

PEARL HARBOR

WHY DID JAPAN ATTACK?

Jim Neuman

Navy Region Hawaii
Historian

In early November of 1941, the Japanese liner Taiyo Maru pulled into the calm waters of Honolulu Harbor. There were three Japanese naval officers, traveling incognito, aboard. Although two of them were listed as members of the ship's crew, their work was far from routine.

The Taiyo Maru would travel the exact northern route planned for the Kido Butai, or Japanese strike force against Pearl Harbor. The mission of the agents was to observe such things as weather, sea conditions, commercial shipping movements, American reconnaissance flights and any other sea or air traffic that could alert American forces to the approach of the Imperial Japanese warships.

No reconnaissance was spotted over the entire course of the journey. When the liner left Honolulu for the last time a few days later, no one knew that the die had been cast on one of the most pivotal events of world history, the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor.

As early as December of 1940, plans for the attack had been conceived by Imperial Japan's naval

leadership. Admiral Yamamoto, the acknowledged mastermind of the venture, estimated that Japan would lose as much as one-third of their attacking force, considered acceptable if such an attack could allow Japan to achieve her larger goals.

At the turn of the 20th century Japan was making a successful transition from a feudal society to a world class power, in the wake of increasing European and American colonial interests in the Pacific. With that ascendancy she began to envision herself as the protector of eastern values, to which the western democracies represented a threat. These ideas were encapsulated in what Japan referred to as the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." To the Japanese nationalists, "Greater East" would extend to China, Korea, Southeast Asia and anywhere else that would be of value to Imperial Japanese interests.

The oil fields of Southeast Asia were of particular importance to Japan since the United States had imposed an embargo on oil exports to Japan in August 1941. In order for Japan to continue to establish herself as the central power in the region, she would have to find oil elsewhere. A move to the south was the obvious conclusion, but in order to make it a success, the American Pacific Fleet would have to be eliminated where it stood at Pearl Harbor.

Admiral Yamamoto estimated that destruction of American forces in Pearl Harbor and the Philippines would allow Japan six

months to a year to secure a foothold in Southeast Asia, as well as establish defensive positions in islands of the western Pacific. He initiated top secret plans to prepare just such an attack. But would it work?

On Dec. 2, 1941, Japan crossed the Rubicon when Yamamoto ordered the Kido Butai, at this point about 940 miles north of Midway and moving cautiously toward their goal, to "climb Mount Niitaka." The attack that would change the world would proceed as planned.

Dec. 7, 1941 proved to be an enormous tactical success for the Japanese as the American military was caught completely off guard and the battleships of the Pacific Fleet were decimated, more than 2,300 servicemen and civilians lost their lives and Japan's military had bought the time it sought to consolidate gains elsewhere.

Following the success of the Pearl Harbor attack, Japan launched a full-scale invasion of Southeast Asia and for the next six months appeared poised to see the culmination of their carefully laid plans. Allied forces throughout the Pacific bore the brunt of one Japanese victory after another and thousands suffered under Japanese captivity.

The irony of Japan's success at Pearl Harbor was its failure to truly cripple America's ability to fight. No American aircraft carrier was in port at the time of the attack. Those carriers would live to put a knife in Japan's naval forces at the crucial Battle of Midway

just six months later.

Although no battleship was left undamaged, Japan's failure to destroy Pearl Harbor's shipyard facilities resulted in the successful salvage of all but the USS Oklahoma and the USS Arizona. Each of the restored dreadnoughts went on to play vital roles in the Allied victory.

The Japanese surely underestimated America's will to fight, particularly after the deceit of Dec. 7. Capt. E.M. Zacharias of the cruiser USS Salt Lake City, who observed the carnage in Pearl Harbor as his ship entered the harbor the day after the attack, told his men, "There is nothing that could have consolidated public opinion and expedited our future plans of operations...as quickly as this did."

The "giant" was awake, and America's collective drive to victory would overwhelm Japan's dreams of empire.

Taiyo Maru

Naval Station Pearl Harbor flags down 10th victory

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

A big night on defense by Lt. Jason Jones and two touch tosses by Personnel Specialist 3rd Class Aaron Jackson ushered Naval Station Pearl Harbor (NAVSTA) to a 33-13 win over Joint Intelligence Operation Center (JIOC) in an Ashore Intramural Flag Football League game at Ward Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 1.

Jones recorded one takeaway and ran back two of his three interceptions for touchdowns while Jackson threw for scoring passes of five and 28 yards to help the league-leading NAVSTA become the first team to reach double figures in wins with a record of 10-1.

JIOC saw its mark fall to 7-4, but kept its third-place ranking in league standings, behind NAVSTA and Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii (NIOC).

"We're here to play and make some noise in this league," said Jones following the team's romp over JIOC.

