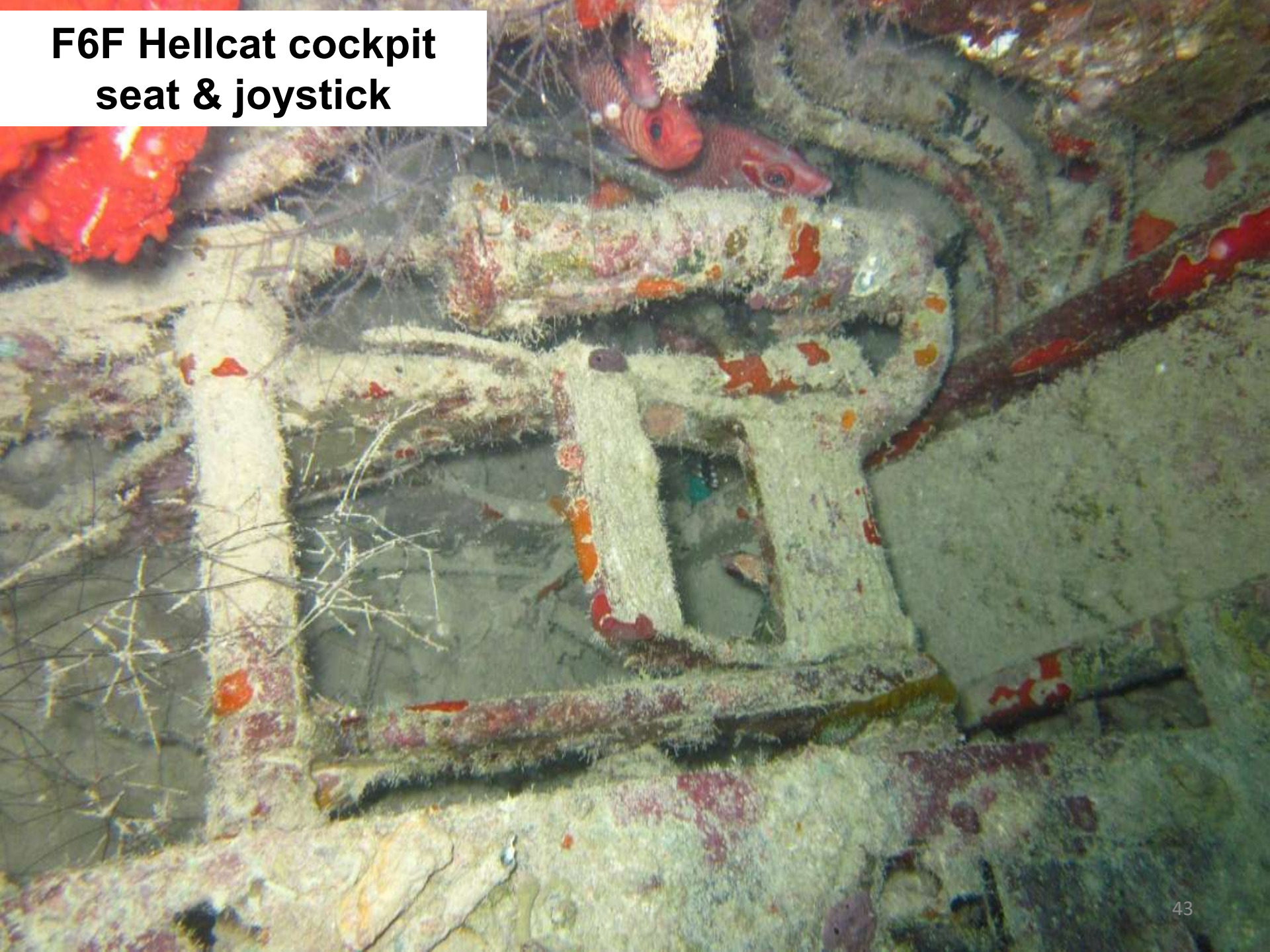
**'Minsi III'
McCampbell, Oct 1944**



**Sherry at tail of
nose-down F6F Hellcat
At 90 feet**



F6F Hellcat cockpit seat & joystick



An underwater photograph of a rusted, skeletal remains of a World War II Jeep. The vehicle is heavily corroded and partially covered in coral and other marine life. Several small, colorful fish are swimming around the wreck. The water is a deep blue-green color.

**US WW II
Jeep**

The “Parking Lot”
U/W museum of 1940s WWII vehicles

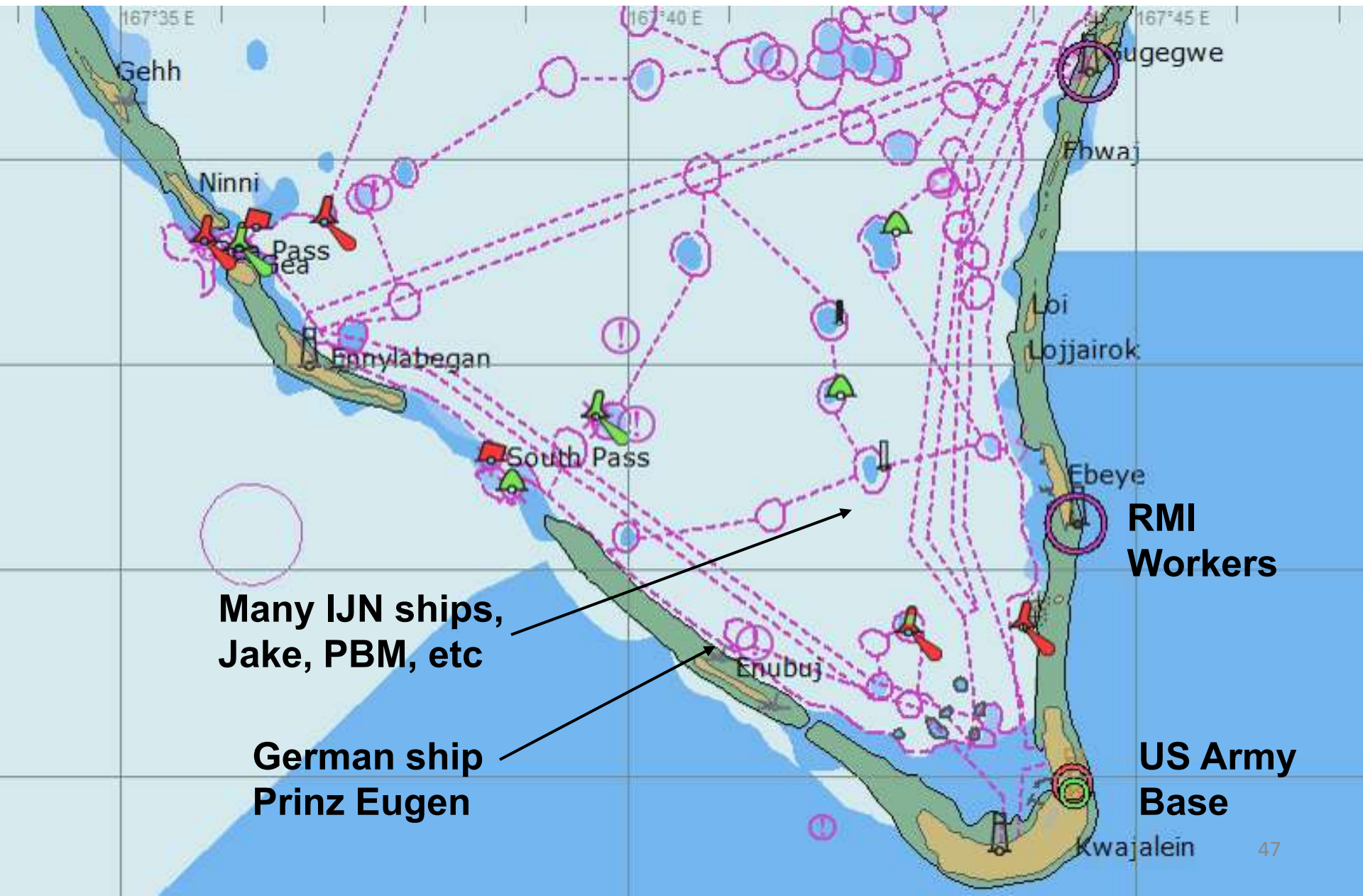


**Sherry and a
fuel tank truck**

Kwajalein Atoll- world's largest enclosed lagoon atoll



Kwajalein Atoll South End



Prinz Eugen

- Last German WWII cruiser – 681'
- Survived Bikini nuclear tests
- Radioactive--towed to Kwajalein
- Sank upside down Dec 1946
- Great dive site!



Prinz Eugen 8” guns



My, What Big Guns You Have!

Aichi E13A Jake Reconnaissance Float Plane



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

Aichi E13A Jake



**Sherry and Dan
Farnham inspecting
E-13A Jake at 90'**



US Martin PBM-5 Mariner Sea Plane

7-9 crew, 2 x 2100hp, 211
mph, 2600 mi, 8 .50cal, 4K
bombs, 2 torps, 600 ea



Only one remains on display worldwide

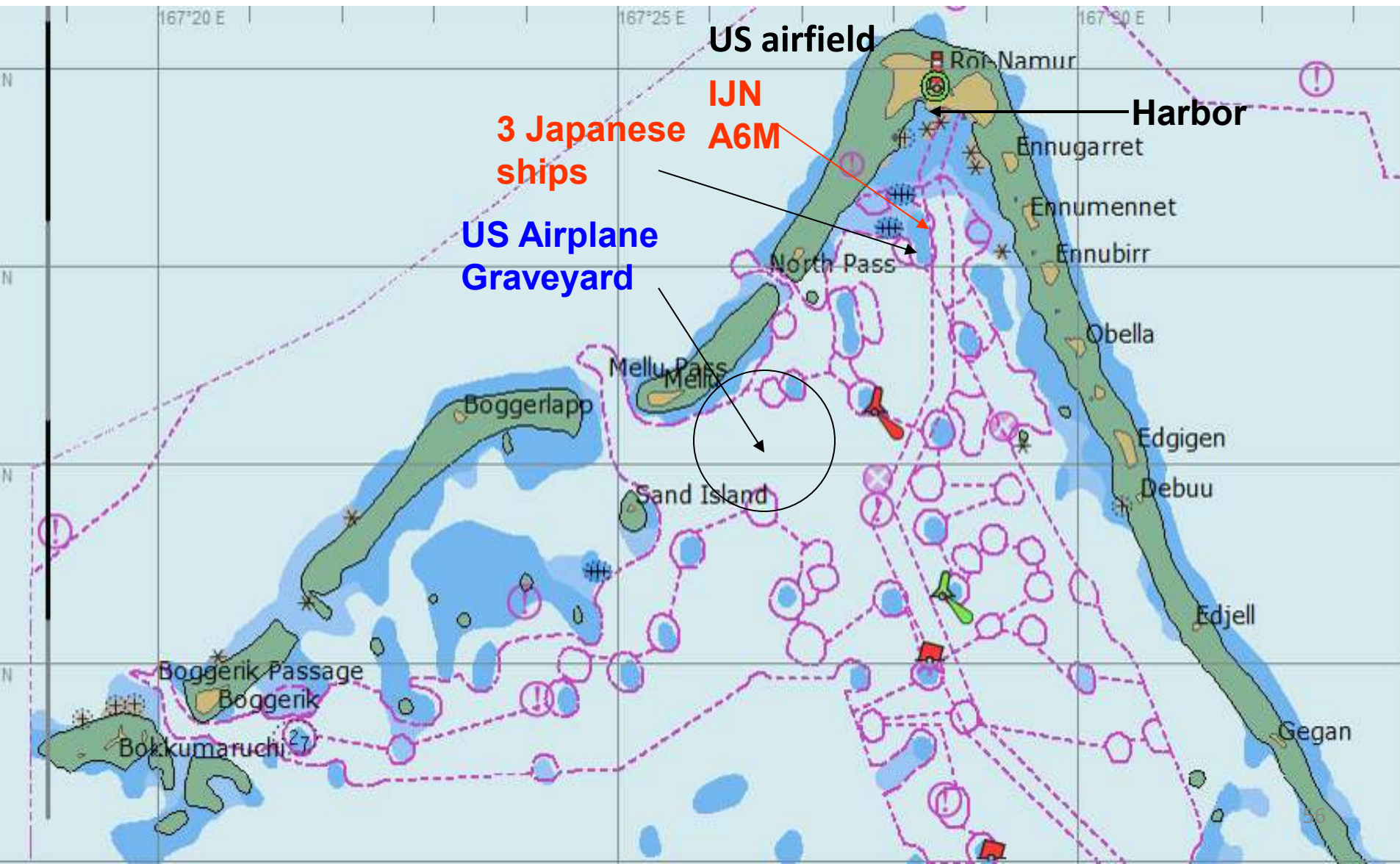


**Dan Farnham
over Martin
PBM-5 nose &
cockpit**

**PBM-5 starboard
wing, missing engine**



N Kwajalein Atoll, Roi-Namur Island



Roi-Namur Island Feb 1944

Credit
NARA



HITS IN AIRCRAFT

DISPERSED AREA

LANDING PLANES

BUTTED HANGAR

WAWAJALEIN

AIRFIELD

PERIOD 7 NOV. 1943 - 27 JAN. 1944

TOTAL A/C OVER TARGET - 98

TORNADE DROPPED - 221

The Airplane Graveyard

50+ US planes from
WWII scattered on
bottom at 100'!

**Dauntless
SBD Dive
Bombers**

Mitsubishi A6M Japanese Zero Fighter



One pilot, 1100hp, 350 mph,
38k', 1200 nm, 2x20 mm, 2x7.7
mm guns, bombs, 10499 ea



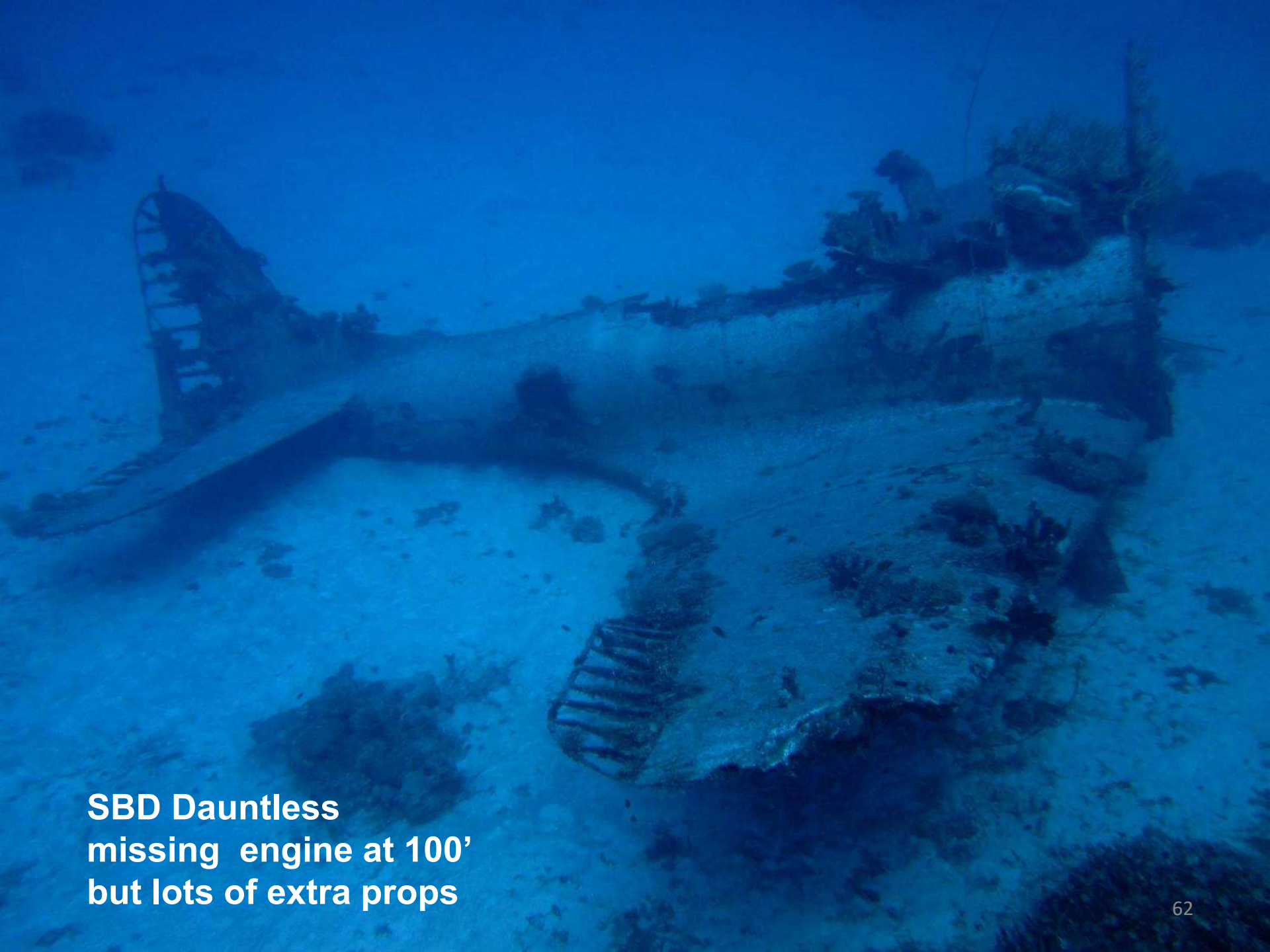
20mm
gun

A6M Zero upside down
at 60', blades not bent!

Douglas SBD Dauntless Dive Bomber



2 crew, 1200 hp, 255
mph, 770 mi, 24k',
2x50cal, 2x30cal,
bombs, 5936 ea



**SBD Dauntless
missing engine at 100'
but lots of extra props**

Sherry & 4 SBDs in Airplane Graveyard



An underwater photograph of a shipwreck, specifically the cockpit area of a SBD. The structure is heavily corroded and covered in green and brown marine growth. A blue rectangular label with white text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

SBD Cockpit

North American B-25 Mitchell Bomber



**Apr 1942 Doolittle raid on
Japan from USS Hornet**

**5 crew, 2x1700 hp,
275 mph, 1300 mi,
24k', 1x75mm,
16x50cal, bombs,
rockets, 9800 ea**

**B-25 Mitchell
looking aft**





**B-25 Mitchell tail
section**

Consolidated C-46 Commando Cargo Plane



**4 crew, 40 troops,
2x 2000hp, 270
mph, 3150 mi,
24.5k', 3181 ea**

C-46 Commando
missing a few parts

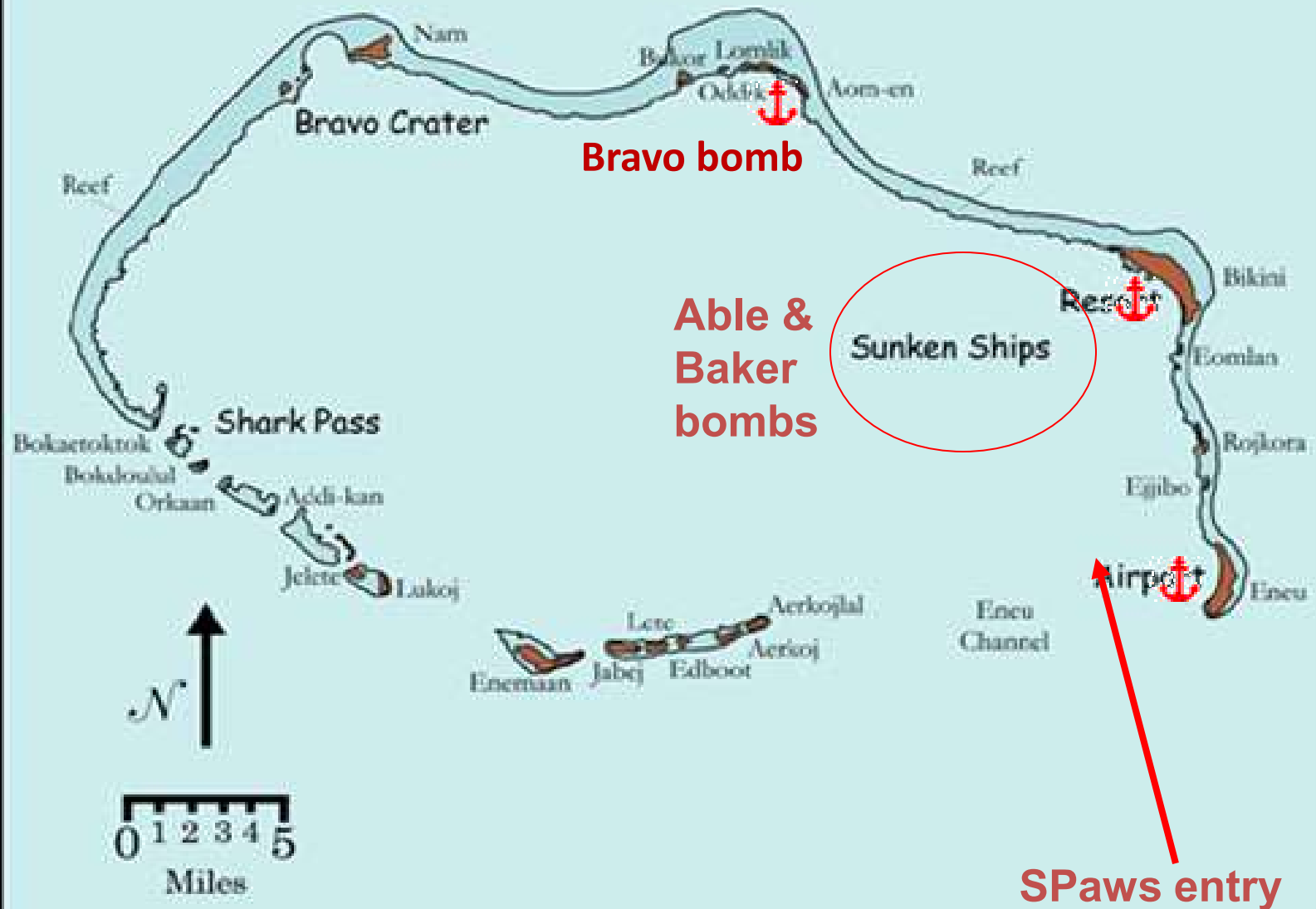


**C-46 Commando
interior, looking
forward**

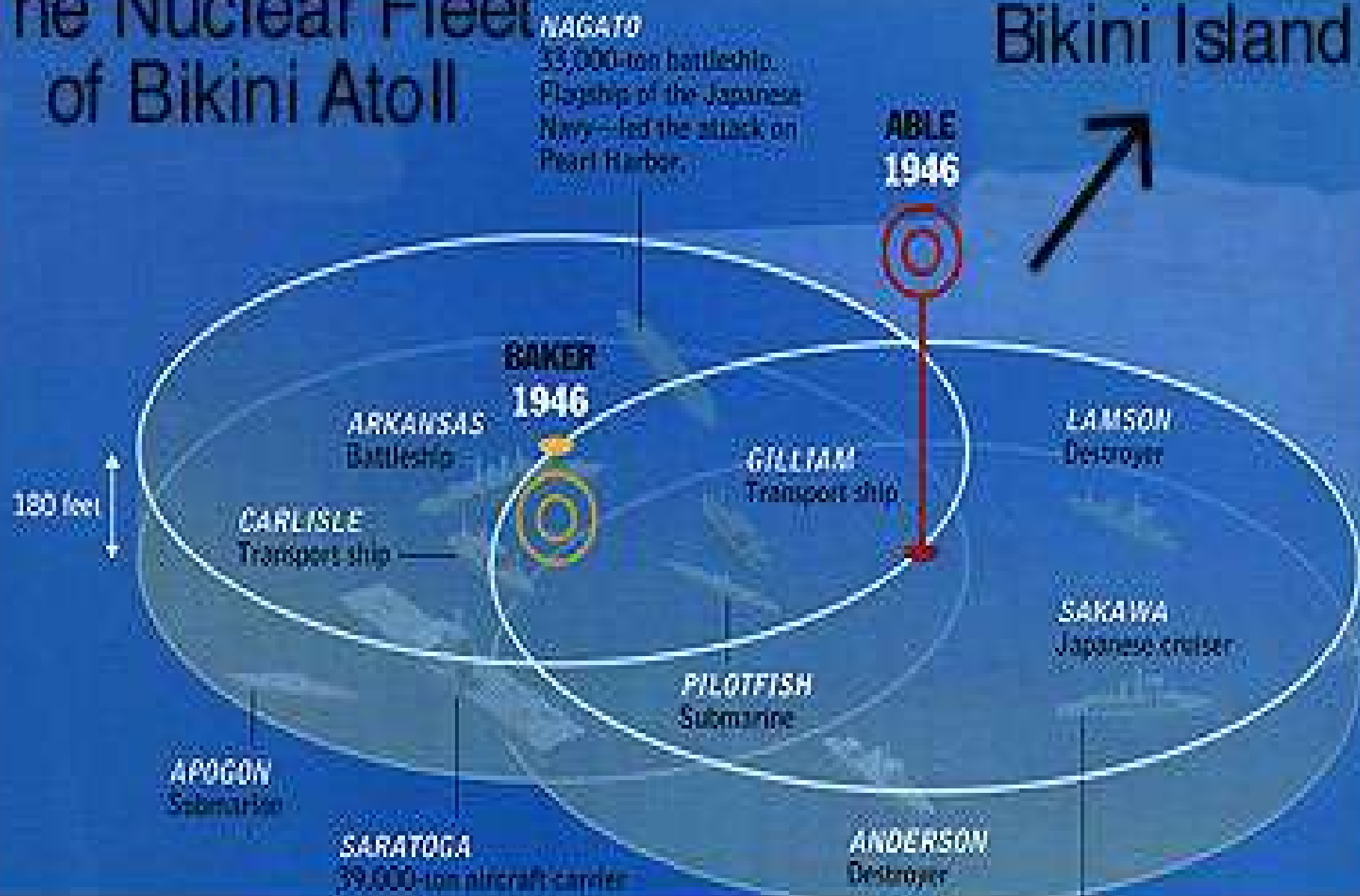
Sink?



Bikini Atoll



The Nuclear Fleet of Bikini Atoll



Able Plutonium Air Test

July 1946, 21 KT

Credit NARA



Baker Plutonium UW Test

July 1946, 21 KT

Credit
NARA



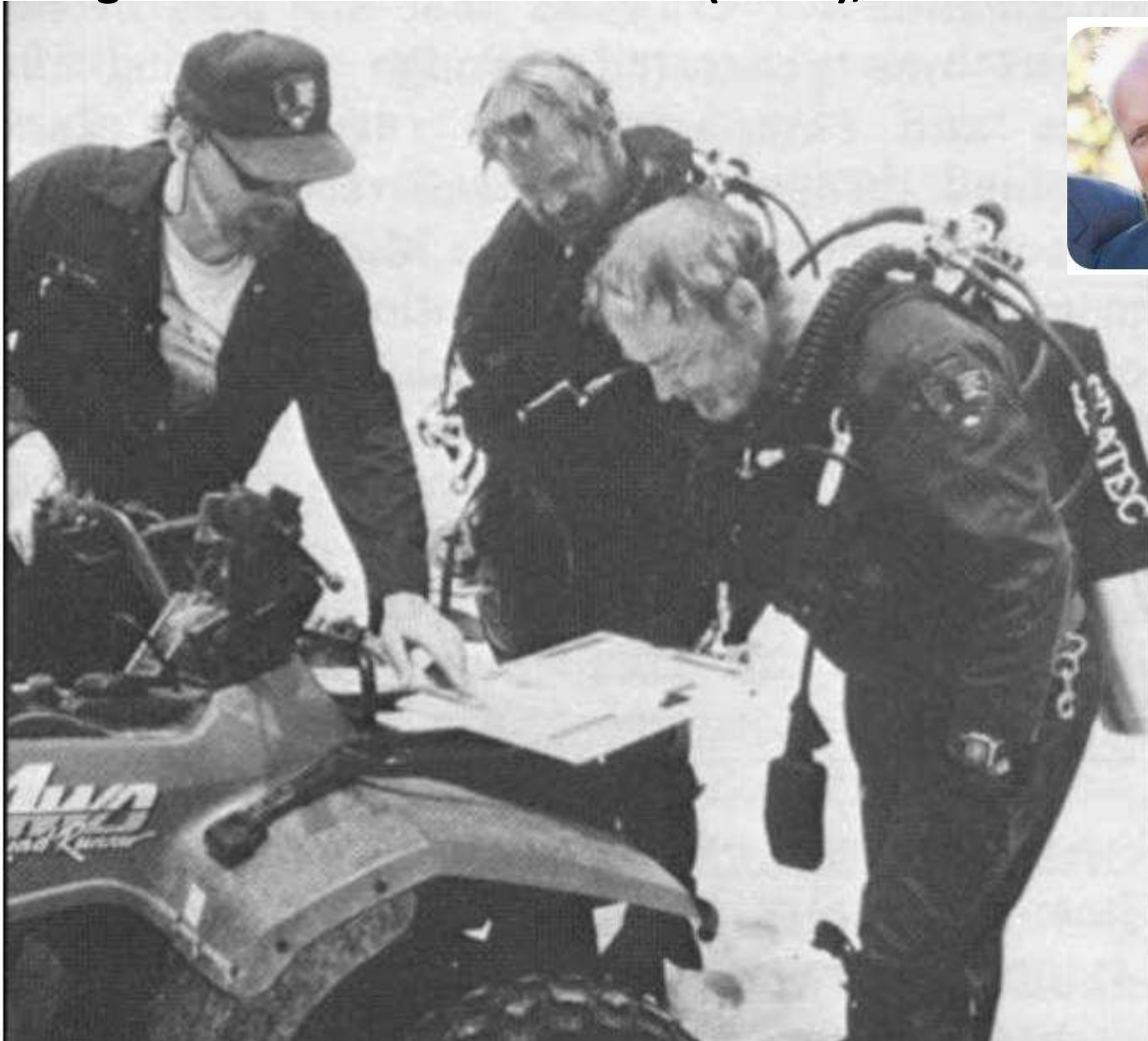
Castle Bravo Hydrogen Test

Mar 1954, 15 MT



Credit
NARA

**Dan Lenihan, (right) Chief of the National Park Service
Submerged Cultural Resources Unit (SCRU), Bikini Atoll 1988**



**Credit
SCRU NPS**



Commander David McCampbell, USN (left), led the Navy effort to locate and plot the wreck locations. *(NPS, Larry Murphy)*

Start of Bikini Atoll wreck diving
In June 1988, while returning from a cooperative NPS/Navy diving operation in Palau, **Dan Lenihan, Chief of the National Park Service Submerged Cultural Resources Unit (SCRU)** was approached regarding a potential sunken ship survey at Bikini Atoll. Dr. Catherine Courtney of Holmes and Narver, representing her client, the Department of Energy (DOE), described the nature of the research problem in a presentation at the headquarters **of U.S. Navy Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One in Honolulu. Cdr. David McCampbell, Unit Commander**, had been in communication with Dr. Courtney about the project for some time and recommended a joint effort using NPS and Navy personnel--a combination that had proved effective in numerous prior operations known collectively as **Project SeaMark**.⁷⁷
Courtesy NPS History/SCRU/Bikini

**1989-90- MDSU1, NPS SCRUI,
and ABC make initial
documentation surveys on
Bikini wrecks**



**2013 Sherry and I make 4 dives from
M/V Windward liveaboard, 12 other
guests \$6500 for 10 day trip**

USS Saratoga CV-3

Commissioned
1928, third US fleet
carrier

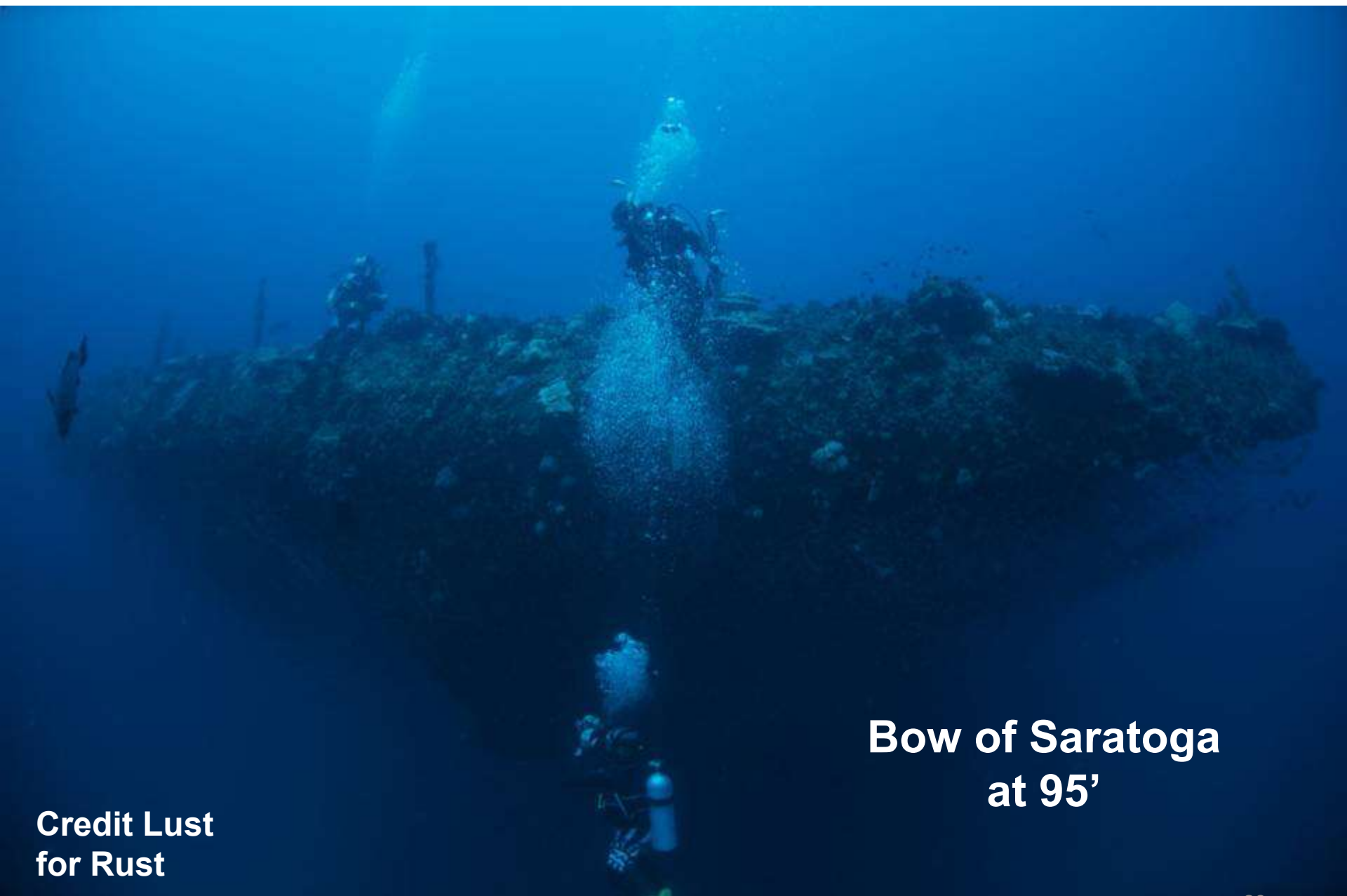
Biplanes



Sunk at Bikini
Nuclear Tests
Jul 1946

Credit
NARA





**Credit Lust
for Rust**

**Bow of Saratoga
at 95'**

Bridge - conning station looking fwd,
battle ports, compass, helm, etc

Magnetic
compass

Battle ports

EOT?

