

Pacific Theatre

Part 15: The Philippines

In which we find a target rich environment.

by Lestrade aka Unpopular Opinion



MacArthur and his staff decide to walk to the Philippines from China

First published: May 1, 2023

My unpopular opinion, from internet research anyone can do.

This is going to be a sprawling one. Enjoy!

If you read Wikipedia's article on [The History of the Philippines from 1565-1898](#) you learn about the original conquest of the islands in the name of Philip 2nd of Spain. [Philip](#) being the son of [Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor](#) of the Habsburg bloodline that appears to interweave all the noble houses of Europe from the Netherlands to Spain to Austria.

On the Habsburgs: looks very interesting but I would need to do a fair chunk of research to catch up on it and I must stay within the boundaries of Pacific WW2. I'm sure Miles knows more from his previous research. It's clear to me from just skimming the wiki on the Habsburgs that it talks about a massively centralised power base in Europe in very recent times (i.e. another data point refuting the normie "lol u believe in conspiracies what you think a small group could control all these countries" gibberish).

Anyway, the Spanish conquer the Philippines and fend off Japanese pirates. By the late 1800s (around the time that the west is subverting Japan in the Boshin War) the ~~obvious intelligence agent~~ Freemason and "agent" of British trading house Flemings (no really, like the James Bond author) [Andrés Bonifacio](#) among others get involved in a revolutionary war. Let me suggest this is due to the Americans subverting the Spanish occupation to take over and get those tasty, tasty exports of a resource-rich area.

You can read more about the Philippine Revolution [here](#), note that the rebel leaders like to hide out in Hong Kong when the heat is on (as we see again and again, it's always Hong Kong, Taiwan or Shanghai as the spook hubs).

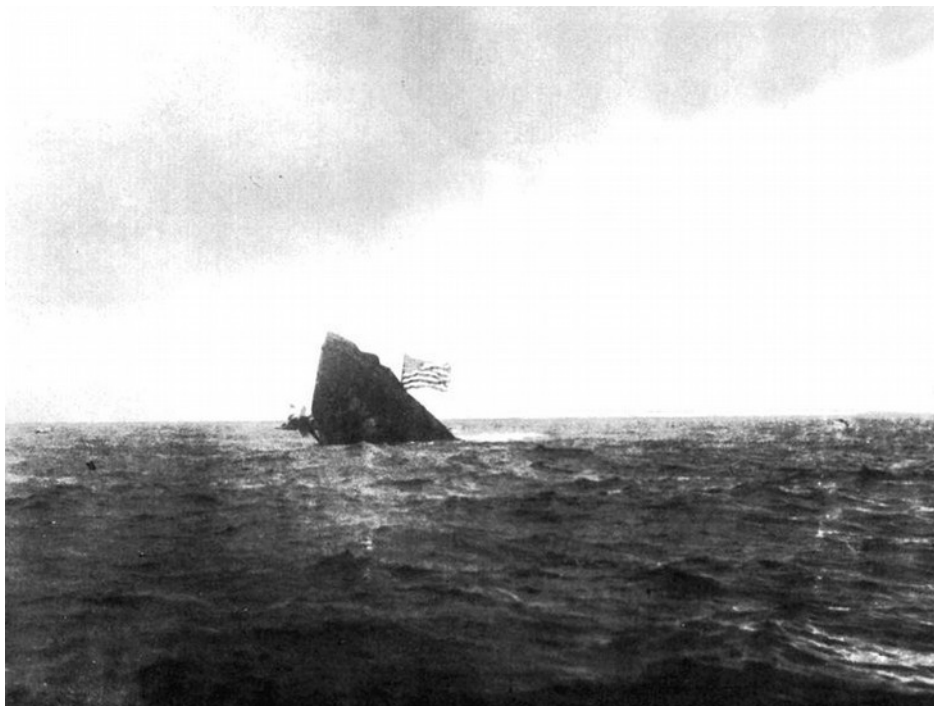
You then have the revolutionary stuff coinciding with the Spanish-American war in 1898 and the now rather amusingly obvious sinking of the USS Maine. As per Wikipedia:

“Maine was a United States Navy ship that sank in Havana Harbor on February 15, 1898, contributing to the outbreak of the Spanish–American War in April. U.S. newspapers, engaging in yellow journalism to boost circulation, claimed that the Spanish were responsible for the ship's destruction. The phrase, “Remember the Maine! To hell with Spain!” became a rallying cry for action. Although the Maine explosion was not a direct cause, it served as a catalyst that accelerated the events leading up to the war.”

There's the usual waffle about “was it a torpedo or was it a spontaneous gas explosion” ignoring the obvious point of “well did they not just blow up their own ship?”. If an American ship ever explodes in the future the first thing I'm going to do is assume it was the US Navy responsible.

They pretty much spell it out (aside from the circumstantial convenience of the explosion giving justification for aggression) in the Wiki article. The 1898 Sampson Board's Court of Inquiry concluded the explosion was internal not external and various comments are made about it needing to be some kind of explosive mine (e.g. the 1998 *National Geographic* investigation) indicating either sabotage or false flag. I'm assuming they blew up an empty ship, that's the usual method.

I do like the photograph of the sinking ([they dredged it up... then sailed it away... then sank it?](#)):



This is after it was loaded with dynamite and being re-sunk, after being underwater for 14 years in the Havana harbour. That flag is *crisp and highly visible* given the scale and general lighting. - original [here](#).

“On 16 March, the Maine was towed four miles from the Cuban coast by Osceola, escorted by North Carolina and the light cruiser Birmingham. She was loaded with dynamite as a possible aid

to her sinking. Flowers adorned Maine's deck, and an American flag was strung from her jury mast. **At 5pm local time, with a crowd of over 100,000 persons watching from the shore, her sea cocks were opened, and just over twenty minutes later, Maine sank, bow first, in 600 fathoms (3,600 ft; 1,100 m) of water, to the sound of Taps and a twenty-one gun salute, courtesy of the men on the Birmingham and North Carolina.**"

I guess the crowd of 100,000 people were just out of shot in the above photograph.

Interesting to see the press back then being just as awful now, screeching away:

"The New York Journal and New York World, owned respectively by William Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer, gave Maine intense press coverage, employing tactics that would later be labeled "yellow journalism". Both papers exaggerated and distorted any information they could obtain, sometimes even fabricating news when none that fitted their agenda was available. For a week following the sinking, the Journal devoted a daily average of eight and a half pages of news, editorials and pictures to the event. Its editors sent a full team of reporters and artists to Havana, including Frederic Remington, and Hearst announced a reward of \$50,000 "for the conviction of the criminals who sent 258 American sailors to their deaths."

The World, while overall not as lurid or shrill in tone as the Journal, nevertheless indulged in similar theatrics, insisting continually that Maine had been bombed or mined. Privately, Pulitzer believed that "nobody outside a lunatic asylum" really believed that Spain sanctioned Maine's destruction. Nevertheless, this did not stop the World from insisting that the only "atonement" Spain could offer the U.S. for the loss of ship and life, was the granting of complete Cuban independence. Nor did it stop the paper from accusing Spain of "treachery, willingness, or laxness" for failing to ensure the safety of Havana Harbor. The American public, already agitated over reported Spanish atrocities in Cuba, was driven to increased hysteria.

William Randolph Hearst's reporting on Maine whipped up support for military action against the Spanish in Cuba regardless of their actual involvement in the sinking. He frequently cited various naval officers saying that the explosion could not have been an on-board accident. He quoted an "officer high in authority" as saying "The idea that the catastrophe resulted from an internal accident is preposterous. In the first place, such a thing has never occurred before that I have ever heard of either in the British navy or ours."

Ah, yellow journalism. So different to the press of today. I love that the Pulitzer Prize is named after this douche. I wonder, is he... it says he's Hungarian... no wait, he is Jewish. The shock. His rival, Hearst, was descended from a Collins. Following the Hearst bloodline downstream we reach Patty. I'm not investigating this properly but that reeks of the usual trickery. e.g. the 8 bullets that killed Marcus Foster but despite being cyanide-laced didn't kill Robert Blackburn who was clipped in the shooting. You would think the cyanide would mess him up pretty bad. The Symbionese Liberation Army was lead by Mr DeFreeze – oldest of 8 children – who was raised by a Pastor William Foster (name echo!) and was strongly suspected of being an LAPD informant. Other members included "ex" 101st Airborne veteran Joe Remiro (Romero?), Angela Atwood (so, Jewish like the awful Margaret Atwood who created the Men-Are-Pigs anti-Christian rape-porn series The Handmaidens Tale) and Nancy Ling Perry. You can see the pattern from space. Anyway, I'm getting sidetracked.

My point here is: the Americans (i.e. the Washington D.C. based faction of the Phoenician Empire) wanted to take Spanish possessions such as Cuba and the Philippines (geostrategic interests, resources and so on) and were involved in the usual dirty tricks, to recap:

- Use natives who are your spook assets to act as local revolutionary “leaders” or “dissidents”.
- Create fake explosions / disasters to blame on the country you want to attack.
- Use the mass media to lie and gaslight on events so the mob think that something must be done.
- Have the war you wanted and make a load of money from what you steal afterwards.

Or did they? Let us turn to the Pacific Theatre of the Spanish-American war:

*“In the **333** years of Spanish rule, the Philippines developed from a small overseas colony governed from the Mexico-based Viceroyalty of New Spain to a land with modern elements in the cities. The Spanish-speaking middle classes of the 19th century were mostly educated in the liberal ideas coming from Europe. Among these **Ilustrados** was the Filipino national hero José Rizal, who demanded larger reforms from the Spanish authorities. **This movement eventually led to the Philippine Revolution against Spanish colonial rule. The revolution had been in a state of truce since the signing of the Pact of Biak-na-Bato in 1897, with revolutionary leaders having accepted exile outside of the country.***

Lt. William Warren Kimball, Staff Intelligence Officer with the Naval War College prepared a plan for war with Spain including the Philippines on June 1, 1896 known as “the Kimball Plan”.”

And:

*“On April 23, 1898, a document from Governor General Basilio Augustín appeared in the Manila Gazette newspaper warning of the impending war and calling for Filipinos to participate on the side of Spain. Theodore Roosevelt, who was at that time Assistant Secretary of the Navy, ordered Commodore George Dewey, commanding the Asiatic Squadron of the United States Navy: “Order the squadron... **to Hong Kong**. Keep full of coal. In the event of declaration of war with Spain, your duty will be to see that the Spanish squadron does not leave the Asiatic coast, and **then offensive operations in Philippine Islands.**” Dewey's squadron departed on April 27 for the Philippines, reaching Manila Bay on the evening of April 30.”*

Dewey, or Admiral George Dewey, is this chap:



Always the manlet energy with these people. Despite this, he has an impressive rep:

*“George Dewey (December 26, 1837 – January 16, 1917) was **Admiral of the Navy, the only person in United States history to have attained that rank.** He is **best known** for his victory at the **Battle of Manila Bay** during the Spanish–American War, **with the loss of only a single crewman on the American side.**”*

This immediately smells fishy. One casualty!? We will see.

*“Dewey was born in Montpelier, Vermont. At **age 15**, Dewey's father enrolled him at **Norwich University** in Northfield, Vermont. **Two years later Norwich expelled him for drunkenness and herding sheep into the barracks.** Summarily, **he entered the United States Naval Academy** in 1854. He graduated from the academy in 1858 and was assigned as the **executive lieutenant** of the USS Mississippi at the beginning of the Civil War.”*

If you've read the series so far you'll probably see where this is going. Rich bloodline kid gets the top spot. FYI, Dewey is the Anglicised version of the Welsh Dewi, or Dafydd, which is David. “Tradition” from Fiddler on the Roof starts playing in my mind. We then note that if you look at [his dad's page](#), the grandfather of Admiral Dewey is Mr. **Simeon** Dewey, born at **Hebron**, Connecticut, in 1770, who married Prudence **Yemans** in 1794. The Topol music goes up a notch.

Yemans is an interesting name, it jumped out at me. I note this similarity: [Yeamans](#).

“Yeamans was one of a large, often prominent, family named Yeamans or Yeomans of Bristol, England some of whom later became Quakers. One prominent member of the family was Robert Yeamans a sheriff of Bristol. In 1643 he plotted to seize a city gate and let in a Royalist army to overwhelm the Parliamentary garrison. The plot was discovered and he along with some fellow conspirators were executed by the Parliamentary military governor for treason.”

Father of Admiral Dewey is [Julius Yemans Dewey](#), his bio is an interesting read. We learn of his illustrious career (becoming a schoolteacher at a young age... to train himself to be a doctor... and ended up running a major insurance company). He later marries childhood sweetheart Mary Perrin. Perrin is a [variant](#) of Perry ala [Katy](#) / [Matthew](#) or Perron such as [Eva](#). Or, y'know, more relevant to this series: [Commodore Perry](#). Again with the bloodlines and the fiddler on the roof playing. An amusing extract on Julius's page concerns the education of his soon to be famous son George [who once threw rocks at a teacher who responded by beating the crap out of an entire classroom of reprobate children with a stick](#). Almost certainly fake, but based.

Anyway, rock slinging nobility Jew Dewey then goes off to Naval college. After graduation on 18th June 1858 he “[was assigned to one of the best ships of the old Navy—the steam frigate USS Wabash](#)”. [He was just that good](#). We'll skip over the Confederate years (forgive me reader, my sanity requires it) and we learn that in 1896 Dewey wants to be Commander of the Asiatic Squadron. We read:

*“Although Dewey was a long shot for the position, **his friend Theodore Roosevelt arranged for President William McKinley to select Dewey over a more senior officer.** The Commodore hoisted his pennant on board USS Olympia at **Nagasaki** in January 1898, and departed for **Hong Kong** in February to inspect the U.S. warships lying in Hong Kong harbour. Upon arrival, he learned that **the Maine had blown up in Havana Harbor.** Dewey was sceptical that the country would go to war, writing, “I don't see what we have to gain in a war with Spain.” However, **he was confident of victory**, writing, “**I expect to capture the Spanish ships and reduce the defences of Manila in one day.**””*

It must be nice to get work so easily. You want a job, aren't the best candidate, but you get in anyway via a friend. Of the President. How the other half live, eh?

So, Dewey gets his orders to take Manila and sets sail. This brings us to the joke that is the Battle of Manila Bay. As per Wikipedia:

*“The American Asiatic Squadron under Commodore George Dewey engaged and destroyed the Spanish Pacific Squadron under Contraalmirante (Rear admiral) Patricio Montojo. The battle took place in Manila Bay in the Philippines, and was the first major engagement of the Spanish–American War. **The battle was one of the most decisive naval battles in history and marked the end of the Spanish colonial period in Philippine history.**”*

And:

*“On 1 May, the American squadron steamed into Manila Bay to engage with the Spanish. The Spanish, aware that they were **hopelessly outgunned**, made a desperate defence against the Americans. The battle was not much of contest, with superior American naval gunnery and seamanship ensuring the entire Spanish fleet would be sunk with minimal casualties for the Americans, **who suffered only ten casualties in all**. Upon realising that the battle was hopeless, **Montojo ordered his two protected cruisers to be scuttled** to ensure that they did not fall into the hands of the Americans.”*

Bear in mind when you read about this battle that Montojo and his Spanish forces were only pretending to fight. There was no Spanish-American war. It was a pre-agreed handover of territory but with some mock battles used to save face. Indeed they tell you this on Wikipedia, albeit without the emphasis I'm giving it:

*“Americans living on the West Coast of the United States feared a Spanish attack at the outbreak of the Spanish–American War. **Only a few U.S. Navy warships, led by the cruiser USS Olympia, stood between them and a powerful Spanish fleet.** In practice however Olympia was far superior to the Spanish colonial fleet, as the battle would show.”*

As echoed later with Japan... or the Soviet Union... or now China. Americans being spooked by their own countries propaganda mills of theoretical threats. Only the Olympia protects us! Los Angeles will be raided by cackling Hispanic corsairs! Etc.

*“Admiral Montojo, a career Spanish naval officer who had been dispatched rapidly to the Philippines, **was equipped with a variety of obsolete vessels**. Efforts to strengthen his position amounted to little. **The strategy adopted by the Spanish bureaucracy suggested they could not win a war and saw resistance as little more than a face-saving exercise.**”*

Boom. Right there on the page. There was no Asiatic fleet the Spanish could deploy to wipe out the American Navy. They had nothing, just junk. So they send Montojo to oversee the “battle”.

“Administration actions worked against the effort, sending explosives meant for naval mines to civilian construction companies while the Spanish fleet in Manila was seriously undermanned by inexperienced sailors who had not received any training for over a year.”

No, they weren't working “against” anything, it was the agreed plan. The Spanish are winding up their holdings in the Pacific and giving them to the Americans. Presumably in exchange for cash or a time share in Florida or something.

*“Reinforcements **promised from Madrid** resulted in only **two poorly-armoured scout cruisers** being sent while at the same time the authorities transferred a squadron from the Manila fleet under Admiral Pascual Cervera **to reinforce the Caribbean**. Admiral Montojo had originally wanted to confront the Americans at Subic Bay, north-west of Manila Bay, **but abandoned that idea when he learned the planned mines and coastal defences were lacking and the cruiser Castilla started to leak**. Montojo compounded his difficulties **by placing his ships outside the range of Spanish coastal artillery (which might have evened the odds) and choosing a relatively shallow anchorage**. His intent seems to have been to spare Manila from bombardment and to allow any survivors of his fleet **to swim to safety**. **The harbour was protected by six shore batteries and three forts whose fire during the battle proved to be ineffective**. Only Fort San Antonio Abad had guns with enough range to reach the American fleet, **but Dewey never came within their range during the battle.**”*

They’ve literally co-ordinated this to make it an easy win, a sitting duck. The Americans can swoop in and sink a few leaky old vessels. There are no mines or properly trained crew or even artillery support / shore cannon. He’s even thought of the details that if any of the rookie sailors fall overboard by accident in the commotion they’ll go into shallow water so they can swim to shore more safely. Casualties?