Jones, who switched from his



Lt. Jason Jones, a free safety for Naval Station Pearl Harbor (NAVSTA), scoops up a loose ball during an Ashore Intramural Flag Football League game against Joint Intelligence Operation Center (JIOC) at Ward Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 1. Jones recorded one takeaway and ran back two of his three interceptions for touchdowns in helping NAVSTA to a 33-13 victory over JIOC.

spot at linebacker to free safety prior to the game, made his presence known early when he swiped a loose ball in midair after a JIOC receiver lost control of the pigskin while trying to gain extra yards after making a catch.

On NAVSTA's second offensive play from scrimmage from its own

28, Jackson connected with Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Mike Hagensick on a short pass down the middle of the field.

Just prior to having his flag pulled, Hagensick flicked a lateral to Yeoman 1st Class (SS) James Haul, who took the ball and streaked down the right sideline

for the first touchdown of the game. NAVSTA converted on its point after touchdown (PAT) to gain a 7-0 lead.

JIOC quickly tied the score by moving 65 yards on only four plays, with the final play going for 39 yards and a touchdown on a pass from Army Sgt. Robert Sanchez to Information Systems Technician 3rd Class Lorenzo Nichols.

However, Jackson stepped up to the challenge by marching the team 65 yards downfield on three straight pass completions before connecting with Master-at-Arms Seaman Brandon Thomason for a short five-yard touchdown.

Jones then made his second big play of the game when he, on JIOC's first play from scrimmage, picked off a Sanchez pass at 30-yard line and took it to the house. NAVSTA converted on its PAT to go into halftime with a 20-7 lead.

In the second half, JIOC took the first possession and drove from its own 15 down to NAVSTA's 30-yard line.

But once again, Jones single handedly thwarted JIOC's attempt to score by intercepting his third pass off of Sanchez and rambling 63 yards for his second

touchdown of the night.

"Every time he (Sanchez) put it up, I went after it," said Jones. "This is the most (interceptions) I've had in one game this season. I got a little ball hungry, but all in all it was a good game. It feels great."

Sanchez said that with JIOC trailing for most of the contest, he felt that he had to put the ball up in the air, which may have accounted for all of the interceptions.

"They (NAVSTA defenders) were playing pretty deep," said Sanchez. "They knew that we were going to have to pass the ball."

Both teams traded touchdowns before the final whistle blew.

Sanchez teamed up with Nichols on a 44-yard scoring play for the tandem's second TD of the game while Jackson hit Hagensick on a crossing pattern that went 28 yards and six points.

After the matchup, Jackson said that NAVSTA came out on top by delivering a solid effort on both sides of the ball.

"When your defense is scoring points, that makes it easy," said Jackson. "We've been playing as a unit for 10 weeks now, so we're really starting to put things together."

Red-hot SNAFU sizzles past Federal Fire Department

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

In a battle of the last two remaining unbeaten teams in the National League of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Winter Softball League, SNAFU sent a strong message to the rest of the division by beating the Federal Fire Department, 20-4, in a five-inning, mercy-rule affair at Lynch Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Nov. 28.

The Winter Softball League is a pay-to-play league which is open to active duty, family members and Department of Defense (DoD) employees, who are 18 years of age or older

and are associated with Pearl Harbor, Barbers Point, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station (NCTAMS), West Loch and Kunia.

With the win, SNAFU improved its record to 8-0, while the Federal Fire Department, which started the day at 5-0, saw its overall record drop to 6-2 after playing in three straight games on Saturday.

In the first inning, SNAFU wasted little time as the team took full advantage of five walks by Federal Fire Department pitcher Reid Okimoto to rally for eight runs.

Okimoto, who allowed three runs by walking SNAFU batters with the bases loaded, attributed the Federal Fire De-

partment's slow start to his lack of experience on the mound and the team's inactivity in the past few weeks.

"I'm not the (team's) pitcher. I just threw because we didn't have a pitcher," said Okimoto. "Plus, we hadn't played in about a month. Everybody was rusty."

The fire department even struggled at the plate, where its hitters didn't muster a hit until the third inning when the team scored two runs after two outs.

Meanwhile, SNAFU was getting a solid pitching performance from retired Chief Information Systems Technician Lloyd Shoemaker, who put up goose eggs in the first, second and fourth innings,

while the team's batters were swinging some heavy lumber at the plate.

Following SNAFU's eight-run outburst in the first, the team's hitters continued to flex its muscles with the heart of its batting order producing four long bombs over the Lynch Field fence.

Chief Electronics Technician Jason Karns delivered a two-run shot in the top of the second and was followed by Army 1st Lt. Chad Agustin, who added another two-run blast in the third.

The hit parade didn't end there, however, as Engineman 2nd Class Matt Asinsin launched a leadoff home run in the fourth inning and Air Force Tech. Sgt. Shane Holli-

day lifted a two-run rocket in the top of the fifth.

Besides its eight runs in the first, SNAFU scored two runs in the second, third and fourth innings before erupting for another six tallies in the fifth.

In getting off to the fast start, Agustin noted that the early lead gave the team a huge boost and helped put everyone at ease.