Gyro
compass

Helm



Credit
Lust for
Rust



Sherry and I at
forward 5"- 38
deck gun

Curtiss SB2C Helldiver

Dive Bomber



2 crew, 1900 hp, 295
mph, 1200 mi, 29k',
2x20mm, 2x30cal,
bombs, 7150 ea

Dave & SB2C Helldiver in Hangar Deck at 130'

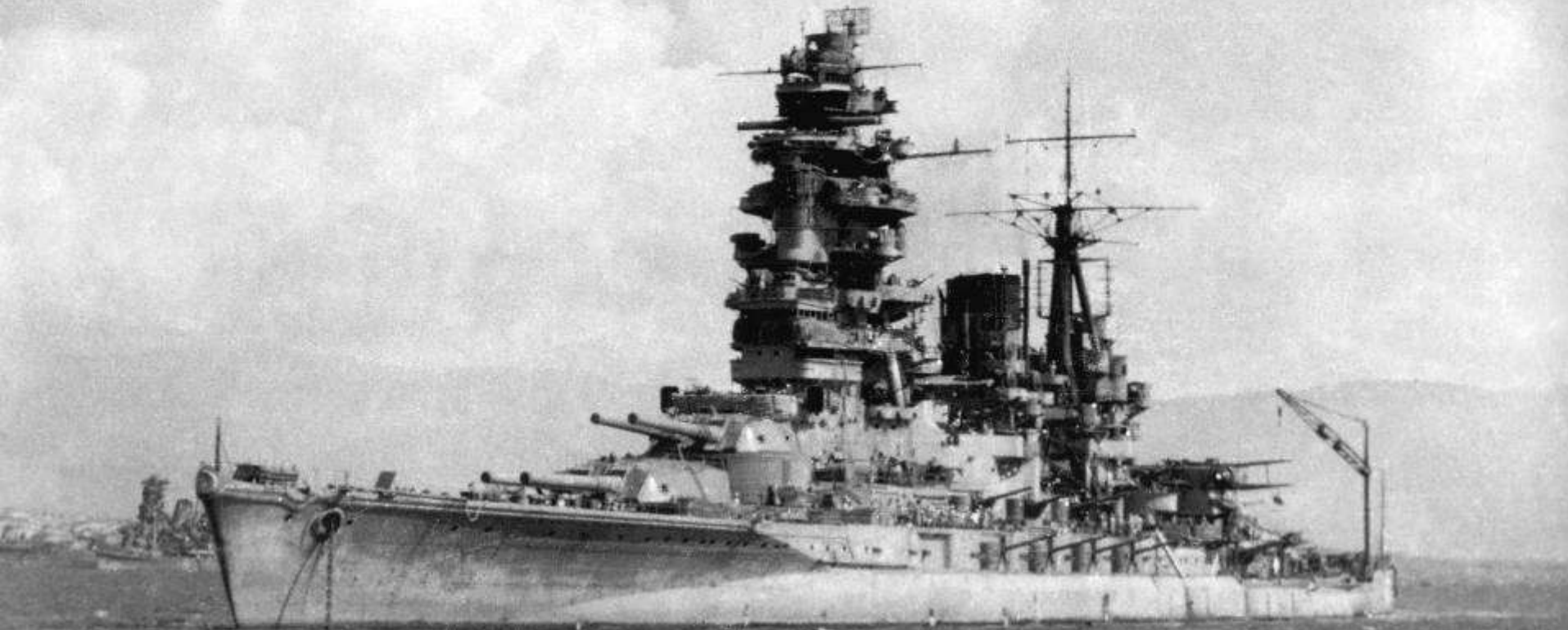


Credit Lust
for Rust



**Helldiver
instrument panel
w/ most gages in
place!**

IJN Nagato



**Last Japanese battleship afloat at
war's end, IJN CNO Adm
Yamamoto's flagship**



**Inspecting one of four
Nagato props at 90'**

**Credit Lust
for Rust⁷**



**Sherry sitting on
Nagato's
prop hub**



**Credit Lust
for Rust⁸⁸**

Maloelap Atoll

A6Ms & patrol boats

Generator Bldg

US PBV

Taroa Japanese air base

Maloelap Atoll

A6Ms & patrol boats

Generator Bldg

US PBV

Taroa Japanese air base

8° 45' Nord

8° 30'

171° 15'

171° 30'

40-70 m deep

Islands labeled: Kaven-I., Boker-I., Bab-I., Boganagak-I., Lea-I., Enjun-I., Makaru-I., Taroa-I., and others.

Maloelap Atoll

A6Ms & patrol boats

Generator Bldg

US PBV

Taroa Japanese air base

Taroa I. (1 m high)

89

Maloelap Atoll

A6Ms & patrol boats

Generator Bldg

US PBV

Taroa Japanese air base

Taroa I. (1 m high)

89

Maloelap Atoll

A6Ms & patrol boats

Generator Bldg

US PBV

Taroa Japanese air base

Taroa I. (1 m high)

89



**Taroa Island,
cratered, 1944**

Credit NARA



**Sherry at generator
building on Pigeatto Isl,
separate island**



Diesel generator
room w/ diesels &
generators intact



Large defensive shore bunker



**Japanese 127mm
Dual Purpose gun**



**Plane Graveyard-
A6M Zero wreckage**



**Plane Graveyard-
radial aircraft
engines**

Mitsubishi G3M Nell Medium Bomber



5-7 crew, 2x1300 hp,
258 mph, 3870 mi,
33.7k', 1x20mm,
4x7.7mm, bombs,
torps, 1048 ea



**Rare G3M Nell,
1980s photo**



Jerry with intact engine in Plane Graveyard- probable G3M Nell

Consolidated PBY5A Catalina Maritime Patrol Amphibian Bomber



**7 crew, 2x1200 hp, 175
mph, 3050 mi, 18k',
2x50cal, 3x30cal, bombs,
depth chgs, 3300 ea**

**Retracted
wheels**

Jerry & PBY engine on the beach



Local kids posing with A6M Zero at Ollot Island, bent blades





A6M Zero wing/engine upside down

Mili Atoll

from Matt
Holley

Mili Isl
Japanese
airfield

US B-25D
Mitchell

Possible
Amelia Earhart
landing spot?

Mili Island

Arbar

Mili Atoll

Enajet

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat

Google earth

104

Mile Island in 1943

(note that the island has
changed shape since then)

Japanese
Shipwreck

B-25D
wreckage

Mili Island- Japanese airfield in 1943, approx B-25 location



Japanese
127mm Dual
Purpose gun in
the jungle



**Sherry and
another
127mm Dual
Purpose gun**



**A6M Zero
fuselage and tail**



**A6M Zero 20mm
Type 99 Mk 1 wing
cannon**

Mitsubishi G4M Betty Bomber



Small
windows

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

**G4M Betty
Bomber fuselage,
nose area, in
plane graveyard**





**G4M Betty bomber port
wing upside down,
missing engine**

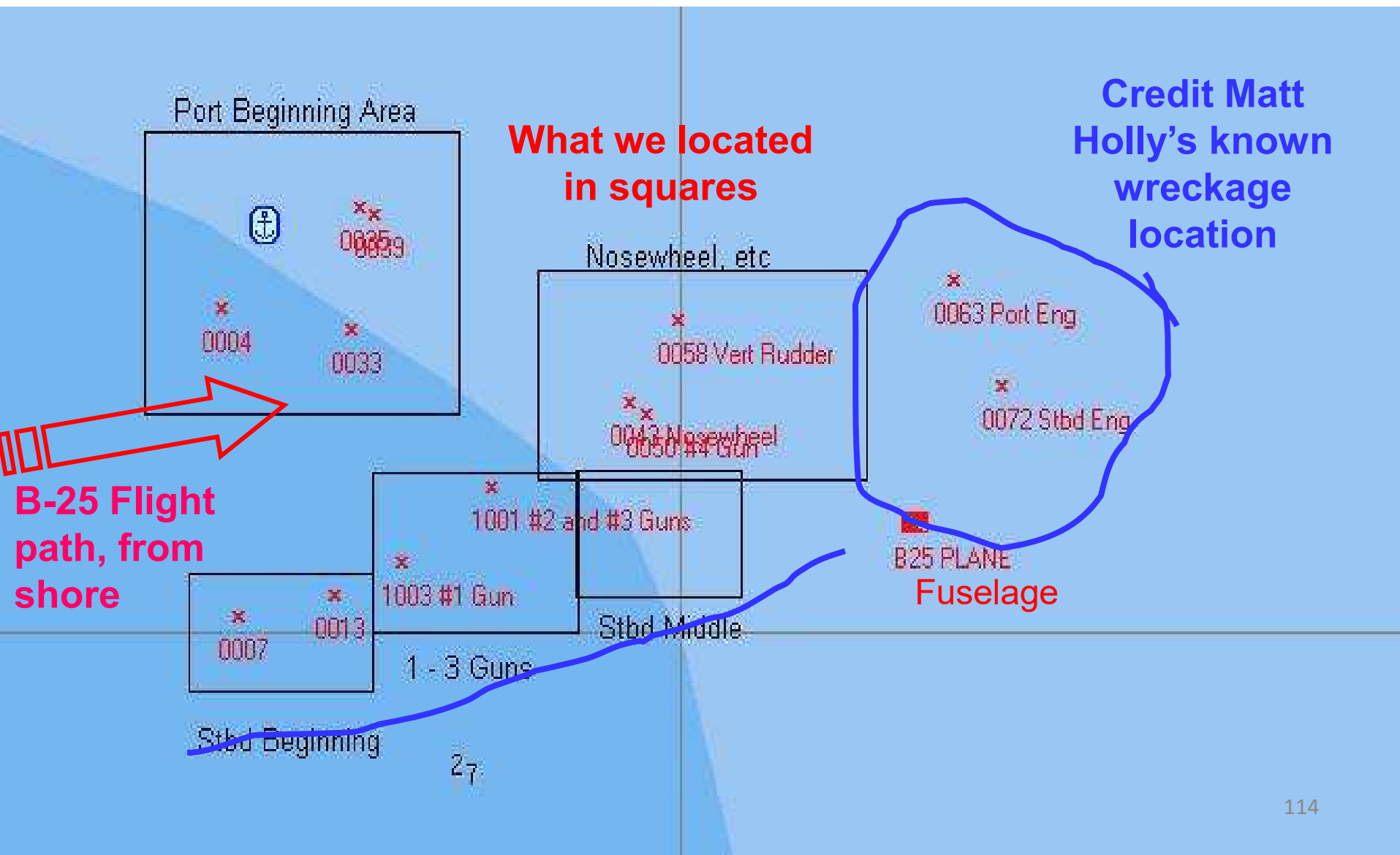
North American B-25 Mitchell Bomber



Apr 1942 Doolittle raid on
Japan from USS Hornet

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

B-25D Mitchell Search Site Map





B-25D port
cockpit minus
nose cone, 20'



Stbd
engine
pitch
control

B-25D cockpit,
yokes, throttles



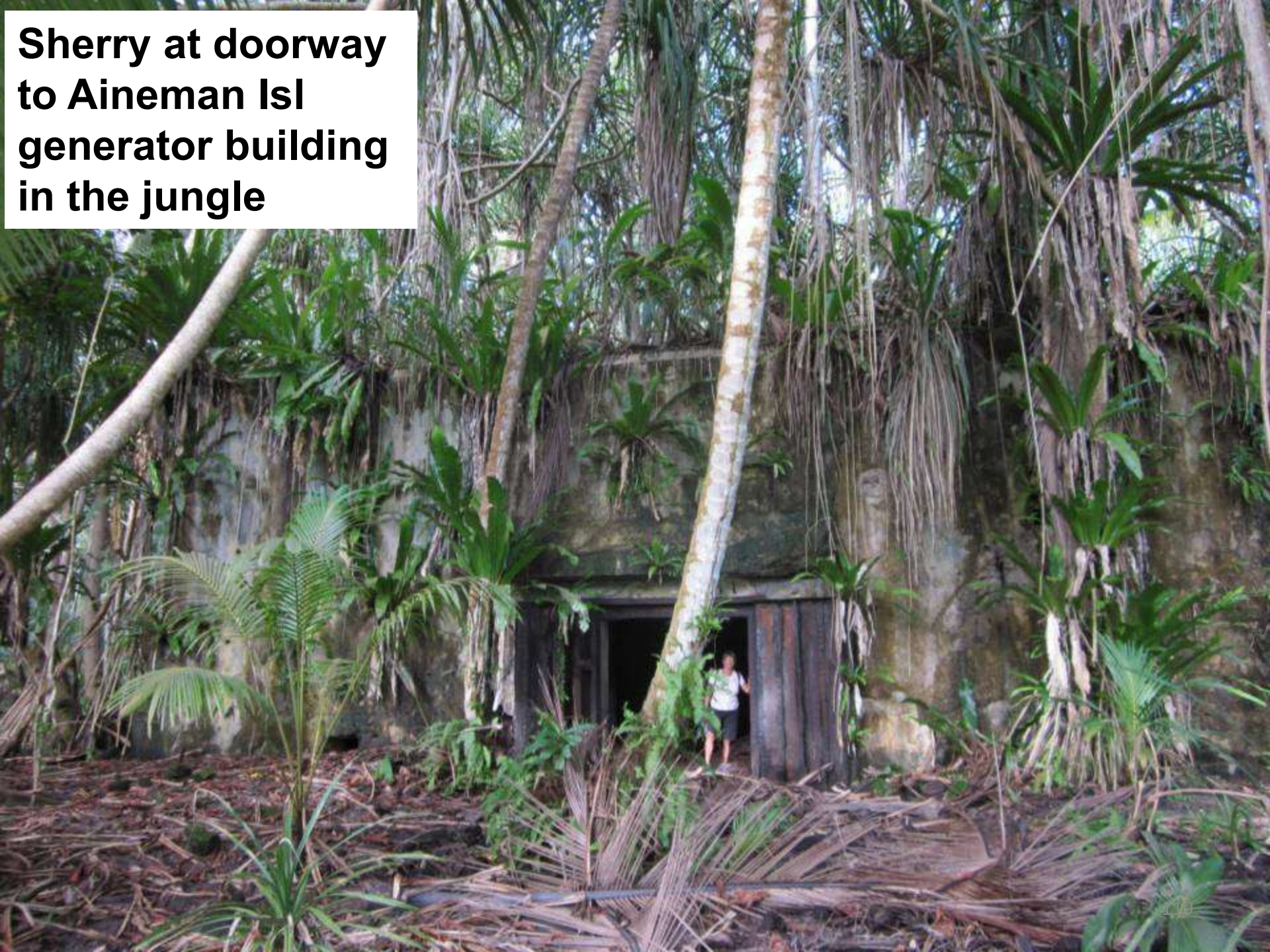
B-25D port waist
Browning AN/M2 .50
cal heavymachine gun

Jaluit Atoll

Credit Matt
Holley, Majuro
information



**Sherry at doorway
to Aineman Isl
generator building
in the jungle**



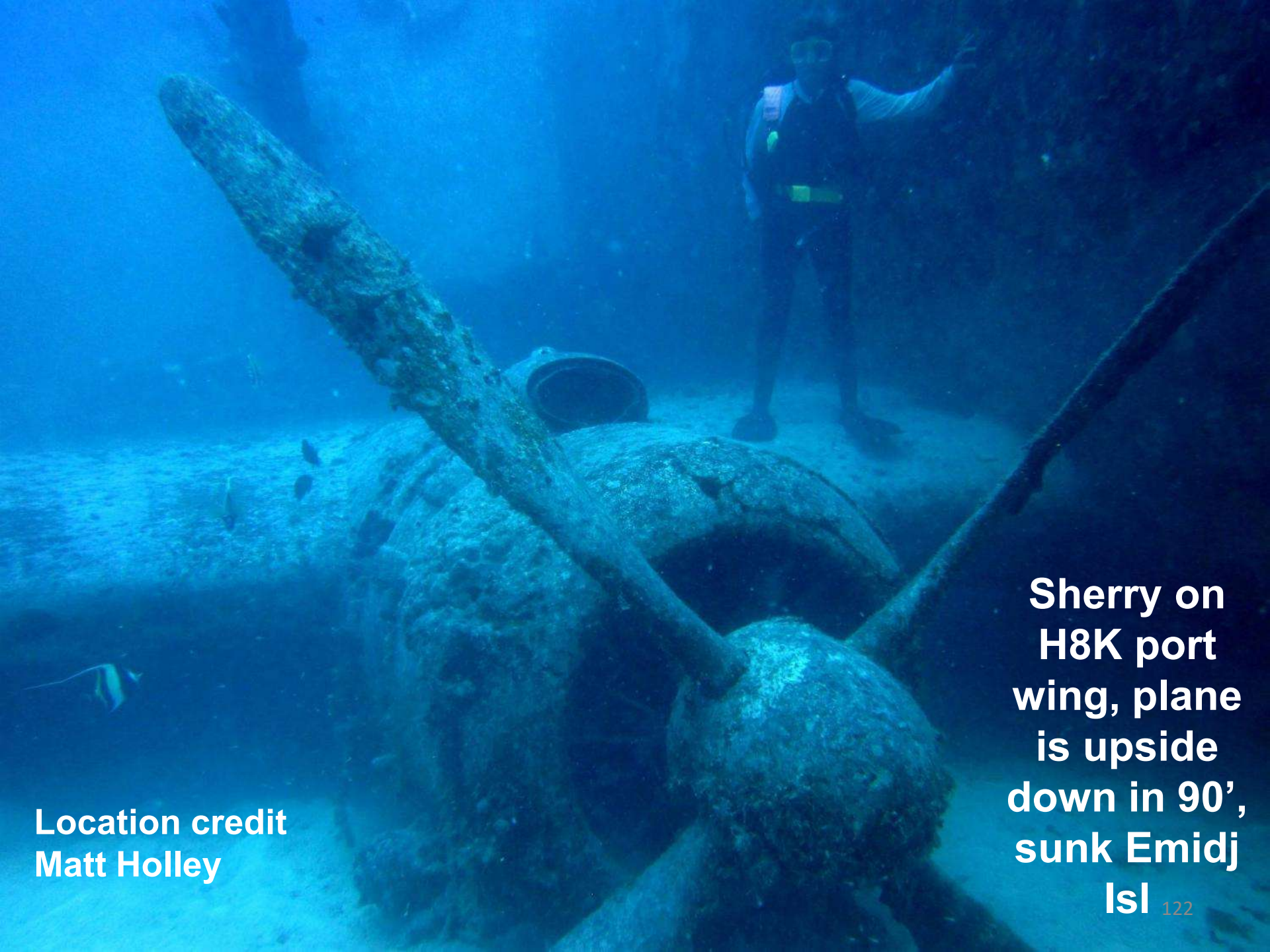


**Sherry inside 1880s
German composite trading
ship at 90', in lagoon off
Jaluit Island**

Kawanishi H8K Emily Flying Boat

10 crew, 4x1850 hp, 290
mph, 4460 mi, 29k',
5x20mm, 4x7.7mm,
bombs, torps, 167 ea

Only one on display
worldwide, in Japan,
two are in Jaluit U/W



Location credit
Matt Holley

Sherry on
H8K port
wing, plane
is upside
down in 90',
sunk Emidj
Isi 122

An underwater photograph showing the wreckage of the H8K Emily aircraft. The main fuselage is a large, dark, rectangular structure covered in marine growth. A diver is visible in the background to the left, providing a sense of scale. The water is a deep blue with some suspended particles.

**H8K Emily looking
aft at nose and
under side**



**H8K 20mm Type 99
Mk 1 tail gun, one of
9 guns onbd**

An underwater photograph of the starboard float of the H8K aircraft. The float is a large, dark, rectangular structure with a flat top and rounded ends. It is supported by two vertical struts and several diagonal bracing cables. The float is positioned upside down, with its top surface facing the viewer. The background is a deep blue, slightly hazy underwater environment.

**H8K stbd float,
plane is
upside down,
nearby second
H8K is upright**

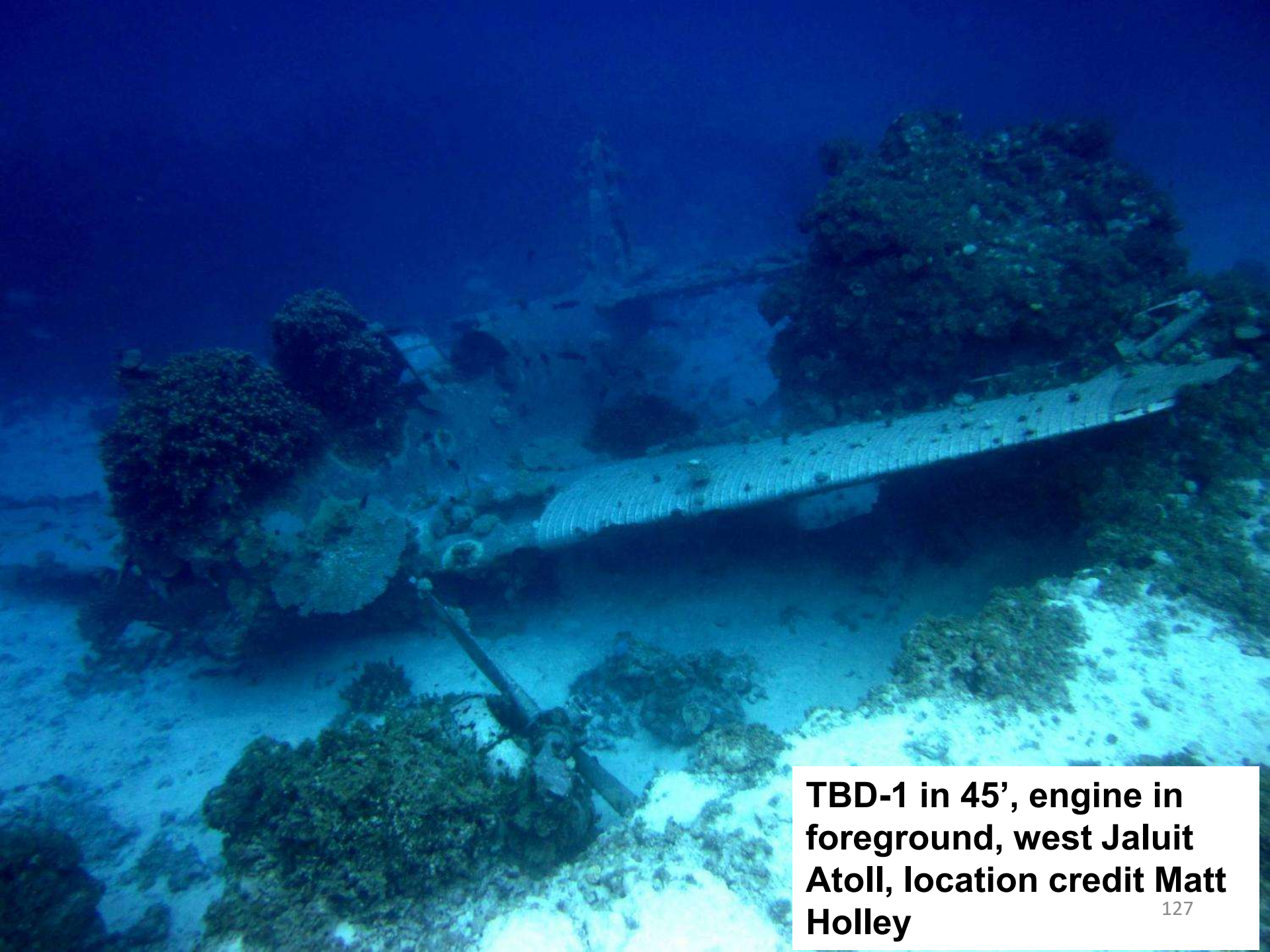
Douglas TBD-1 Devastator

Early US Torpedo Bomber

None on display, only two known
diveable depths worldwide!

3 crew, 900hp, 205mph,
415mi, 19.7k', 2x30cal,
torps, bombs, 129 ea,

12 went down with
Lexington 1942, 35
of 41 lost at Battle
of Midway 1944



TBD-1 in 45', engine in foreground, west Jaluit Atoll, location credit Matt Holley



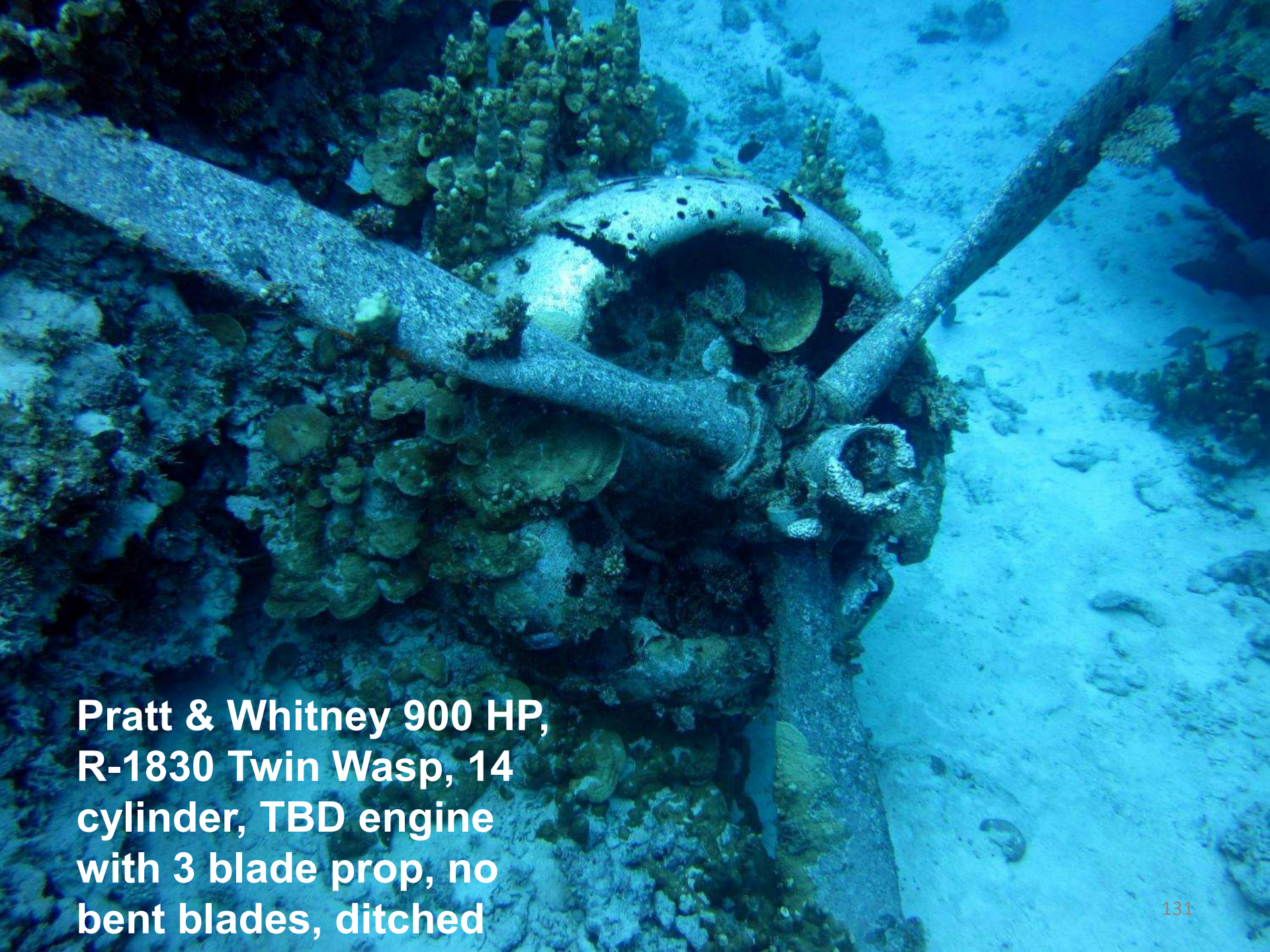
Unique TBD wing surface ridges, Sherry inspecting bomber and gunner's seats, cockpit covered in Brain Coral