Belligerents	
 United States	 Spain
Commanders and leaders	
 George Dewey	 Patricio Montojo
Strength	
4 protected cruisers	2 protected cruisers
2 gunboats	5 unprotected cruisers
1 revenue cutter	5 gunboats
2 transport ships ^[a]	1 transport ship ^[a]
Casualties and losses	
1 dead of illness ^[1]	77 killed
9 wounded	271 wounded ^[2]
1 protected cruiser damaged	2 protected cruisers scuttled
	5 unprotected cruisers sunk
	1 transport ship sunk

1 dead of illness! Ha! 9 wounded, OK, that could be incredibly minor so that’s your “ten casualties” mentioned earlier. Ridiculous. The Spanish allegedly have 348 casualties, but again mostly wounded, less than 80 killed and it’s not like anyone is scrambling to authenticate the 77 deceased. They’ll be paper soldiers, who only exist on the paperwork for monetary claims, as per the paper on Ichi-Go. Montojo makes sure the armoured (protected) cruisers are sunk by his own men and the Americans easily sink a bunch of old unarmoured cruisers and a transport ship. If you hover over the (a) footnote under Strength you get this:

*“Accounts of the numbers of vessels involved vary. Admiral Dewey said, “The Spanish line of battle was formed by the Reina Cristina (flag), Castilla, Don Juan de Austria, Don Antonio de Ulloa, Isla de Luzon, Isla de Cuba, and Marques del Duero.” **Another source** lists the order of battle as consisting of **nine U.S. ships** (two not engaged) and **13 Spanish ships** (five not engaged*

and one not present). *Still another source says that the Spanish naval force consisted of seven unarmoured ships. Yet another source says that Dewey's squadron included four cruisers (two armoured), two gunboats, and one revenue cutter; and that the Spanish fleet consisted of one modern cruiser half the size of Dewey's Olympia, one old wooden cruiser, and five gunboats.*”

So I point out that, once again, nobody can give a straight answer. You would obviously have a record from the Spanish of what resources they had deployed to defend Manila Bay, this would be a simple thing for a Proper Historian™ to check, but no, over a century later we don't know how many ships were actually involved.

Anyway, so there was a fake naval battle that made Dewey very important and famous. However, the Philippines were not fully in the grubby paws of the Americans just yet. Oh no, for there needed to be a capturing of the capital – Manila itself – via infantry.

This brings us to the Battle of Manila, which collapses like wet tissue in the opening section:

*“The Battle of Manila (Filipino: Labanan sa Maynila; Spanish: Batalla de Manila), sometimes called the Mock Battle of Manila, was a land engagement which took place in Manila on **August 13, 1898**, at the end of the Spanish–American War, four months after the decisive victory by Commodore Dewey's Asiatic Squadron at the Battle of Manila Bay. The belligerents were Spanish forces led by Governor-General of the Philippines Fermín Jáudenes, and American forces led by United States Army Major General Wesley Merritt and United States Navy Commodore George Dewey. American forces were supported by units of the Philippine Revolutionary Army, led by Emilio Aguinaldo.*

The battle is sometimes referred to as the "Mock Battle of Manila" because the local commanders of the Spanish and American forces, who were legally at war, secretly and jointly planned the battle to transfer control of the city centre from the Spanish to the Americans while keeping the Philippine Revolutionary Army out of the city centre. The battle left American forces in control of Intramuros, the centre of Manila, surrounded by Philippine revolutionary forces, creating the conditions for the Battle of Manila of 1899 and the start of the Philippine–American War.”

Translation: it was a pre-agreed handover of colonial occupation from the Spanish (Iberian Phoenician faction) to the American (Washington DC Phoenician faction) military. Spot the funny numbers here:

Belligerents	
 United States	 Spanish Empire
 Filipino Revolutionaries	•  Philippines
Commanders and leaders	
 Wesley Merritt	 Fermin Jáudenes
 Arthur MacArthur Jr.	 Basilio Agustín
 George Dewey	
 Emilio Aguinaldo	
 Antonio Luna	
Strength	
 10,700	 13,000
 40,000	
Casualties and losses	
 19 killed, 103 wounded	 49 killed, 1 fort

Big oof. 13,000 men fight 50,000 troops and only lose 49 people? 103 wounded? Come on lads this is too easy! Wikipedia then casually explains the entire battle was complete theatre:

*“Realizing that it was only a matter of time before the city fell, and fearing vengeance and looting if the city fell to Filipino revolutionaries, **Governor Jáudenes suggested to Dewey, through the Belgian consul, Édouard André, that the city be surrendered to the Americans after a short, "mock" battle.** Dewey had initially rejected the suggestion because he lacked the troops to block the Filipino revolutionary forces, but when Merritt's troops became available he sent a message to Jáudenes, **agreeing to the mock battle.***

*Merritt was eager to seize the city, but Dewey stalled while trying to work out a bloodless solution with Jáudenes. On August 4, Dewey and Merritt gave Jáudenes 48 hours to surrender, later extending the deadline by five days when it expired. Covert negotiations continued, with the details of the mock battle being arranged on August 10. **The plan agreed to was that Dewey would begin a bombardment at 09:00 on August 13, shelling only Fort San Antonio Abad, a decrepit structure on the southern outskirts of Manila, and the impregnable walls of Intramuros. Simultaneously, Spanish forces would withdraw, Filipino revolutionaries would be checked, and U.S. forces would advance.** Once a sufficient show of battle had been made, Dewey would hoist the signal "D.W.H.B." (meaning "Do you surrender?"), whereupon the Spanish would hoist a white flag and Manila would formally surrender to U.S. forces. **Under this plan, Spanish forces would be defeated by American forces, while Filipino forces would not be allowed to enter the city. This minimized the risk of unnecessary casualties on all sides, while the Spanish would also avoid the shame of possibly having to surrender Intramuros to the Filipino forces.***

And:

*“**Though a bloodless mock battle had been planned, Spanish troops had opened fire in a skirmish which left six Americans and forty-nine Spaniards dead when Filipino revolutionaries, thinking that the attack was genuine, joined advancing U.S. troops. Except for the unplanned casualties, the battle had gone according to plan; the Spanish had surrendered the city to the Americans, and it had not fallen to the Filipino revolutionaries. 19 American soldiers were killed, and 103 more were wounded in this action.***

I really like this coming to light. We've got a nice, openly admitted and official case of a "mock battle" to minimise casualties in a handover of territory, pre-agreed by military/Imperial forces. They put on a show for the locals but anyone actually hurt or killed is accidental because some people got too carried away and took it seriously. Now think back to Singapore. Or Rangoon. Or Hong Kong. Or the Dutch East Indies collapse. It's all the same thing. The Japanese get to play the occupier for a time, until the Rising Sun sets and the Americans have their turn.

While these powers were playing pass the parcel with Manila you had the capture of Guam, which is almost as ridiculous:

*“**The Capture of Guam was a bloodless engagement between the United States and Spain during the Spanish–American War. The U.S. Navy sent a single cruiser, USS Charleston, to capture the island of Guam, then under Spanish control. However, the Spanish garrison on the island had no knowledge of the war and no real ability to resist the American forces. They surrendered without resistance and the island passed into American control. The event was the only conflict of the Spanish–American War on Guam.***

And:

*“Charleston was sent to raise the American flag over Guam, then a Spanish possession. At daybreak on 20 June, the little convoy arrived off the north end of Guam. Charleston investigated the harbour at Agana, then proceeded to Apra Harbor. Leaving the transports safely anchored outside, **Charleston sailed boldly into the harbour, firing a challenge at Fort Santa Cruz. Almost at once, a boatload of Spanish authorities came out to apologize for having no gunpowder with which to return the presumed salute. They were astounded to learn that a state of war existed, and that the American ships had come to take the island.** The next day the surrender was received by a landing party sent ashore from Charleston. With the Spanish governor and the island's garrison of 69 as prisoners in one of the transports, Charleston then sailed to join Admiral George Dewey's fleet in Manila Bay.”*

You can read about the [Treaty of Paris of 1898](#) where the Americans paid Spain \$20 million and get the Philippines, Guam, Puerto Rico, Cuba etc. as their property. That was the end of the Spanish Empire, essentially.

This, obviously, put the Americans in charge as the new occupation force and the Filipinos were not too happy about that. Thankfully the Americans had already saturated their resistance forces with their own assets, such as Freemason [Emilio Aguinaldo](#) who was relaxing in (where else?) Hong Kong in “exile” prior to the Americans shipping him back in just in time for the new occupation. You can read about his spookiness on Wikipedia, I won't bore you with a blow by blow (e.g. first he's a rebel, then he swears an oath of allegiance to the Americans, then helps the Japanese etc.) but I did enjoy this bit:

*“After US forces returned to the Philippines in **October** 1944, Aguinaldo went into hiding in order to avoid being captured and potentially killed. During the Battle of Manila, however, members of the Marking Guerrillas resistance force were able to track his whereabouts, and arrested him on February **8**, 1945. **Aguinaldo was then placed under house arrest as the US Army's Counter-intelligence Corps investigated his collaboration with the Japanese. Despite his claims that he had secretly remained loyal to the US throughout the war, and that he, as well as other Axis collaborators, had only been forced to collaborate with Japan under great duress and should therefore all be granted amnesty, the People's Court of the Philippines nonetheless charged Aguinaldo with **11** counts of treason** for his “wholehearted” support for and collaboration with the Empire of Japan.*

*Aguinaldo was 77 when the US government recognized Philippine independence in the Treaty of Manila on July 4, 1946, in accordance with the Tydings–McDuffie Act of 1934. On January 28, 1948, **Philippine president Manuel Roxas granted amnesty to all Filipinos who had collaborated with the Empire of Japan, and as a result Aguinaldo's charges were dropped and his trial was never held.**”*

We also have [this choice quote](#):

“In the final analysis, Aguinaldo's instance on fighting a conventional war against the U.S. during the first months of the conflict proved to have been a fatal mistake. By the time it switched to potentially more effective guerrilla tactics, the Filipino Army had suffered losses from which it could never recover.”

So the usual then.

During the American occupation of the Philippines there was effectively two decades worth of bitter rebellion and insurgency as the natives tried to firmly and repeatedly ask the Americans to go

away. The Americans, predictably, were having none of it. They had paid their \$20 million and wanted to get their monies worth.

I say two decades because although they split it as two conflicts it's essentially one ongoing rebellion – the Philippine–American War: February 4, 1899 – July 2, 1902 and the Moro Rebellion: February 4, 1899 – June 15, 1913.

“While relatively short compared to past and future wars, the Philippine-American War was especially bloody and brutal. An estimated 20,000 Filipino revolutionaries and 4,200 American soldiers died in combat. Also, as many as 200,000 Filipino civilians died from starvation or disease or were killed as “collateral damage” during battles. Other estimates placed total deaths as high as 6,000 Americans and 300,000 Filipinos.”

You can read about General Jacob H Smith, who was notorious for being *a bit naughty* when it came to dealing with the locals:

“Smith's plan involved stopping the flow of food and causing extensive destruction in order to make the people of Samar abandon their support for the rebels out of fear and malnutrition and turn to the Americans instead. He ordered, “kill everyone over the age of ten [and make the island] a howling wilderness.”

This came about due to the Battle of Balangiga:

*“In the summer of 1901, Brigadier General Robert P. Hughes, who commanded the Department of the Visayas and was responsible for Samar, instigated **an aggressive policy of food deprivation and property destruction** on the island. The objective was to force the end of Philippine resistance. Part of his strategy was to close three key ports on the southern coast, Basey, Balangiga and Guiuan.*

*Samar was a major centre for the production of **Manila hemp**, the trade of which was financing Philippine forces on the island. At the same time **United States interests were eager to secure control of the hemp trade, which was a vital material both for the United States Navy and American agro-industries such as cotton.**”*

The Battle of Balangiga was a very real and definitely not bullshit story of an ambush of American troops over breakfast in a village on Samar island. Read about it in full, you'll enjoy a tale of cross-dressing guerillas, bolos hidden in coffins, baseball bat wielding privates and the rather improbable outcome that despite being ambushed by several hundred machete swinging guerillas in a melee, only roughly half the American troops were killed outright and the rest were able to run away to fight another day.

Rather than being hacked apart on the spot, which would be the rather more realistic outcome if this were to occur.

*“Of the 74 men in Company C, 36 were killed in action, including all its commissioned officers: Captain Thomas W. Connell, First Lieutenant Edward A. Bumpus and Major Richard S. Griswold. Twenty-two were wounded in action and four were missing in action. **Eight** died later of wounds received in combat; only four escaped unscathed.[33]”*

Footnote 33 indeed. Fitting. The ambush was regarded by the Americans as the “*worst defeat of United States Army soldiers since the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876*”... that might say more

about Bighorn than they intended. Anyway, this supposed ambush put fire in people's bellies for adequate retribution, leading to Gen. Smith giving the following exchange with Major Waller:

"Smith instructed Major Littleton Waller, commanding officer of a battalion of 315 U.S. Marines assigned to bolster his forces in Samar, regarding the conduct of pacification:

"I want no prisoners. I wish you to kill and burn, the more you kill and burn the better it will please me. I want all persons killed who are capable of bearing arms in actual hostilities against the United States," General Jacob H. Smith said.

Since it was a popular belief among the Americans serving in the Philippines that native males were born with bolos in their hands, Major Littleton "Tony" Waller asked, "I would like to know the limit of age to respect, sir."

"Ten years", Smith said.

"Persons of ten years and older are those designated as being capable of bearing arms?"

"Yes." Smith confirmed his instructions a second time."

And:

"American columns marched across the island, destroying homes and shooting people and draft animals. Littleton Waller, in a report, stated that over an eleven-day period his men burned 255 dwellings, shot 13 carabaos and killed 39 people.

The Judge Advocate General of the Army observed that only the good sense and restraint of the majority of Smith's subordinates prevented a complete reign of terror in Samar. The abuses outraged anti-Imperialist groups in the United States when these became known in March 1902.

The exact number of Filipinos killed by US troops will never be known. A population shortfall of about 15,000 is apparent between the Spanish census of 1887 and the American census of 1903, but how much of the shortfall is due to a disease epidemic and known natural disasters and how many due to combat is difficult to determine. Population growth in 19th century Samar was amplified by an influx of workers for the booming hemp industry, an influx which certainly ceased during the Samar campaign.

Exhaustive research in the 1990s made by British writer Bob Couttie as part of a ten-year study of the Balangiga massacre tentatively put the figure at about 2,500; David Fritz used population ageing techniques and suggested a figure of just more than 2,000 losses in males of combat age but nothing to support widespread killing of women and children. Some American and Filipino historians believe it to be around 50,000, but those high estimates are thought to have resulted from typographical errors and misreading of documents. The rate of Samar's population growth slowed as refugees fled from Samar to Leyte, yet still the population of Samar increased by 21,456 during the war."

So who knows, right? Did the Americans massacre a bunch of civilians? Were the deaths in the Philippine mostly due to the occupation? Or the tit-for-tat property/agricultural destruction by both the resistance fighters and the US Army causing famine? Or natural disasters?

I think the testimony from Smith is worth considering as an insight into what at least some of the American military leadership were comfortable with. We also have photographs such as this:



“U.S. soldiers pose with Moro dead after the battle” - original [here](#).

If that is real, it is really sick, since we see a bunch of guys posing next to nude female corpses and dead children. Great idea for a photo, right? Even if these people were killed by a flood or something, rather than war, I don't see why anyone would pose next to it. Since nothing else we have seen has been real, I will assume this was also staged or pasted up somehow.

Anyway, I'm not really mentally equipped to do a deep dive on the population density of various archipelago villages in the late 19th Century at this time so I won't dwell on the American-Philippine war further. Possibly one of Miles' more educated readers can contribute on this topic. I just thought it was interesting to shine a torch on it, as the reader may not know about any of this.

My main point out of all the stuff we've covered so far is: the Americans screw over the Philippine population and take over from the Spanish Empire, they end up embroiled in a war that lasts for years. This, naturally, means that the local population don't like the Americans and want them out of the country.

We can then consider the impact of World War 2 and bear in mind the thing that allowed the Americans to get involved in Manilla in the first place: as with the “Battle of Manilla Bay” and the “Battle of Manilla” in 1898 – a mock battle. A handover battle. Something pre-scripted, pre-agreed, fake.

The temporary Japanese occupation in the 40's meant that when the US returned a couple of years later, everyone was very grateful for their arrival. Suddenly the Americans are heroic. Freedom bringers. How nice, how convenient. You could almost describe the whole arc of events as a PR campaign.

Moving on: it is time for some glorious nepotism.

*"Arthur MacArthur Jr. (June 2, 1845 – September 5, 1912) was a lieutenant general of the United States Army. He became the military **Governor-General of the American-occupied Philippines** in 1900; his term ended a year later due to clashes with the civilian governor, future U.S. President William Howard Taft."*



Another absolute beast of a man, who could arm wrestle a gorilla and eat five steaks for dinner. Original [here](#).

His father was Arthur MacArthur Senior, *"a **Scottish**-American immigrant, lawyer, and judge. He was the fourth Governor of Wisconsin and was an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia."*



MacArthur the elder is, as his page notes, from Clan Arthur, which is essentially interchangeable with Clan Campbell:

*"During the reign of Alexander III (r.1249-1286), the Clan Campbell made its first appearance, and was divided into two branches; **Mac Cailinmor** and **Mac Arthur**. The nineteenth century historian William F. Skene wrote that during the reign of Robert I (r.1306–1329), **the Mac***

Cailinmor branch (descendants of Colin Mor Campbell) did not possess any land in what is now Argyll, while Mac Arthur, ***head of the Mac Arthur branch*** was in possession of extensive territory in the earldom Garmoran, ***which was the original seat of the Campbells***. Skene wrote that "it is therefore impossible to doubt that Mac Arthur was at this time the head of the clan, and this position he appears to have maintained until the reign of James I of Scotland."

Arthur Campbell, of the Mac Arthur branch, along with Neil Campbell, of the Mac Cailinmor branch, supported Robert the Bruce and were richly rewarded by the king with the forfeited lands of his opponents."

This makes him a) related to Scottish nobility, i.e. Robert the Bruce, and b) related to the Stewarts. From the Clan Campbell page on Wikipedia:

"Descendants of Sir Duncan Campbell, 1st Lord Campbell (Donnchadh), and his wife Lady Marjorie Stewart are descendants of Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland, and Robert II Stewart, King of Scotland. Lady Marjorie Stewart (born circa 1390) was the daughter of King Robert II's son, Robert Stewart, 1st Duke of Albany. This makes all descendants of Sir Duncan Campbell and Lady Marjorie Stewart descendants of Robert I Bruce and of most of the early kings of Scotland."