**TBD from stbd aft, Sherry looking
into gunner's position, aft flaps
deteriorated**

**Dave inspecting TBD
bomber and gunner
seats, Brain Coral
occupies pilot's seat**





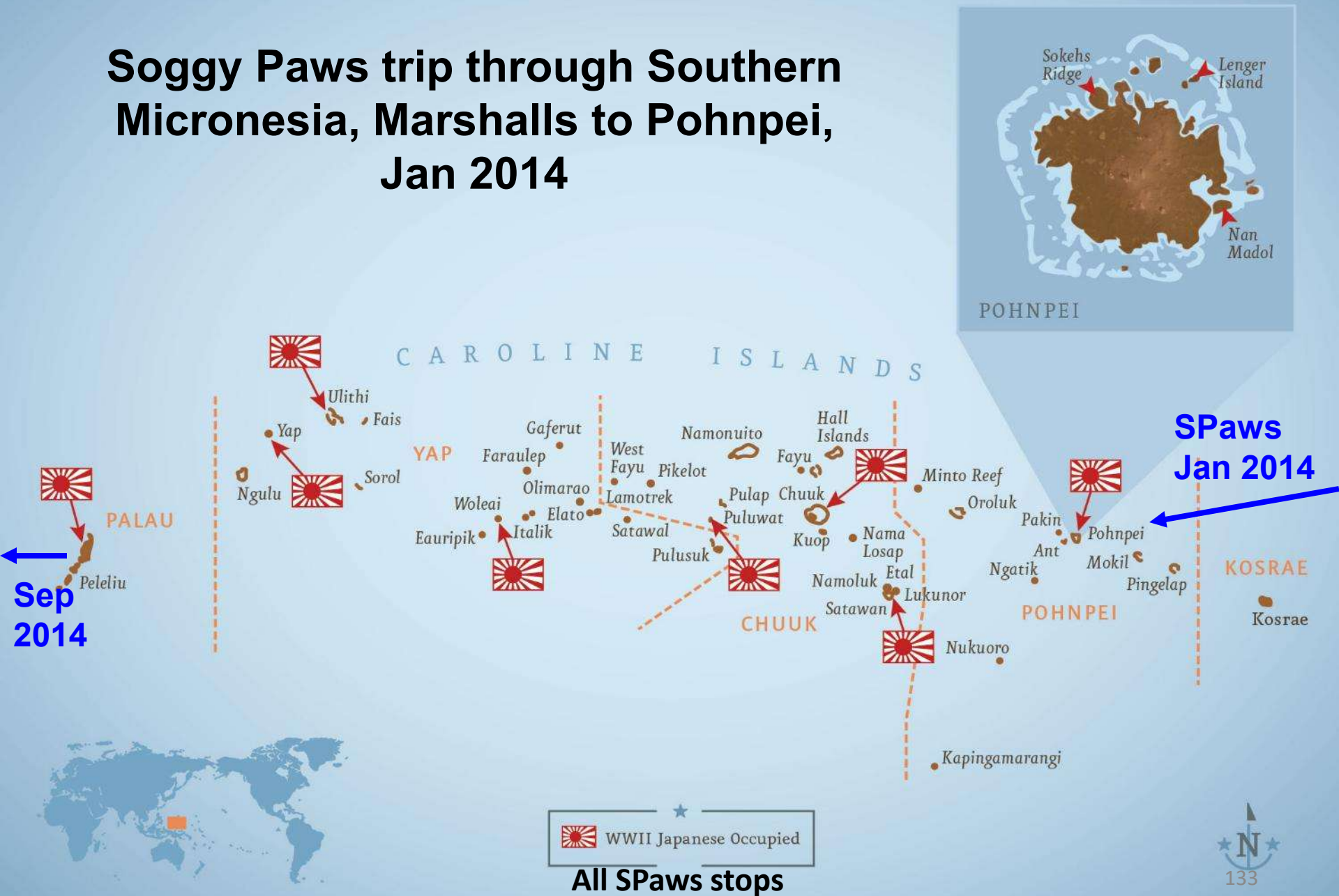
**Pratt & Whitney 900 HP,
R-1830 Twin Wasp, 14
cylinder, TBD engine
with 3 blade prop, no
bent blades, ditched**

**Deep TBD at 120', pilot and bomber's
seats, gun sight, antenna pylon,
possible recovery by NAM, bad idea!**



**DUSTIN
JOHNSTON
PHOTOGRAPHY**

Soggy Paws trip through Southern Micronesia, Marshalls to Pohnpei, Jan 2014



Sokehs Ridge

Town & anchorage

Lenger Island

Six waterfalls hike



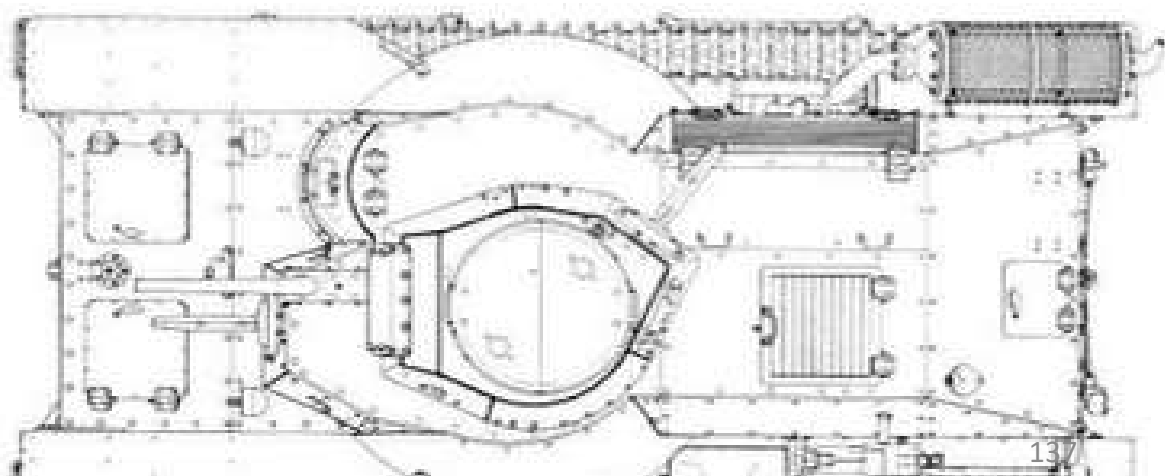
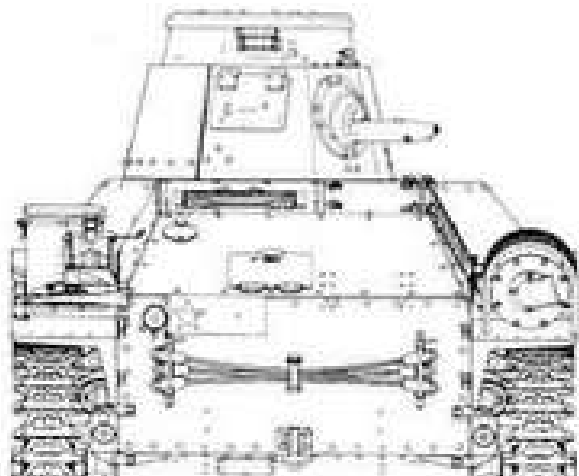
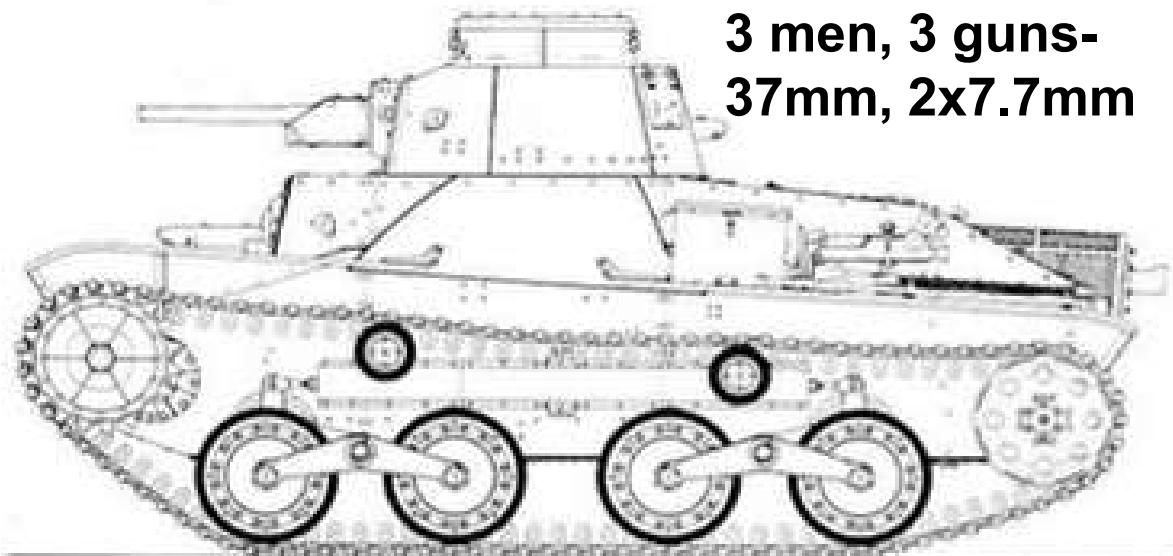
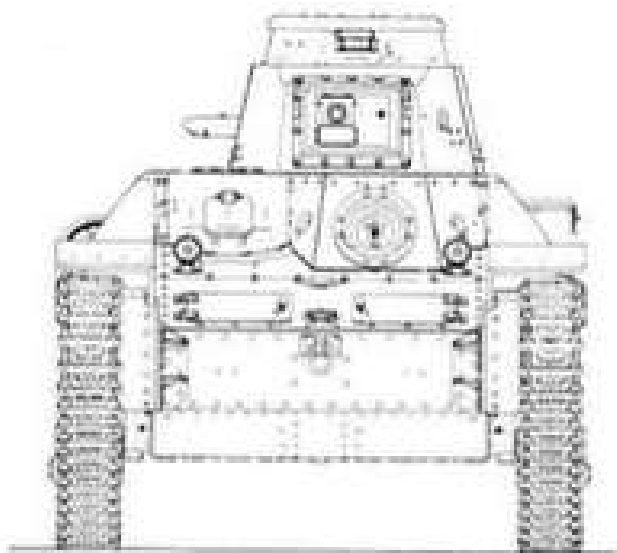
[illegible]



• **'Six Waterfall'**
all day jungle
hike

Pohnpei War Relics

Type A95 Japanese Ha Go Light Tank



Japanese Type A95
3 man light tanks
Nine behind Ace Hdw





**Type A95 3 man
light tanks**

**Japanese Type 94 TeKe
Tankette, 2 man, 3.2 tons,
40 km/h, 7.7mm machine
gun**





Fully restored and
operational 2 man
Type A94 Te Ke
Tankette

Ace Hardware WWII Museum

127mm Shell
Case primer
fm Nauru



JAPANESE 127mm SHELL CASE PRIMER These primers were fitted to the base of the complete 127mm round used in the double-barrel anti-aircraft guns such as those on top of Soke's mountain. The primers were electrically fired which then fired the round. This example was found on Command Ridge in Nauru in 1983.

Japanese
Type 92 hand
grenade fm
Guadalcanal



JAPANESE TYPE 92 HAND GRENADE WW2 relic from the Guadalcanal 1943 Gifu battlefield. This example is fitted with the base propelling charge to allow use as a mortar round. Acquired live from a local native in 1998 and defused for display.

US M1
Pineapple
hand
grenade fm
Tarawa



US ARMY HAND GRENADE WW2 artifact. Recovered on Betio island in 1991 during excavations for concrete footings. The original yellow color is very evident. This grenade is an early pattern with a base plug for filling. The fuse and lever are from the Guadalcanal Hill 53 battlefield area and were recovered in 1998.



JAPANESE AM
Round at the T

Dave & Ace historian/collector
Stan Gajda, since deceased



**Japanese anti-shipping
fortifications & guns**



Sokehs Ridge



**Japanese 127mm/5"
Type 29 Dual
Purpose Naval Gun
in excellent shape**

Lenger Island WWII Japanese fortifications



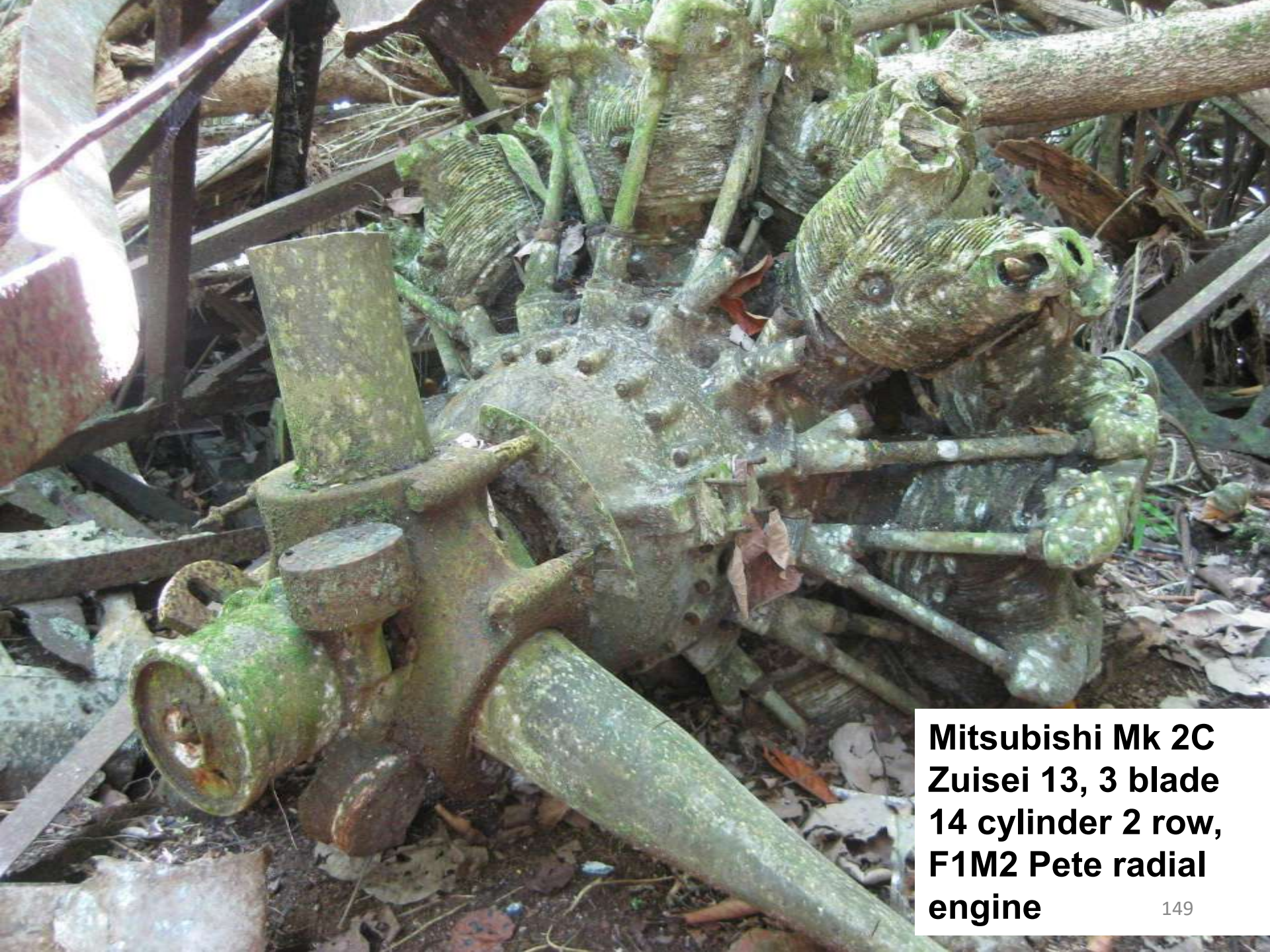
Japanese Mitsubishi Naval F1M2 Pete Observation Float Plane



**2 crew, 875
hp, 230 mph,
31k, 460 mi,
3x7.7mm**

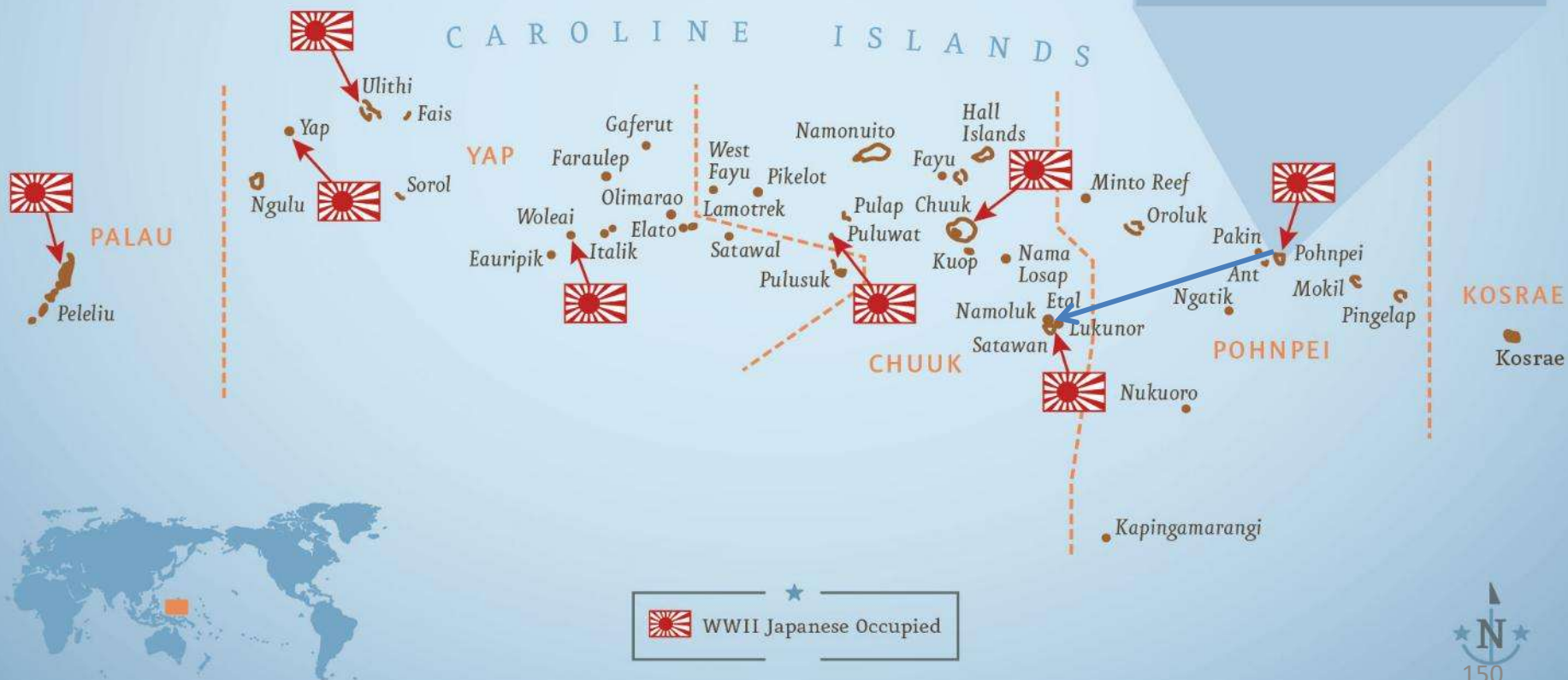


**Center float of F1M2 Pete Floatplane
in collapsed hangar**



**Mitsubishi Mk 2C
Zuisei 13, 3 blade
14 cylinder 2 row,
F1M2 Pete radial
engine**

Soggy Paws Pohnpei to Mortlocks Feb 2014



Mortlock Atolls



Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

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**School teacher Selena, her kids,
and Peace Corps volunteers
Mariel & Karinia on Lukunor**



Satawan Island, WWII airfield, 1 day visit

Guns,
cemetery

Planes

SPaws

Tanks,
A6M,
guns

Guns

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe

Google

153

eye alt 110

2006

Imagery Date: 3/26/2009

5° 19.685' N 153° 43.007' E elev -10 ft

Mitsubishi A6M Japanese Zero Fighter



One pilot, 1100hp, 350 mph,
38k', 1200 nm, 2x20 mm, 2x7.7
mm guns, bombs, 10499 ea

Early A6M5
Zero Fighter,
ser # 4007, in
front yard





**Japanese Type 95 Ha Go
3 man Light Tanks**



Well preserved Type
95 Ha Go Light Tank

**Sherry with
Japanese crashed
G4M2 Mitsubishi
Kasei 22, 14
cylinder 1825HP
water-methanol
injected late model
engine**



Nakajima B6N Jill Carrier Torpedo Bomber



B6N1 Model 11 nr Ri-371 z Hyakurigahara Kokutai.

B6N1 Model 11 Ri-371 from Hyakurigahara Kokutai.

Zygmunt Szreniela

Different engines



B6N2 Model 12 nr 131-01 z 131. Kokutai, 1945 rok.

B6N2 Model 12 131-01 from 131 Kokutai, 1945.

Zygmunt Szreniela

3 crew, ~1800 hp, 300 mph, 30k, 1890 mi, 2x7.7 mm guns, bombs/torpedo

Plansza barwna na pierwszej stronie okładki: B6N2 Model 12 nr Ko-B6-11, używany do celów doświadczalnych w Dai-Ichi Kaigun Koku Gijutsusho.

Color side view on the first page of cover: B6N2 Model 12 Ko-B6-11, used for testing by Dai-Ichi Kaigun Koku Gijutsusho.



**Probably Nakajima
B6N2 Jill in the bush,
3 seats, front canopy**

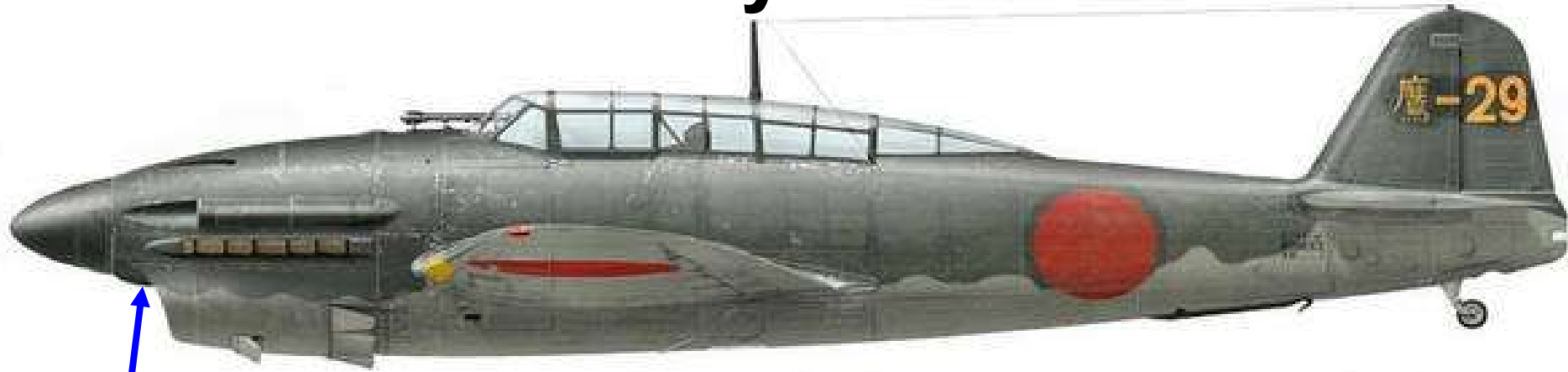
B6N2
cockpit
canopy
front wind
screen





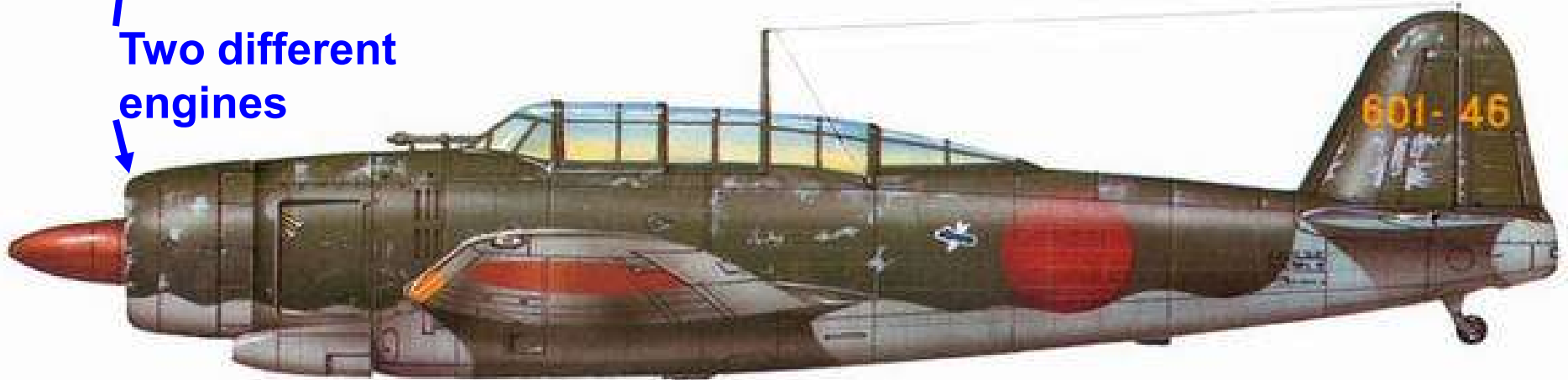
B6N2
Mitsubishi
Kasei 25, 14
cylinder,
1850HP, 4
blade engine

Yokosuka D4Y Judy Dive Bombers



Yokosuka D4Y1-C Suisai Type 2 Model 11 of the 523rd kokutai '*Taka Butai*', Peleliu Island, Western Caroline Islands, September 1944. '*Taka Butai*' means 'Eagle Group' by literal translation.

Two different
engines



Yokosuka D4Y3 Type 2 Model 33 of Kougeki (Attack) 1st Hikotai, 601st kokutai, Hyakurihara Naval Air Base, Ibaraki Prefecture, August 1945.

Two crew, 1400 hp, 340 mph, 33k, 980 mi,
3x7.7 mm guns, bombs



**Yokosuka D4Y1 Judy
dive bomber cockpit**

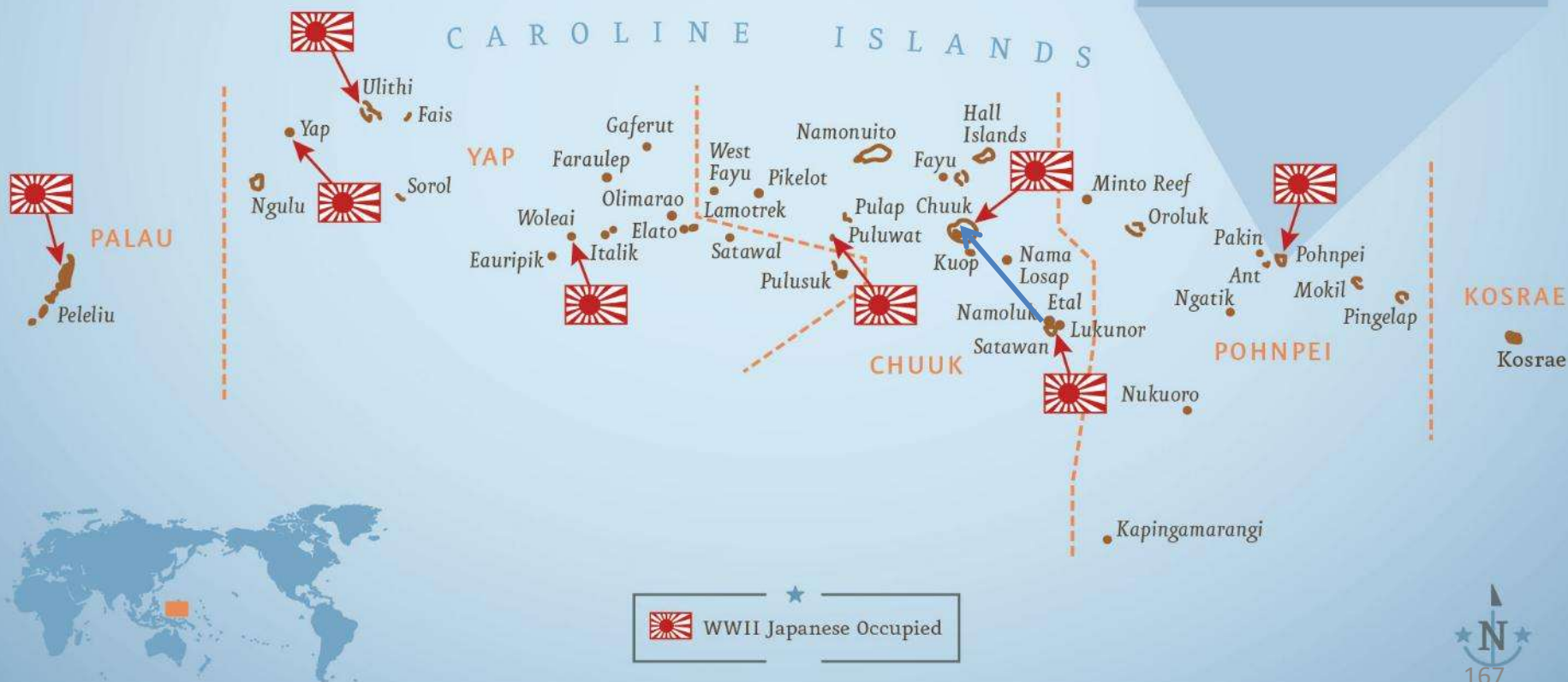


**D4Y1 Aichi
Atsuta, (German
licensed) liquid
cooled, inverted
V-12 engine,
1200HP, 3 blade
prop**



**D4Y1 inverted V-12
cylinder engine with
bent prop**

Soggy Paws Mortlocks to Chuuk March 2014



Chuuk/Truk

Atoll with huge
WWII Japanese
naval base



Truk Lagoon- 60 IJN ships sunk Feb 44



Ship
Wrecks

Hospital

Dublon

Ship
wrecks

Docks

AF

Eten

Ship
wrecks

Fefan

Parem

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Image © 2014 CNES / Astrium

Google

Imagery Date: 3/24/2014

7° 26.677' N 151° 49.860' E elev

0 ft

169

eye alt 15.4

side

**Dublon Isl anchorage
Operation Hailstone
16 Feb 44**

**Credit
NARA**



WWII Japanese radio and comms building- “Tora, Tora, Tora”, now Xavier High School

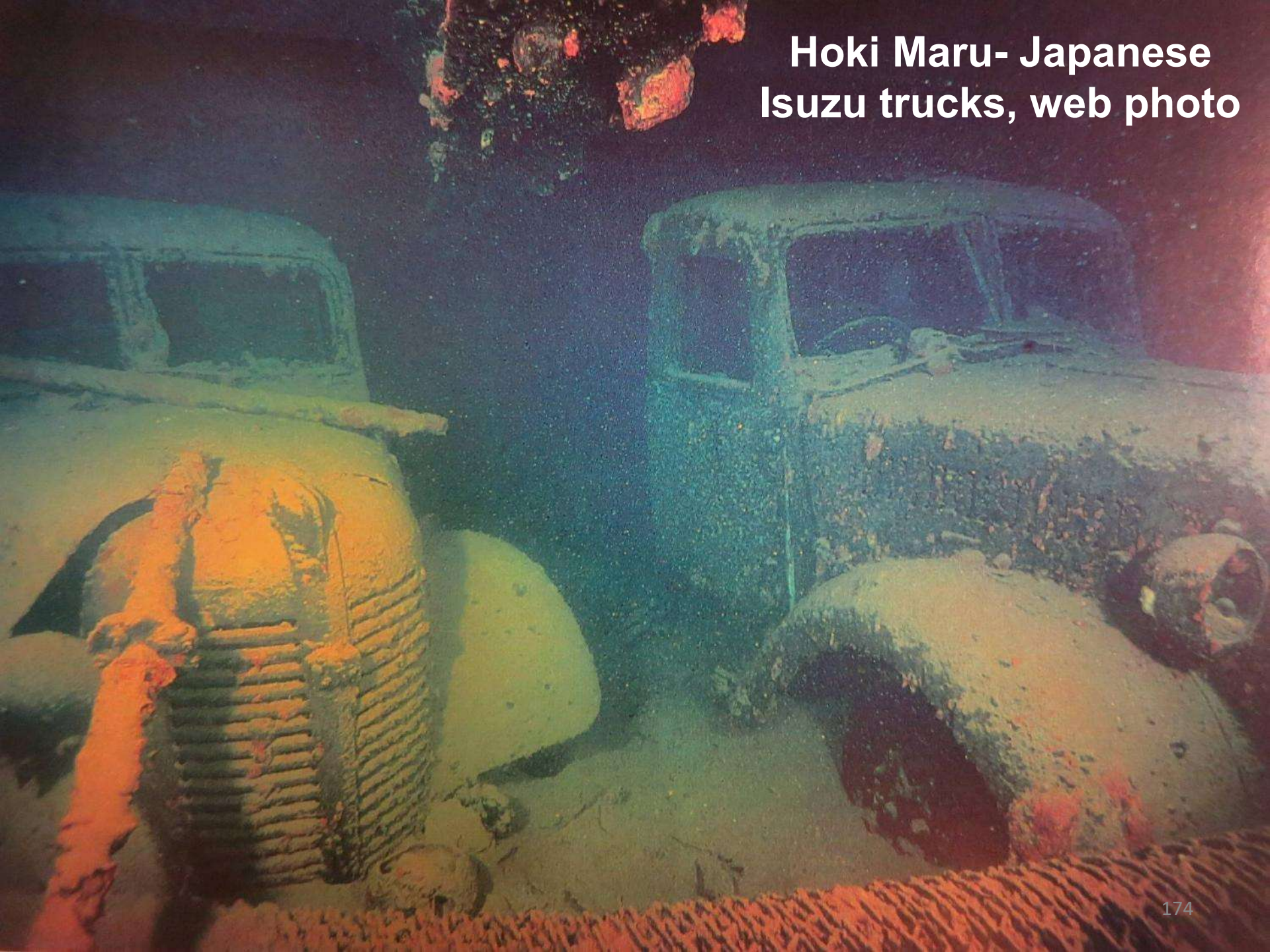


**Day tour- Dublon/Tonowas Isl,
Japanese fueling dock, collapsed
crane, infamous hospital**

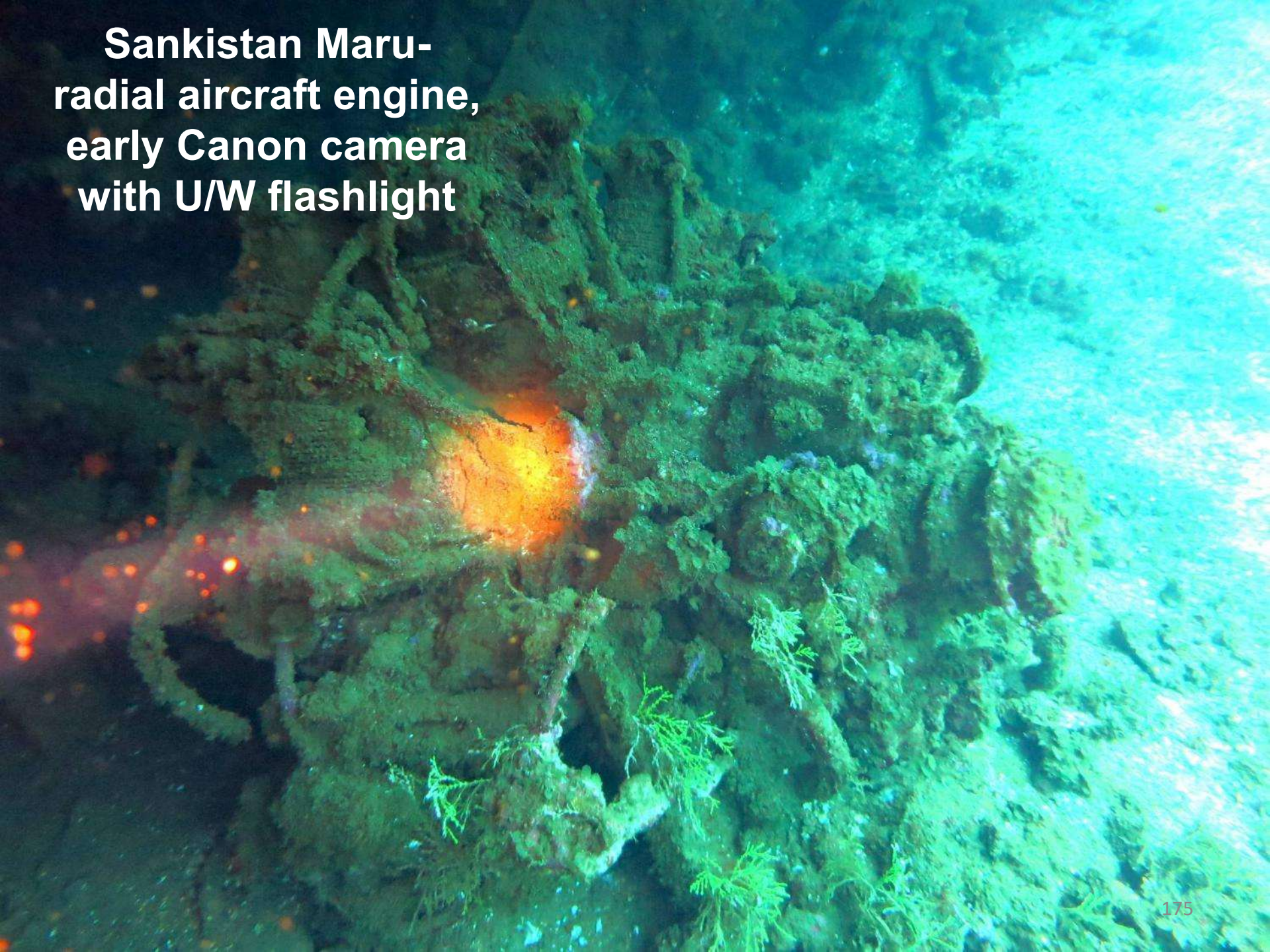
**Kansho Maru-
bicycles, web photo**

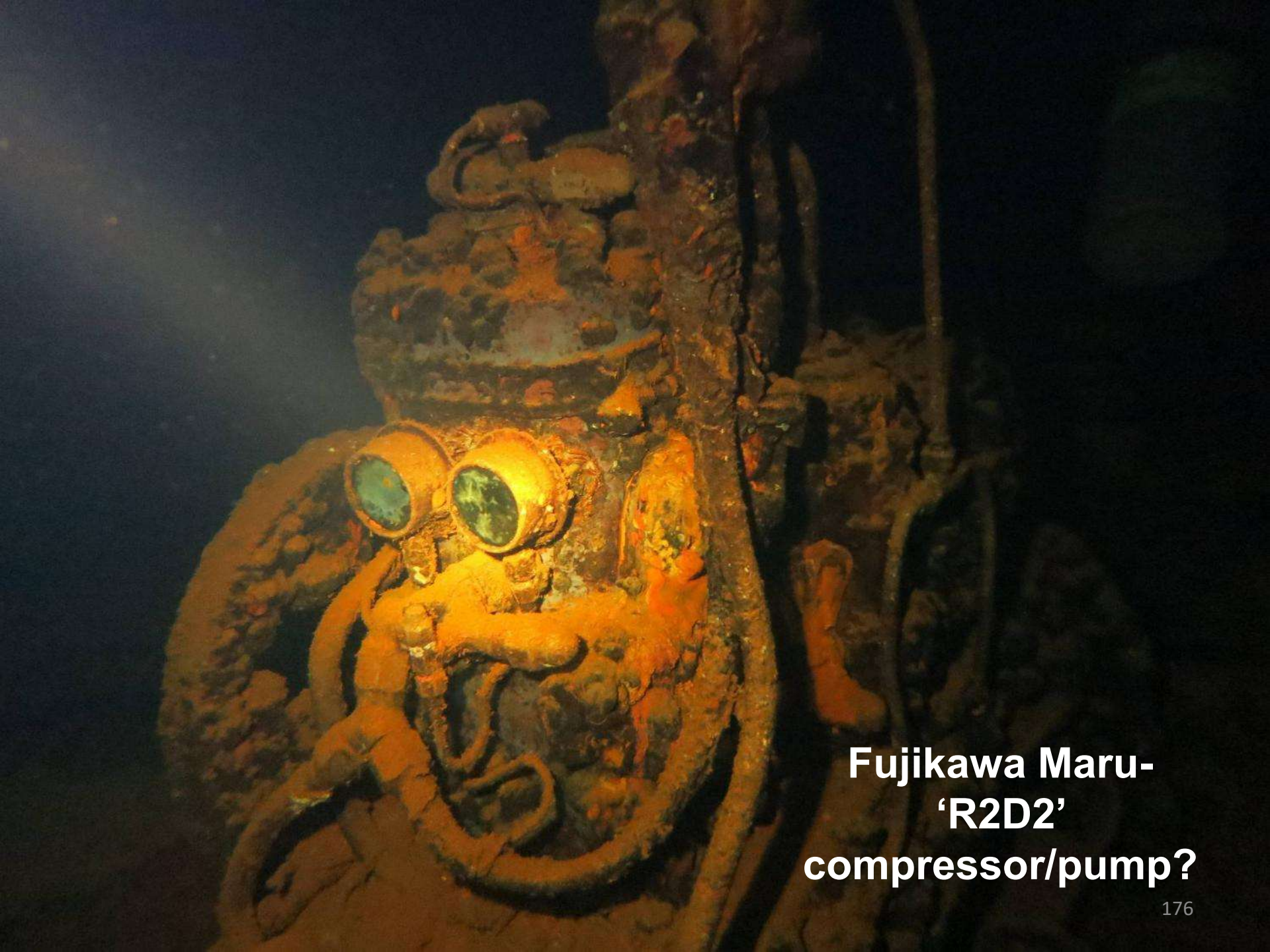


**Hoki Maru- Japanese
Isuzu trucks, web photo**



**Sankistan Maru-
radial aircraft engine,
early Canon camera
with U/W flashlight**





**Fujikawa Maru-
'R2D2'
compressor/pump?**

Mitsubishi A5M Claude Fighter

Single pilot, 280 mph, 30K,
650nm, 2x7.7 mm guns,
bombs, fixed landing gear

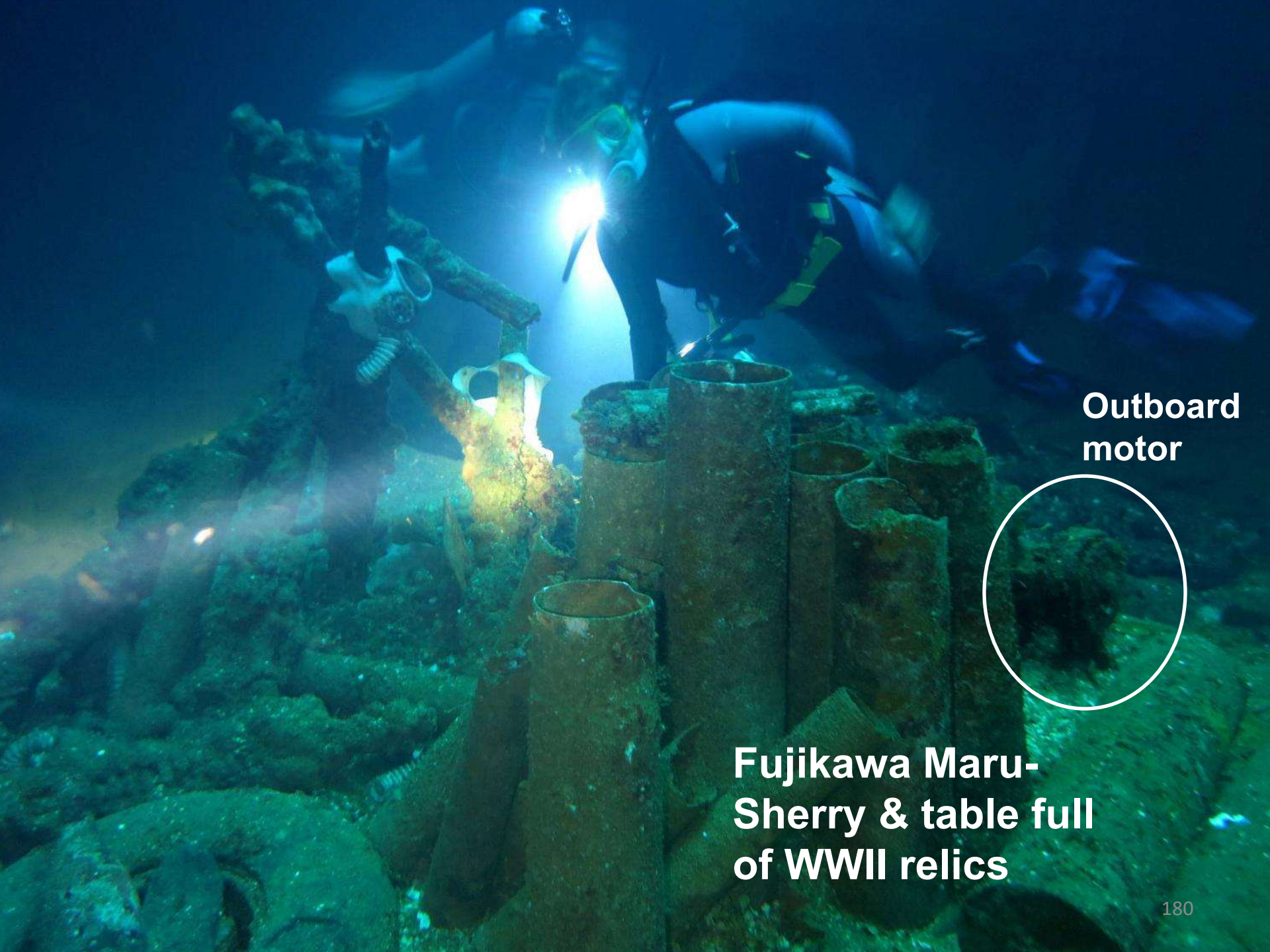




**Fujikawa Maru- Mitsubishi
Type 96 A5M4 Claude
fighter cockpit, last known
example in existence!**

Fujikawa Maru- spare propeller blades





**Outboard
motor**

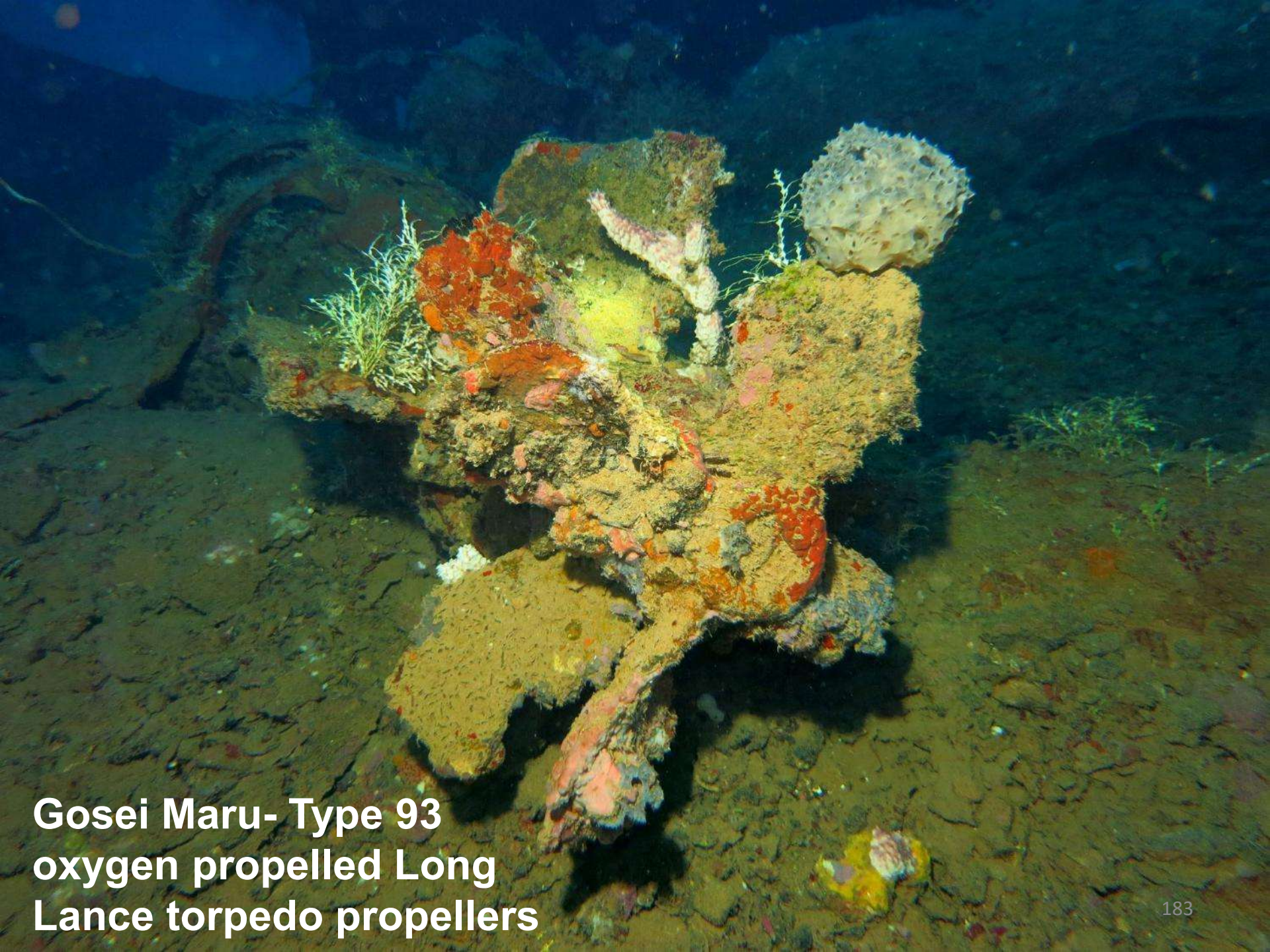
**Fujikawa Maru-
Sherry & table full
of WWII relics**



**Fujikawa Maru-
Nambu .30 cal/7.62mm
infantry machine gun,
shells, & gas masks**



**Nippo Maru-
Sherry & Type 1 (1941)
47mm anti-tank gun**



**Gosei Maru- Type 93
oxygen propelled Long
Lance torpedo propellers**

**Japanese Type 94 TeKe
Tankette, 2 man, 3.2 tons,
40 km/h, 7.7mm machine
gun**

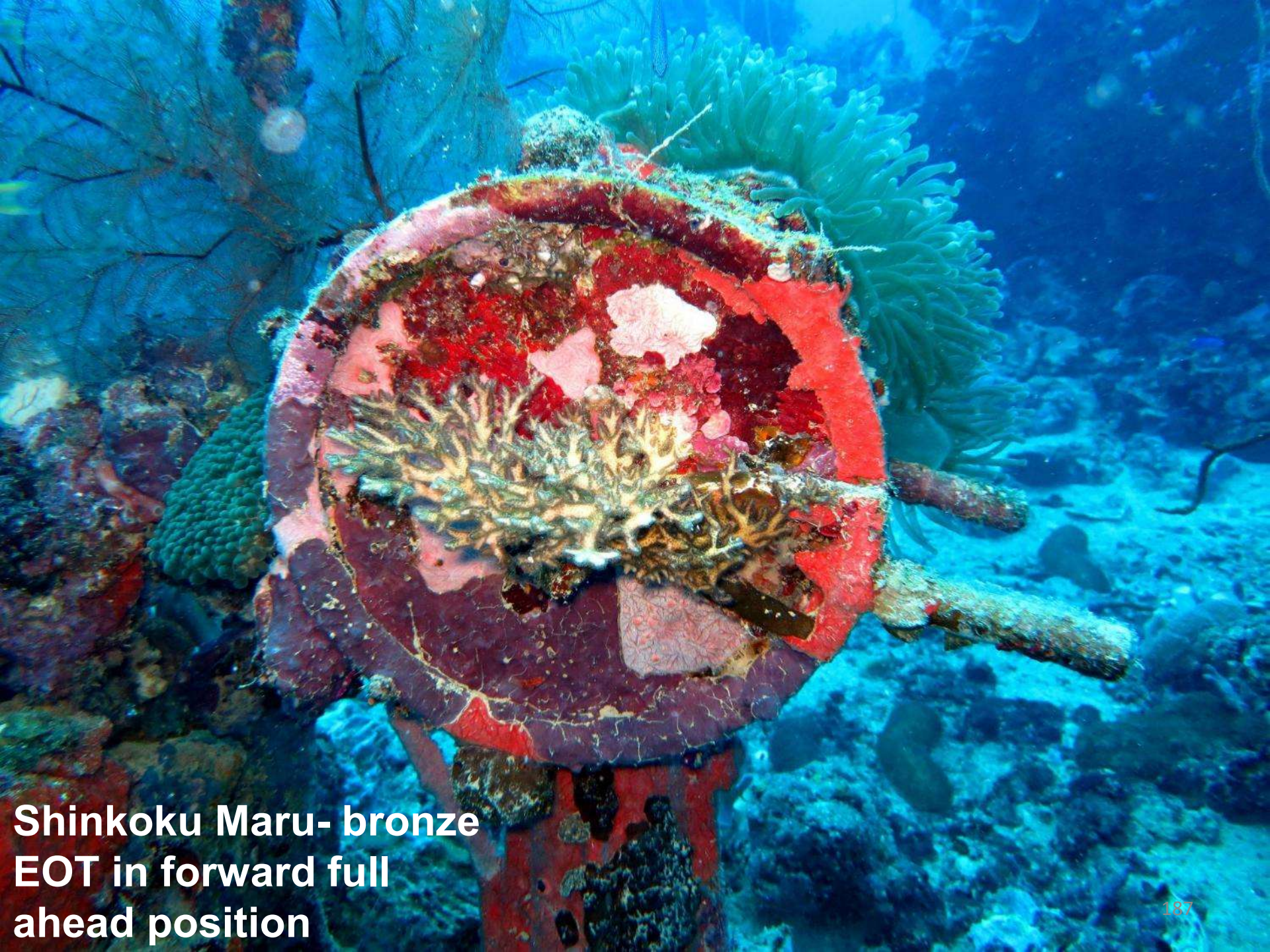


**Nippo Maru-
Sherry &
Type 94 TeKe
Tankette**



**Nippo Maru-
binnacle, helm & EOT,
note wood on wheel
missing**





**Shinkoku Maru- bronze
EOT in forward full
ahead position**

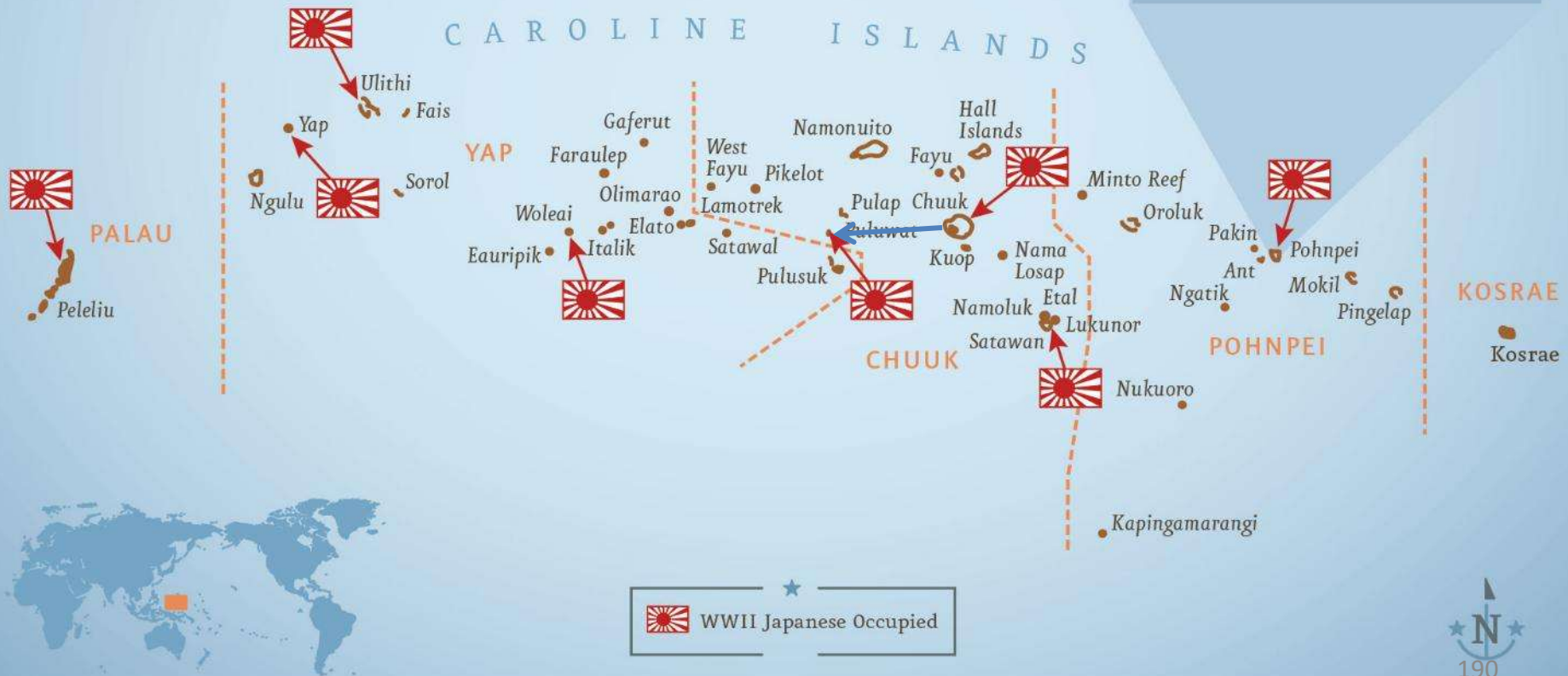


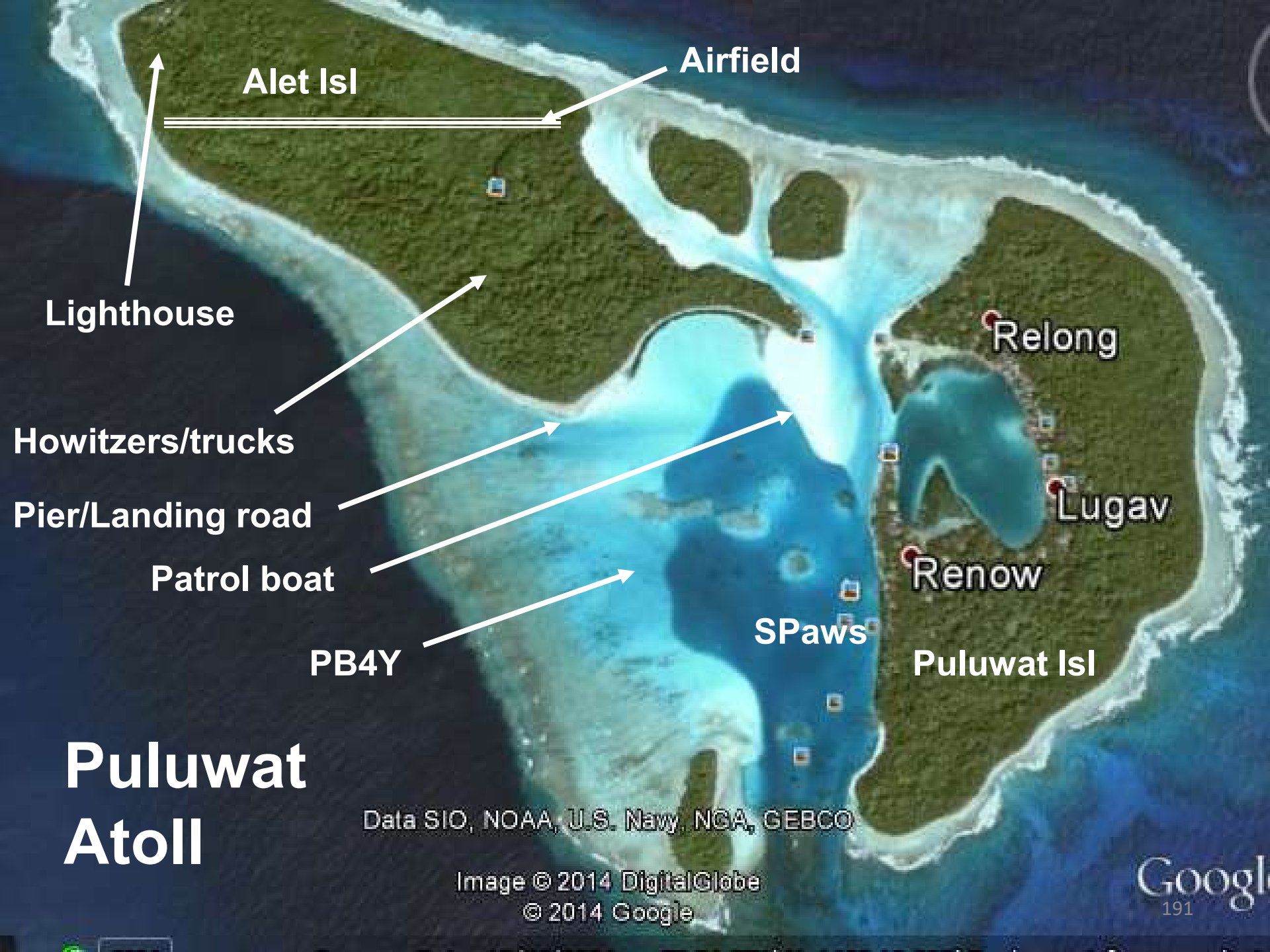
**Kawanishi H8K Emily
Flying Boat, probably
sunk at mooring**

**Sherry at Kawanishi H8K Emily
Mitsubishi Kasei 22 engine**



Soggy Paws Chuuk to Puluwat April 2014





Alet Isl

Airfield

Lighthouse

Howitzers/trucks

Pier/Landing road

Patrol boat

PB4Y

Relong

Lugav

Renow

SPaws

Puluwat Isl

Puluwat
Atoll

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe
© 2014 Google

Google
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**Local kids fishing &
sailing in traditional boat
in Puluwat Lagoon**



**Local girls visiting
Soggy Paws to trade**



**Unfinished lighthouse
on N end of Alet Island,
Truk & Palau in line**

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a tall, cylindrical lighthouse tower. The tower's surface is a mix of reddish-brown and light tan, showing significant weathering and damage. Numerous dark, irregular bullet holes of varying sizes are scattered across the tower's exterior. The tower is surrounded by lush green foliage, including ferns and other tropical plants, which frame the central structure. The sky is visible through the canopy of trees at the top of the frame.

**Lighthouse
tower with
strafing
bullet holes**



**Huge Coconut Crab
climbing lighthouse wall**

Japanese airfield
construction roller
tractor left in bush,
note bottle





Japanese fuel tank trailer in jungle & one of my local guides

Japanese early Type 91, 105mm lightweight Howitzer, same as on Puluwat, early model





**Japanese Type 91
105mm Howitzer
guns, early wood
spoked wheel
models, local
guide**

A photograph of a Japanese Type 91 105 mm Howitzer gun in a jungle setting. The gun is mounted on a large, cylindrical, rusted metal base. It has two long, parallel barrels extending upwards and to the left. The surrounding environment is a dense tropical forest with many green plants, ferns, and trees. The ground is covered with dry leaves and twigs. The gun appears to be in a state of disrepair or abandonment.

**Japanese Type 91 105
mm Howitzer gun, late
model pneumatic tires**

Consolidated PB4Y-2 Privateer USN Heavy Bomber



11 crew, 300 mph, 2820 mi, 21k,
12x50 cal, bombs, mines,
torpedoes, similar to B-24, but
single tail

Pacific Wrecks page on Puluwat PB4Y-2



ENHANCED BY Google

Missing In Action (MIA) **Prisoners Of War (POW)** **Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)**
Chronology **Locations** **Aircraft** **Ships** **Submit Info** **How You Can Help** **Donate**

PB4Y-1 *Liberator* Bureau Number 32222

[USN](#)
VB-115

Pilot Lt. William R. Doerr, 99839 (KIA, BR) Chicago, IL
Co-Pilot Captain Bernard L. Johnson, 3283745 (KIA, BR) MN
Navigator Ensign Harold E. Barrett, 299685 (KIA, BR) La Crosse, WI
Radio Aviation Radioman 2nd Class Robert F. Holman, 3008355 (KIA, BR) MI
Engineer Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class John J. Marrapodi, 6466163 (KIA, BR)
Assistant Radio Aviation Radioman 3rd Class Rocco C. Capobianco, 6423652 (KIA, BR) Hartford, CT
Assistant Engineer Aviation Machinist's Mate 3rd Class John W. Megginson, Jr., 7225312 (KIA, BR)
1st Ordnanceman Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Reno A. Chiste, 3722455 (KIA, BR) WY
2nd Ordnanceman Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Thomas F. Reed, 3120902 (KIA, BR)
Gunner Seaman 1st Class Steve C. Burkhart, Jr., 8391532 (KIA, BR) Hopkins County, TX
Observer Staff Sergeant Russell E. Hill, 37213907 USAAF (KIA, BR)
Crashed [April 22, 1944](#)



PB4Y-1



MIA
11 Missing
Resolved

Aircraft History

Built by Consolidated Aircraft Corporation at [San Diego](#) as Model 32. Constructors Number 2979. Assigned to the U.S. Army Air Force (USAAF) as B-24J-40-CO Liberator serial number 42-73409. Delivered to the U.S. Navy (USN) as PB4Y-1 Liberator bureau number 32222.