So anyway, MacArthur the elder helps MacArthur Jr. get into the military. At the age of 18, not long into his military career Arthur MacArthur Jr. becomes famous for his deeds in the Battle of Missionary Ridge. Now, I'm not going to delve into Civil War stuff too closely because, again, my sanity requires I attempt to limit this series to the Pacific war only. I must quote this however, as it's great:

"At the Battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863, during the Chattanooga Campaign, the 18-year-old MacArthur inspired his regiment during a largely uncoordinated and spontaneous frontal assault of Union forces against entrenched Confederate forces on a hilltop. During the charge the regimental flags were carried in front, so that every flag-bearer was constantly a target, causing immense casualty among them. MacArthur seized the flag from a fallen comrade and planted the regimental flag on the crest of Missionary Ridge 35°17.15"N 85°15'51.02" at a particularly critical moment, shouting "On Wisconsin." For these actions, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. He was brevetted colonel in the Union Army the following year. Only 19 years old at the time, he became nationally recognized as "The Boy Colonel" (not to be confused with Henry K. Burgwyn, known as the "Boy Colonel of the Confederacy")."

I mean. Come on.

He ran up the hill... held the flag high... and yelled "On Wisconsin". Sure – and then everyone clapped. It's like the Dawn of War video game intro.

We also learn:

"In the several years that followed, he was assigned to serve at various times as commander of the Department of the Colorado, the Lakes, the East, and eventually the Pacific Division. When the Russo-Japanese War exploded in early 1904, eight American officers were promptly sent to the Manchurian front as observers. Chafing at the bit at his headquarters in Fort Mason, San Francisco, MacArthur requested that he also be assigned as a military observer upon hearing of the outbreak of war between Russia and Japan in 1904. He finally secured the appointment, but arrived in Manchuria in mid-March, 1905, just after the major fighting had ended with the

Japanese triumph at the Battle of Mukden. When the Portsmouth Peace Conference was convened in August, **MacArthur was sent to Tokyo as military attaché to the American legation.**

During Secretary of War William Howard Taft's 1905 trip to Japan, Taft also met with MacArthur, as he was now the United States military attaché to Japan, in Yokohama (likely at the Oriental Palace Hotel where MacArthur and his wife, Mrs. "Pinky" MacArthur, were staying). In the course of this meeting, it was decided 1st Lieutenant Douglas MacArthur would replace Captain Paul W. West as Maj. Gen. MacArthur's aide-de-camp and accompany him on a 'reconnaissance mission' to various Asian countries from November 1, 1905, through late June 1906 travelling over 20,000 miles, per Douglas MacArthur vouchers. "

Lt. Douglas MacArthur being of course his son. We'll get to him in a minute.

"On July 17, 1906, MacArthur, Mrs. MacArthur, and Douglas MacArthur sailed from Yokohama and arrived at San Francisco to resume his post at Fort Mason as Commander of the Pacific Division. In this capacity he was promoted to lieutenant general in September 1906, but though now the highest-ranking officer in the Army, was not elevated to chief of staff then or later. Brigadier General J. Franklin Bell had been made the chief of staff while MacArthur was in Asia on April 14, 1906, and subsequently promoted to major general on 3 January 1907.

In early 1907, MacArthur, after 47 years of devoted and distinguished service, was told by Taft's War Department that he had been passed over for chief of staff of the Army. Instead of chief of staff, he was offered command of the Eastern department. MacArthur refused Taft's offer of commanding the Eastern department, stating that it would mean a humiliating reduction in authority for him. MacArthur proposed that the War Department either accept his retirement or assign him to some "special duty" which would not be an affront to his honour. Shortly thereafter, MacArthur received orders to 'proceed to Milwaukee, there to perform such duties as may hereafter be assigned', but no further duties were given to him. Taft was inaugurated as President of the United States in March 1909, and MacArthur retired quietly from the Army on June 2, 1909. "

I think this speaks for itself, but just in case: the MacArthurs (Stewarts) are absolutely up to their necks in this fake theatre of war. You've got the former Governor (colony manager) of the American occupied Philippines who also works as the military attaché to Japan, working along with his son Douglas, who ends up running Japan post-war.

Interestingly, Arthur died in a very public manner:

"On September 5, 1912, while addressing a reunion of the 24th Wisconsin veterans in Milwaukee, MacArthur was suddenly and fatally stricken by an apoplectic attack (now known as a stroke). As MacArthur recounted "one of the most remarkable scouting expeditions of the war", he told his men, "Your indomitable courage...", then halted his speech with the words, "Comrades, I am too weak to go on". He sat back down and collapsed, dying moments later. "

We then have this rather bizarre sentence:

"A young medical intern, serving as a waiter at the banquet, pronounced him dead on the platform. "

OK. I mean, I guess a waiter could potentially be a medical intern and just happened to be there that night to assist. This seems kind of weird but whatever. It gets stranger when we learn that despite years of military service, he doesn't want a military burial:

*“Both Mrs. MacArthur and Mr. Charles **King**, a retired officer and close friend of MacArthur, carried out MacArthur's final wishes to not be dressed [buried] in his uniform and for the funeral service to be 'utterly devoid' of military display. Except for MacArthur's two sons, the only active military officer present at the funeral was a solitary colonel from a nearby fort. Finally, per MacArthur's final wishes, he was interred in a cemetery in Milwaukee rather than in Arlington National Cemetery. He was originally buried in Milwaukee on Monday, September 7, 1912, but was moved to Section 2 Gravesite 856-A of Arlington National Cemetery in 1926. He is buried among other members of the family there, while his son Douglas chose to be buried in Norfolk, Virginia, the hometown of his mother, Mary Pinkney **Hardy**, and the site of the Hardy family home Riveredge.”*

Yep, his wife was a Hardy. Miles has covered their peerage line [in more detail here](#). Stranger still:

“For some reason, Mrs. MacArthur was only granted a pension of merely \$1,200.00/per year after MacArthur died September 5, 1912, whereas the widows of all other lieutenant generals were receiving \$2,500.00/per year.”

Arthur died at 67 years of age, which is not super young for a stroke and therefore plausible. However, when one reflects on the non-military burial and half-a-pension-for-the-wife there must surely be a story behind all that. No idea what, but it glows like the moon.

Anyway, as previously mentioned the son of Arthur MacArthur is wee [Douglas MacArthur](#).



Douglas MacArthur, escaping a secret underground Japanese military base using the air vents, near Manila, 1941.

As per Wikipedia, we get this gem:

*“Of the extended family, MacArthur is also distantly related to **Matthew Perry**, a Commodore of the U.S. Navy.”*

Incredible. It's the same bloody family! Perry's and MacArthurs and Stewarts! **The entire cast of Friends and Die Hard, together for the first time.** They're all in on it! The whole Douglas MacArthur Wikipedia page is worth a read. Let us sit together, reader, with a cup of freshly brewed coffee and learn about this undoubtedly very masculine heterosexual man and his very real accomplishments.

First, we learn that MacArthur (Douglas, not his dad Arthur) was a rootin' tootin' cowboy child:

*"The family lived **on a succession of Army posts in the American Old West**. Conditions were **primitive**, and Malcolm died of measles in 1883. In his memoir, *Reminiscences*, MacArthur wrote **"I learned to ride and shoot even before I could read or write—indeed, almost before I could walk and talk."***

Pretty awesome, right? He's out there riding horses and shooting Indians in the face before he could even speak. A tough guy you wouldn't want to mess with.

*"Douglas was extremely close with his mother and often considered a **"mama's boy."** **Until around the age of 8, she dressed him in skirts and kept his hair long and in curls."***

...what? Well. Let's ignore that. I'm sure all the cowboys in the Old West wore skirts and had long hair. So later MacArthur goes to the West Point United States Military Academy. OK, that's cool. Less cool was that his mom came along and lived on campus with him:

*"MacArthur entered West Point on **13** June 1899, and his mother also moved there, to a suite at Craney's Hotel, **which overlooked the grounds of the academy."***

He didn't like getting teased by his peers at the academy for being a prissy rich kid whose mother lived on campus with him, so he did the only reasonable thing and snitched to the authorities.

*"Hazing was widespread at West Point at this time, and MacArthur and his classmate Ulysses S. Grant III were **singled out** for special attention by Southern cadets **as sons of generals with mothers living at Craney's**. When Cadet Oscar Booz left West Point after being hazed and subsequently died of tuberculosis, there was a congressional inquiry. **MacArthur was called to appear before a special Congressional committee in 1901, where he testified against cadets implicated in hazing**, but downplayed his own hazing even though the other cadets gave the full story to the committee. **Congress subsequently outlawed acts "of a harassing, tyrannical, abusive, shameful, insulting or humiliating nature"**, although hazing continued."*

Nice. Being a snitch with no repartee earned him rapid promotion and I'm sure nothing but the respect and admiration of his classmates:

"MacArthur was a corporal in Company B in his second year, a first sergeant in Company A in his third year and First Captain in his final year."

By the time he's a Junior Officer he supposedly kills random bandits while walking around in the Philippines which I'm sure helped give him some street cred and wasn't fictional:

*"In November 1903, while working on Guimaras, **he was ambushed by a pair of Filipino brigands or guerrillas; he shot and killed both with his pistol**. He was promoted to first lieutenant in Manila in April 1904. In October 1904, his tour of duty was cut short when he **contracted malaria and dhobi itch** during a survey on Bataan."*

He was definitely not on holiday, got hungover and came home early because he'd had enough. He had the dhobi itch, dammit! That's a thing. Now bring the poor boy some lemon tea. Then he became his dad's PA and went on a world tour:

"In October 1905, MacArthur received orders to proceed to Tokyo for appointment as aide-de-camp to his father. A man who knew the MacArthurs at this time wrote that: "Arthur MacArthur was the most flamboyantly egotistical man I had ever seen, until I met his son." They inspected Japanese military bases at Nagasaki, Kobe and Kyoto, then headed to India via Shanghai, Hong Kong, Java and Singapore, reaching Calcutta in January 1906. In India, they visited Madras, Tuticorin, Quetta, Karachi, the Northwest Frontier and the Khyber Pass. They then sailed to China via Bangkok and Saigon, and toured Canton (Guangzhou), Qingdao, Beijing, Tianjin, Hankou and Shanghai before returning to Japan in June. The next month they returned to the United States, where Arthur MacArthur resumed his duties at Fort Mason, still with Douglas as his aide."

I love that despite the Pentagon-issued gloss on his bio he's so obviously a massive prick. It's like trying to make an elephant disappear by throwing a tea towel over it. We then have some outrageous bullshit from the Veracruz expedition where scriptwriters attempted to make Douglas into a bulletproof action hero:

"On 21 April 1914, President Woodrow Wilson ordered the occupation of Veracruz. MacArthur joined the headquarters staff that was sent to the area, arriving on 1 May 1914. He realized that the logistic support of an advance from Veracruz would require the use of the railroad. Finding plenty of railroad cars in Veracruz but no locomotives, MacArthur set out to verify a report that there were a number of locomotives in Alvarado, Veracruz. For \$150 in gold, he acquired a handcar and the services of three Mexicans, whom he disarmed. MacArthur and his party located five engines in Alvarado, two of which were only switchers, but the other three locomotives were exactly what was required. On the way back to Veracruz, his party was set upon by five armed men. The party made a run for it and outdistanced all but two of the armed men, whom MacArthur shot. Soon after, they were attacked by a group of about fifteen horsemen. MacArthur took three bullets in his clothes but was unharmed. One of his companions was lightly wounded before the horsemen decided to retire after MacArthur shot four of them. Further on, the party was attacked a third time by three mounted men. MacArthur received another bullet hole in his shirt, but his men, using their handcar, managed to outrun all but one of their attackers. MacArthur shot both that man and his horse, and the party had to remove the horse's carcass from the track before proceeding."

(Lestrade breaks off typing until he finishes laughing)



This episode was such obvious fiction that when the Chief of Staff's board had to review whether MacArthur deserved a medal for it they couldn't keep a straight face and refused him.

“A fellow officer wrote to Wood recommending that MacArthur's name be put forward for the Medal of Honor. Wood did so, and Chief of Staff Hugh L. Scott convened a board to consider the award. The board questioned "the advisability of this enterprise having been undertaken without the knowledge of the commanding general on the ground". This was Brigadier General Frederick Funston, a Medal of Honor recipient himself, who considered awarding the medal to MacArthur "entirely appropriate and justifiable". However the board feared that "to bestow the award recommended might encourage any other staff officer, under similar conditions, to ignore the local commander, possibly interfering with the latter's plans"; consequently, MacArthur received no award at all.”

By the time World War 1 roles around, he's promoted again:

“MacArthur returned to the War Department, where he was promoted to major on 11 December 1915. In June 1916, he was assigned as head of the Bureau of Information at the office of the Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker. MacArthur has since been regarded as the Army's first press officer. Following the declaration of war on Germany on 6 April 1917 and the subsequent American entry into World War I, Baker and MacArthur secured an agreement from President Wilson for the use of the National Guard on the Western Front. MacArthur suggested sending first a division organized from units of different states, so as to avoid the appearance of favouritism toward any particular state.”

Americans getting their paws into World War 1. A rich vein of bullshit undoubtedly. Not now though. One war at a time.

“The 42nd Division was assembled in August and September 1917 at Camp Mills, New York, where its training emphasized open-field combat rather than trench warfare.”

Funny you'd have these national guardsmen mess around with open field warfare given the whole “muddy trench-warfare Somme” landscape the war was famous for. You can read about MacArthur's exploits [here](#), he gets shot and gassed and shot and gassed again but never quite dies or gets properly injured, which is convenient. He even captures a brass band:

“In Essey I saw a sight I shall never quite forget. Our advance been so rapid the Germans had evacuated in a panic. There was a German officer's horse saddled and equipped standing in a barn, a battery of guns complete in every detail, and the entire administration and music of a regimental band.”

Being a very heterosexual man who definitely liked women, MacArthur decided to name the 42nd Infantry Division with a suitably imposing name. What do you think he picked, reader? The Iron Wolves? The Night Knives? The Blood Drinkers? The Doom Patrol?

Nah. [The Rainbow Division](#).



“Brigadier General MacArthur holding a riding crop at a French château, September 1918.” - Original [here](#), appropriate background music [here](#).

I think he’s going for “strong, commanding masculine presence”. Somehow he hasn’t quite pulled it off. **More the Hello Sailor look.**

This next photo is telling:



*“Brigadier General MacArthur in the centre in his **unauthorized** WWI uniform. **He never wore a helmet, even in no man's land**, and he would always wear that **modified** hat. **His uniform was completely different from his four subordinates in the photo.**” - original [here](#).*

As the readers have no doubt recognised early on, I am a simple man with no military experience. My gratitude to the helpful chap on Cutting Through the Fog who gently pointed out my blunder regarding “small arms” in a previous paper referring to a firearm carried by an infantryman rather than being, specifically, a handgun. I cringe and learn. Despite my lack of military experience, I think it’s fairly solid to say that *you don’t get to modify your uniform to be whatever, even when you’re a Brigadier.*

A very cynical man – possibly an extremist, fringe theorist and definitely not a Proper Historian™ - would stoop to suggest that this photograph demonstrates a man playing pretend. He is in *costume*. That is why the caption writer for the above photo had to scramble to justify why he’s dressed like he is.

There’s more nonsense involving being shot repeatedly and being uninjured but I’ll move on to post-WW1. By 1919 MacArthur is now the Superintendent at West Point:

*“When MacArthur moved into the superintendent's house **with his mother** in June 1919, he became the youngest superintendent since Sylvanus Thayer in 1817.”*

Bear in mind MacArthur is now around 40 years old, unmarried and living with his mom. This is entirely normal and regular behaviour for a red-blooded American male. “But Lestrade,” I hear you cry, “quit your problematic homophobic mockery, he gets married!”.

Ah yes:

*“MacArthur became romantically involved with socialite and multi-millionaire heiress **Louise Cromwell Brooks**. They were married at her family's villa in Palm Beach, Florida, on **14 February 1922**.”*

Note the Cromwell. I imagine she's MacArthur's cousin. Miles, with his labyrinthine knowledge of bloodlines at this point, will probably be able to rattle off a “six degrees of Kevin Bacon” linking Cromwell / Brooks to the MacArthurs without blinking. **Yeah, they're cousins. But you already knew that.**

If you read her Wiki page, to support the idea that she's a beard, we learn that by the time she marries MacArthur she's a 31 year old divorcee with two children.

*“In late 1921, Brooks met Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur. Walter Borneman describes Brooks at this time as “recently divorced, the mother of two young children, fabulously wealthy, and by all accounts **the epitome of a liberated Roaring Twenties woman** racing a breakneck speed to embrace far more rights than those granted by the recently ratified Nineteenth Amendment.” The pair announced their engagement in mid-January 1922 and were married on Valentine's Day, at **Louise's stepfather's Palm Beach villa**.*

*In September 1922, the couple set out for the Philippines, wither MacArthur had been transferred for overseas service. William Manchester, in his biography of MacArthur, stated that **General John J. Pershing, then the Army Chief of Staff, summarily transferred MacArthur from his post as Superintendent of West Point to the Philippines because Pershing was himself interested in Mrs. Brooks**. She claimed that Pershing wanted to marry her and had threatened to send MacArthur to the Philippines if they married. Pershing said the allegation was “all damn poppycock”. More recently, Richard B. Frank has written that Pershing and Brooks had already “severed” their relationship by the time of MacArthur's transfer; **Brooks was, however, “informal[ly]” engaged to a close aide of Pershing's (she broke off the relationship in order to accept MacArthur's proposal)**. Pershing's letter concerning MacArthur's transfer predated—by a few days—Brooks's and MacArthur's engagement announcement, though this did not dispel the newspaper gossip.”*

Translation: “We need you to play the role of wife to this gay guy.” “But I'm already engaged to this other guy” “Nah, this one is more important” “Alright, fine”.

They're married in '22 but the marriage falls apart within five years:

*“In 1928, MacArthur set out again for the Philippines, this time as commander of the Philippine Department. This time, with his marriage deteriorating, **the general travelled alone**; Louise had moved out of the estate with her children, **adopting as her residence the entire twenty-sixth floor of the Beverly Hotel in Manhattan**. Brooks's marriage to MacArthur ended in divorce in 1929, on the nominal charge of “failure to support”, **though both later acknowledged the real reason to be “incompatibility”**.”*

Incompatibility. Like him being gay.