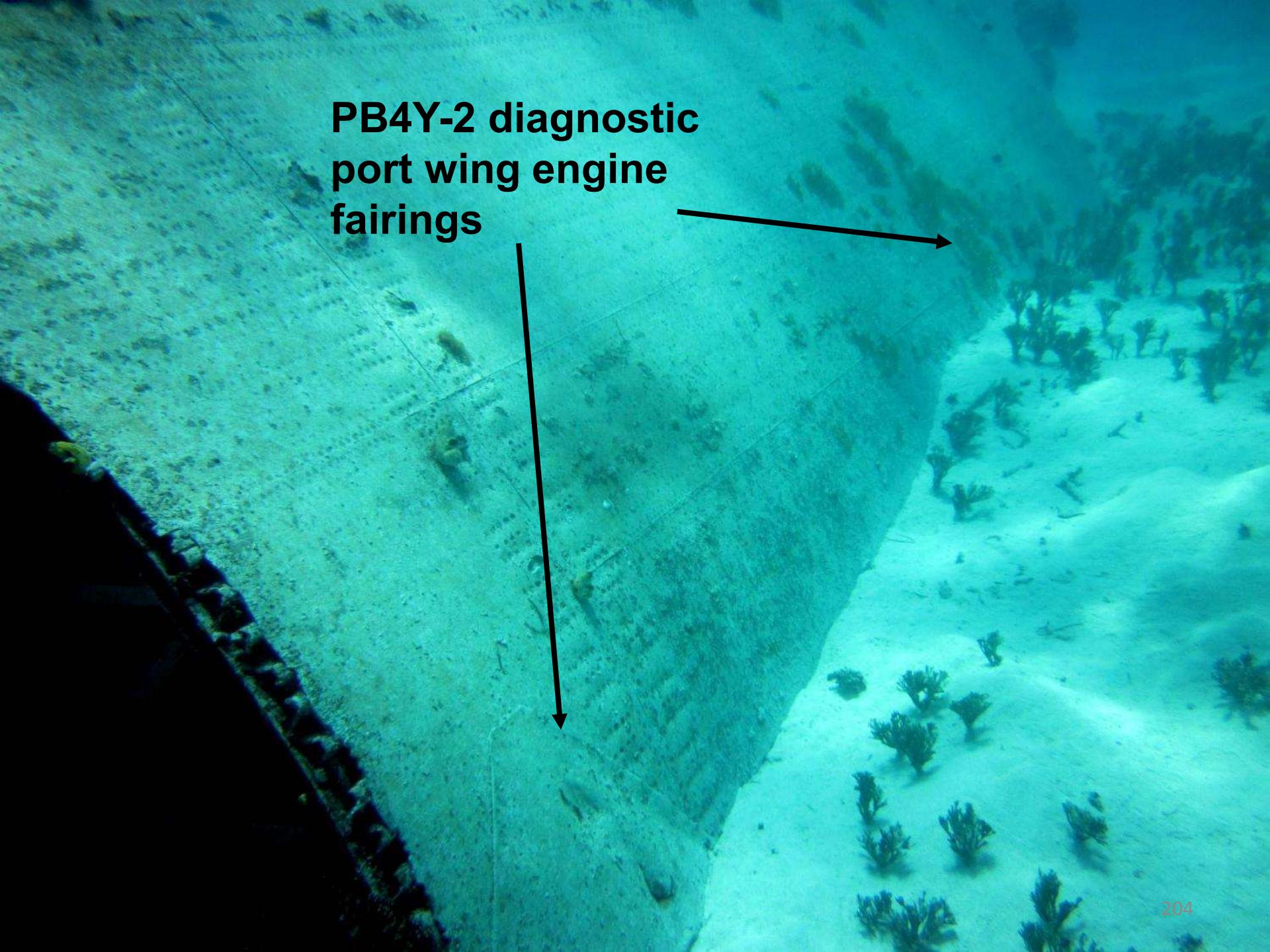
Wartime History

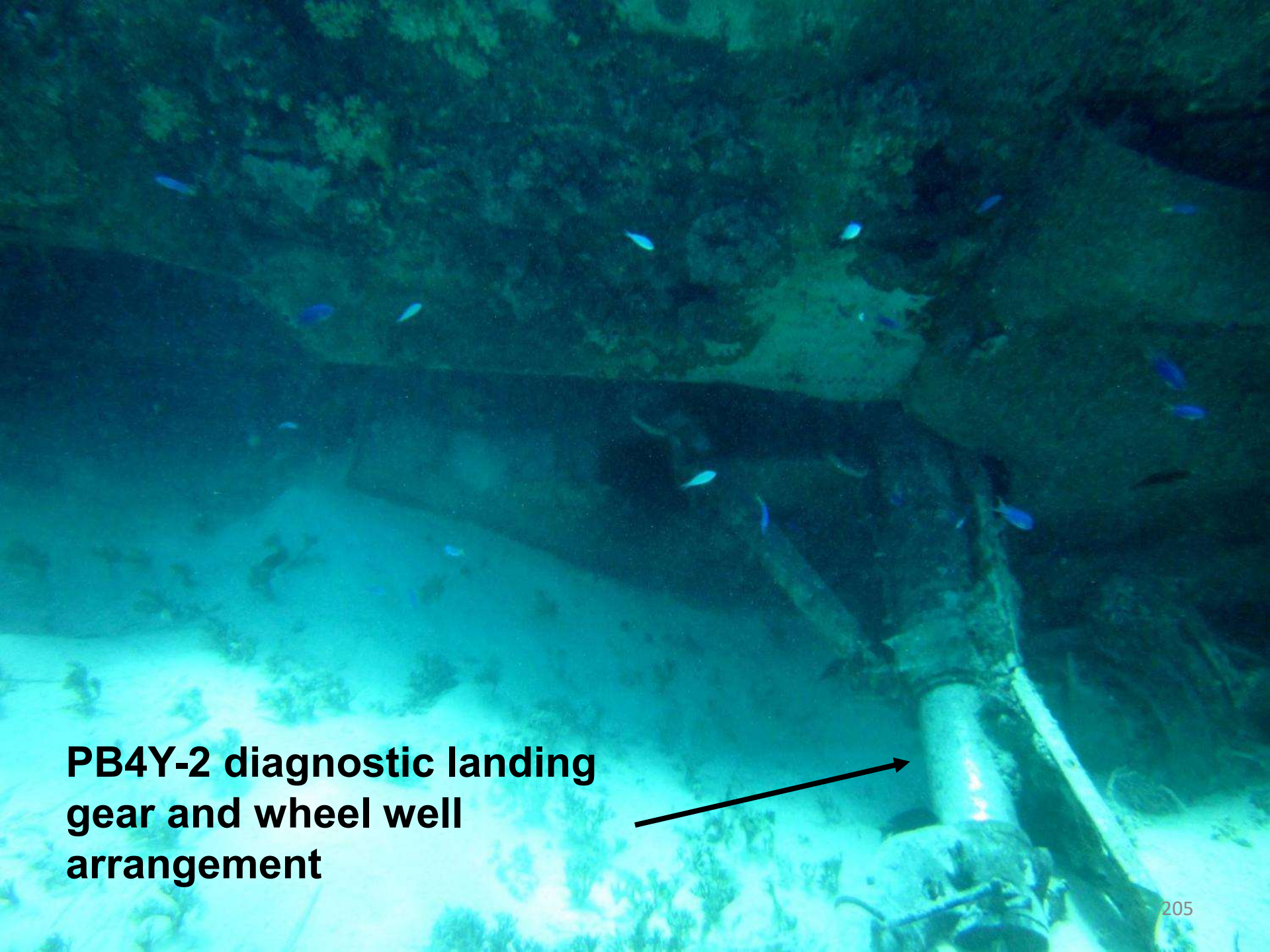
Assigned to Bombing Squadron 115 (VB-115). No known nickname or nose art.

Mission History

On [April 22, 1944](#) took off from [Nissan Airfield \(Green\)](#) on a patrol over [Puluwat Atoll \(Polowat\)](#). Aboard as a weather observer was U.S. Army Air Force (USAAF) Staff Sergeant Russell E. Hill, 37213907. When this bomber failed to return it was officially listed as Missing In Action (MIA).

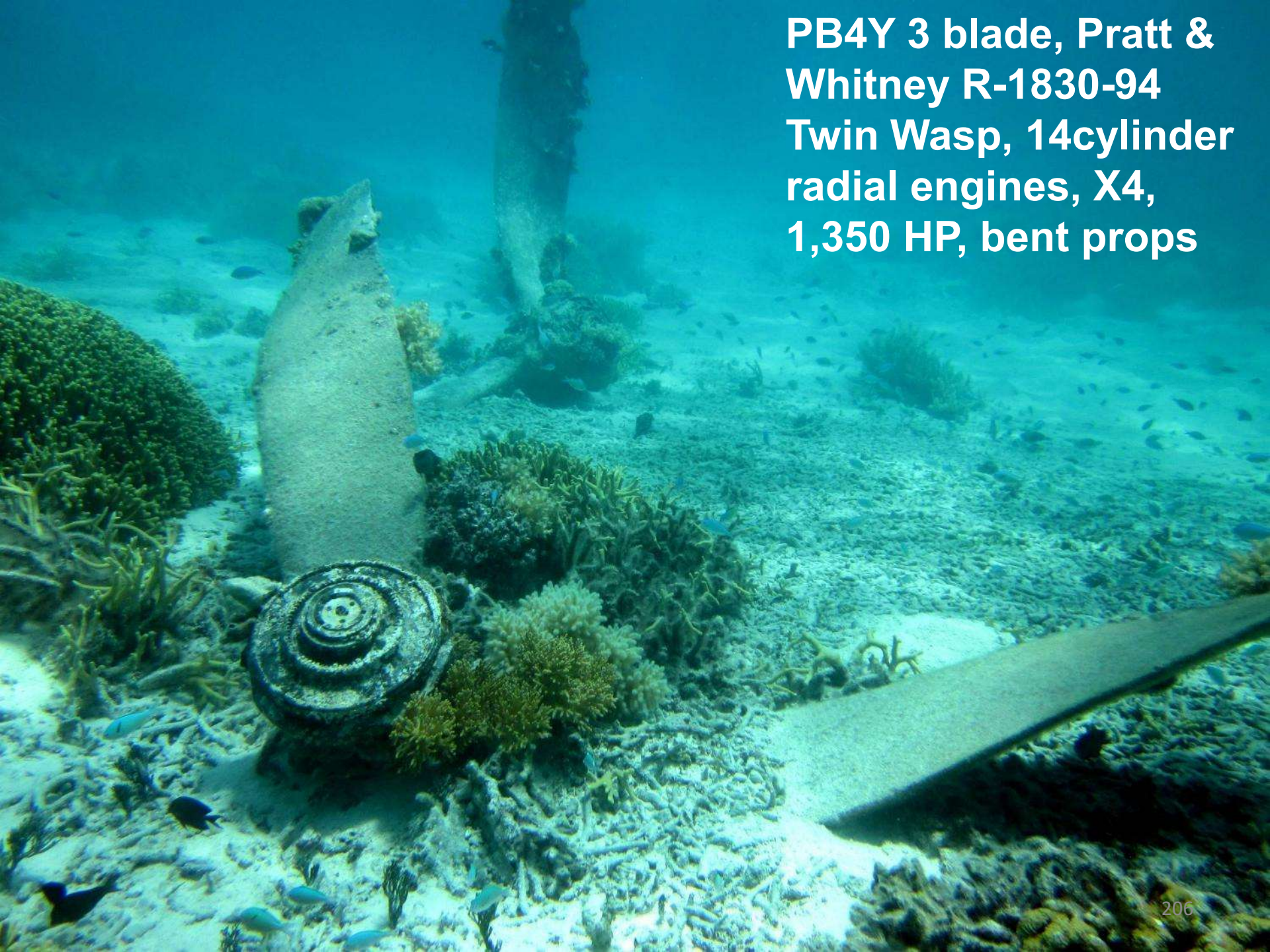
**PB4Y-2 diagnostic
port wing engine
fairings**



An underwater photograph showing the underside of a PB4Y-2 aircraft. The image captures the landing gear and wheel well arrangement. The aircraft's fuselage is visible at the top, with various mechanical components and structural elements. The water is dark blue, and several small, light-colored fish are swimming around the aircraft. A black arrow points from the text to the landing gear assembly.

**PB4Y-2 diagnostic landing
gear and wheel well
arrangement**

**PB4Y 3 blade, Pratt &
Whitney R-1830-94
Twin Wasp, 14cylinder
radial engines, X4,
1,350 HP, bent props**



PB4Y Cockpit

16.JPG (1544 x 1024 = 1.58 MP , 930 KB) [5 / 15] - 55%

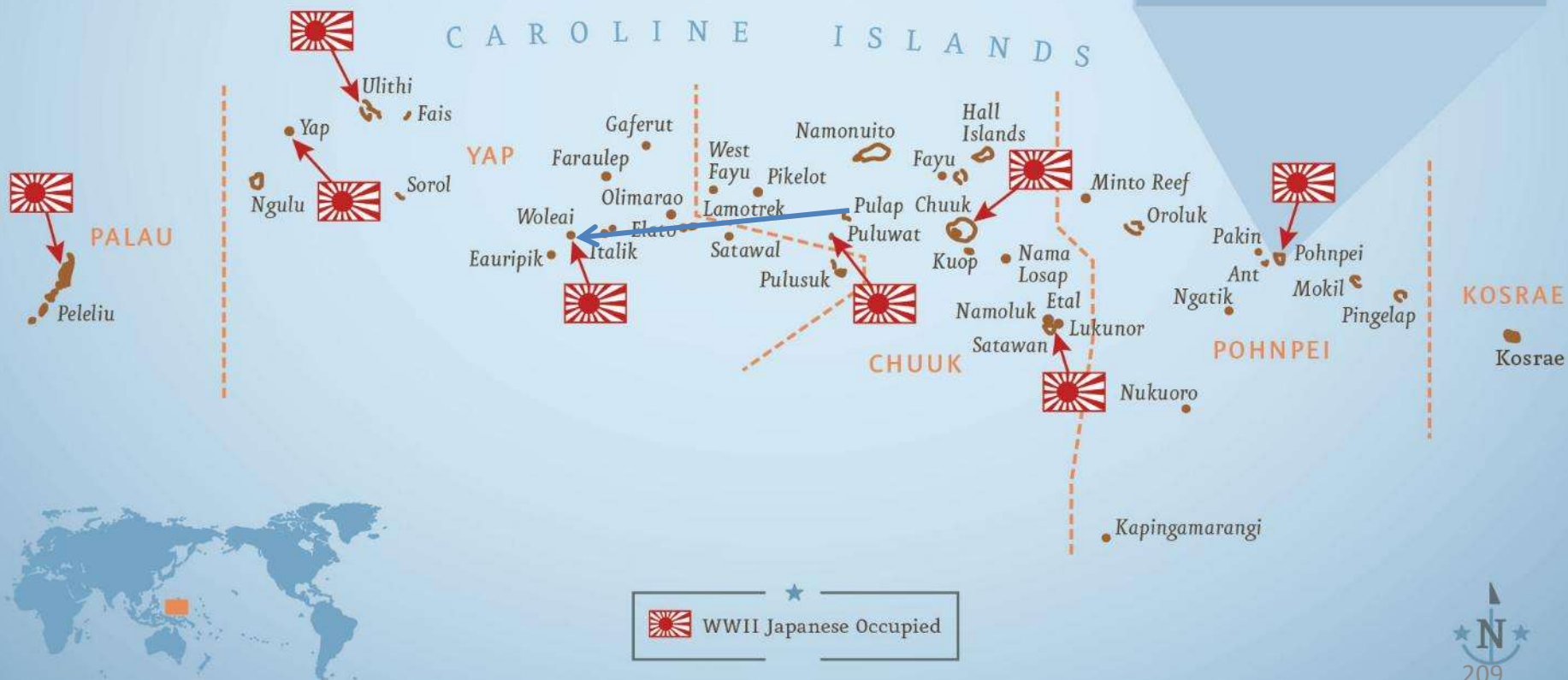


Credit Stan Gajda

**Remains of Japanese patrol
craft in Puluwat Lagoon,
probably local worker transport**



Soggy Paws Puluwat to Woleai April 2014





Airfield

School

Torpedoes

Shore
Guns

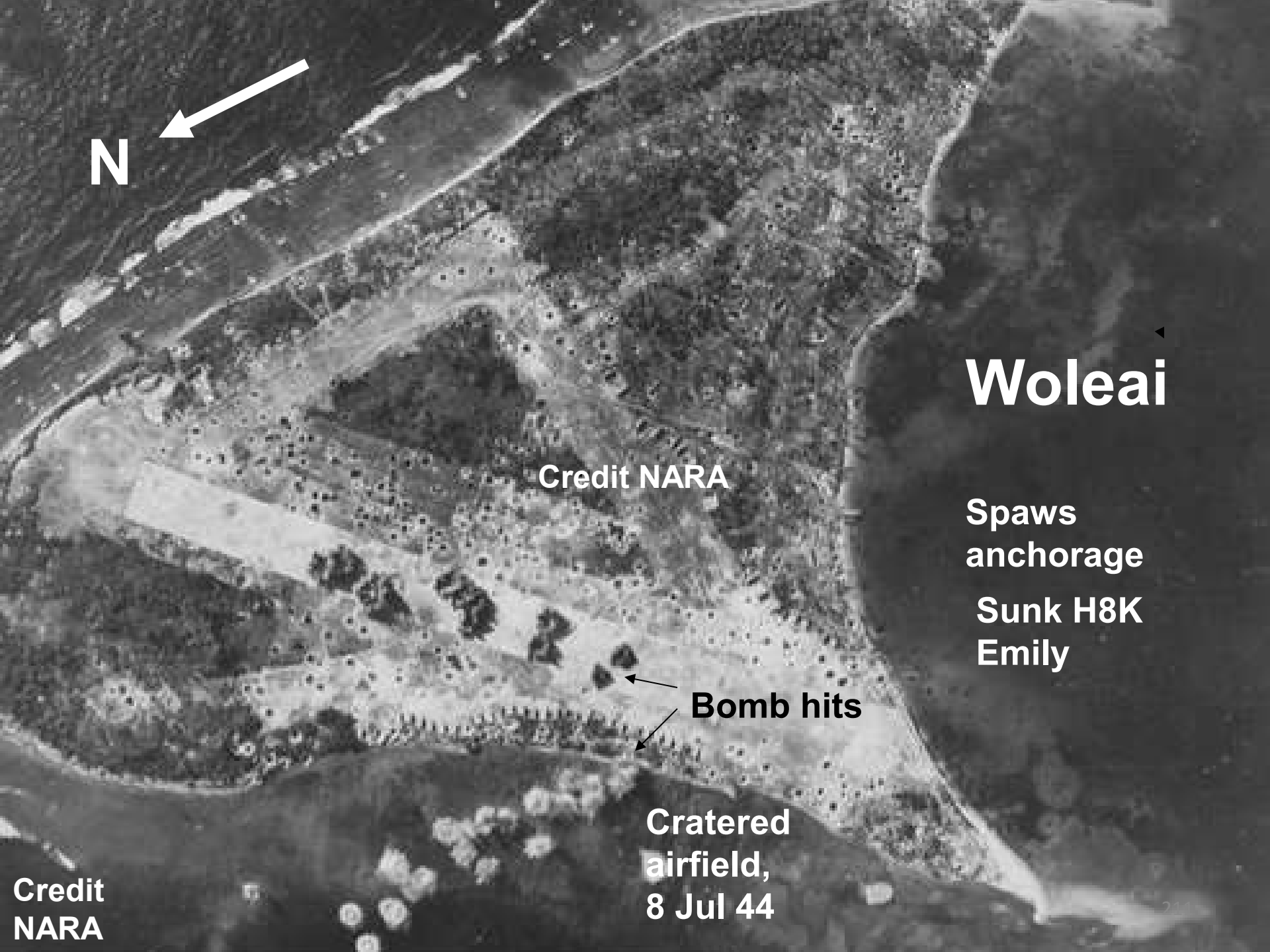
Spaws
Anchorage
& Emily

3 Villages

Woleai

East Woleai
Atoll

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe



N

This is a black and white aerial photograph of Woleai Island. The island is roughly rectangular with a coastline visible on the right and bottom. The interior is covered in dense vegetation, with numerous small, dark, circular marks scattered across it, indicating bomb hits. A large, light-colored, rectangular area in the lower-left quadrant is identified as a cratered airfield. A white arrow in the top-left corner points towards the top-left, labeled with a large 'N'. On the right side, the name 'Woleai' is written in large, bold, white letters. Below it, the text 'Spaws anchorage' and 'Sunk H8K Emily' is written in smaller white letters. In the center, the text 'Credit NARA' is written in white. In the lower-right, the text 'Bomb hits' is written in black with two arrows pointing to specific dark spots. At the bottom, the text 'Cratered airfield, 8 Jul 44' is written in white. In the bottom-left corner, the text 'Credit NARA' is written in white.

Woleai

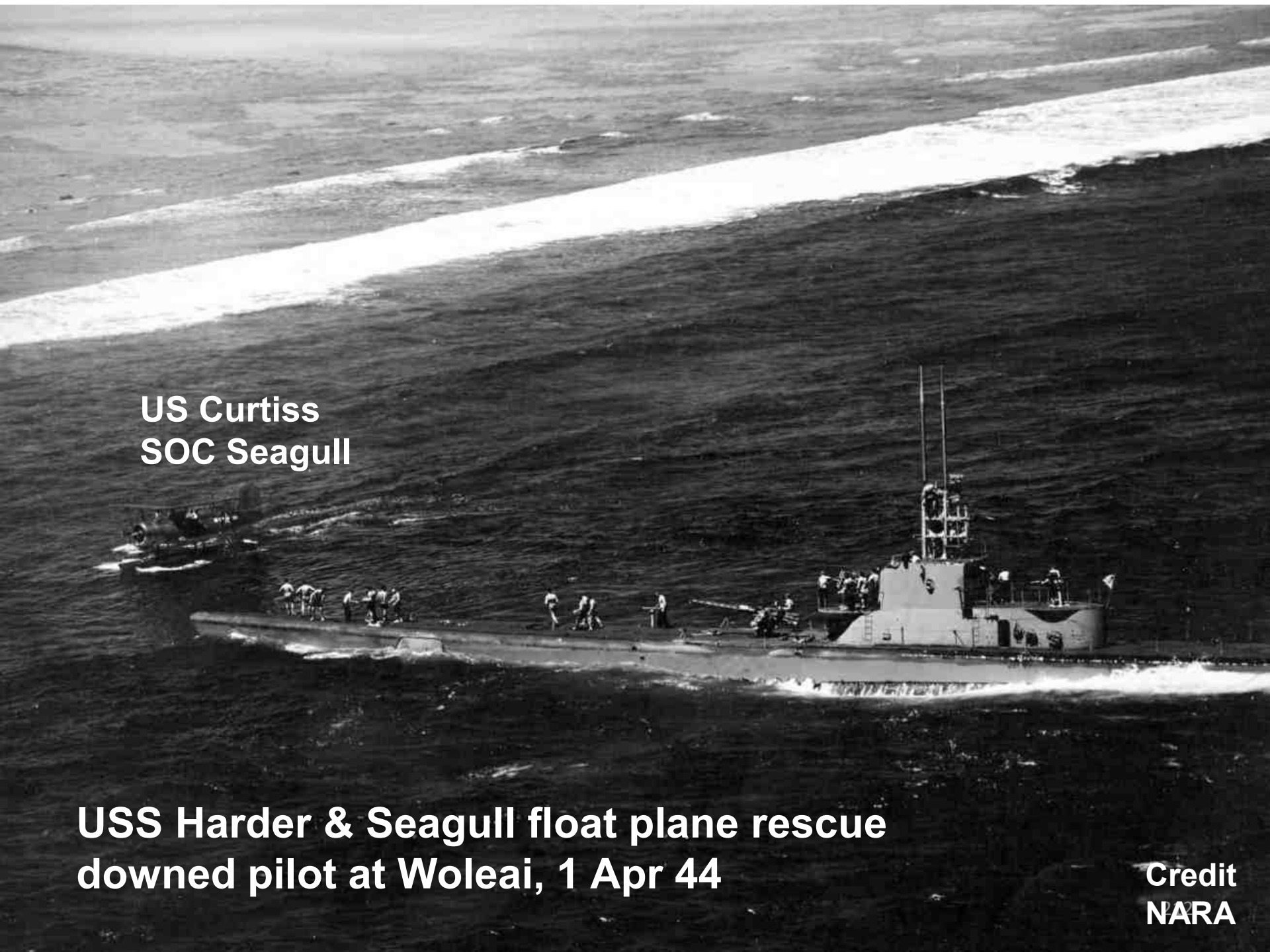
Credit NARA

Spaws
anchorage
Sunk H8K
Emily

Bomb hits

Cratered
airfield,
8 Jul 44

Credit
NARA

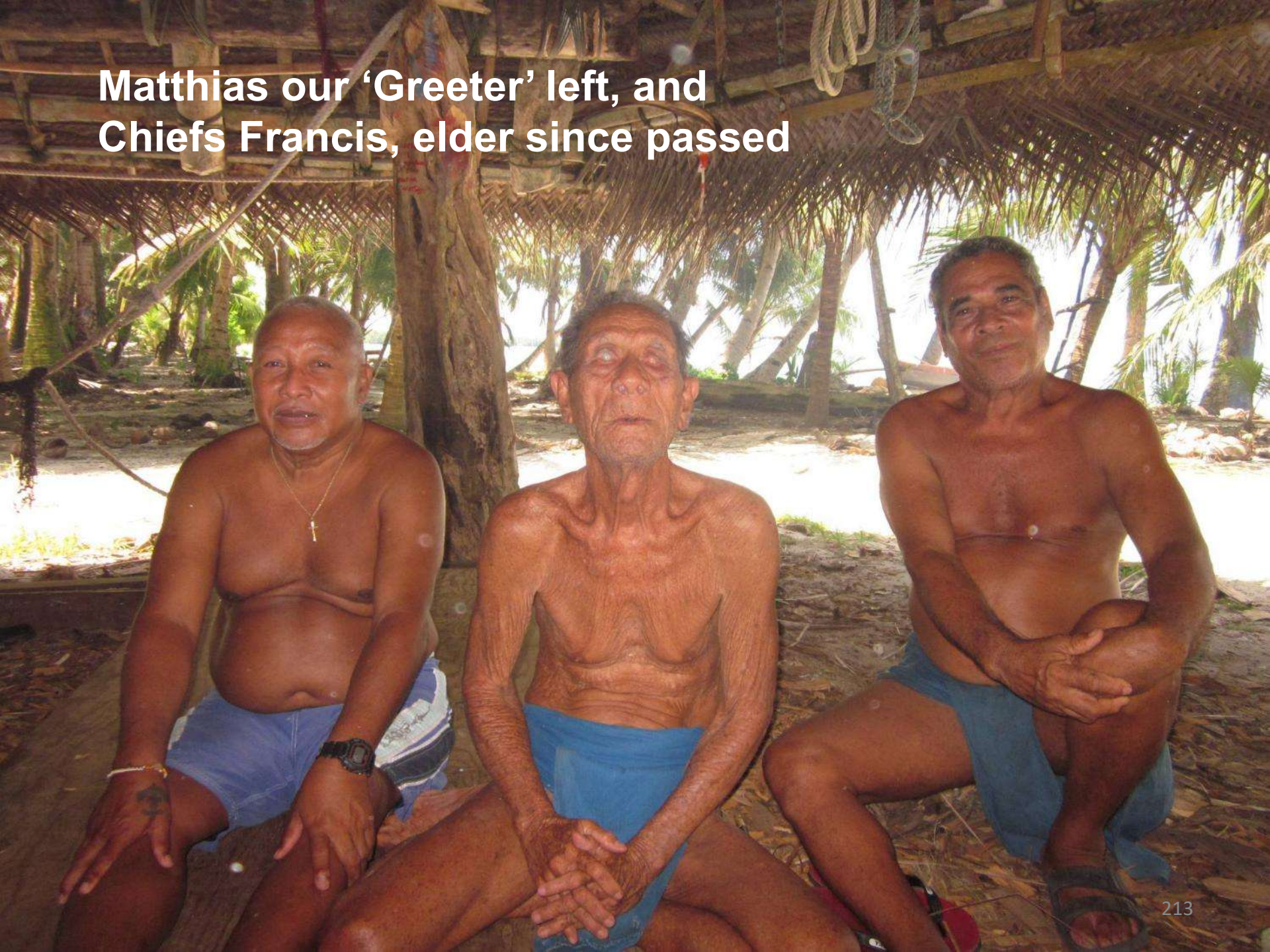


**US Curtiss
SOC Seagull**

**USS Harder & Seagull float plane rescue
downed pilot at Woleai, 1 Apr 44**

**Credit
NARA**

**Matthias our 'Greeter' left, and
Chiefs Francis, elder since passed**



**Our dinghy on
Mattias' landing
beach**



**6 AM Easter morning
procession on Woleai, local
dress, Sherry photo**





Sherry and Footsie
passing the straw game

**Cutest kid
contest & our
WWII relic
tour guide**





**Sherry sewing
new sail panels
from donated
government sail
cloth, local men
supervising**



Headrest

**Mitsubishi A6M2 Zero
fighter, note diagnostic
pilot head rest, primer**



**A6M Zero
fighter cockpit
& headrest,
note corroding
screws**

Japanese early Type 91, 105mm lightweight Howitzer, same as on Puluwat, early model



A photograph of a Japanese Type 91 105 mm Howitzer gun, early model, lying horizontally in a forest. The gun is covered in moss and surrounded by dense green foliage, including ferns and palm-like plants. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating dappled light on the ground and the gun's barrel. The gun's barrel is long and cylindrical, with a breech mechanism visible at the right end. A curved, dark object, possibly a part of the gun's carriage or a branch, is visible in the foreground on the right.