We read on and I think this is probably the choicest quote yet:

*“By 1930, MacArthur was 50 and still the youngest and one of the best known of the U.S. Army's major generals. He left the Philippines on 19 September 1930 and for a brief time was in command of the IX Corps Area in **San Francisco**. On 21 November, he was sworn in as Chief of Staff of the United States Army, with the rank of general. **While in Washington, he would ride home each day to have lunch with his mother. At his desk, he would wear a Japanese ceremonial kimono, cool himself with an oriental fan, and smoke cigarettes in a jewelled cigarette holder. In the evenings, he liked to read military history books. About this time, he began referring to himself as "MacArthur".***

...how am I the first person seeing this, honestly? And:

*“He had already **hired a public relations staff to promote his image with the American public, together with a set of ideas he was known to favour, namely: a belief that America needed a strongman leader to deal with the possibility that Communists might lead all of the great masses of unemployed into a revolution; that America's destiny was in the Asia-Pacific region; and a strong hostility to the British Empire. One contemporary described MacArthur as the greatest actor to ever serve as a U.S. Army general while another wrote that MacArthur had a court rather than a staff.**”*

Incredible. So he is, transparently, a homosexual Phoenician bloodline rich kid who describes himself in the third person, sits around in his apartment wafting a fan while wearing a silk kimono and hires Hollywood PR types to sell his image as a tough guy macho man to the general public. They're literally describing him as an actor playing a role!

You can read about him helping beat the crap out of the war veterans wanting to get paid (the “Bonus Army” affair) [here](#) and [here](#). Nice guy.

I liked this bit:

*“In 1934, MacArthur sued journalists **Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen for defamation** after they described his treatment of the Bonus marchers as “unwarranted, unnecessary, insubordinate, harsh and brutal”. Also accused for proposing 19-gun salutes for friends, MacArthur asked for \$750,000 to compensate for the damage to his reputation. **In turn, the journalists threatened to call Isabel Rosario Cooper as a witness. MacArthur had met Isabel, a Eurasian teenager, while in the Philippines, and she had become his mistress. MacArthur was forced to settle out of court, secretly paying Pearson \$15,000.**”*

Oh ho! A mistress? From the Philippines! Once again my theories are left in tatters. He's not gay after all, he's banging some gorgeous teenage island girl. What a scandal. Let us view this beauty. We read more on [her wiki page here](#):

*“Elizabeth Cooper (born Isabel Rosario Cooper; January 15, **1914 (or 1909/1912)** – June 29, 1960) was a **Filipina film actress, vaudeville dancer, and singer**. In addition to her brief movie career, Cooper was also known for being **the mistress of General Douglas MacArthur**.*

*Born in Manila, she was famous for the first on-screen kiss in Philippine cinema for the movie, **Ang Tatlong Hambog** (1926) **when she was around the age of 12**. In the 1930s, she met US General Douglas MacArthur and became his paramour **when she was around the age of 16 (or 18/21) and he was in his 50s**. He arranged for her to follow him to Washington, D.C.”*

They're trying to distract you by talking about her age. Don't get sidetracked, reader, stay with me on this.

*"Five months after they first met, MacArthur returned to the United States; while he intended to bring her to Washington, **he could not risk scandal by travelling with her**, so he bought her a ticket on a ship to arrive after him. She arrived in Washington and ended up ensconced in an apartment in Georgetown, Washington, D.C. MacArthur later moved her to the **Chastleton Hotel (now a co-op building)**. According to one biographer of MacArthur, William Manchester, MacArthur **"showered [Cooper] with presents and bought her many lacy tea gowns, but no raincoat. She didn't need one, he told her; her duty lay in bed."***

*In 1933, when the secret affair threatened to become public, MacArthur brought it to an end, **reportedly giving her \$15,000 and a ticket back to the Philippines**. She did not use the ticket and never returned to the Philippines. In 1934, the 20-year-old (or 22/25-year-old) **Cooper moved to the Midwestern United States, where she owned a hairdressing salon, before moving to Los Angeles several years later.***

Now. Looking at her Wikipedia page I know what you're thinking. Well, yes, Cooper as a last name is a massive red flag. But aside from that. Actress. Mistress. Sex scandal. What do you expect?

A photo.

Let us google Ms. Liz "Dimples" Cooper. We can see her in [this ABS-CNN article](#):



That's the carefully touched up Hollywood shot but you'll get it. Here is more of a "raw" shot:



Some may already know where I'm going with this. If not, look at the jaw. Or the hands. Or the hips and chest. Some other photographs, via DuckDuckGo:



Look at the hands. Or the neck.



Ms. Cooper, in my humble opinion, is a dude. Like a Thai ladyboy kind of dude. This is why MacArthur paid everyone off, despite being an important guy with a lot of political clout. The press were going to talk about his gay cross-dressing lover. I'm sure he put a lilt in his voice and the East Asian physique helped mask it but, y'know. It shows. That's why the journalist got \$15k (which I imagine was a fair bit of dough for the 1930's). "Ms." Cooper, meanwhile, takes her payoff, works at a hair salon(!) and heads to Los Angeles. Ultimately, sadly committing suicide in his late 40's.

Hmmm. It's possible Lestrade is right, but I am not convinced from those photos. I think it more likely the whole story was made up to make MacArthur look straight, and no money was paid out at all. This fits the common script better, see Bill Clinton, JFK, Howard Hughes, and dozens of others.

On a lighter note, another great quote from MacArthur's bio:

*"MacArthur's support for a strong military, and his public criticism of pacifism and isolationism, made him unpopular with the Roosevelt administration. Perhaps the most incendiary exchange between Roosevelt and MacArthur occurred over an administration proposal to cut 51% of the Army's budget. In response, MacArthur lectured Roosevelt that "when we lost the next war, and an American boy, lying in the mud with an enemy bayonet through his belly and an enemy foot on his dying throat, spat out his last curse, I wanted the name not to be MacArthur, but Roosevelt". In response, Roosevelt yelled, "you must not talk that way to the President!" **MacArthur offered to resign, but Roosevelt refused his request, and MacArthur then staggered out of the White House and vomited on the front steps.**"*

So... he was drunk? He's drunk... screaming in the President's face... then staggers outside and throws up on the White House doorstep? Incredible levels of privilege to be able to get away with this stuff. Another great quote immediately follows, speaking to his petty character:

*"In spite of such exchanges, MacArthur was extended an extra year as chief of staff, and ended his tour in October 1935. For his service as chief of staff, he was awarded a second Distinguished Service Medal. **He was retroactively awarded two Purple Hearts** for his World War I service, a decoration that **he authorized** in 1932 based loosely on the defunct Military Badge of Merit.*

MacArthur insisted on being the first recipient of the Purple Heart, which he had engraved with "#1".

And remember, MacArthur was later caught awarding himself these medals. Many top US generals have been caught wearing dec they weren't authorized to wear.

MacArthur then eventually relocates to the Philippines to... essentially work in a private capacity for Philippine President Manuel Quezon.

*"When the Commonwealth of the Philippines achieved **semi-independent status in 1935**, President of the Philippines **Manuel Quezon** asked MacArthur to supervise the creation of a **Philippine Army**. Quezon and MacArthur had been **personal friends** since the latter's father had been Governor-General of the Philippines, 35 years earlier. **With President Roosevelt's approval, MacArthur accepted the assignment**. It was agreed that MacArthur would receive the rank of field marshal, with its salary and allowances, in addition to his major general's salary as Military Advisor to the Commonwealth Government of the Philippines. **This made him the best-paid soldier in the world**. It would be his fifth tour in the Far East. MacArthur sailed from San Francisco on the SS President Hoover in October 1935, **accompanied by his mother and sister-in-law**. He brought **Eisenhower and Major James B. Ord** along as his assistants. Another passenger on the President Hoover was **Jean Marie Faircloth, an unmarried 37-year-old socialite**. Over the next two years, MacArthur and Faircloth were frequently seen together. **His mother became gravely ill during the voyage and died in Manila on 3 December 1935.**"*

Jean Faircloth comes across as a wealthy (daughter of a banker) Jewish spinster who was able to get a kid out of MacArthur in exchange for beard duty.

*"President Quezon officially conferred the title of field marshal on MacArthur in a ceremony at Malacañan Palace on 24 August 1936. **Eisenhower recalled finding the ceremony "rather fantastic". He found it "pompous and rather ridiculous to be the field marshal of a virtually non existing army."** Eisenhower learned later on that the field-marshalship had not been (as he had assumed) **Quezon's idea**. "I was surprised to learn from him that he had not initiated the idea at all; rather, Quezon said that **MacArthur himself came up with the high-sounding title.**"*

Again, speaks volumes to his character. We then learn that the entire "Philippine Army" project was a massive waste of time as it barely did anything:

*"The Philippine Army was formed from conscription. Training was conducted by a regular cadre, and the Philippine Military Academy was created along the lines of West Point to train officers. **MacArthur and Eisenhower found that few of the training camps had been constructed and the first group of 20,000 trainees did not report until early 1937**. Equipment and weapons were **"more or less obsolete"** American cast offs, and the **budget was completely inadequate**. MacArthur's requests for equipment **fell on deaf ears**, although MacArthur and his naval adviser, Lieutenant Colonel Sidney L. Huff, persuaded the Navy to initiate the development of the **PT boat**. Much hope was placed in the Philippine Army Air Corps, but **the first squadron was not organized until 1939**. **Article XIX of the 1922 Washington Naval Treaty banned the construction of new fortifications or naval bases in all Pacific Ocean territories and colonies of the five signatories from 1923 to 1936**. Also, **military bases like at Clark and Corregidor were not allowed to be expanded or modernized during that 13-year period**. For example, the Malinta Tunnel on Corregidor was constructed from 1932 to 1934 with condemned TNT and without a single dollar from the U.S. government because of the treaty. This added to the numerous challenges facing MacArthur and Quezon."*

A few points:

1. Are the Americans or the Filipinos creating an army? If the former, why are they not sending adequate supplies and funds? If the latter, why are they relying on the Americans to do everything for them?
2. As covered in a previous paper about Guadalcanal, the PT Boat is a useless junk heap that barely functions.
3. Despite the high-sounding legal guff about Article XIX, as if the Americans ever gave a fig about abiding by the law. Completely ridiculous: if they *wanted* to build an army base or dig a tunnel they would do that. Don't even try and say "ooh no we would have built proper defences against the Japanese but the law said we couldn't".

What they're doing is prepping the area for the future fake war. Using MacArthur as their key asset in the region.

What's funny to me is that despite the proclamations that the Philippines are totally not a direct colony of the Americans, when the Japanese are considered a sufficient threat the President essentially reabsorbs the Philippines and their military at the flick of a switch:

"On 25 July 1941, US Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson requested that US President Franklin D. Roosevelt issue orders calling the military forces of the Commonwealth into active service for the United States. Stimson explained, "All practical steps should be taken to increase the defensive strength of the Philippine Islands."

*The following day President Roosevelt froze all Japanese assets within the United States and issued orders to **absorb the forces of the Philippine Army. That same day the War Department created the US Army Forces in the Far East (USAFPE) command, with jurisdiction over the Philippine Department and the military forces of the Commonwealth. At the same time General Douglas MacArthur was recalled to active duty and designated the commander of the USAFFE.***

Conveniently, MacArthur is there on site to be "recalled to active duty" (as if he ever left) and suddenly the Philippines are a de facto American base in South East Asia.

If this was a real war, with actual stakes, you would have expected this to be a bit of a master-stroke of the Americans – suddenly flipping this island chain to be a formidable forward operational base of the US military, ready to launch raids directly on Formosa and Japan itself. It can also be used to repulse any enemy movements heading towards Hong Kong or Singapore for example. They've got their spook MacArthur embedded on the ground and he's good buddies with Quezon. All you need is to have the necessary ordinance shipped in ahead of time and get the locals trained up – and hey presto, a nice big disposable army to throw at the Japanese. It will play well back home as well, as any casualties won't be of young American lads, it will be Filipinos getting chucked into the meat grinder.

But.

It's not a real war:

"The Philippine Army received clothing that was of poor quality. Their rubber shoes would wear out within 2 weeks. There were shortages of nearly every kind of equipment such as blankets, mosquito bars, shelter halves, entrenching tools, gas masks, and helmets.

*During **August**, MacArthur had requested **84,500 M1 Garand rifles**, **330 .30-caliber machine guns**, **326 .50-caliber machine-guns**, **450 37mm guns**, **217 81 mm mortars**, **288 75 mm guns**, and over **8,000 vehicles**. On **18 September**, **he was informed that, because of lend-lease commitments, he would not receive most of these items**. As a result, the Philippine Army was forced to continue using the old Enfield and Springfield rifles.*

*The shipment of supplies depended upon the **US Navy's limited cargo capacity**. In September, the Navy announced its intentions to convert three transports into escort carriers, but this was not done after MacArthur observed that the loss of three transports would delay his reinforcements by more than two months.*

*The army then approved requests for 105 mm howitzers, 75 mm pack howitzers, 75 mm guns, .30-calibre machine guns, 37 mm guns, ten 250 ft station hospitals, **one hundred and eighty** sets of regimental infirmary equipment, jeeps, ambulances, trucks and sedans. **By November, there were 1,100,000 tons of equipment, intended for the Philippines, piled up in US ports. Most of this never reached its destination. Meanwhile, the Navy did manage to transport 1,000,000 gallons of gasoline to the island. Much of this fuel would be stored on the Bataan Peninsula.***

*In 1941, **many Filipino units went into battle without ever having fired their weapons. Many of the troops had also never even seen an artillery piece fired.** The 31st Infantry Division (PA) signal officer was **unable to establish radio communication with other units in the same camp.** The commander of the Philippine 31st Infantry Division, Colonel Bluemel stated, "The enlisted men are proficient in only two things, one, when an officer appears, to yell 'attention' in a loud voice, jump up, and salute; two, to demand 3 meals per day."*

*Training and coordination were further complicated by language barriers. Enlisted Filipinos often spoke one language (such as Bikol or a Visayan language), their officers would speak another (such as Tagalog) and the Americans would speak English. **There were some first sergeants and company clerks who could neither read nor write.***

Weaponry? Supplies? Oh, we had over a million tonnes of that stuff sat around in west coast harbours. Couldn't be arsed to ship it out to you though. Clerks who can't write? Soldiers who have never fired a weapon? Signal officers who can't use radios? It's ridiculous.

So you've got another ghost army, essentially. In theory, there is a Philippine army operating under the American military command structure, but in reality this is barely anything more than locals paid to wear a costume and salute now and again, march around, sleep in tents and give the pretence the Philippines have some kind of defensive force. MacArthur would have known this. The Filipino government would have known this. Anyone giving a basic inspection/audit would have known this.

The Philippines should have been the beachhead to launch an all-out assault on Formosa and Tokyo bay, backed up by the entire Allied navy/military forces in that region and the US Fleet steaming in from Hawaii. Instead we get the invasion of the Philippines which is ridiculous.

I'll try and limit this article length by not doing a blow-by-blow. You can read [the whole thing here](#). I will present some highlights that amuse me.

Belligerents	
 Japan	 United States
	 Philippines
Commanders and leaders	
 Masaharu Homma	 Douglas MacArthur
 Hideyoshi Obata	 Jonathan Wainwright 
 Ibō Takahashi	 George Parker 
 Nishizō Tsukahara	 Manuel L. Quezon
	 Basilio J. Valdes
Strength	
129,435 troops ^[1]	151,000 troops ^[2]
90 tanks	108 tanks ^[3]
541 aircraft	277 aircraft ^[4]
Casualties and losses	
Japanese source: ^[5]	146,000 ^[7]
11,225	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25,000 killed • 21,000 wounded • 100,000 captured
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,130 killed • 287 missing • 6,808 wounded 	
US estimate: ^[6]	
17,000–19,000	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7,000 killed or wounded • 10,000–12,000 dead of disease 	

So we have the usual weird numbers, where the Americans quote double the Japanese numbers. Was it 11,000 or 20,000 men? Again, this shouldn't be an issue post-war. During the conflict while they are enemies, sure, you would have people lying and making claims for various reasons of propaganda. After the war, with an American victory, historians could simply fact-check this and look at the Japanese records. Twelve thousand men dying of disease shouldn't be easy to cover up. It would, however, be a great way to inflate the numbers for a post-war audience. As we've seen throughout the conflict, they keep doing this in every battle (I mean the ones that aren't a total fabrication and involved some actual troops).

The Americans meanwhile lose **146,000** men which is staggering. Then you realise, even more shockingly, that refers to 100,000 troops captured at Bataan.

Except that melts immediately: if you follow footnote 7 on that page it tells us:

"Life Magazine gives a total of 36,583 US/Filipino troops captured 9 April 1942 ""Missing in Action": With 66 Boys Lost on Bataan, the People of Harrodsburg, Ky. Pay Their Price for Freedom". Life. July 6, 1942. p. 15 – via Google Books."

Then you flip to the page on the Bataan battle itself and read:

Strength	
120,000 U.S. and Filipino troops	75,000 Japanese troops
Casualties and losses	
106,000	8,406 ^[2] –22,250 ^[3]
10,000 killed,	3,107 killed,
20,000 wounded,	230 missing,
76,000 captured ^[1]	5,069 wounded

So now it's only 75,000 Japanese troops who lost somewhere between 8,000 to 22,000 men. On the American side it's now a total combo of 106,000 American/Filipino forces with 76,000 captured. What does footnote 1 link to? This:

*““The Philippines (Bataan) (1942)". The War. WETA. 2005. "The **76,000** prisoners of war of the battle for Bataan – some **64,000 Filipino soldiers and 12,000 U.S. soldiers** – then were forced to endure what came to be known as the **Bataan Death March** as they were moved into captivity." Elizabeth M. Norman; Michael Norman (March 6, 2017). "Bataan Death March". Encyclopædia Britannica. "Bataan Death March, march in the Philippines of some 66 miles (106 km) **that 76,000 prisoners of war (66,000 Filipinos, 10,000 U.S.)** were forced by the Japanese military to endure in April 1942, during the early stages of World War II."”*

So now it's 12,000 US troops and 64,000 Filipino soldiers. That's a bit of a jump from Life magazine saying it was 36 thousand men total. I would suggest that, given that we've already read that the Philippines essentially did not have an army and I am deeply suspicious about any numbers posted by the US military, that we are looking at... what... 10,000 US troops captured? Possibly? How many Filipinos? 20,000? More? Less?

Wikipedia again confuses me with contradictory numbers because it tells us here:

*“On **July 31, 1941**, the Philippine Department **had 22,532 troops assigned, approximately half of them Filipino**. MacArthur recommended the reassignment of department commander Major General George Grunert in October 1941 and took command himself. **The main component of the department was the U.S. Army Philippine Division, a 10,500-man formation that consisted mostly of Philippine Scouts (PS) combat units**. The Philippine Department had been reinforced between **August and November 1941** by **8,500 troops of the U.S. Army Air Forces, and by three Army National Guard units**, including its only armor, two battalions of M3 light tanks. These units, the 200th Coast Artillery Regiment (an anti-aircraft unit), 192nd Tank Battalion, and 194th Tank Battalion, drew troops from New Mexico, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, and California. **After reinforcement, the department's strength as of November 30, 1941 was 31,095, including 11,988 Philippine Scouts.**”*

So the Filipino forces (who hadn't fired a rifle, couldn't use the radios and were essentially completely untrained) were less than 12,000 men total. That gives us 19,107 Americans stationed in the Philippines.

So 31,000 men. In total. Not 60,000. Not 100,000 or 150,000.

And again, later in the same article:

“As of November 30, 1941, the strength of US Army Troops in the Philippines, including Philippine units, was 31,095, consisting of 2,504 officers and 28,591 enlisted (16,643 Americans and 11,957 Philippine Scouts).”

I wonder how the Japanese were able to capture 76,000 men?

Anyway.

Let's look at the Japanese commanders.

We get off to a great start with Lt. General Masaharu Homma. This quote pretty much says it all:

“Homma had a deep respect for, and some understanding of, the West, having spent eight years as a military attaché in the United Kingdom. In 1917, he was attached to the East Lancashire Regiment, and in 1918, served with the British Expeditionary Force in France, being awarded the Military Cross.,

From 1930 to 1932, Homma was again sent as a military attaché to the United Kingdom, where his proficiency in the English language was useful. He was also assigned to be part of the Japanese delegation to the Geneva Disarmament Conference in 1932 and served with the press section of the Army Ministry from 1932 to 1933. He was given a field command again, as commander of the IJA 1st Infantry Regiment from 1933 to 1935, and was promoted to command the IJA 32nd Infantry Brigade from 1935 to 1936.

In 1937, Homma was appointed aide-de-camp to Prince Chichibu, a brother of the Emperor. With him, he made a diplomatic tour in Western Europe, attending the coronation of King George VI. The visit continued to Germany where he attended the Nuremberg rally and met Adolf Hitler, with whom the prince tried to boost relations, following the Anti-Comintern Pact of 1936. He then served as the commander of the Taiwan Army of the Imperial Armed Forces, and composed the lyric of the military song "Taiwan Army". Yamaguchi Yoshiko ("Lee Shiang Lan" in Chinese) was invited to sing the song to boost Taiwanese morale.”

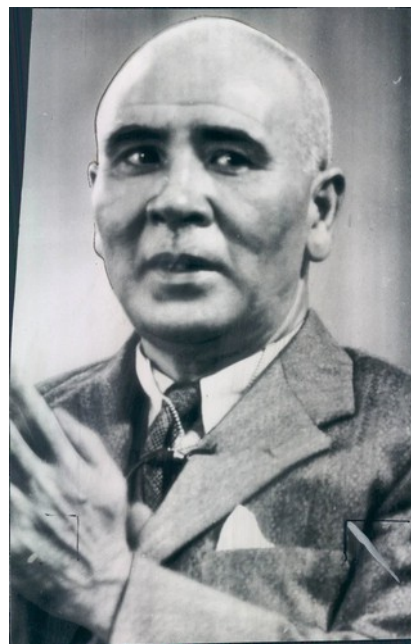
We also have this photograph of General Homma, which is... interesting:



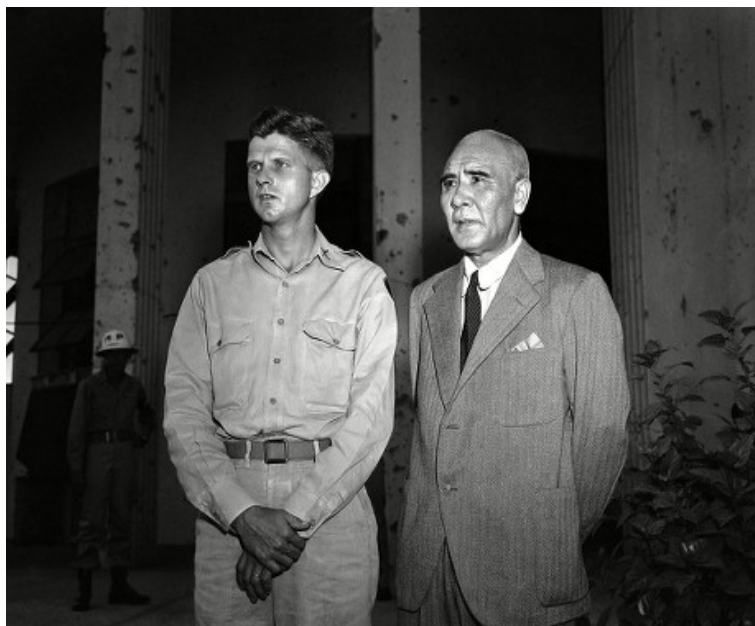
"Homma in 1943" - original [here](#).

His entire head and collar area are cropped in. They've also screwed up the gamma/white balance as his head looks black compared to his hands. **Also, head too small.** God knows what this means. There is no Homma? Or Homma never wore a military uniform in his life? Or there is a guy who was Homma but they've put someone else's face in the photo record to cover up his actual identity? We will never know, but it's interesting to note. (Now I've written that there is a 66% chance Miles will figure this out immediately and write the answer in green text to show me up.)

He's also pasted in here:



Note the line around his head, top left.



That's another obvious fake, with his head now too large. He is either a pinhead or a bighead, but not both. So the answer is: that person exists, because we have several pictures of him, but he wasn't in those places with those people in those clothes. The face of Homma had to be replaced because he looked even less Japanese than that guy. He probably looked 100% Cohen, so they had to replace his mug in the historical record. They admit he was a British soldier living in England, so let's look for him in the peerage. They probably fudged his name while they were fudging his photos, and Homma isn't a Japanese name, so he was probably a Hommel or Hummel. The Hommels in the peerage are related to the Mackays, linking us to the Barons van Lynden of Holland. This also links us to the Lynden-Bells of Ireland, including Maj. Gen. Arthur Lynden-Bell, whose mother was an Akers-Douglas, of the Viscounts Chilston. Akers took the name Douglas from his wife Austen-Smith, whose mother was a Douglas. Note that: Douglas. So where did Douglas MacArthur get the name Douglas? Well, he was Scottish in the MacArthur line, his grandfather coming over from Glasgow in around 1850. So he got it from the Scottish Douglasses. They make that hard to track, since they scrub everything at that time at Geni, telling us that Arthur MacArthur's mother and father were both the children of John MacArthur. So either they were first cousins or they were brother and sister. Geneastar, Findagrave, Wikitree and FamousKin scrub us at the same place. But we know the top MacArthurs of that area were closely related to the Douglasses, Campbells, and everyone else. This tells us that "Homma" was likely a Hommel, linking us to the Douglasses, and making him a cousin of MacArthur. Just what we would have expected.

Homma eventually gets done for being a war criminal and is sentenced to death by firing squad. I will remain sceptical of this ever having actually happened, although I cannot at this time prove it didn't happen. I will note that [this pdf](#) linked from his wiki page has a copy of an old American History magazine article from 1996 about "the beast of Bataan" and the photos are quite "staged for TV", with Homma making wide eyed expressions and wearing a sharp white suit in court:

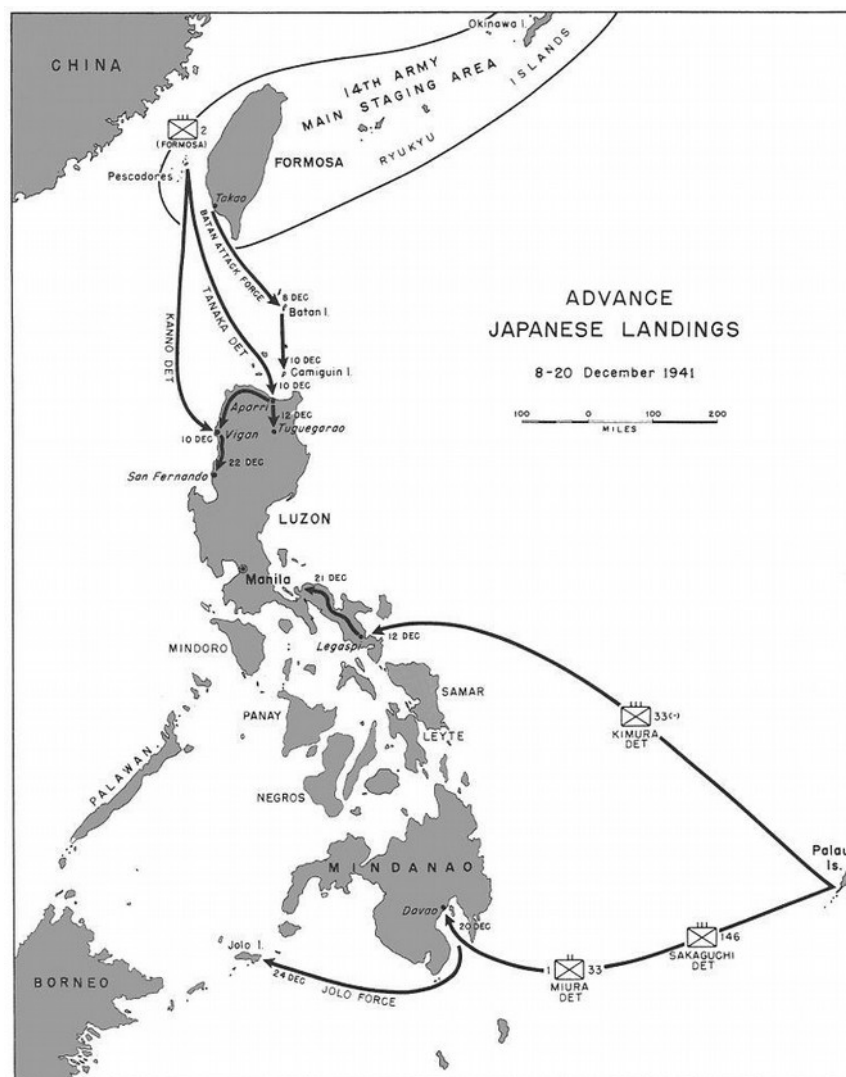


Or:



Those are ridiculously blown out, to hide the pastes.

Aside from Homma we have Hideyoshi Obata, Admiral Ibo Takahashi and Nishizō Tsukahara who we've covered previously and you can refer to previous papers to see a dissection on them. The Japanese attack the Philippines via Formosa and Palau:



Bataan is the little south-pointing peninsula just to the left of Manila.

Various bits of nonsense occur, such as the Far East Air Force being wiped out in the space of 45 minutes (despite a 9 hour warning about Pearl Harbour) at Clark Field. Whoops! All our aircraft were sat around, undefended! What a shame. Or the submarine fleet guarding Luzon were recalled to Australia and the remaining subs were equipped with the Mark 14 torpedo, a weapon of devastating simplicity: it didn't sink ships. Literally they fired them at Japanese warships and the torpedo would go "clang!" as it bounced off the hull. This is explained by the US Navy being so frugal and poorly funded that they were unable to ever test-fire a torpedo:

*"The Mark 14 was central to the torpedo scandal of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Submarine Force during World War II. Inadequate production planning led to severe shortages of the weapon. The frugal, Depression-era, peacetime testing of both the torpedo and its exploder was woefully inadequate and had not uncovered many serious design problems. **Torpedoes were so expensive that the Navy was unwilling to perform tests that would destroy a torpedo.** Furthermore, the design defects tended to mask each other."*

The pre-agreed war plan if Japan became hostile of attacking Taiwan from the Philippines was nixed – apparently by MacArthur – and you have the frankly bizarre plot beat of War Plan Rainbow 5:

“When MacArthur returned to active duty, the latest revision plans for the defence of the Philippine Islands had been completed in April 1941 and was called WPO-3, based on the joint Army-Navy War Plan Orange of 1938, which involved hostilities between the United States and Japan. Under WPO-3, the Philippine garrison was to hold the entrance to Manila Bay and deny its use to Japanese naval forces and ground forces were to prevent enemy landings. If the enemy prevailed, they were to withdraw to the Bataan Peninsula, which was recognized as the key to the control of Manila Bay. It was to be defended to the "last extremity". In addition to the regular U.S. Army troops, the defenders could rely on the Philippine Army, which had been organized and trained by General MacArthur.

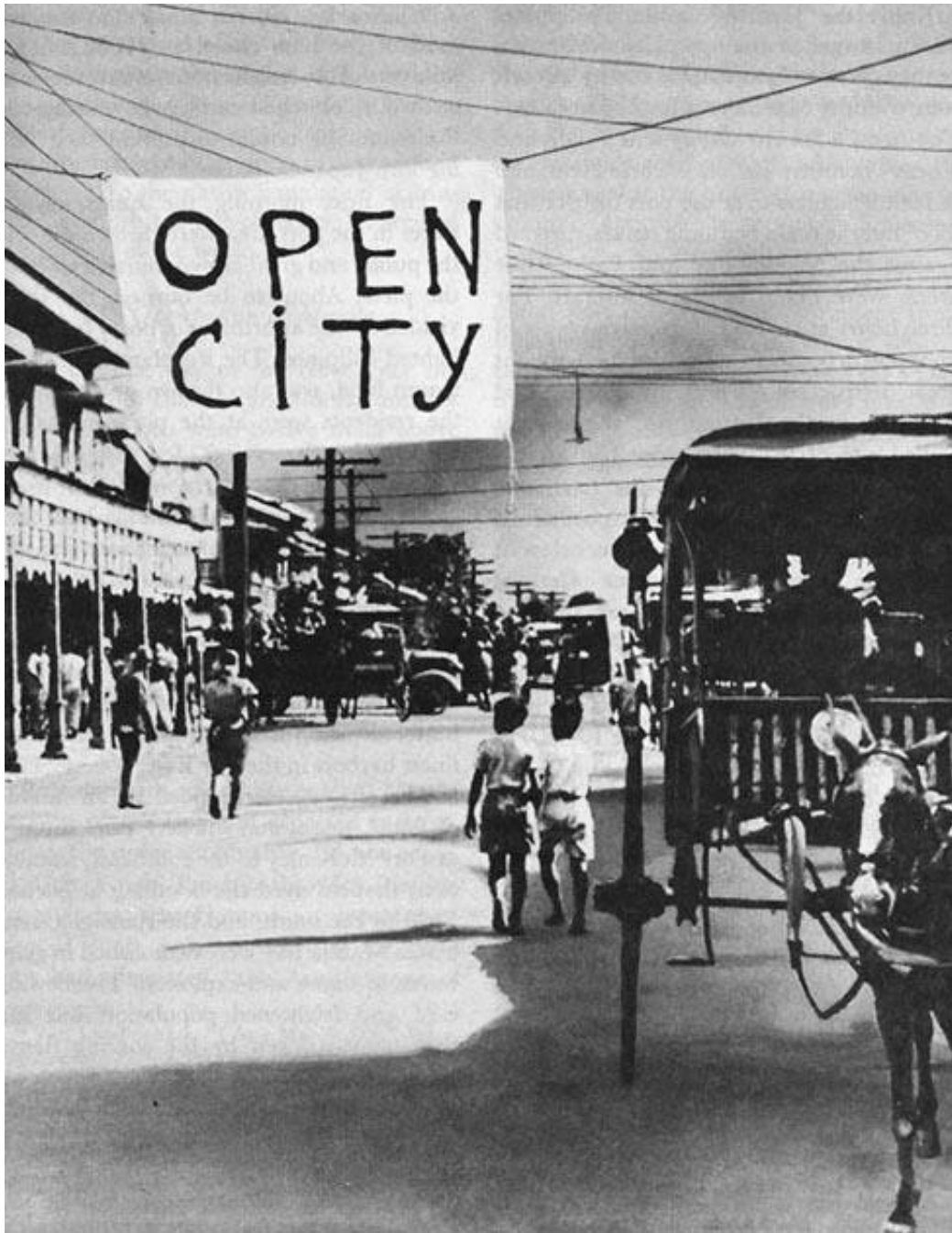
However, in April 1941, the Navy estimated that it would require at least two years for the Pacific Fleet to fight its way across the Pacific. Army planners in early 1941 believed supplies would be exhausted within six months and the garrison would fall. MacArthur assumed command of the Allied army in July 1941 and rejected WPO-3 as defeatist, preferring a more aggressive course of action. He recommended – among other things – a coastal defence strategy that would include the entire archipelago. His recommendations were followed in the plan that was eventually approved. Due to MacArthur's decision, with tacit approval from Washington, to change the plan under War Plan Rainbow 5, it was ordered that the entire archipelago would be defended, with the necessary supplies dispersed behind the beachheads for defending forces to use while defending against the landings. With the return to War Plan Orange 3, the necessary supplies to support the defenders for the anticipated six-month-long defensive position were not available in the necessary quantities for the defenders who would withdraw to Bataan.”

So just to reiterate, the original plan was War Plan Orange 3, in which the troops would hold out against the Japanese, on Bataan, in a pre-planned defensive turtling to hold out against a siege. MacArthur goes “no, we’re not doing that, we’re doing War Plan Rainbow 5 instead, in which we are going to defend every single beach and inlet on the entire Philippine island chain” which is insanely ambitious and would require an enormous number of men and defensive positions. Then after everyone tries to hold the coasts he changes his mind and they revert to running away to Bataan.

Because of this, when they end up flip-flopping back to WPO-3 and retreat the Bataan they don’t have the supplies necessary to hold out. They also end up needing to abandon a bunch of resources that were being stored in Manila, that due to the changing plans they don’t have time to relocate.

Even in the canon reading of history, MacArthur is blatantly responsible for all these men being captured.

Anyway, the lore tells us that the Japanese basically steamroller everyone (using some bicycle infantry again, love that) and take Luzon without much trouble. Please note this bizarre photo:



"Japanese troops occupy Manila, as it is declared an open city to avoid its destruction, January 2, 1942." - original [here](#).

The eye is immediately drawn to the "sign" declaring it an open city or rather what is meant to look like a sign but in actuality is a white square on the photograph which someone has drawn the words "open city". That is not a photograph of a sign flapping in the breeze, that is text on a 2D surface. Then we realise the horse and carriage are cropped in. Also the little boys in the centre (only one has a shadow), then the men walking along the grey misty road. The background traffic/street scene is a backdrop layer. This is a collage.