**Japanese Type 91
105 mm Howitzer
gun, early model**



**Mitsubishi G4M Betty
bomber tail, red
primer still visible,
fellow cruiser**



**Japanese constructed
Woleai airfield, facing
NE, no longer used, but
possibly serviceable
after 70 years**

Japanese Type 93 Long Lance Torpedo



Credit
NARA

Located outside US Navy
headquarters, oxygen powered,
range 22 km, speed 50 kts

**Nine Japanese
Long Lance
torpedoes in
jungle bunker!**



Nakajima B6N Jill Torpedo Bomber





**Finding a B6N Jill torpedo
bomber in the bush**



**Mitsubishi Kasei 25
B6N Jill engine w/
4 blade propeller,
strait blades**



Probably from
Japanese Yokosuka
K5Y2 Willow trainer
with 7 cylinder,
single row, 3 blade
radial engine



**Severely
deteriorated
Japanese 120
mm Shore Gun,
pointed inland**

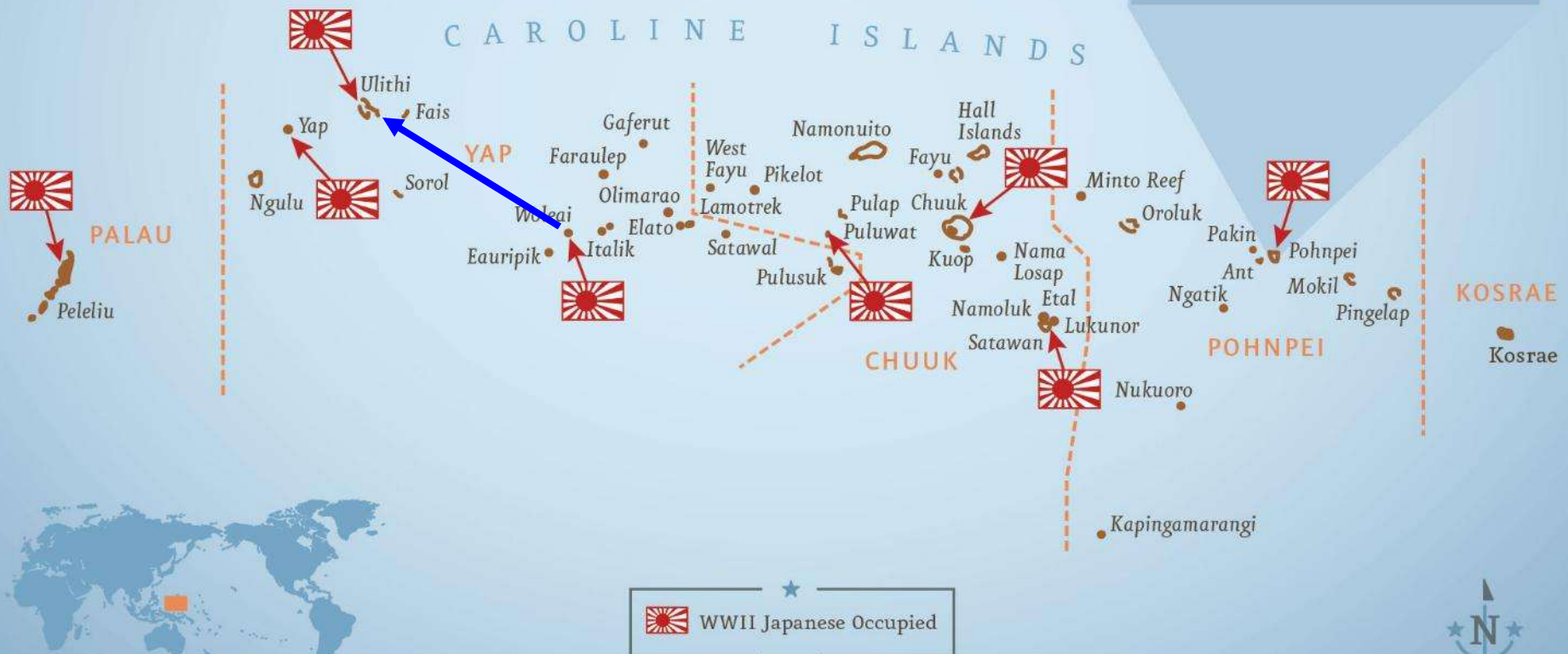
**Kawanishi H8K Emily,
port inboard Mitsubishi
Kasei engine, sunk in
Woleai anchorage,
straight blades**





**H8K Emily 20mm tail
cannon & blister, photo
by snorkel in 30'**

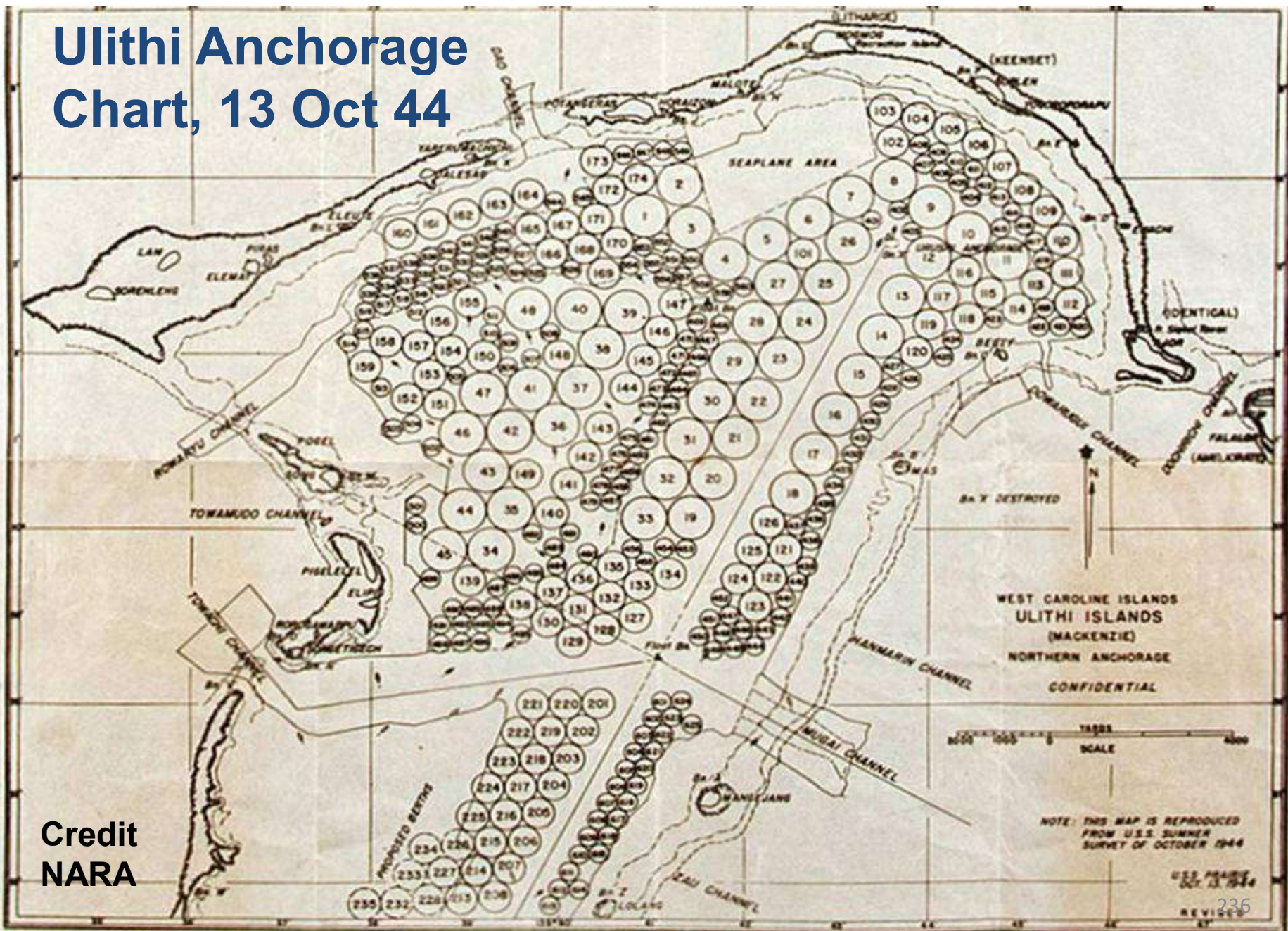
Soggy Paws Woleai to Ulithi April 2014



Ulithi Atoll (North End)



Ulithi Anchorage Chart, 13 Oct 44



Credit
NARA

TG 38.3 Entering Ulithi 17 Nov 44

USS Langley CVL27, Ticonderoga CV14, plus 3 BBs and 4 CLs
(from USS Essex CV-9 w/ Dad onbd)



Credit
NARA

Dad at Ulithi:
1- 4 and 17- 20 Nov

TG 38.3 Carriers at Ulithi, 8 Dec 1944

Wasp CV18, Yorktown CV10, Hornet CV12, Hancock CV19, Ticonderoga CV14, Lexington CV16



Famous WWII photo 'Murderers' Row'

Credit
NARA

Ulithi Anchorage off Sorlen Island Dec 44

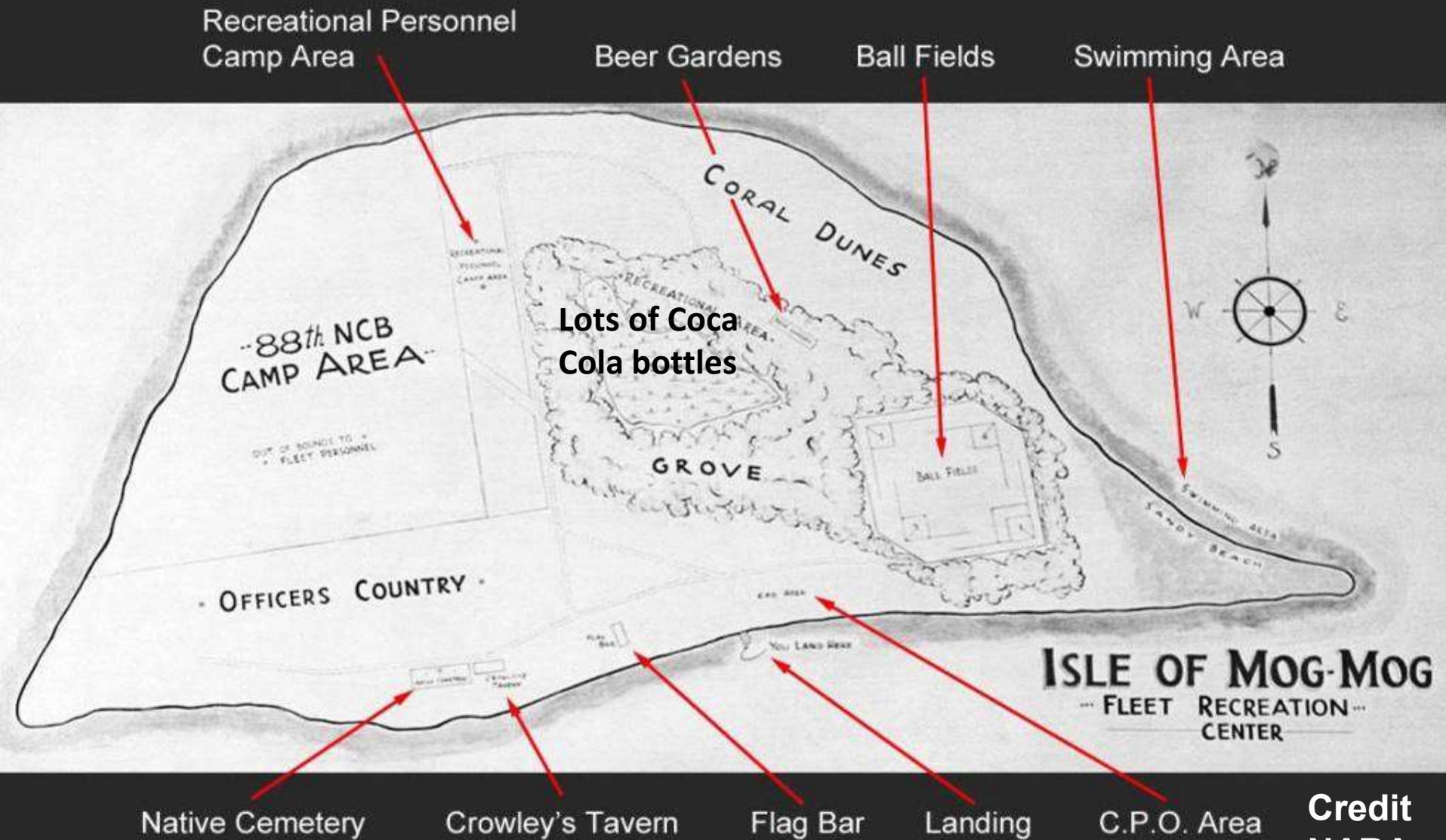


Credit
NARA

Spaws
anchorage

Jetty/
pontoon

Mogmog Isl, Ulithi Atoll R&R Map



Mogmog Liberty Pontoon, Nov 1944

Note huge number of
anchored ships on horizon.



Credit
NARA

Beach Liberty on Mogmog Island, Nov 44

Note huge number of
anchored ships on horizon.





Clear-
overseas
made

Green- US
made

**‘Greeter’ Stanley
comparing 1944/45 Coca
Cola bottles from Mogmog**

Sherry on island tour with 'Greeter' Stanley



Sorlen Island Beach

SPaws
anchored just
offshore

Looking toward
Mogmog Island

Liberty
pontoon

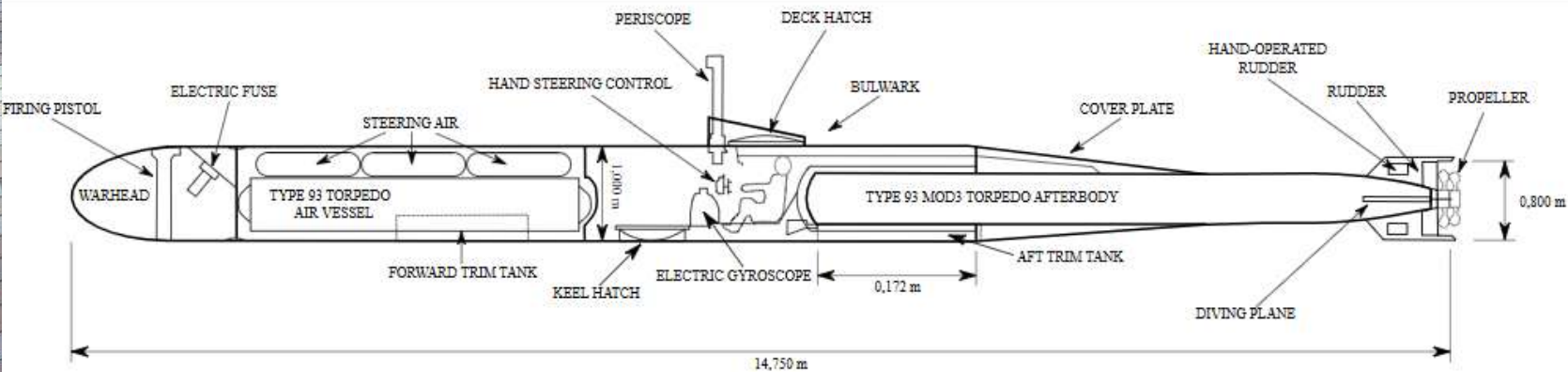
USS Mississinewa AO-59 Burning



**Attacked by Kaiten IJN
one man suicide torpedo
0545 19 Nov 1944**

IJN Special Attack Unit Kaiten one man suicide torpedo, Special Attack Unit first prototype July, 1944 only two existing worldwide

Special Attack Unit first prototype July 1944

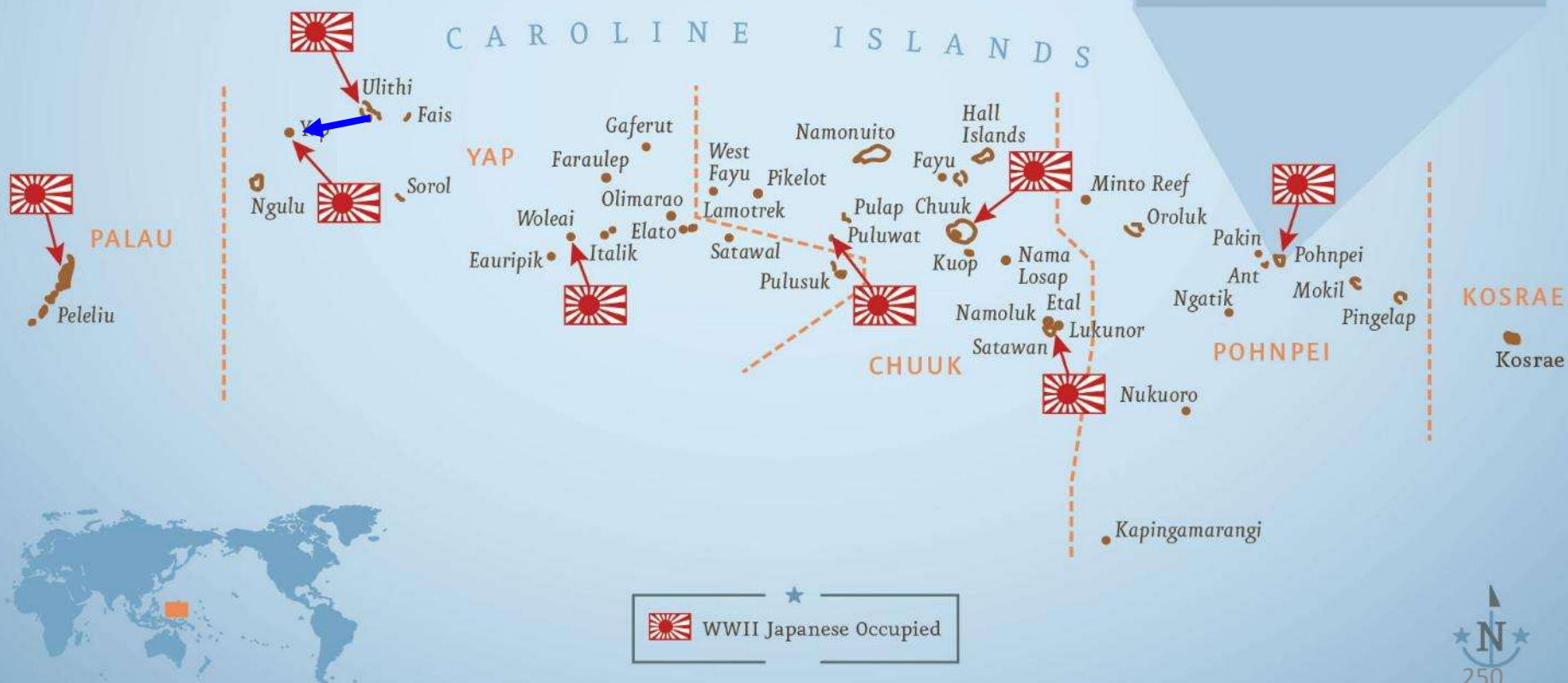


**Wreck of USS
Mississinewa bow
at 70' tied to small buoy,
recently hot tapped by
USN to remove oil, my
photo from 30'
snorkeling!**



**Sunset from Sorlen
anchorage, departed for
Yap next day**

Soggy Paws Ulithi to Yap Late April 2014



Yap Island

Kanif

Japanese lighthouse

Colonia

SPaws anchored in small harbor

US/Japanese planes

Old Japanese airfield

Ngoof

DATA SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
© 2014 Google

Image © 2014 CNES / Astrium

American Aircraft and Men Lost on Missions to Yap Island

In excess of 36 American aircraft were shot down or crashed on missions to Yap Island during WWII with the loss of over 150 men. Although some of the men were rescued and some remains were recovered after the war, many of the men remain missing in action.



B-24

Date:	Aircraft:	Unit:	Men Involved:
13 June 1944	B-24	5th AF, 43rd BG, & 67th BS	11
14 June 1944	B-24J	5th AF, 90th BG, & 320th BS	10
25 June 1944	B-24	13th AF, 307th BG, & 372nd BS	10
5 July 1944	B-24	13th AF, 307th BG, & 372nd BS	11
13 July 1944	B-24	13th AF, 307th BG, & 370th BS	10
15 July 1944	B-24	13th AF, 307th BG, & 372nd BS	
15 July 1944	B-24	13th AF, 307th BG, & 370th BS	
15 July 1944	B-24	13th AF, 307th BG, & 371st BS	



**Founder Pat Ranfranz's
MissingAirCrew.com
project literature**

Dave reviewing WWII aircraft slides with Tom T. at YVB office





**Marie and Glenn of catamaran
Backbeat and Sherry with Yap
stone money**

**Ensign Cox
F6F Hellcat fighter
wreckage in jungle**



**Credit
Missing Air
Crew**



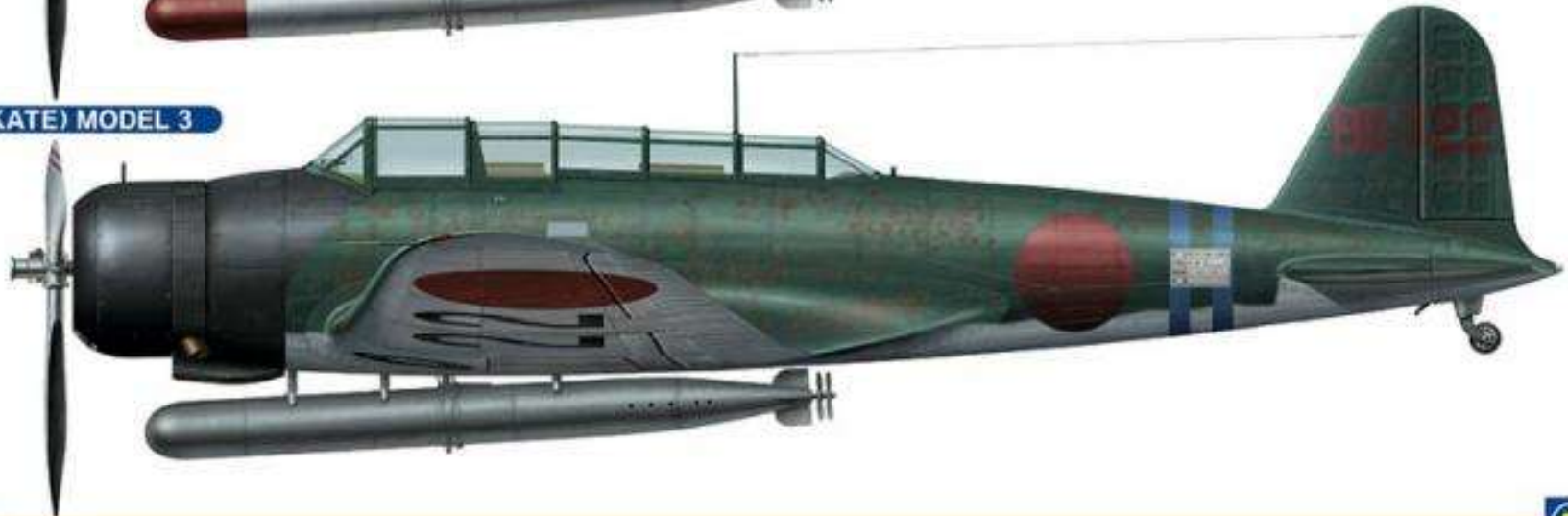
**Ensign Cox
F6F Hellcat recovered
and on display by MAC
team**

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



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

**B5N-2 Kate Torpedo Bomber
fuselage near old runway, many
missing parts including engine**



**B5N-2 Kate Torpedo
Bomber fuselage w/ 3
seats, note bullet holes**



**B5N-2 Kate Torpedo
Bomber cockpit with
engine controls**

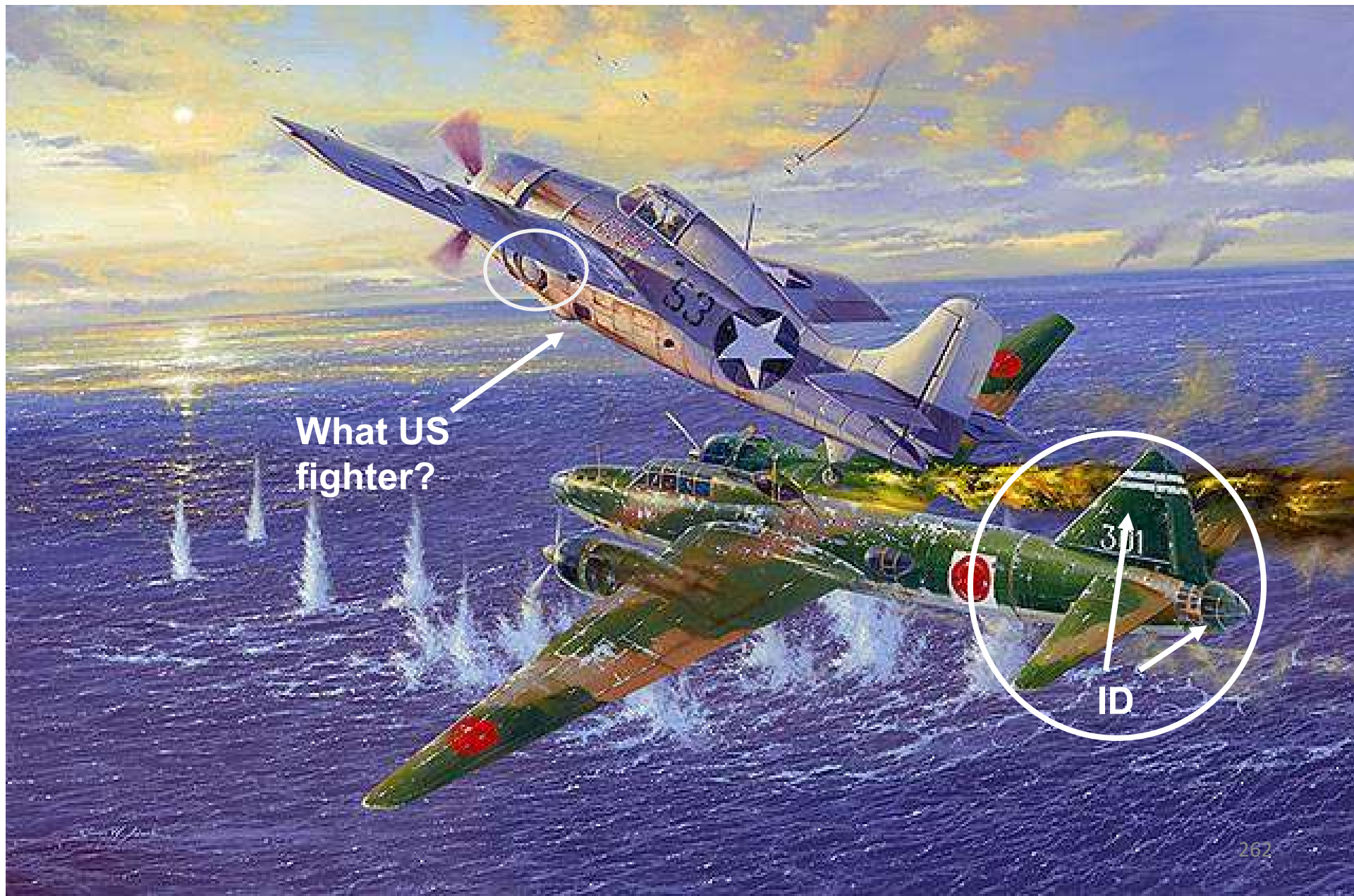


A photograph of a Nakajima Sakae Model 21 Zero engine, a two-row, seven-cylinder radial engine. The engine is shown from a front-three-quarter view, resting on the ground amidst green foliage. The propeller is bent at a significant angle. A white circle highlights the balancer mechanism at the top of the engine block. The engine is heavily rusted and shows signs of age.

Balancers

**Nakajima Sakae
Model 21 Zero
engine w/ one bent
blade, 2 row x 7
cylinders**

Mitsubishi G4M Betty Bomber



**G4M Betty tail
section at old
airfield, mostly
intact red primer
paint, partial
rudder**





**G4M Betty interior,
looking aft**



**G4M Betty tail section
& 20mm gun**

G4M Betty cockpit
w/ seats, engine
controls, dashboard,
all gages missing



Vought F4U Corsair fighter

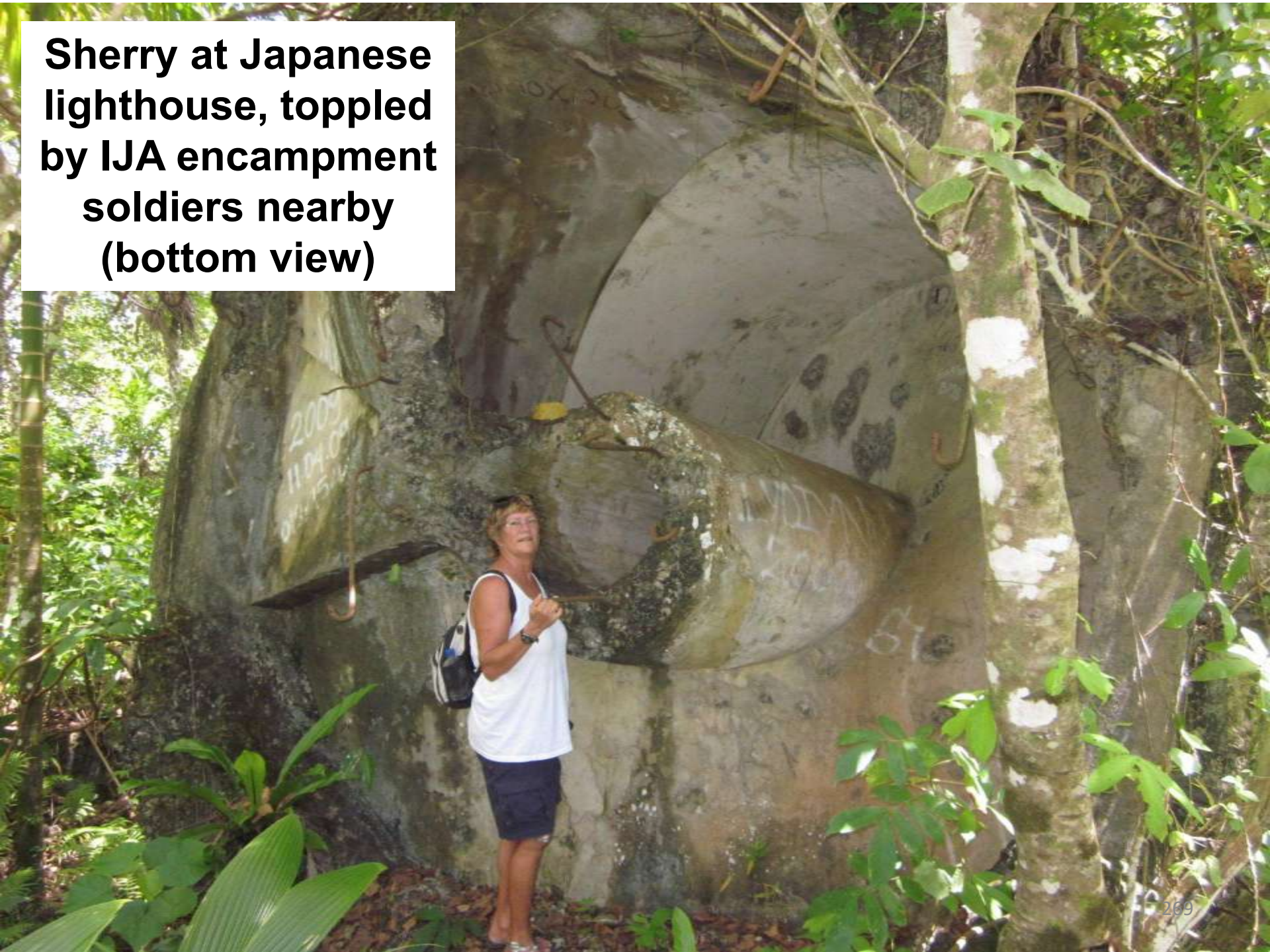


**1 pilot, 2000 hp, 417
mph, 37k, 1000 mi, 6
50 cal, bombs and
rockets**

**US F4U Corsair
fighter remains
in swamp,
boardwalk trail
to site by MAC**



**Sherry at Japanese
lighthouse, toppled
by IJA encampment
soldiers nearby
(bottom view)**



Soggy Paws Yap to Palau/Peleliu May 2014



Palau-Peleliu



**Tourist photo of
famous Rock
Islands**

Republic of Palau



South Palau & Rock Islands

Wall diving
sites

North

Rock Islands

40 IJN
ship
wrecks

Koror &
harbor

Peleliu N
Channel

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe
Image © 2014 CNES / Astrium

Palau tourist dive chart



Aichi E13A Jake Reconnaissance Float Plane



**3 crew, 1100hp, 234mph,
29k', 1300 mi, 1x20mm &
1x7.7mm guns, bombs,
depth charges, 1418²⁷⁵ ea**

E13A Jake Float Plane



**E13A Jake
cockpit**



Mitsubishi A6M Japanese Zero Fighter



One pilot, 1100hp, 350mph, 38k',
1200 nm, 2x20 mm, 2x7.7 mm
guns, bombs, 10499 ea

**Japanese A6M
Zero fighter on
SE reef, 10 fsw**



Japanese A6M
Zero fighter in
Koror harbor

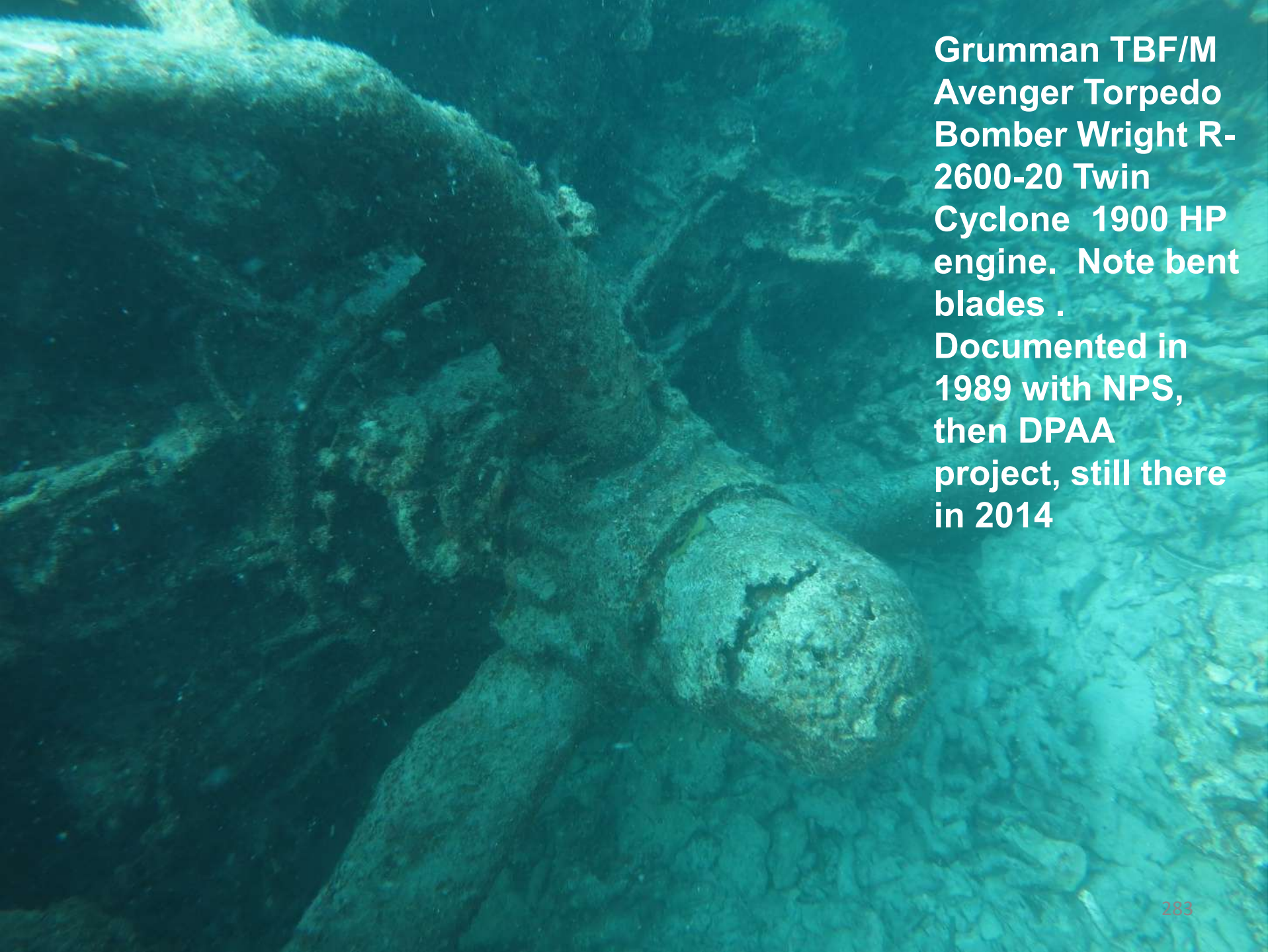




Jim at Japanese Type 96 twin 25mm anti-aircraft machine gun in Koror town

A photograph of two men standing in a dense jungle next to a large, rusted metal object, which is a Japanese 150mm shore gun. The man on the left is older, with white hair and a mustache, wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt and khaki pants. The man on the right is wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt, white shorts, a straw hat, and a backpack. The gun is partially obscured by the lush green foliage. The text "Dave & Kevin at massive Japanese 150mm Shore Gun on trail to German Lighthouse" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**Dave &
Kevin at
massive
Japanese
150mm Shore
Gun on trail
to German
Lighthouse**