We also have this:



“Japanese flamethrower in action against a bunker on the Orion-Bagac Line” - original [here](#).

Helpful of the Japanese to bring along a camera crew. Note the gamma being weird – contrast the flamethrower guy versus the much brighter/paler men in the foreground. Then note the white haze / fart cloud around the flamethrower guy indicating he’s been layered into the photo. This helps clarify why he is shooting a... bunker(?)... or cliff face... and the perspective is all screwed up (i.e. the men in the foreground are smaller than the flamethrower guy who is further away, closer to the bunker). Also that the flame is the purest white creating another blank spot on the photograph. That’s meant to be fire. It’s not, that’s doctored in.

Everyone falls back, Manila is abandoned (or is it, given the faked “open city” photo?) and the troops end up bottled up on the Bataan peninsula. MacArthur, hilariously, decides he’s had enough of this warfare nonsense. It’s all getting a bit too real, so he escapes with his family and his best buddies in a speedboat. No, really:

*“On 11 March 1942, during World War II, General Douglas MacArthur and members of his family and staff left the Philippine island of Corregidor and his forces, which were surrounded by the Japanese. **They travelled in PT boats** through stormy seas patrolled by Japanese warships and reached Mindanao two days later. From there, MacArthur and his party flew to Australia in a pair of Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses, ultimately arriving in Melbourne by train on 21 March. In Australia, he declared, **“I came through and I shall return”**. ”*

Initially I wondered if this was simply pure Zapp Brannigan-tier dickishness (tactical retreat is one thing but to leave your men behind!), but then we read on and are reminded the entire thing is staged:

*“By March 1942, the Japanese invasion of the Philippines had compelled MacArthur to withdraw his forces on Luzon to Bataan, while his headquarters and his family moved to Corregidor. **The doomed defence of Bataan captured the imagination of the American public. At a time when the news from all fronts was uniformly bad, MacArthur became a symbol of Allied resistance to the Japanese.***

*Fearing that Corregidor would soon fall, and MacArthur would be taken prisoner, **President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered MacArthur to go to Australia. A submarine was made available, but MacArthur elected to break through the Japanese blockade in PT boats under the command***

of Lieutenant (junior grade) John D. Bulkeley. The staff MacArthur brought with him became known as the "Bataan Gang". They would become the nucleus of his General Headquarters (GHQ) Southwest Pacific Area (SWPA)."

MacArthur ends up in southern Australia, here is a photo taken of him and his wife at Adelaide train station:



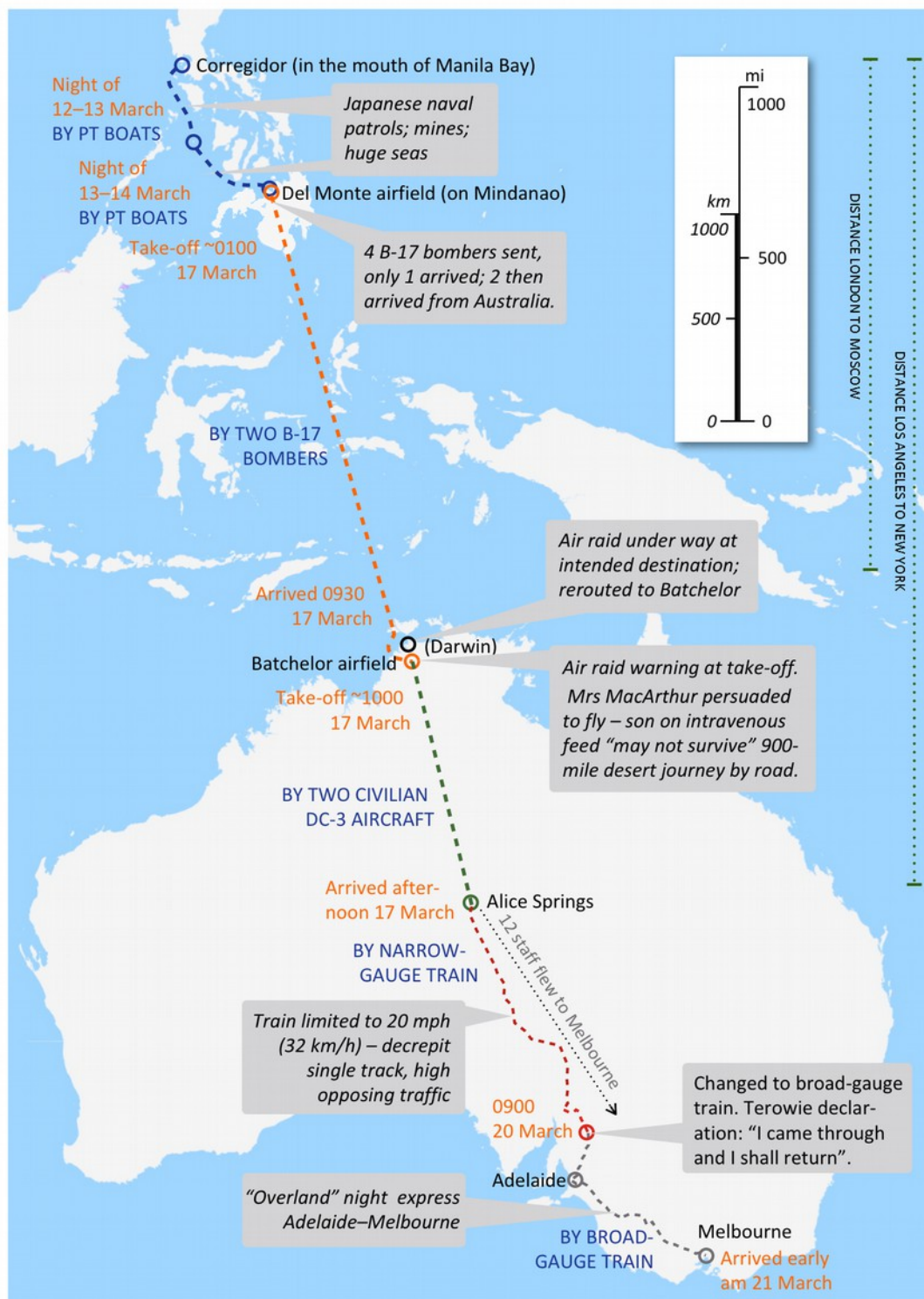
"General and Mrs MacArthur at Adelaide railway station, 20 March 1942." - original [here](#).

There's something off about this photo. Like her face which is somehow distorted and nightmarish. I get creepy uncanny valley vibes from looking at it. Or, perhaps more importantly, the way she is inserted into the picture as a layer. Look at the fur coat hem and left arm black outline. The light is wrong, because she's inserted. As is MacArthur. Both are separate images, inserted on a cartoon black and white background. **Her eyes have been retouched too.**

So I imagine that means... (deep breath)... they weren't at Adelaide... so they didn't do this enormous trip? They just got on a boat to Melbourne directly from Manilla didn't they? More so, was MacArthur even WITH his "wife" at the time? Was she ever in the Philippines? And so on. **We can also tell immediately she is Jewish, and they pretty much admit it. She was nee Faircloth, the daughter of a rich banker in Tennessee.**

Via the magic of DuckDuckGo image search, a nice map of the lovely couple's escape route:

THE 4400-MILE (7000 KM) EVACUATION FROM THE PHILIPPINES OF GENERAL MACARTHUR, HIS FAMILY & STAFF, 12–21 MARCH 1942



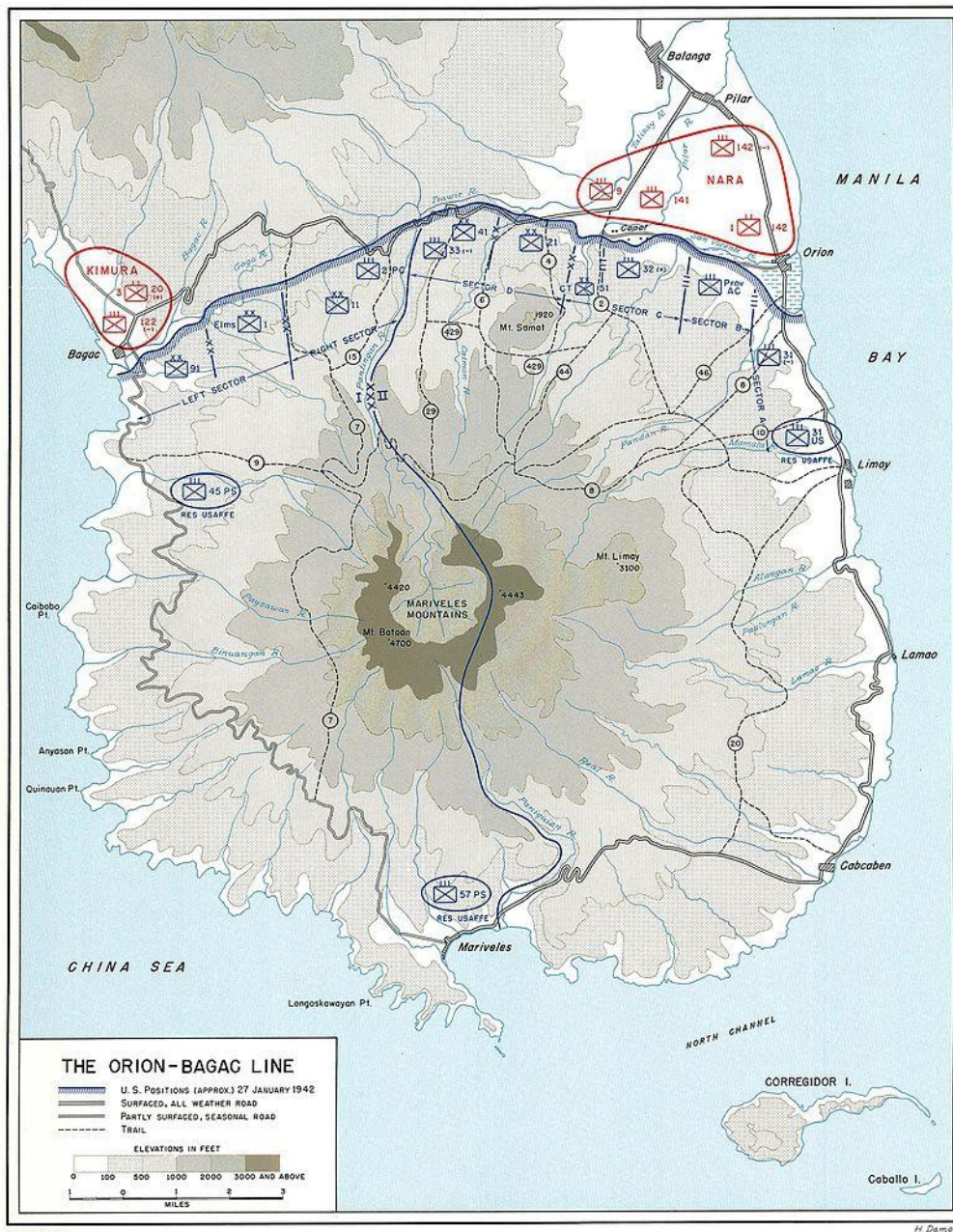
Map: © OpenStreetMap contributors 2020. Licensed CC BY-SA 2.0: Other artwork public domain:

Sources: *The fall of the Philippines* (Morton 1953) pp. 355–360; *Reports of Gen. MacArthur* (U.S. Dept of the Army writers 1953) pp. 28–29; *Australian railwayman* (Fitch 2006) p. 176. Distances from: *The Ghan* (Fuller 1st ed, 1975), South Australian Railways working timetables, Google Earth®.

I would also like to argue that MacArthur wouldn't have been allowed to risk capture by travelling by speedboat (like something out of a James Bond novel) if a submarine was available. It stands to

reason. Instead you'd have a submarine surface at Corregidor, everyone gets on board, sail to Melbourne, done. And if you can get MacArthur out, why on earth aren't you evacuating the men on Bataan or Corregidor island? What about the various naval vessels in the Dutch East Indies? Or the Australian Navy? Or American vessels? Or British?

If the Japanese had some sort of "ring of steel" around Bataan and Corregidor which meant that it was impossible to evacuate the men then how can MacArthur get out? Or how come the Japanese only attack from the northern end (i.e. on land) of the peninsula? Like in this tactical map they give us:



MAP 17

[Original here.](#)

I'm aware they made those measly three landings in late January. That's not a massive encirclement like I'm talking about, e.g. landing at a dozen points while surrounding Corregidor with battleships. This being the "Battle of the Points", where we get bizarre quotes like this:

"The Marines were distributed through the ranks, and the sailors were told to "watch them and do as they do." The sailors attempted to make their white uniforms more suitable for jungle combat by dying them with coffee grounds. The result was closer to yellow than khaki, and the diary of a dead Japanese officer described them as a suicide squad dressed in brightly coloured uniforms and talking loudly in an attempt to draw fire and reveal the enemy positions."

...what? They were brightly coloured and messing around being loud? What on earth?

I'm confused why the Americans aren't pushing forward in the middle to flank the Japanese who are smushed up against the extreme left and right flank. They tell us the mountain slopes in the middle were "too steep" and divided the forces. Or something:

"Mount Natib, a 4,222-foot (1,287 m)-high mountain that split the peninsula, served as the boundary line between the two corps. The commanders anchored their lines on the mountain, but, since they considered the rugged terrain impassable, they did not extend their forces far up its slopes. The two corps were therefore not in direct contact with each other, leaving a serious gap in the defence line. With the fighting withdrawal completed, the Abucay-Mauban Line, the USAFFE's main battle position was now in place."

What about radio? Or scouts/runners on foot? It's daft anyway, if you go on the page for Mt. Natib you can see yes it is a big volcano but it's not impossible to hike:



We then get the inversion of every other bombing campaign in the Pacific war: i.e. this time the Japanese send bombers / artillery and... it actually works and kills the enemy. Normally we read about "13.8 million tonnes of explosive were dropped on a Jap-occupied sandbank the size of a beach towel" and how the entire Japanese garrison shrugs it off like it's nothing. Instead:

"On April 3, the entire Orion-Bagac Line was subjected to incessant bombings by 100 aircraft and artillery bombardment by 300 artillery pieces from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm, which turned the Mount Samat stronghold into an inferno. Over the course of the next three days (Good Friday to Easter

Sunday, 1942), the Japanese 65th Brigade and 4th Division spearheaded the main attack at the left flank of II Corps. Everywhere along the line, the American and Filipino defenders were driven back by Japanese tanks and infantry."

I'm sceptical that 300 Japanese artillery pieces could destroy an area that size in the space of six hours, given that in every previous scenario involving bombardment it never damages bunkers / dugouts / secret Japanese bases even after multiple days of overhead Air Force bombing runs. Are the Americans rubbish at building defensive works or something? Do the Japanese suddenly have really good artillery, used in just this one battle?

"By April 8, the senior U.S. commander on Bataan, Major General Edward P. King, saw the futility of further resistance, and put forth proposals for capitulation. The next morning, April 9, 1942, General King met with Major General Kameichiro Nagano and, after several hours of negotiations, the remaining weary, starving and emaciated American and Filipino defenders on the battle-swept Bataan Peninsula surrendered."

Serious question: how does King meet Nagano? Apparently the American's north-west and north-east defensive points can't communicate to each other, so King speaking to the enemy commander is kind of a big deal in comparison. King is presumably deep to the south, hidden. Or was, except the mountain is now "an inferno". OK. So how does King get to meet Nagano? Does he suddenly have radio? Does he walk north? Are the Japanese still supposed to be unstoppable super soldiers at this point, killing everything immediately? Or are they suddenly nuanced and friendly and you can wave a white flag and that's cool? Would the soldiers really think surrendering is a good option? The peninsula is a big place. You could do guerilla action. You could hide, then relocate from Luzon later. Better this than a POW camp, surely?

Bataan is used, amusingly, as a justification for all sorts of other inconsistencies and "why didn't the Japanese just... X Y Z" questions:

"The continued resistance of the force on Bataan after Singapore and the Indies had fallen made heartening news among the Allied peoples. However, the extension of time gained by the defence was very largely a result of the transfer of the 48th Division from Homma's army at a critical time, and the exhaustion of the weakened force that remained. It cost a far stronger Japanese army as many days of actual combat to take Malaya and Singapore Island as it cost Homma to take Bataan and Corregidor."

The surrender of Bataan hastened the fall of Corregidor a month later. There is a suggestion that without the stand, the Japanese might have quickly overrun all of the U.S. bases in the Pacific and could have quickly invaded Australia. Willoughby, MacArthur's Intelligence Officer, asserted after the war that the epic operation in Bataan and Corregidor became a decisive factor in the ultimate winning of the war, that it disrupted the Japanese timetable "in a way that was to prove crucial" and that "because of Bataan the Japanese never managed to detach enough men, planes, ships, and material to nail down Guadalcanal." Rather than allowing the operations on Luzon to upset their general timetable, the Japanese took steps that resulted in prolonging the resistance of Luzon in order to speed up their conquest of the Indies. Between the time of their advance into the Solomons and the American counter-landing on Guadalcanal in August, three months after the fall of Corregidor, they had ample troops available to build up their strength in the South Seas."

Why didn't you invade Australia? Bataan.

Why didn't you properly hold Guadalcanal? Bataan.

Absolute cobblers, obviously, for several reasons. The Japanese never invaded Australia and there were blatantly fake episodes designed to whip up a public feeling of imminent peril to support the war effort (e.g. the bombing of Darwin or Sydney, both fictional propaganda narratives as I've demonstrated in previous papers). Guadalcanal wasn't important (refer back to the ridiculous "boat-plane base" spook story from that paper). Besides, the Japanese were supposed to have had 110,000 men stationed at super duper naval base Rabaul. Which in reality was empty. But the canon history is that it was staffed with 110,000 men who the Japanese could never quite care to do anything useful like attack Australia. Readers may remember from the Guadalcanal paper that the reason the Japanese supposedly lose the Papua New Guinea Campaign is due to their defeat at Guadalcanal (or more specifically the Battle of Edson's Ridge). I quote from the previous paper:

*"On 15 September, General Hyakutake at Rabaul learned of Kawaguchi's defeat, the Imperial Japanese Army's first defeat involving a unit of this size in the war. The general forwarded the news to the Imperial General Headquarters in Japan. In an emergency session, the top Japanese army and navy command staffs concluded that, "Guadalcanal might develop into the decisive battle of the war." The results of the battle began to have a telling strategic impact on Japanese operations in other areas of the Pacific. **Hyakutake realized that, in order to send sufficient troops and materiel to defeat the Allied forces on Guadalcanal, he could no longer support the major Japanese offensive on the Kokoda Track in New Guinea.** Hyakutake – with the concurrence of the General Headquarters – ordered his troops on New Guinea, who were within 30 mi (48 km) of their objective of Port Moresby – to withdraw until the Guadalcanal matter was resolved. **The Japanese were never able to restart their drive towards Port Moresby; the defeat at Edson's Ridge contributed not only to Japan's defeat in the Guadalcanal campaign, but also to Japan's ultimate defeat throughout the South Pacific.**"*

Funny how it all loops around back on itself. I will, churlishly, lazily, ignore the Battle for Corregidor (the American island fortress in Manila bay, just south-east of Bataan) as more fiction from the ONI. Just so I'm not being too blasé I present Funny Numbers to the reader:

Strength	
13,000 U.S. and Filipino troops, 2 gunboats, and 1 minesweeper	75,000 Japanese troops
Casualties and losses	
800 killed	900 killed
1,000 wounded	1,200 wounded
11,000 POWs	
1 gunboat sunk	
1 gunboat scuttled	
1 minesweeper scuttled	

13,000. 800. 11,000. 3 ships sunk or scuttled. 75,000 attackers fighting a siege against 13,000 troops holed up in a Gibraltar-esque fortress and underground tunnel system yet only 900 dead. Iron Man armour.

We also have photos like this:



“Japanese bombers over Corregidor” – original [here](#).

That’s a pretty bad paste-up lads. That fat plane on the right – oof. And the one dissolving to the left, like the planes entering the twin towers on 911.

So the Japanese have their victory, crushing the American/Filipino resistance and now on their giddy path to Total Pacific Domination. Except for Australia. Or New Zealand. Those places are too scary to invade.

We get this lovely “Japanese win! Yay!” victory photo to commemorate the occasion:



“Japanese troops conquered Bataan, Philippines in 1942” – original [here](#).

I’m probably just jaded at this point but the image just... looks staged. Like something out of a movie – if I said this was a still from something like “[Tora! Tora! Tora!](#)” you’d believe it, right? They look like actors, not soldiers. The energy is off. This is very much just personal opinion but I wanted to include it. **It isn't just staged, it is pasted. The two guys in front are the same guy pasted in twice.**

This brings us to the latest Dastardly Japanese War Atrocity (we need one every paper): the Bataan Death March. The premise being:

*“...the forcible transfer by the Imperial Japanese Army of between **75,000** American and Filipino prisoners of war from Saysain Point, Bagac, Bataan and Mariveles to Camp O'Donnell, Capas, Tarlac, via San Fernando, Pampanga.*

*The transfer began on **April 9, 1942**, after the three-month Battle of Bataan in the Philippines during World War II. The total distance marched from Mariveles to San Fernando and from the Capas Train Station to various camps was **65 miles** long. **Sources also report widely differing prisoner of war casualties prior to reaching Camp O'Donnell: from 5,000 to 18,000 Filipino deaths and 500 to 650 American deaths during the march.** If an American soldier was caught on the ground or fell, **he would be instantly shot.** All the American soldiers who are known to have died or were killed now have a gravestone honouring them.*

*The march was characterized by **severe physical abuse and wanton killings.** After the war, the Japanese commander, General Masaharu Homma and two of his officers, Major General Yoshitaka Kawane and Colonel Kurataro Hirano, were tried by United States military commissions for war crimes and sentenced to death on charges of failing to prevent their subordinates from committing war crimes. **Homma was executed in 1946, while Kawane and Hirano were executed in 1949.**”*

We also have this:

Casualties and losses

Exact figures are unknown. Estimates range from 5,500 to 18,650 **POW** deaths.

That is quite a range. Also quite weird given that – well, remember that quote from earlier?

*“As of November 30, 1941, the strength of US Army Troops in the Philippines, including Philippine units, was **31,095**, consisting of 2,504 officers and 28,591 enlisted (**16,643 Americans and 11,957 Philippine Scouts**).”*

So there’s less than 17,000 Americans to start with. You’ll recall Corregidor had 13,000 troops? Well, flick back to the [Corregidor](#) page and you’ll spot this quote:

“By April 30, 1942, the 4th Marines actually numbered 229 officers and 3,770 men, of whom only 1,500 were members of the Corps.”

The 4th Marine Regiment is described as the primary fighting unit, i.e. the biggest one on Corregidor. So what, they had 9,000 Filipino troops on Corregidor to bring that 4,000 odd to

13,000? Really? They were all bottled up on that island? That's almost all the Filipino army (i.e. the 11,957). The Japanese supposedly end up taking a good 11,000 POWs from Corregidor by itself!

Then you flick back to [the Battle of Bataan page](#) to look at the footnote for "76,000 captured":

"The Philippines (Bataan) (1942)". The War. WETA. 2005. "The 76,000 prisoners of war of the battle for Bataan – some 64,000 Filipino soldiers and 12,000 U.S. soldiers – then were forced to endure what came to be known as the Bataan Death March as they were moved into captivity." Elizabeth M. Norman; Michael Norman (March 6, 2017). "Bataan Death March". Encyclopædia Britannica. "Bataan Death March, march in the Philippines of some 66 miles (106 km) that 76,000 prisoners of war (66,000 Filipinos, 10,000 U.S.) were forced by the Japanese military to endure in April 1942, during the early stages of World War II."

So that's talking about 10,000 US soldiers to march in Bataan. Which makes rough, vague sense if we've got 16,000-odd US troops in the Philippines, then 4,000-odd at Corregidor, 10,000 at Bataan.

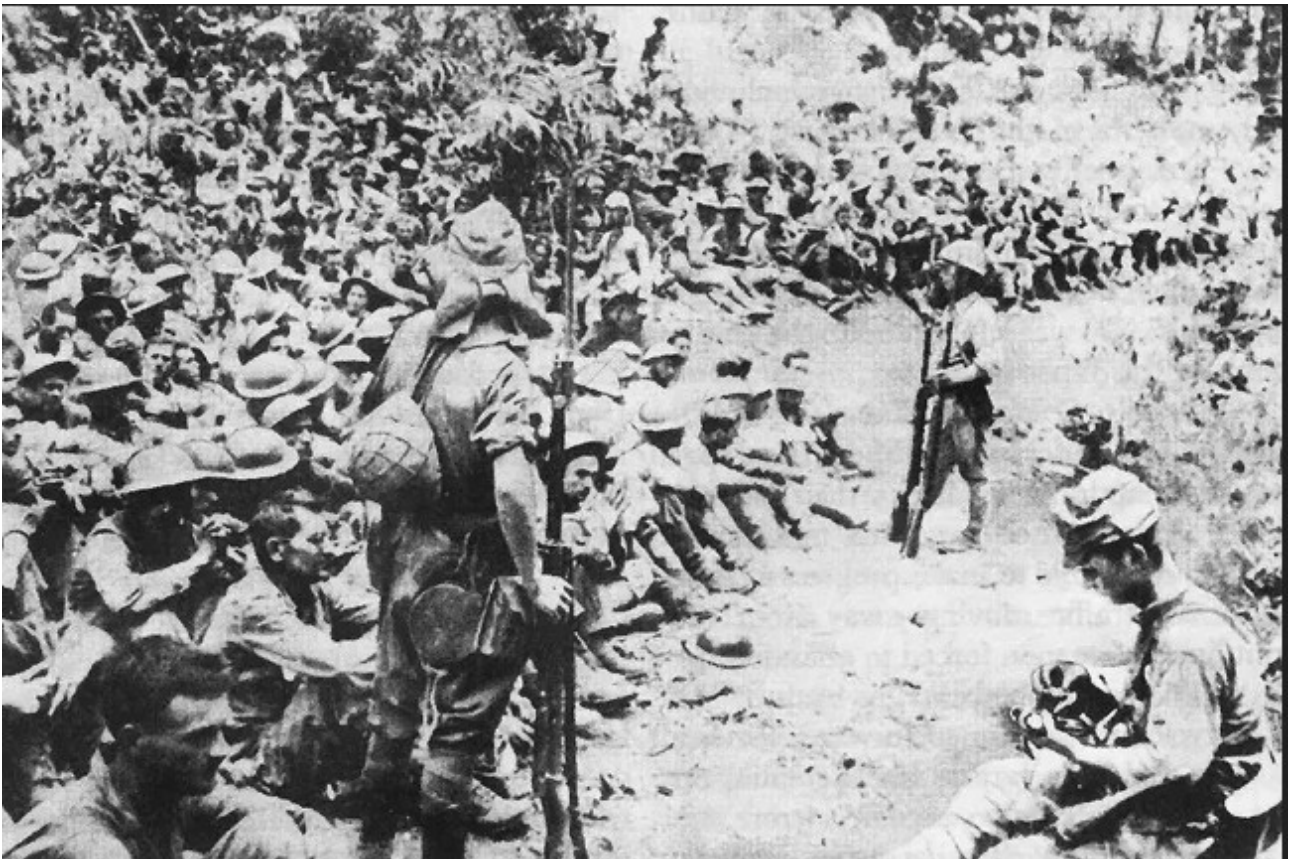
You can then go on [this article from militaryhistorynow](#) to get this quote:

"The U.S. Army reported that 25,580 American soldiers were captured in the Philippines between Dec. 7, 1941 and May 10, 1942 and 10,650 died in captivity. The U.S. Marine Corps reported that 1,487 members of the 4th Marines were captured on Corregidor and 474 died in captivity. More than 33,000 Filipino soldiers were also captured at Bataan and Corregidor."

I thought there were about 4,000 Americans on Corregidor? Now we have nearly 26,000 Americans in the Philippines in total and over 10,000 die? The numbers just shift to be whatever they need. 33 is the nod to this, esoterically, but even if you ignore the Funny Numbers phenomenon (i.e. a deliberate numerical code used by Western intelligence to let you read when things are faked at a glance) you can follow my logic here.

They don't care to get the numbers straight. Nobody ever cares about the Corpse Math. They should have said "Oh, we had 10,000 or 12,000 Americans march north" but they don't, they start talking about "76,000 POWs" which makes no sense. Where are all these additional Filipino troops coming from? What are we supposed to think here, that they were recruited and trained from the local population... while the Americans were falling back in defensive fighting? While being overwhelmed? With no supply lines? Then note it's only about 500 Americans of the 10,000 that die on the march... which would mean that 95% of the American POWs survived the march. That's not a very good atrocity, is it? Given the mass killing and torture along the way.

Here are some photos of those 10,000 (or is it 25,580?) American captives:



Both photos [from here](#).

So they had, what, a hundred guys? Two hundred? Where is the enormous “Ben-Hur” scale crowd of Americans sweating in the tropical sun?

Another one:



“Prisoners photographed during the march. They have their hands tied behind their backs. They are left to right: Pvt Samuel Stenzler (d. May 1942); Pvt Frank Spears (killed June 1945); Capt John McDonnell Gallagher who died shortly after this picture was taken 9 April 1942” – original [here](#).

Why are some men tied up and others just walk? Why are the Japanese deciding to *document* this elaborate execution/torture march?

*“Prisoners started out from Mariveles on April 10, and Bagac on April 11, converging in Pilar, Bataan, and heading north to the San Fernando railhead. **At the beginning, there were rare instances of kindness by Japanese officers and those Japanese soldiers who spoke English, such as the sharing of food and cigarettes and permitting personal possessions to be kept.**”*

Woah, you better work on that copy young ONI intern! We need the Japanese to be psychopathic savages, not kind. New draft please!

*“This, however, was quickly followed by **unrelenting brutality, theft, and even knocking men's teeth out for gold fillings, as the common Japanese soldier had also suffered in the battle for Bataan and had nothing but disgust and hatred for his "captives"** (Japan did not recognize these people as POWs). The first atrocity – attributed to Colonel Masanobu Tsuji – occurred when approximately 350 to 400 Filipino officers and NCOs under his supervision were summarily executed in the Pantingan River massacre after they had surrendered. **Tsuji – acting against General Homma's wishes that the prisoners be transferred peacefully – had issued clandestine orders to Japanese officers to summarily execute all American "captives"**. Although some Japanese officers ignored the orders, others were receptive to the idea of murdering POWs.”*

...what? Secret orders? So the Japanese are having some sort of internal mutiny where Col Tsuji is advising the troops to just murder everyone? That's kind of important. Why does Tsuji do this?

Wouldn't he be in big trouble when General Homma found out? There's no reason given... just to be mean I guess. Poor Homma, eh? Getting executed for his subordinate going around him and giving the troops secret instructions.

The Patingan River Massacre is your standard Japanese psycho bloodbath story. Note that the main credited witness is Manuel T Yan Sr, who coincidentally became Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The other main witness given is Mr. Ricardo Papa, who coincidentally ended up the Chief of Police of Manila. Turned out nice for them, eh?

Masanobu Tsuji, accused of the "secret orders", is someone we've previously covered, but for a brief refresher:

*"Tsuji was deeply involved in Japanese atrocities throughout the war, including the Bataan Death March and Sook Ching. **He evaded prosecution for Japanese war crimes at the end of the war and hid in Thailand. He returned to Japan in 1949 and was elected to the Diet as an advocate of renewed militarism. Through the 50's he worked for American intelligence alongside Takushiro Hattori. In 1961, he disappeared on a trip to Laos.**"*

He's literally a CIA asset, admitted. Only after the war, of course. Before he was properly Japanese and not in any way affiliated with the West.

"During the march, prisoners received little food or water, and many died. They were subjected to severe physical abuse, including beatings and torture. On the march, the "sun treatment" was a common form of torture. Prisoners were forced to sit in sweltering direct sunlight without helmets or other head coverings. Anyone who asked for water was shot dead. Some men were told to strip naked or sit within sight of fresh, cool water. Trucks drove over some of those who fell or succumbed to fatigue, and "clean-up crews" put to death those too weak to continue, though some trucks picked up some of those too fatigued to go on. Some marchers were randomly stabbed with bayonets or beaten."

Are they on a route march or are they sitting in the sun made to look at water? If they have trucks why not just drive the prisoner to the north, that would be much less hassle. Is the point of the exercise to kill the Americans? Or do they actually want to bring them to the POW camps? If they don't recognise the Americans as POWs why are they bringing them to a POW camp in the first place?

"Once the surviving prisoners arrived in Balanga, the overcrowded conditions and poor hygiene caused dysentery and other diseases to spread rapidly. The Japanese did not provide the prisoners with medical care, so U.S. medical personnel tended to the sick and wounded with few or no supplies. Upon arrival at the San Fernando railhead, prisoners were stuffed into sweltering, brutally hot metal box cars for the one-hour trip to Capas, in 43 °C (110 °F) heat. At least 100 prisoners were pushed into each of the unventilated boxcars.

*The trains had no sanitation facilities, and disease continued to take a heavy toll on the prisoners. According to Staff Sergeant Alf Larson: **The train consisted of six or seven World War I-era boxcars.... They packed us in the cars like sardines, so tight you couldn't sit down. Then they shut the door. If you passed out, you couldn't fall down. If someone had to go to the toilet, you went right there where you were. It was close to summer and the weather was hot and humid, hotter than Billy Blazes! We were on the train from early morning to late afternoon without getting out. People died in the railroad cars.**"*

Six or seven boxcars. Around 100 men in each. OK. What about the remaining 75,300 captives? Did they make multiple trips or something? What about the Japanese guards and trucks? Did they just drive on ahead?

*“Upon arrival at the Capas train station, they were forced to walk the final 9 miles (14 km) to Camp O'Donnell. Even after arriving at Camp O'Donnell, **the survivors of the march continued to die at rates of up to several hundred per day, which amounted to a death toll of as many as 20,000 Americans and Filipinos.** Most of the dead were buried in mass graves that the Japanese had dug behind the barbed wire surrounding the compound. **Of the estimated 80,000 POWs at the march, only 54,000 made it to Camp O'Donnell.**”*

That 76,000 jumped up to 80,000 didn't it? Now they are trying to say that... what... 26,000 men died on the march? I thought it was 18,500 or thereabouts? The quote above says “as many as 20,000” so it can't even get it right within the same paragraph. These numbers reader, they just keep slipping through my fingers like sand. My head spins.

This Youtube clip has Mr. Jim Bollich state that when the Japanese attacked there were “thousands” of American troops and the specific figure of 32,000 Filipino troops. Which is less than the 33,000 quote above and far more than the 11,900-odd stated to be in the Philippines at the time of the Japanese invasion. It's just all over the place.

This is supposed to be a photo of the casualties of the march:



“Fallen soldiers during the Death March.” - original [here](#).

Why are all the faces on the ground blurred out? This is just people lying on the ground.

We can also watch [this video on YouTube](#), which has the testimony of Mr. Lester Tenney. Please watch it first, then read on.

The problem I have with his testimony is that the march was supposed to last for 6 days. Now, if what he's saying is true, then somehow the men have to survive six consecutive days... with no water. Let alone food. Let alone the malaria, the dysentery, the random punitive beatings, gunshot wounds left untreated and so on. They are marching... for six days... in a tropical climate. I don't think that's plausible. You need water every three days or you suffer from dehydration. You'll lose co-ordination, your body breaks down and you'll rapidly collapse and subsequently die. Depending on fitness, levels of exertion and ambient temperature you might go a bit longer, perhaps. But this is constant physical exertion in a hot climate, on a literal death march – you're going to need a lot more water, clean water, regularly.

Note he doesn't mention having his hands tied behind his back. Or the sheer, inhuman scale of having somewhere between 10,000 and 76,000 men marching in a column – imagine the noise, the smell, the sheer number of guards required to manage the number of people and stop them making a run for it! Actually, that's a good point: how many guards WOULD have been needed to manage a crowd that size? What sort of support system would be necessary to keep the (presumably thousands of) Japanese guardsmen fed and watered and rested on this six day hike? To keep watch at night? To have shelter and medical aid and spare ammunition and so on?

For instance, imagine how many extra Japanese troops would be needed on top of the regular guard force herding the captives to oversee these strange little torture rituals – for example taking a group of a dozen men to one side of the march next to a lake and have the captives sit and watch water, denying them a drink and then after an hour or two of careful observation getting them up and moving again. Or the beheading. Or the beatings. Or the “clean up” crew travelling as a co-ordinated force, monitoring the collapsed and making sure they are all bayoneted promptly? And so on.

The logistics of it all.