Grumman TBF/M
Avenger Torpedo
Bomber Wright R-
2600-20 Twin
Cyclone 1900 HP
engine. Note bent
blades .
Documented in
1989 with NPS,
then DPAA
project, still there
in 2014



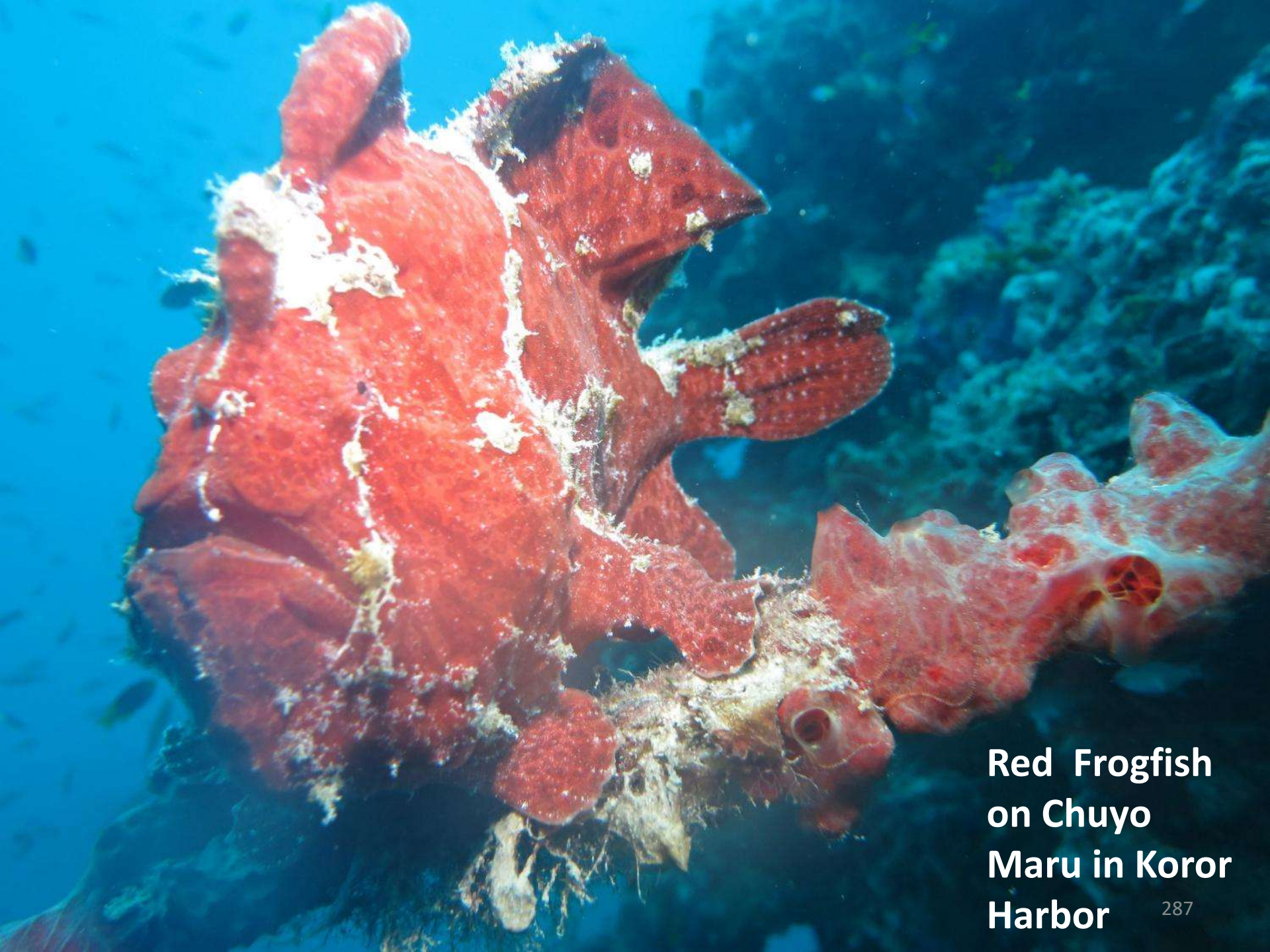
**Chuyo Maru
engine room
ladders, sunk 1
April 1944 in
Koror harbor**

**75mm gun barrel on
huge Japanese tanker
Iro Maru, less clear
water than Truk
wrecks**





**Lantern and other relics
on Japanese tanker Iro
Maru**



**Red Frogfish
on Chuyo
Maru in Koror
Harbor**



**Soft Coral at
Rock Islands**



**Sherry &
hundreds of
Schoolmasters at
Rock Island wall**

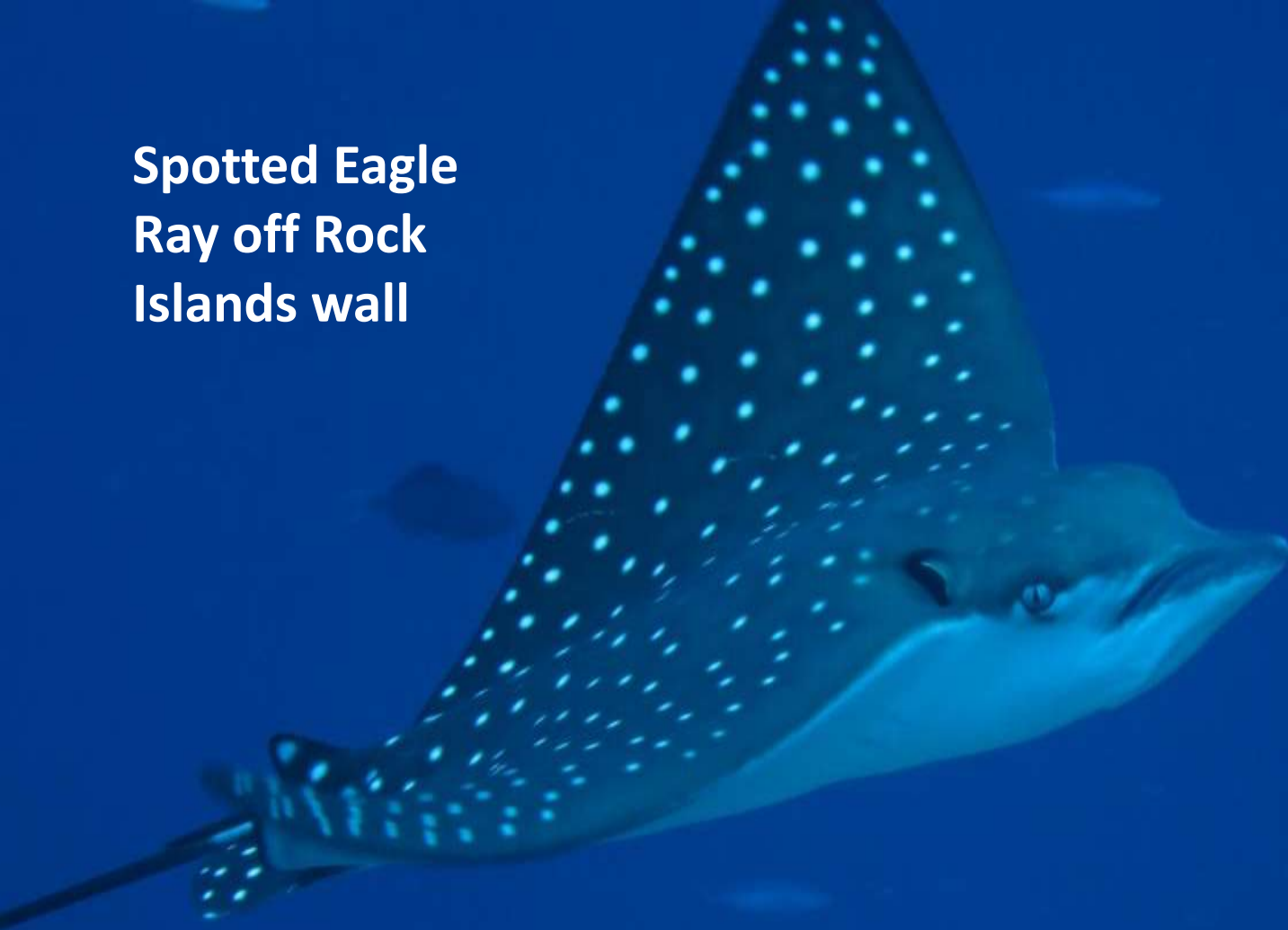
Yellow
Frogfish in
camouflage
at Rock
Islands





Diver watching
Jack tornado,
Rock Islands

**Spotted Eagle
Ray off Rock
Islands wall**

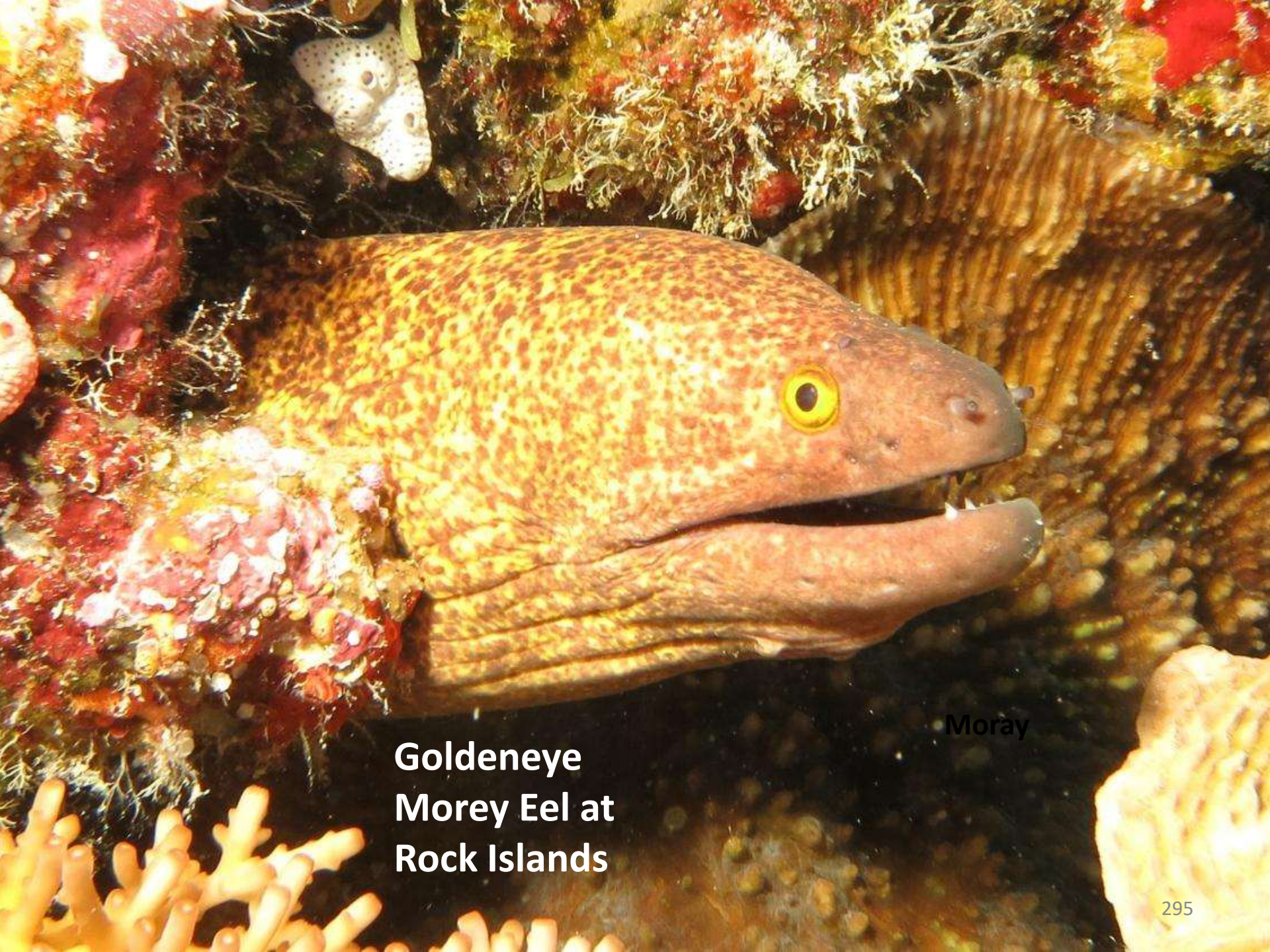




**Sherry entering the
Temple of Doom cave,
Rock Islands wall**



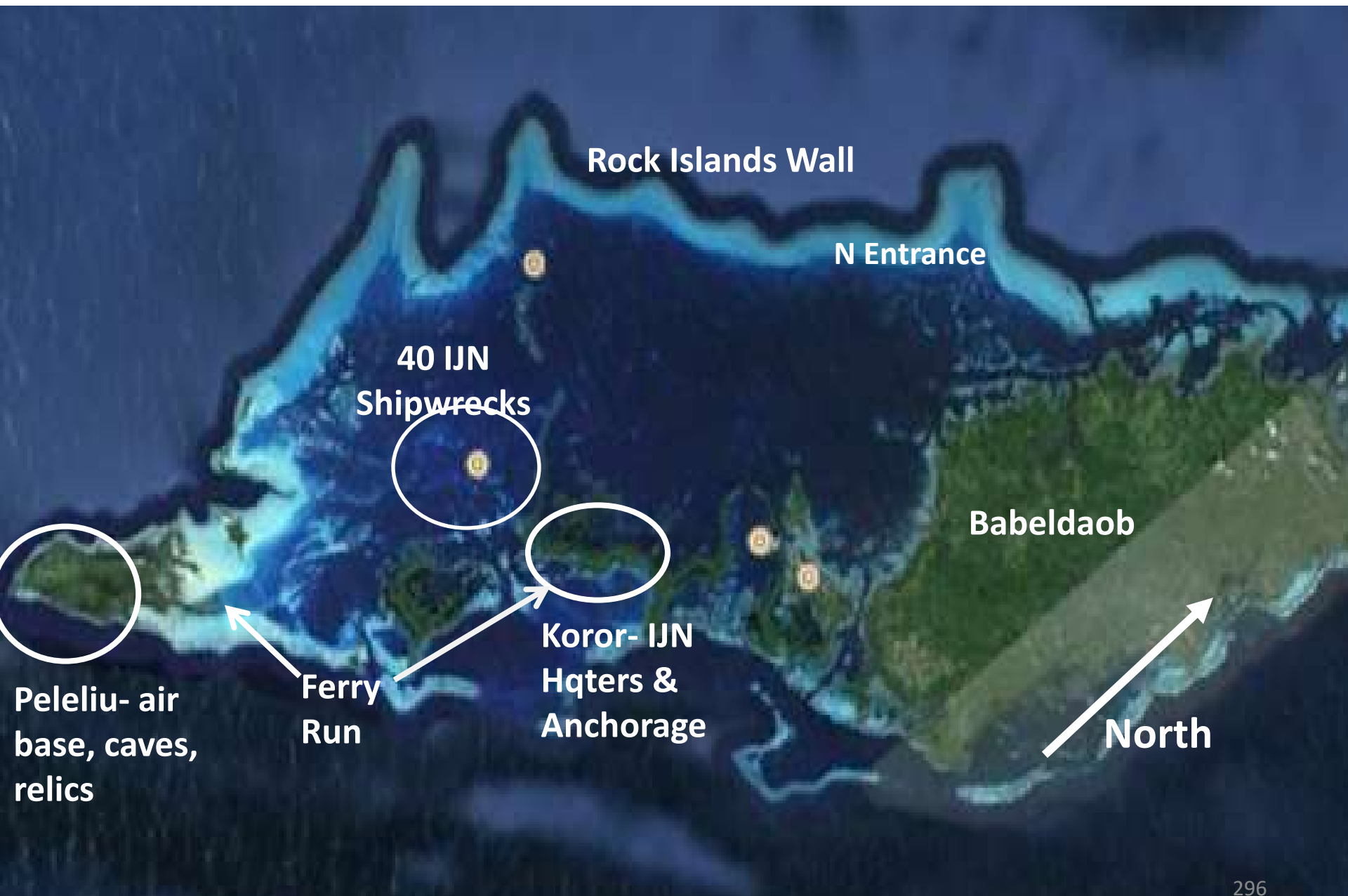
**Sherry shark
watching, hooked in
at Rock Islands wall**



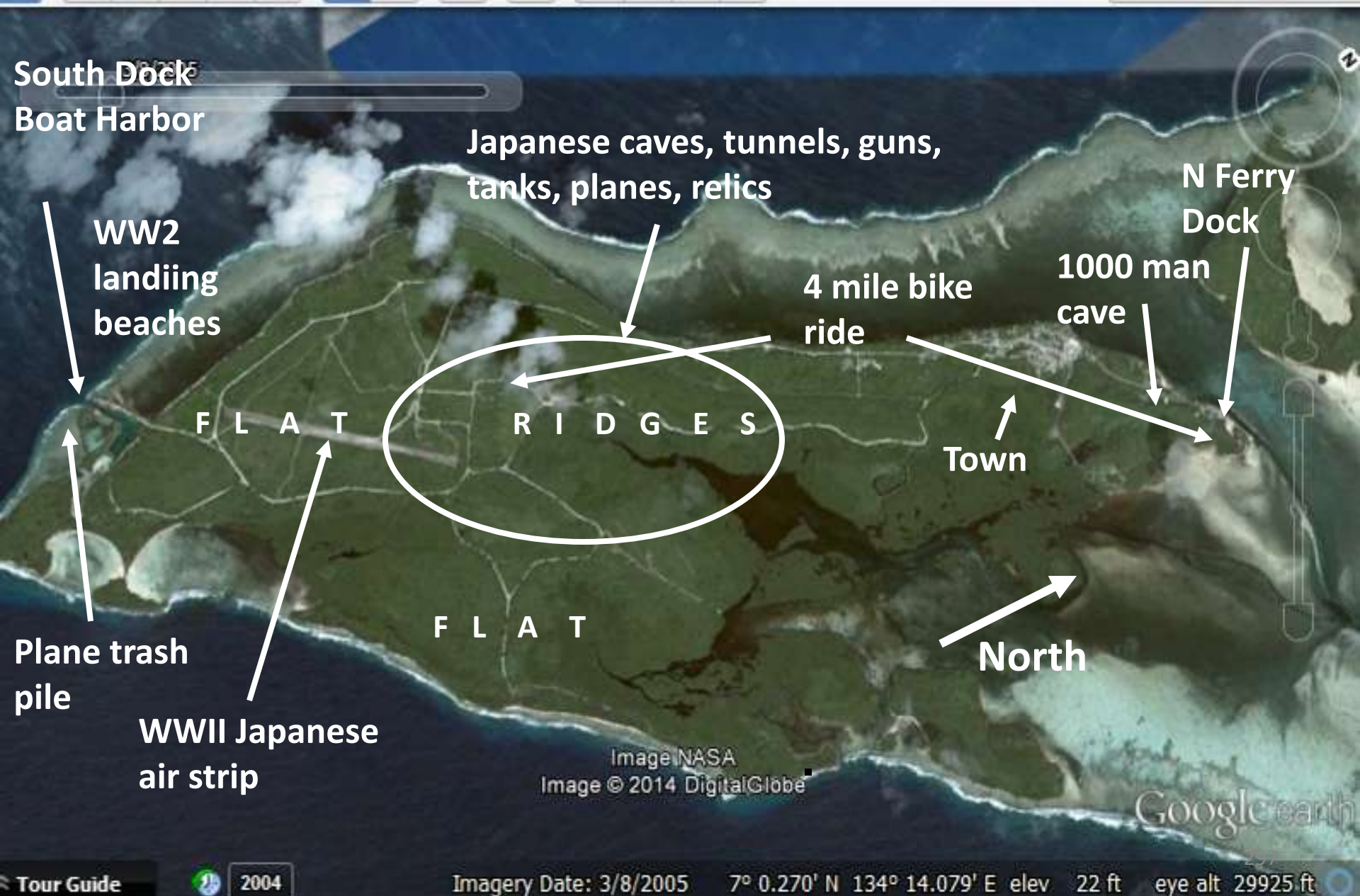
**Goldeneye
Morey Eel at
Rock Islands**

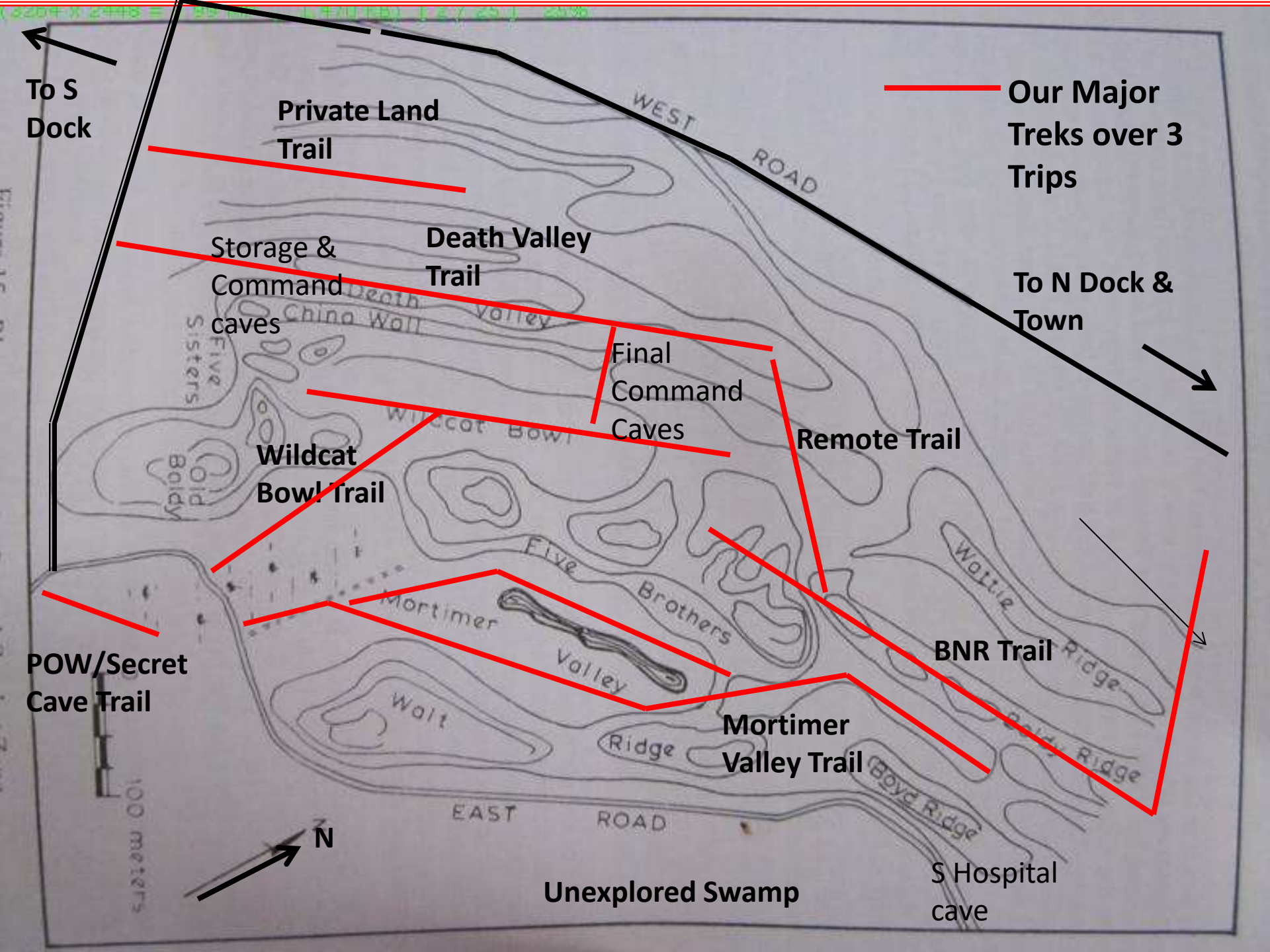
Moray

Peleliu



Peleliu





To S Dock

Our Major Treks over 3 Trips

To N Dock & Town

Private Land Trail

Death Valley Trail

Storage & Command caves

Final Command Caves

Remote Trail

Wildcat Bowl Trail

POW/Secret Cave Trail

BNR Trail

Mortimer Valley Trail

Unexplored Swamp

S Hospital cave

100 meters

N

EAST ROAD

WEST ROAD

Mortimer Valley

Five Brothers

Wildcat Bowl

China Wall

Five Sisters
Gold Baldy

Waltie Ridge

Boyd Ridge

Walt Ridge

Mortimer Valley Jan 1945

NAVAER-452A

NUMBER DATE

#2017 11 Jan; 1945

TAKEN BY:

73rd CB

LOCATION:

SUBJECT:

View of battered hill of
Pelelieu on Palau Is.

North end of Main valley
with China Wall on the west
side and a light cliff on
the east.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION:

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: NND 760090

ISSUED TO:

Credit
NARA

Return to: Photographic Library.

309374- Neg.

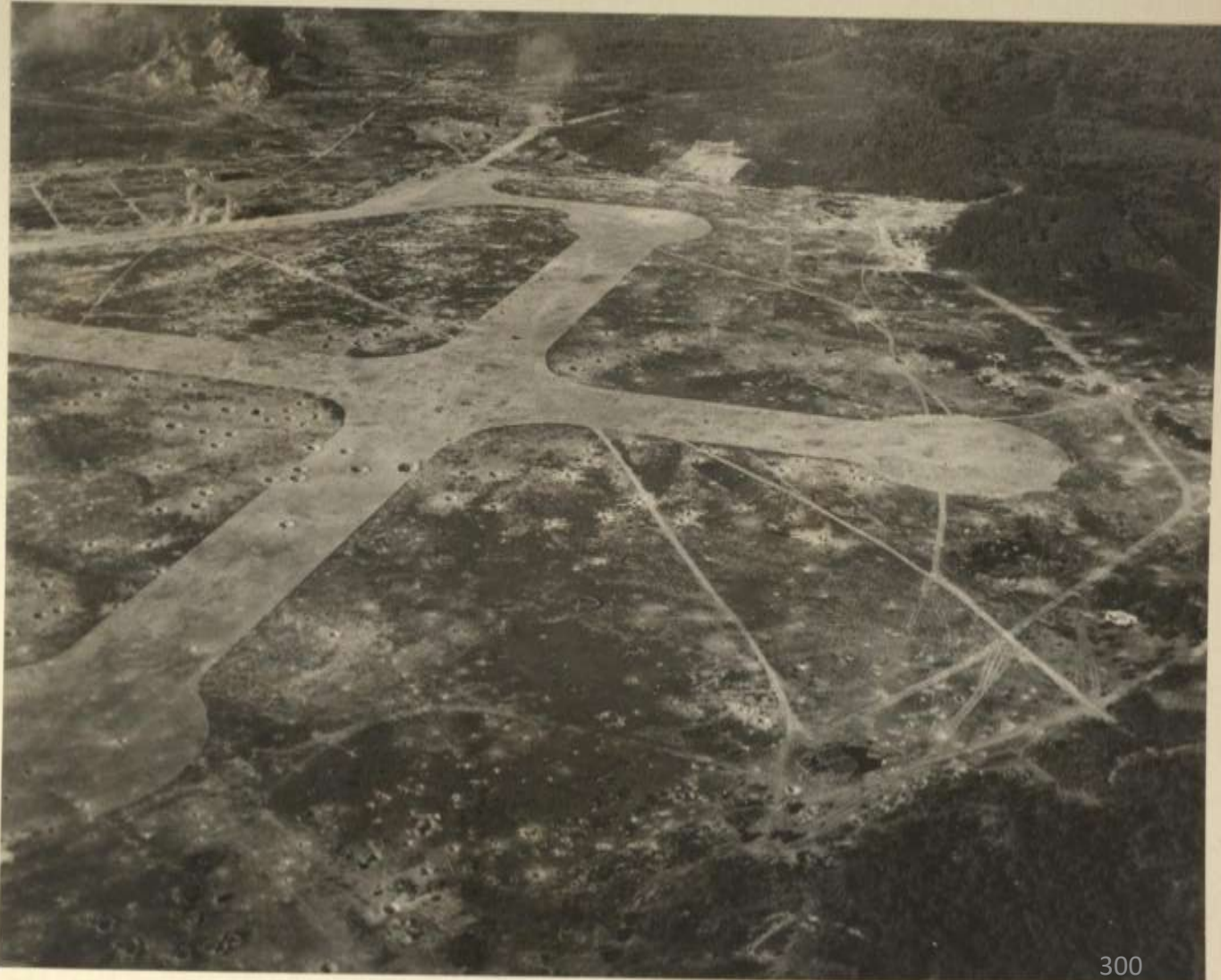


Peleliu Airfield Oct 1944

NUMBER	DATE <i>Recd.</i> 26 Oct 1944
TAKEN BY:	USS HONOLULU
LOCATION:	
SUBJECT:	
Peleliu after bombardment as seen by plane from USS HONOLULU (CL48).	
RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION:	
CONFIDENTIAL RELEASED	
DATE:	
ISSUED TO:	

283544

NAVAER-45



300

Credit
NARA

**New donated Japanese
ferry, used for final trips,
earlier landing craft ferry
used for 2014 trip**





**North Ferry Dock, Peleliu
Ocean View Hotel,
nightly accommodations**

**F4U Corsair dropping Napalm on
Peleliu ridges, landing gear down
due to close proximity of landing
field, 5 Sisters and 200mm gun area**

**Credit
NARA**





Japanese A6M Zero
wreckage near South
Dock plane trash pile



Kevin at US F4U Corsair
fighter wreckage, looking
aft at wing root and
fuselage, at South Dock
trash pile

**F6F Hellcat engine cowling
among other plane wreckage at
South Dock trash pile**

**Cowling
'smiling'
intake**





**Large 18 cylinder Pratt & Whitney R-2800
Double Wasp F4U Corsair radial engines
under tree just north of Ocean View Hotel**



**Original Japanese airfield,
now infrequent use**



**Japanese D4Y Judy Aichi
Atsuta 32 1200 hp
inverted V engine,
upside down, on
Babeldaob Isl, credit
armyjunk2, 2007**



**US amphibious LVT A, US
white stars on 37mm
turret and aft end of tank,
on tourist trail**



Kevin, wife & Philip at
Japanese Type 95 Ha
Go tank w/ missing
turret & guns, extra
treads, on tourist trail



**Philip inspecting two US LVTs:
LVT-2 Water Buffalo early & LVT
(A)-4 w/ short barrel 75 mm
M3 howitzer for fire support,
aluminum aircraft fuel drop
tanks, on tourist trail**



LVT (A)-4 w/ short barrel 75 mm & 30 cal guns,
on tourist trail



My bike

**US Seabee construction
International Harvester G-101
bulldozer, missing engine,
marked 'CBMU 49', tourist trail**



**Kevin & Philip at
Japanese 200mm boat
gun emplacement in
large cave, tourist trail**

Private Land Trail



US M4 Sherman tank, upset by
land mine on rescue mission,
tourist trail w/ permission



**US F4U aircraft cockpit
canopy and ammo box
inside private Quonset**

A photograph showing the wreckage of an aircraft in a dense, lush forest. The scene is filled with green ferns and other vegetation. Large, dark, metallic fragments of the aircraft are scattered across the forest floor. In the foreground, a large, flat, dark metal plate with several circular rivets is visible. To the right, a long, cylindrical metal component lies horizontally. The background shows more wreckage partially obscured by the dense foliage and tall trees.