It's cute at 1:37 when Mr Tenney talks about “making every effort to get to that herd of caribou” as an example of setting mental goals to focus on. The poor guy thinks the script says caribou (i.e. reindeer). He's American. He's heard of caribou. But they can't be caribou. There are no caribou in the Philippines. The scriptwriter would be referring to carabao, a type of buffalo, pronounced Kah-Rah-Baow not Kah-Ri-Boo. You don't pronounce those animal's names the same way. So it's a funny slip because if he'd been in the Philippines, if this was a real memory, he'd know what the animal was called, but he wasn't and it isn't so he doesn't.

This clip from Youtube talks about how 5,000 Americans died in the Bataan Death March, which appears to misremember the numbers quite significantly (in comparison to Wikipedia at least). The chap in the clip, Malcolm Amos, reminisces about how the Japanese made people eat bowls of rotten rice, covered in mould and mixed with insects, cooked up like a porridge. If you didn't eat the mould-porridge you just starved to death. I'm unclear what would be worse – death by starvation or dying from poisoning from eating mould encrusted rotten food? I mean you can't live on that. The body won't process it. There's no nutrition. You'd vomit it up and even if you could somehow keep it down (unclear how) you would get very, very, very sick. They better have some damn good plumbing in the toilet block at the POW camp because otherwise everyone is going to get severe dysentery, along with the resultant dehydration and disease. So this comes across as some sort of ghoulish fiction designed to make the peasants back home go “Ooh! How awful!”.

The clip also features some quick footage of the captives. Presumably taken upon immediate capture at Bataan, given that they are alive, uninjured, appear in reasonable health and are fully dressed in their (clean) uniforms. Many are wearing helmets, contradicting previous testimony of

being partially stripped and forced to endure the tropical sun out of spite. None appear to be tied up, or shot, or bayoneted, or beaten up:





They then tip their hand because, to be fair, nobody would have anticipated an obsessive Z-list internet detective to do a full deconstruction of the skit 81 years later and give us a wide shot of the “captive troops”:



Whoops.

So that's a couple hundred guys, clean, not captives, not surrounded by guards, no actual Japanese troops or Japanese regalia visible, with the transport truck they were driven to the photo shoot in parked nearby.

I mean.

Come on.

This is too easy.

Looping back to that [Jim Bollich: Survivor](#) clip from earlier it's interesting how he throws out some nonsense about having to eat monkeys and snakes (the Americans suddenly have no food or supplies) and then is ordered to march to the very tip of Bataan, where they immediately had to surrender. This is weird because you'd expect him to spend some time talking about the whole "hold the peninsula" Battle of Bataan or possibly the Battle of the Pockets or any of that. He doesn't. It's just "Japanese invade, I ate a monkey, I walked to the south end of Bataan and surrendered". So that doesn't seem real.

He helpfully mentions that while doing the death march you had guards on either side of you walking in step so that's useful if anyone at home is trying to work out how many guards are needed: double it up! He gets his wallet stolen by the Japanese (because they are mean and will be able to make use of dollars somehow). He corroborates that the captives were denied any food or water and were required to sleep rough overnight (as there is no possibility the Japanese could have had enough tents to house all the captives as well as themselves). He states people were collapsing from dehydration/exhaustion roughly half way through the second day of the march and that they were immediately executed by the guards. No idea how he was then able to push on for the next 4 days of hiking. He's just tough I guess.

They get to the first camp and are told they are all going to die by the interpreter, which gives this scene an air of cartoonish villainy. Was the camp commandment sat on a throne like Skeletor? Would that not give the POWs a rather strong motivation to do absolutely anything in their power to escape? If you want to kill all the American POWs, just disarm them and machine gun them. Kill them where you found them, on the Bataan peninsula. Why bother marching them? What's the point? It's a massive effort, a huge waste of time and a security risk. Just shoot them.

Note also that he doesn't recall riding in the box cars. You'd think that would have stuck with him.

Bollich estimates how many died from the march: he reckons "thousands" of Filipinos and for the Americans "the numbers vary from as low as 8 or 900 to 2,000". He also states that in his estimation a good 1,800 Americans died at Camp O'Donnell.

His narrative continues in [part 2 of the Youtube series](#), in which he explains that several Americans broke out of the death camp, Camp O'Donnell, at night, to look for food. They managed this successfully, but sadly were caught... when they tried to go back into the camp.

No, really.



Has anyone ever heard of someone breaking out of a concentration camp and then deciding to go back to their bunk bed once they'd found some food in the surrounding countryside? What does this even mean? If you've escaped, great, you run for it and murder Japanese as you go. You head for the hills.

Interestingly, if [we read the article on Britannica.com](#) you learn that the point of gathering Americans in the camp was to use them as labourers:

"Here, from April to October 1942, thousands of men died of sickness and starvation. During that time, the American prisoners were divided into forced-labour gangs and trucked throughout the Philippines to build airfields and roads. In October the Filipino prisoners were released."

So... the Japanese actually wanted to use the prisoners to build stuff. Important stuff like airfields. Or roads. But they're not feeding them or looking after them so they would be completely

ineffective at manual labour – they are all half-dead from dysentery and malaria and starvation and so on. Those are the healthy ones – the rest you're actively torturing/killing just to be mean. So which is it? Mass extermination? Or conscripted labour to build roads?

Bollich gets put on a "hell ship" and sails for 32 days until he arrives in Busan, Korea. He is then shipped up the entire Korean peninsula to live in Mukden (now known as Shenyang) in China where he stays until the end of the war. He doesn't explain why the Japanese bothered to do this or what he does there. Or how he got home.

None of this makes any sense. This is nonsense for babies.

I could probably do more analysis on the "survivors" but those three I've picked at random will suffice. You get the drift.

One more tale of the Pacific before we wrap this paper up, involving spies and gold.

MacArthur is now based in Australia. As per Wikipedia:

*"On 18 April 1942, MacArthur was appointed **Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific Area (SWPA)**. Lieutenant General George Brett became Commander, Allied Air Forces, and Vice Admiral Herbert F. Leary became Commander, Allied Naval Forces. Since the bulk of land forces in the theatre were Australian, George Marshall insisted an Australian be appointed as Commander, Allied Land Forces, and the job went to General Sir Thomas Blamey. **Although predominantly Australian and American, MacArthur's command also included small numbers of personnel from the Netherlands East Indies, the United Kingdom, and other countries.***

*MacArthur established a close relationship with the prime minister of Australia, John Curtin, and **was probably the second most-powerful person in the country after the prime minister.***"

Interesting. So MacArthur is the top dog running things – I suspect at this point overseeing the control of Australia directly for his bosses back in Washington DC. He's got the international (Phoenician Elite) entourage helping him as well, but it's basically an American op:

*"**The staff of MacArthur's General Headquarters (GHQ) was built around the nucleus that had escaped from the Philippines with him, who became known as the "Bataan Gang".** Though Roosevelt and George Marshall pressed for Dutch and Australian officers to be assigned to GHQ, **the heads of all the staff divisions were American** and such officers of other nationalities as were assigned served under them."*

And:

*"**MacArthur formed his own signals intelligence organization, known as the Central Bureau,** from Australian intelligence units and American cryptanalysts who had escaped from the Philippines. This unit forwarded Ultra information to **MacArthur's Chief of Intelligence, Charles A. Willoughby**, for analysis. After a press release revealed details of the Japanese naval dispositions during the Battle of the Coral Sea, at which a Japanese attempt to capture Port Moresby was turned back, **Roosevelt ordered that censorship be imposed in Australia, and the Advisory War Council granted GHQ censorship authority over the Australian press. Australian newspapers were restricted to what was reported in the daily GHQ communiqué.** Veteran correspondents considered the communiqués, which MacArthur drafted personally, "a total farce" and **"Alice-in-Wonderland information handed out at high level"**"*

So just so you know, the American military took over the Australian press in 1942 and could directly control what was published and what was censored, in co-operation with the Australian government. 100% in line, no exceptions, full compliance, run out of one office by MacArthur's men.

Now, hands up in the audience: who believes the Americans were lovely people who gave up that power and gave back that control at the end of the war? i.e. that Australia got a free press in 1946?

Uh huh. Now who thinks that power would never have been rescinded by the Pentagon/CIA and Australia remains to this day a military colony of the US?

MacArthur's **Chief of Intelligence**, mentioned above, is Charles Willoughby.



This is not really his name. That would be:

*“Willoughby is often quoted as being born March 8, 1892, in Heidelberg, Germany, as **Adolph Karl Weidenbach**, the son of **Baron T. Tscheppe-Weidenbach** and wife **Emma Willoughby Tscheppe-Weidenbach of Baltimore, Maryland**. This was disputed by Frank Kluckhohn of The Reporter (New York Journal) in 1952, and there remains uncertainty as to both his birth name and lineage.”*

Disputed? That's his name as of 1916, while in the US Army!

*“After graduation from Gettysburg College, Willoughby was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Officers' Volunteer Reserve Corps of the US Army in 1914. **He spent three years teaching German and military studies** (while serving as a reserve US Army officer) at various prep-schools in the United States. **In August 1916, he vacated his position in the reserve to accept a Regular Army commission as a second lieutenant under the name Adolph Charles Weidenbach.** He rose to Captain and served in World War I in the American Expeditionary Force.”*

And:

*“Willoughby was the **Chief of Intelligence on General MacArthur's staff during World War II, the occupation of Japan, and the Korean War.** In Australia, Willoughby was not allowed to be present at the daily intelligence briefings given to MacArthur by USN codebreaker Rudy Fabian, see Central Bureau.*

*Willoughby became a major general on 12 April 1945. Due to his initiative at the end of the Pacific Campaign war crimes charges against **Shirō Ishii** were dispensed with in exchange for information gathered by **Unit 731**, a covert biological and chemical warfare research and development unit of the Imperial Japanese Army that undertook lethal human experimentation in China. Additionally there was a monetary reward for Ishii.*

*In Japan, Willoughby was assigned the head of the G-2 in Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP), **which was mainly in charge of intelligence and enforcing SCAPIN-33 (Press code for Japan) for censorship of the Japanese press.** Under his administration numerous alleged Japanese war criminals such as Yoshio Kodama and Masanobu Tsuji **were rehabilitated and recruited.***

So, just be sure you got that, we have the son of a German Baron named Adolph Weidenbach as MacArthur's Chief of Intelligence during WWII. Let's see, who was the enemy in WWII? Oh yeah, that would be Germany. And once again, they have fudged this name. There was no Baron Tschepe-Weidenbach. The name was Tullf von [Tschepe und Weidenbach](#), taking us to the German General of the Infantry in WWI, Erich Tullf. He got the title from his wife, who was a von Tschepe und Weidenbach, and according to German Wikipedia, [her father was a secret councillor, a Bohemian knight](#). According to Geni, they were also von Kottulinskys. Also related to von Reibnitz, and through them to Neumann and von Treskow. This links us to the richest Jewish bankers in Europe. The von Treskows bankrolled Napoleon and George Washington, and continued to bankroll all the big wars up until WWII, at least.

We've previously looked at Unit 731 and how it's nonsense. Note the bit about controlling the Japanese press. You see how this works? World War 2 allows the Americans to control large chunks of the globe and in the process enact control over the supposed free press so nobody can talk about it. Clever empire building.

*"Paranoidly anti-communist, Willoughby claimed without basis that there was a "leftist infiltration" of the GHQ, and he went out of his way to track and discredit thinkers left of himself. Willoughby investigated New Dealers in Charles Louis Kades in GHQ's Government Section, an endeavour that included blacklisting economist Eleanor Hadley such that she could not obtain a steady government job in the United States for seventeen years, **and he ordered Japanese police to secretly spy on occupation officials. He even meddled in Japanese domestic politics, bringing down the Democrat–Socialist–People's Cooperative coalition government led by Hitoshi Ashida.** According to declassified 2005 CIA documents **Willoughby organized a group of ultranationalists including Hideaki Tojo's former secretary Takushiro Hattori in 1952 to assassinate then-prime minister Shigeru Yoshida.** He was to be replaced with Ichirō Hatoyama who was much more hawkish and eager to re-militarize Japan. The plan was aborted after potential support within the National Safety Agency dried up. **The CIA report describes both coup members as "extremely irresponsible,"** Tsuji in particular is characterized as "the type of man who, given the chance, would start World War III without any misgivings."*

According to Seagraves, Willoughby was briefed by Edward Lansdale in Tokyo about the "Golden Lily", 金の百合 (kin no yuri), 'M-Fund', or Yamashita's gold."

Willoughby / Weidenbach is a good example of an "intel creature". He's running the press in Australia, working with MacArthur. He's one of the entities that ends up running Japan behind the scenes long after the war ends, manipulating political/public events. Later on he is involved in the Korean War, but that's another topic entirely so I won't investigate that for now.

Yamashita's Gold is an interesting beat. From Wikipedia:

*“Yamashita's gold, also referred to as the Yamashita treasure, is the name given to **the alleged war loot stolen in Southeast Asia by Imperial Japanese forces during World War II and supposedly hidden in caves, tunnels, or underground complexes in different cities in the Philippines.** It was named after the Japanese general Tomoyuki Yamashita, dubbed as "The Tiger of Malaya", who conquered Malaya within 70 days from the British. Though there are accounts that claim the treasure remains hidden in the Philippines and have lured treasure hunters from around the world for over 50 years, its existence has been dismissed by most experts.”*

How useful. The Japanese go berserk and conquer large swathes of south east Asia. They steal loads of treasure – gold, silver, antiques, art, artefacts. They then bring all the treasure to... not Japan... but to the Philippines.

The Philippines. Which the Americans made a big deal out of “returning” to. Hmm.

This next bit speaks for itself:

*“Prominent among those who have argued for the existence of Yamashita's gold are Sterling Seagrave and his wife Peggy Seagrave, who wrote two books related to the subject: *The Yamato Dynasty: The Secret History of Japan's Imperial Family* (2000) and *Gold Warriors: America's Secret Recovery of Yamashita's Gold* (2003). The Seagraves contend that looting, including more than **6000 tonnes of gold**, was organized on a massive scale, by both yakuza gangsters such as Yoshio Kodama, and **the highest levels of Japanese society, including Emperor Hirohito.** The Japanese government intended that loot from Southeast Asia would finance Japan's war effort. The Seagraves allege that Hirohito appointed his brother, Prince Yasuhito Chichibu, to head a secret organization named Kin no yuri (金の百合, "Golden Lily"), after a poem that the Emperor Hirohito had written. It is purported that many of those who knew the locations of the loot were killed during the war, **or later tried by the Allies for war crimes and executed or incarcerated.** Yamashita himself was convicted of war crimes and executed by the United States Army on February 23, 1946, in Los Baños, Laguna, the Philippines.*

*According to the Seagraves, **numerous Golden Lily vaults were found by Edward Lansdale and Severino Garcia Diaz Santa Romana in caves north of Manila in the high valleys and the 'M-Fund', which was named after Major General William Marquat,** was established from Santa Romano and Lansdale's work. Sterling Seagrave alleged that Santa Romana (Santy) tortured Yamashita's driver Major Kojima Kashii to obtain the probable locations of the loot. The Seagraves wrote that **Lansdale flew to Tokyo and briefed MacArthur and his Chief of Intelligence Charles Willoughby, later flew to the United States to brief Clark Clifford and returned with Robert Anderson to inspect several caves in Philippines with Douglas MacArthur.**”*

Willoughby again. Edward Geary Lansdale is CIA, involved in clandestine operations and psychological warfare.

We read on:

*“More than 170 tunnels and caves were found. Ray Cline believes that both Robert Anderson and Paul Helliwell created 176 **"black gold" banking accounts in 42 countries after moving the loot by ship to support future United States operations.***

The stolen property reportedly included many different kinds of valuables looted from banks, depositories, other commercial premises, museums, private homes, and religious buildings. It

takes its name from General Tomoyuki Yamashita, who assumed command of the Japanese forces in the Philippines in 1944.

*According to various accounts, **the loot was initially concentrated in Singapore, and later transported to the Philippines.** The Japanese hoped to ship the treasure from the Philippines to the Japanese Home Islands after the war ended. As the War in the Pacific progressed, United States Navy submarines and Allied warplanes inflicted increasingly heavy sinkings of Japanese merchant shipping. Some of the ships carrying the war booty back to Japan were sunk in combat.*

*The Seagraves and a few others **have claimed that American military intelligence operatives located much of the loot; they colluded with Hirohito and other senior Japanese figures to conceal its existence, and they used it as "Black Gold" to finance American covert intelligence operations around the world during the Cold War.** These rumours have inspired many hopeful treasure hunters, but most experts and Filipino historians say there is no credible evidence behind these claims. In 1992, Imelda Marcos claimed without evidence that Yamashita's gold accounted for the bulk of the wealth of her husband, Ferdinand Marcos."*

This might seem quite fanciful, but I think it's interesting. You can read about the [Rogelio Roxas lawsuit](#) which occurred in Hawaii and concluded that treasure had been located in at least one case:

"This lawsuit ultimately concluded that Roxas found a treasure, and although the Hawaiian state court was not required to determine whether this particular treasure was the legendary Yamashita's gold, the testimony relied upon by the court in reaching its conclusion pointed in that direction. Roxas was allegedly following a map from the son of a Japanese soldier; Roxas allegedly relied on tips provided from Yamashita's interpreter; and Roxas allegedly found samurai swords and the skeletons of dead Japanese soldiers in the treasure chamber. All this led the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal to summarize the allegations leading to Roxas' final judgment as follows: "The Yamashita Treasure was found by Roxas and stolen from Roxas by Marcos' men."

I don't think nowadays there will be any treasure left in a random Philippine mine shaft. My reading would be: the Americans pulled off an incredible heist. They robbed huge chunks of south east Asia, by getting the Japanese to do the dirty work and have them store it all in a location they could later return to, recover and use for their own benefit. I'm not saying this was the main reason for the Pacific Theatre, I'm saying it was one of the benefits. Whether that money was used as CIA black budget or just good old fashion theft to be salted away in bank accounts to provide the conspirators with the finer things in life (e.g. garlic bread, rum and red-headed women of negotiable affection) we will never know. Some of the funds were probably used to bribe people locally I would imagine. See for example [Operation Big Bird](#) and the vast wealth of President Ferdinand Marcos.

Anyway, if you've made it this far, thank you for your patience. I like to think we've covered quite a few interesting things here. Another paper or so and I think we'll have this wrapped up.

More to Come.

[Outro Music – in tribute to Douglas MacArthur](#)