**Aircraft parts dump
on private land,
most little damaged**



**Tail rudder section
from F4U**



**Dave and US F4U
wing & cowl, white
US insignia, 2014**

Bloody Nose Ridge Tourist Trail



Trail only metal
detector cleared to
6" depth inside red
& white stakes!



**US M1 helmet, mess kit,
and M1 Garand semi
auto rifle on BNR trail,
note cracks in helmet,
holes in mess kit**

**Japanese Type 92
battle helmet
found at remote
jungle site**





**Japanese safed Model 89 50mm
HE knee mortar rounds on BNR
Trail, fuses & HE removed by
Australian Cleared Ground
Demining NGO**



**US Mk 2 'Pineapple'
hand grenade, beside
Remote Trail, missing
safety clip, pin and lever
& probably HE**

A photograph showing two Japanese Type 93 anti-personnel land mines. The mine on the left is a cylindrical, olive-green device with a textured surface. The mine on the right is a circular, dark-colored device with a prominent red section and a central yellowish-brown circular feature. Both mines are resting on a rough, light-colored rock surface.

Japanese Type 93 anti
personnel land mines (Picric
acid) in cave over cliff along
Remote Trail, very unstable!
Location reported to CGD

A man named Kevin stands at the entrance of a cave. He is wearing a plaid shirt, light-colored pants, a cap, and a backpack. He is holding a flashlight. The cave entrance is a large, irregular opening in a dark rock wall. Bright sunlight and green foliage are visible through the opening. The cave interior is dark and rocky, with some green plants growing on the walls.

**Kevin at massive Japanese
Storage Cave entrance at
start of Death Valley, lots of
relics in here!**

Japanese Horse Drawn Caisson and Limber for 75mm gun ammo



**Wooden spoke 2 wheeled
ammo caissons and limbers in
Japanese Storage Cave**

Entrance





Japanese
pickaxes, shoe
soles, ink
bottles, gas
mask, bones &
vertebrae in
cave off Death
Valley, reported
to CGD

Naval Command Cave

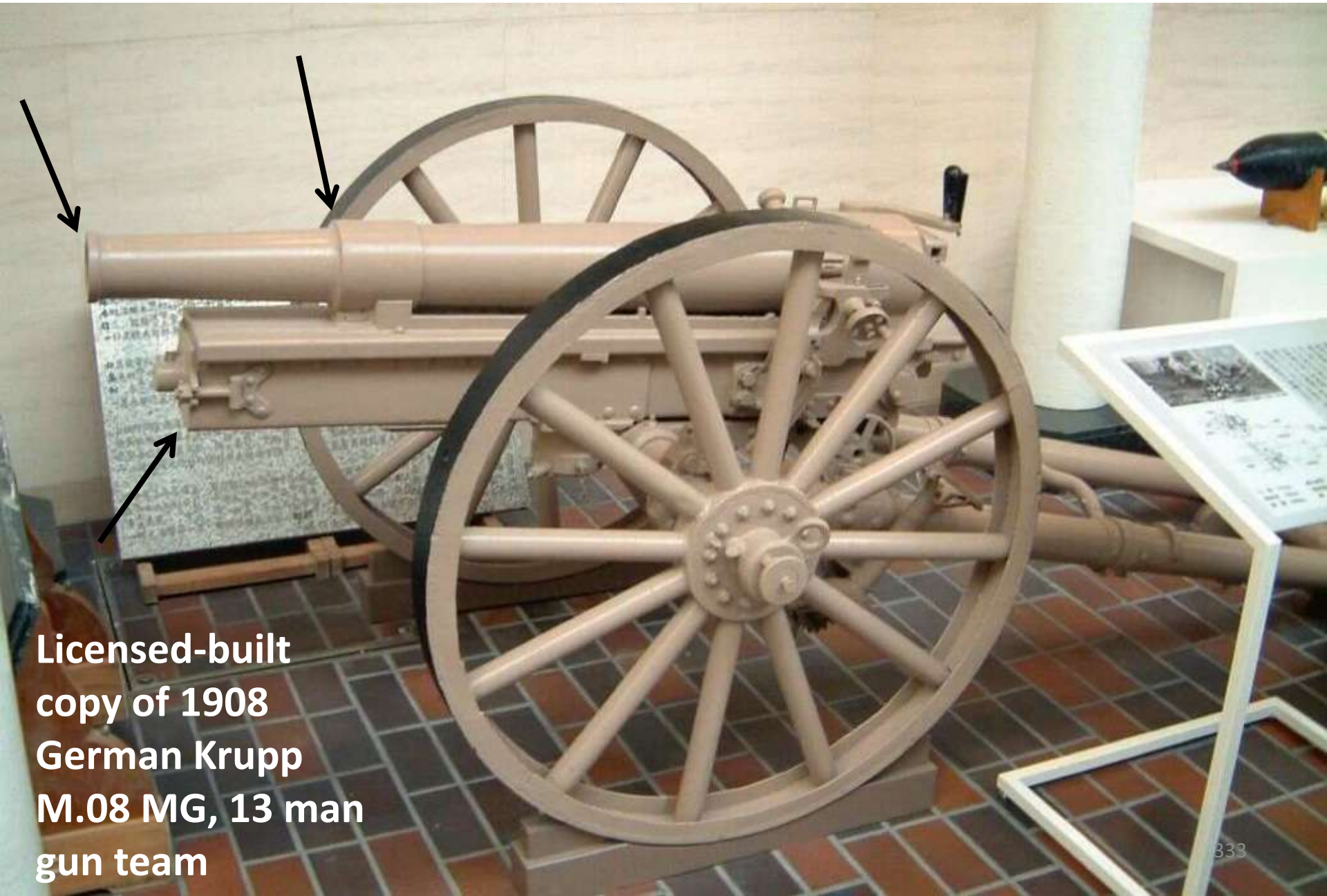
Mother of All Caves,
huge natural cave off
Hill 200/210 Death
Valley Trail



**Kevin and Phillip
inspecting teapot and
flamethrower gas
bottle at entrance to
MoA Caves**



Japanese Early Type 41 75mm Mountain Gun



Licensed-built
copy of 1908
German Krupp
M.08 MG, 13 man
gun team



**Japanese Type 41
75mm Mountain
Gun deep in MoA
Caves, many bats!**

Secret Cave

Kevin at entrance to
Secret Cave in POW
camp & plane junkyard
area, just discovered

Secret Cave
entrance from
inside, natural
stalactites





Seven type 97 Japanese live hand grenades & 7.7 mm rounds in Secret Cave, not yet safed! Reported to CGD

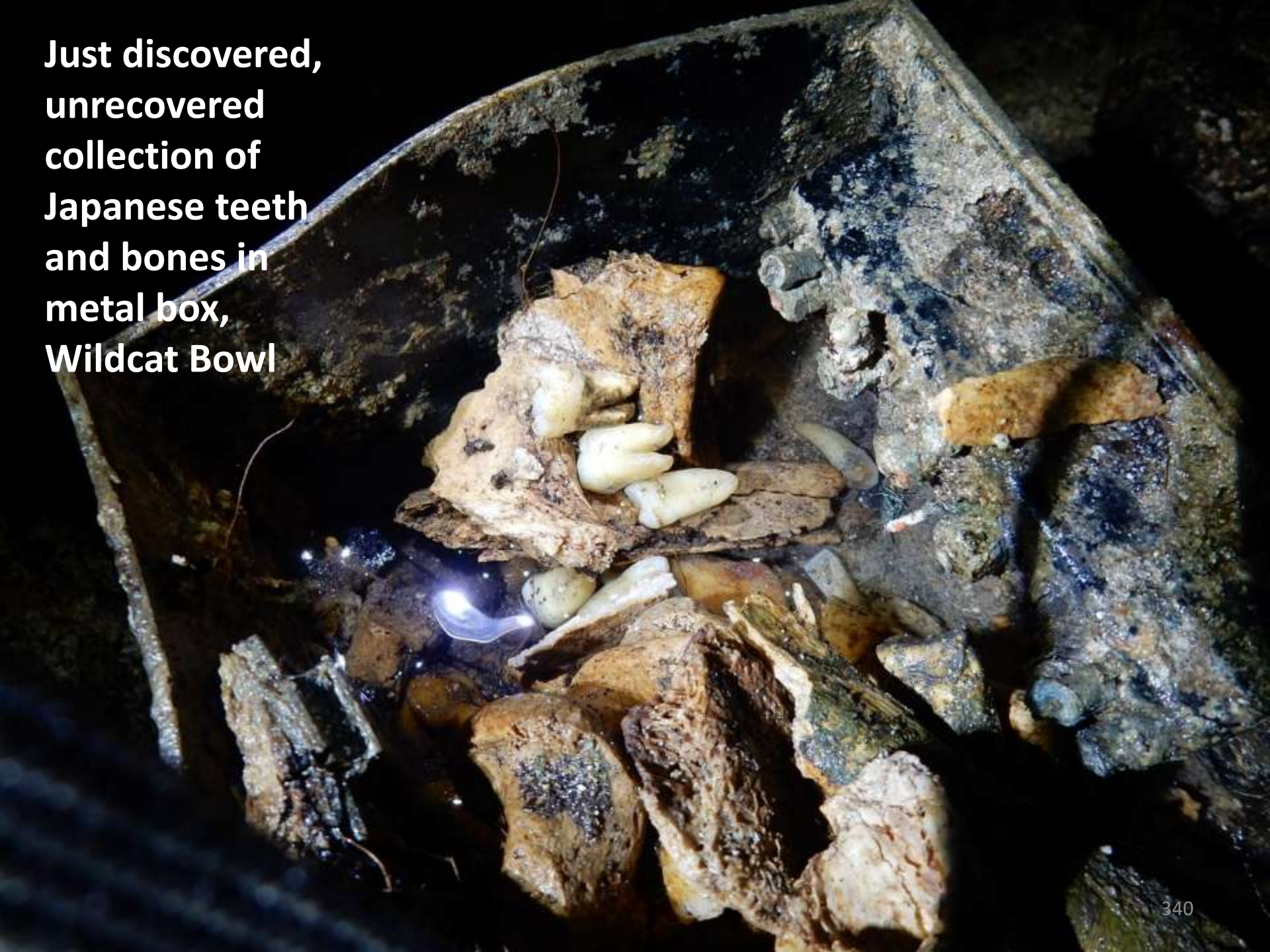


Japanese
bones, mess
kit tops, food
cans in Secret
Cave, reported

**US F4U Corsair
cockpit canopy &
other plane parts in
hollow next to POW
Camp & near Secret
Cave**



**Just discovered,
unrecovered
collection of
Japanese teeth
and bones in
metal box,
Wildcat Bowl**



**Unexploded shell
casing with dangerous
cordite still inside, in
lower section of S
Hospital Cave, on
tourist trail!**



THE SITE OF THE LAST STAND

by the soldiers of
the Peleliu Sector Defense Command
of the defunct Imperial Japanese Army

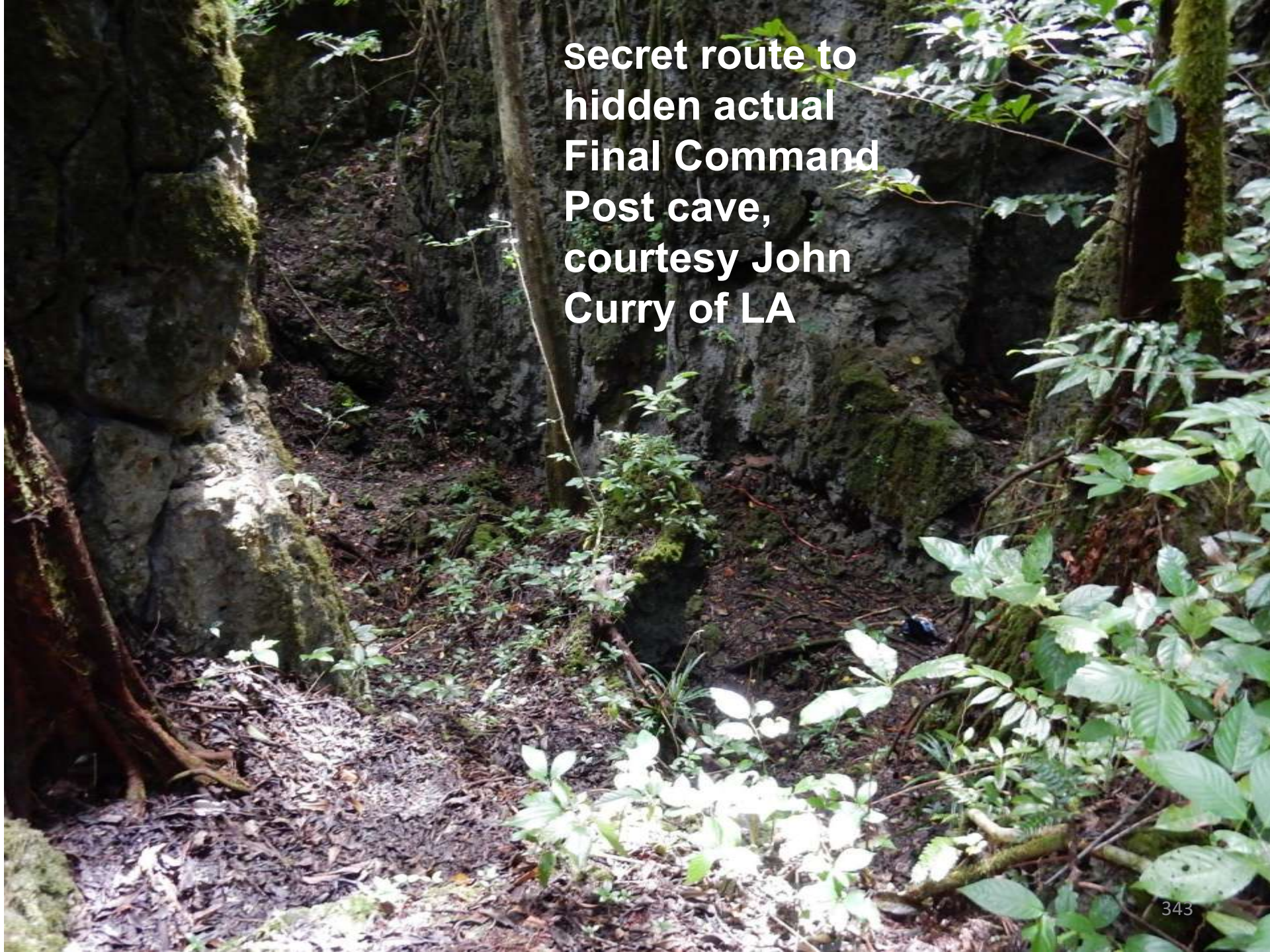
This is the spot the command post of Colonel Kunio Nakagawa, commanding officer of the 2nd Infantry Regiment, concurrently with the Peleliu Sector Defense Command of the Imperial Japanese Army was located, where the defenders fought desperate fight to the last man.

The 2nd Infantry Regiment, one of the elite units of the defunct Imperial Japanese Army, saw its end, and Colonel Nakagawa committed suicide right here after having destroyed by fire, the regimental color on 24th of November, 1944.

February. 1989

2nd Infantry Regiment Peleliu Island Memorial
Monument Promotion Association

Tourist Trail
signage for fight
to last man spot
but not the real
commander's
suicide cave

A photograph of a narrow, mossy path in a dense forest. The path is covered in fallen leaves and small green plants. The surrounding trees and rocks are heavily covered in moss, indicating a moist environment. The path leads towards a dark, shadowed area that appears to be a cave entrance. The text "Secret route to hidden actual Final Command Post cave, courtesy John Curry of LA" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Secret route to
hidden actual
Final Command
Post cave,
courtesy John
Curry of LA

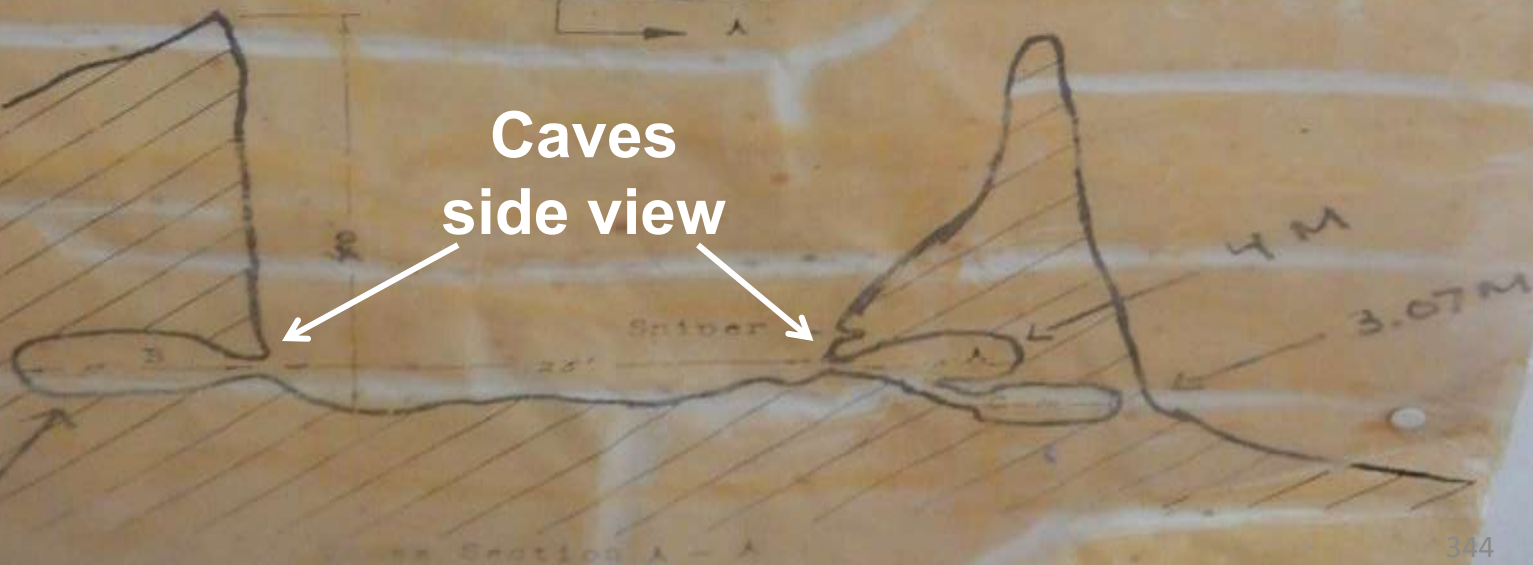


IJA commanders
MGen Inoue and
Col Nakagawa
committed ritual
suicide in these
caves, 24 Nov 1944

Caves
top view



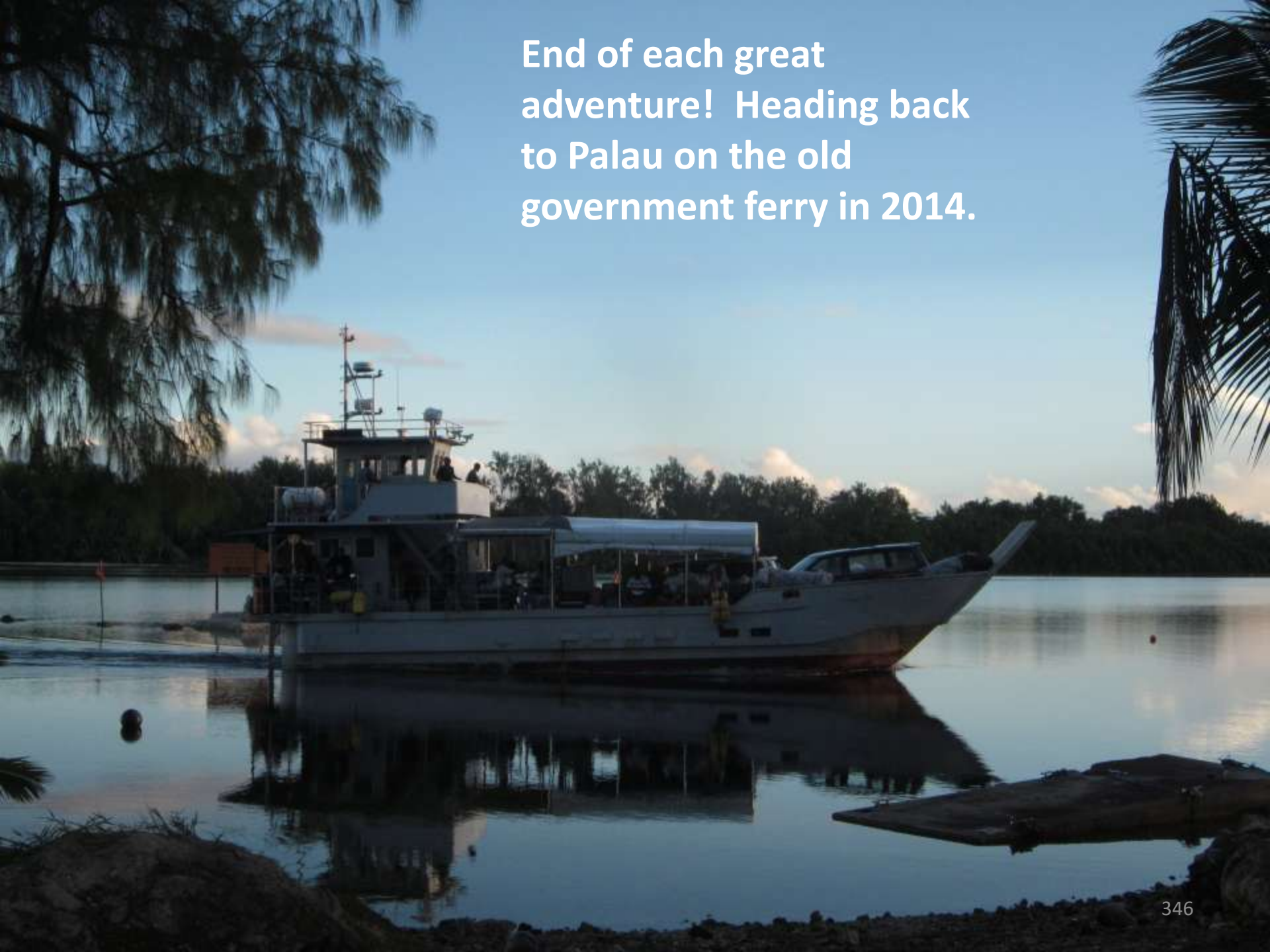
Caves
side view



Looking into
interior of Col
Nakagawa's
suicide cave



End of each great
adventure! Heading back
to Palau on the old
government ferry in 2014.

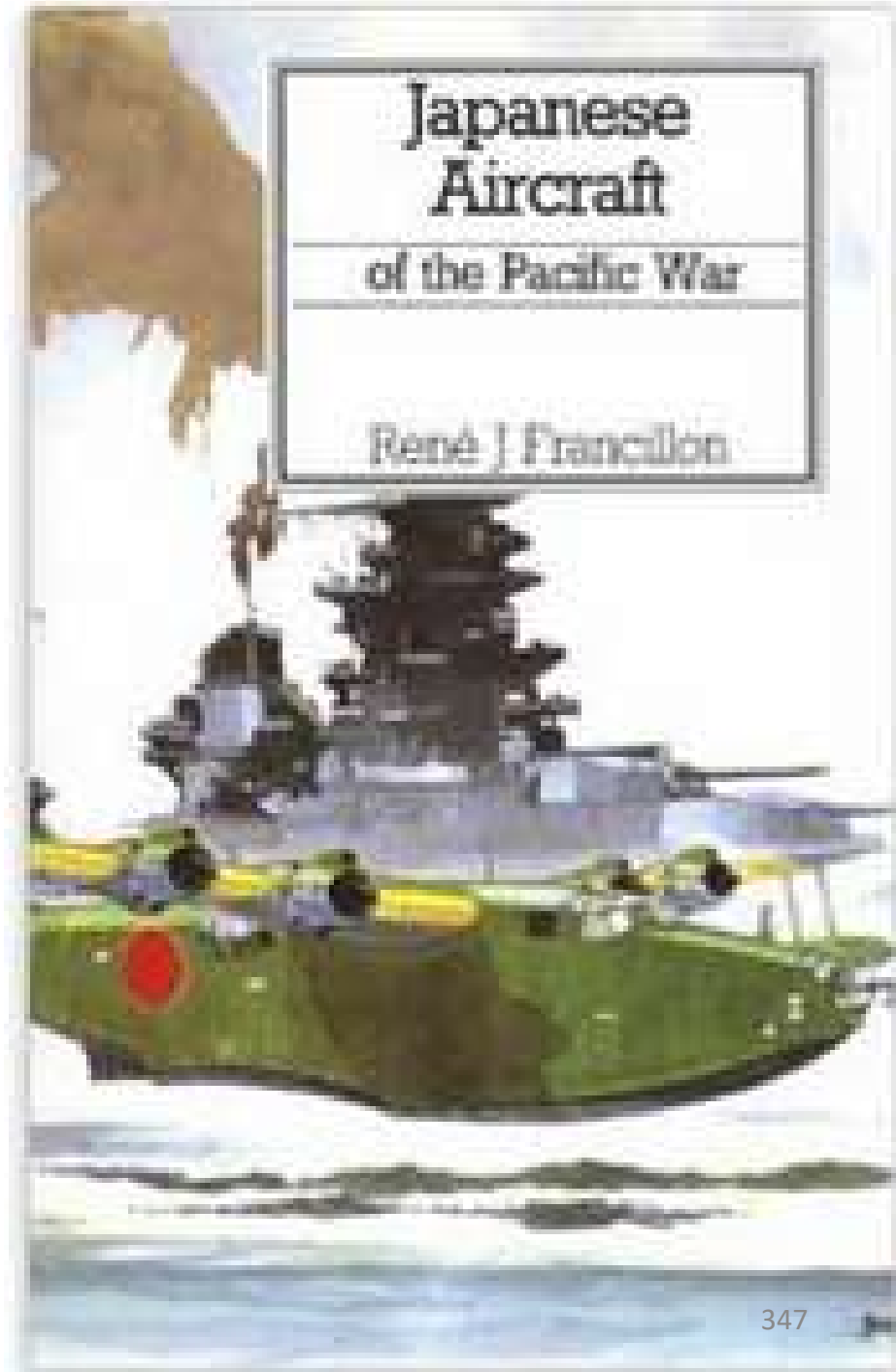


WWII Aircraft Books

**Best Japanese Aircraft
Book, black/white pics,
lots of information!
Rene Francillon**

**Jane's American Fighting
Aircraft of the 20th Century,
best for US WWII Planes**

**Both available on
Amazon.com**



A map showing the cruise route of the SPaws 2019 expedition. The route is marked with a red line, starting from Cebu City in the Philippines, passing through Davao City, and then heading south through the Molucca Sea, Banda Sea, Flores Sea, and Timor Sea to Timor-Leste. From there, it continues east through the Arafura Sea to Papua New Guinea, then through the Bismarck Sea to the Solomon Islands, and finally to Honiara. The map also shows the Gulf of Carpentaria and the Sulu Sea. Various cities and seas are labeled, including Cebu City, Davao City, Cebu City, Sulu Sea, Celebes Sea, Molucca Sea, Banda Sea, Flores Sea, Timor Sea, Dili, Timor-Leste, Arafura Sea, Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby, Bismarck Sea, Solomon Sea, Solomon Islands, and Honiara. The text 'INDONESIA' is also visible on the left side of the map.

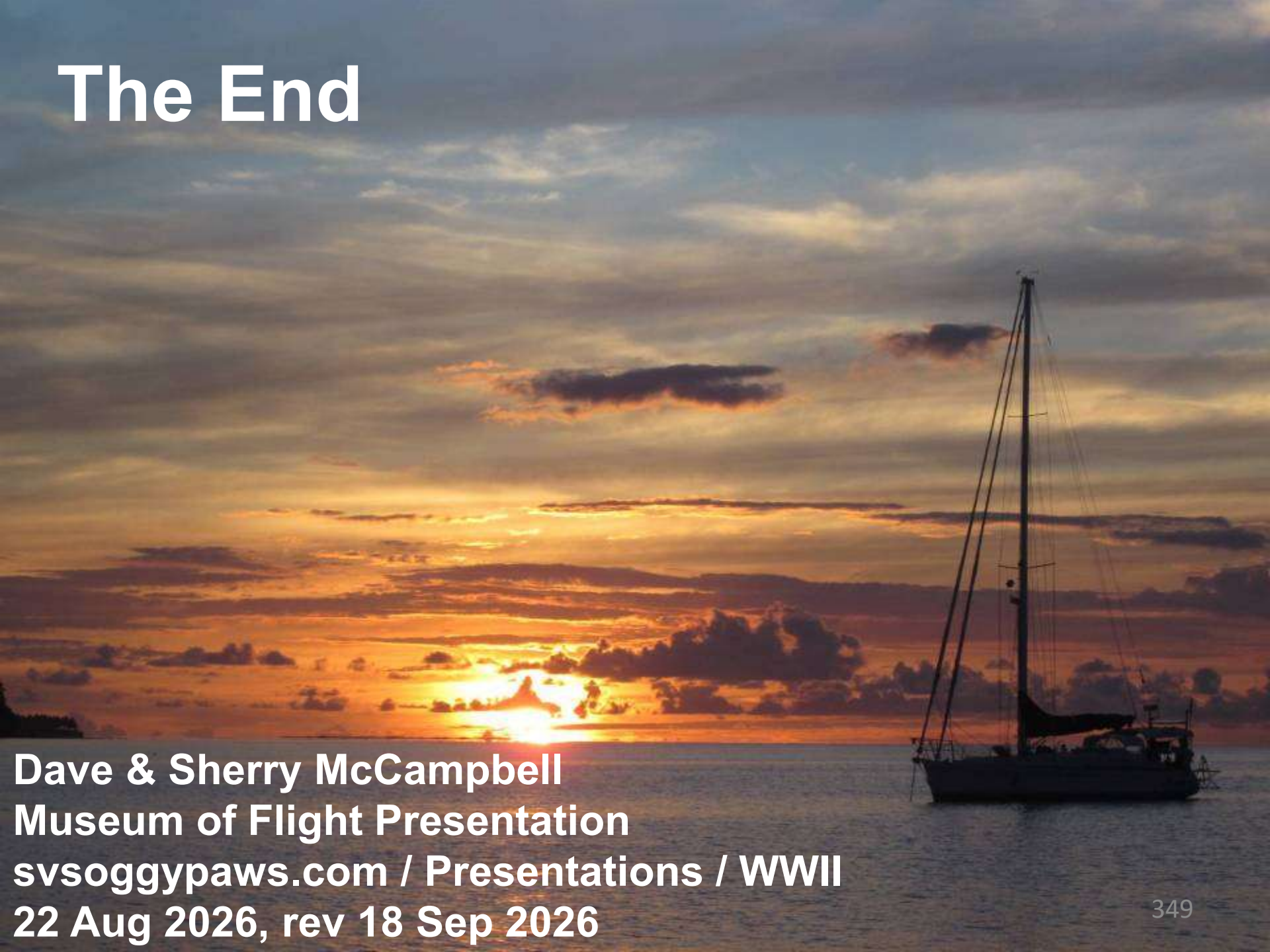
SPaws 2019 cruise Philippines to PNG, Solomons & return 7,000 nm, 11 mos. Lots more WWII relics! See WWII Presentations

Dave & Sherry McCampbell
SVSoggypaws.com/Presentations/WWII
 22 August 2026

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Dave & Sherry McCampbell
SVSoggypaws.com/Presentations/WWII
22 August 2026

The End

A full-page background image showing a sailboat on the right side of the frame, silhouetted against a dramatic sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with scattered clouds, some of which are illuminated by the setting sun. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Dave & Sherry McCampbell
Museum of Flight Presentation
svsoggypaws.com / Presentations / WWII
22 Aug 2026, rev 18 Sep 2026