"It's always good to start off hot because anybody can come out on top," he said.

Shoemaker agreed with Agustin and added that with SNAFU's big advantage, he just concentrated on making good pitches.

"All I do is just throw the pitch over the plate and let

my defense do their job," said Shoemaker. "I have a lot of confidence in my defense. These guys always come through."

Remarkably, SNAFU's convincing victory over the fire department came without the services of few key players, such as power-hitting Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Arthur Saldana and Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Jake Alicuben, who is the team's leadoff hitter and starting third baseman.

"We got a lot of versatile players," said Shoemaker, who is also a coach on the squad. "I can move guys almost anywhere on the field and they'll still play well at that position." (See photo on page A-5)



Fans show their excitement as a Seahawks player Kamalu Lyons crosses the goal line for the game-winning touchdown in the Mighty Mite Division (ages 7-8) flag football championship game at Quick Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Nov. 28. The Seahawks bounced back from behind to edge the Buccaneers, 14-12, and win this season's title.

Seahawks outlast Buccaneers for flag title

**Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz**

Contributing Writer

The Seahawks came back from a four-point deficit at halftime to beat the Buccaneers in the Hawai'i Military Youth Athletic Association (HMYAA) Mighty Mite Division (ages 7-8) flag football championship game at Quick Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Nov. 28.

The HMYAA is an inter-base youth organization that includes teams from Pearl Harbor, Hickam Air Force Base and Marine Corps Base Hawai'i.

"We talked to each other the whole year, and we knew that it would come down to these two teams," said Sonar Technician (Submarine) 2nd Class Cody Mills, who is the head coach of the Seahawks. "They (Buccaneers) beat us the first time and we got them this time."

In order for the preconceived matchup to take place, however, both teams had to overcome an uphill climb that began in the first round of the playoffs.

Playing without a bye, the Seahawks and Buccaneers needed to win two games each, before they would meet eye-to-eye.

The Buccaneers made their way to the title game by shutting out the Steelers, 24-0, and Saints, 20-0.

Meanwhile, the Seahawks took care of business by slipping past the Dolphins, 24-6,

and the Vikings, 18-6.

In the championship game, the Buccaneers, led by the quick feet of running back Derrick Lee II, quickly went out in front and held a 12-8 lead at halftime.

The advantage could have been larger, but the Buccaneers lost out on a touchdown just before intermission when Lee's 44-yard scamper to pay dirt was called back due to an illegal blocking penalty.

Immediately after the break, the Seahawks took possession and started the long trek downfield with the ball resting on their own five-yard line.

After misfiring on a pass on first down, Jacob Hinderleider took a handoff and rambled his way down to the Buccaneers 24.

On first down, Matthew Mills brought the Seahawks closer to the goal line when he scampered to the 17.

Then on the very next play from scrimmage, Hinderleider took the hike at quarterback, dropped back to pass and connected with Kamalu Lyons, who ran the final five yards into the end zone for the go-ahead touchdown.

"I just told them that we were only down by four points," said Mills, who spoke to the team before the scoring drive. "If we get a touchdown, we win, and that's what they did. It was all on the kids."

The Buccaneers tried to retake the lead, but after Hinderleider intercepted a pass to end one drive, the Bucs had

another long touchdown run by Lee called back on flag for an illegal block.

Chief Electronics Technician Derrick Lee I, who is the head coach of the Buccaneers and father of the team's lead running back, said that the repeat infraction was a result of some miscommunication with the league.

"We never had these referees call one of our games before," said the elder Lee. "So a lot of the stuff that we were called for, we were allowed to do the whole year."

With only 1:25 remaining in the game, the Buccaneers had one more chance to win the title.

On their own five-yard line, the Bucs handed the ball to the younger Lee, who broke out into the open, but was stopped on the 25 as Hinderleider made a diving grab of Lee's flag to preserve the win for the Seahawks.

"We did pretty good, but had some mental breakdowns," said the elder Lee about the game's final outcome. "I had a real good group of kids. They were very good listeners."

Mills said that he was equally proud of the way the kids performed, not just for the three wins in the playoffs, but also for the entire season.

"The kids were awesome," stated Mills. "We even had five kids come in that never played flag football. But by the end of the year, we were a better team because they learned everything we taught them."

Skylark CENTRAL

WORD SEARCH
Find the these 65 words that illustrate the many ways we **WALK**

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| AMBLE | SAUNTER | TRAMPLE |
| PROMENADE | STUMP | MINCE |
| STEAL | HOBBLE | SLINK |
| CLOMP | SCUFFLE | TREAD |
| PROWL | SWAGGER | MOONWALK |
| STEP | HOOF | SLOG |
| CLUMP | SHAMBLE | TREK |
| PUSSYFOOT | TIPTOE | MOSEY |
| STOMP | LIMP | SLOUCH |
| CREEP | SHLEP | TROT |
| RAMBLE | TODDLE | PACE |
| STRIDE | LOPE | SNEAK |
| DODDER | SHUFFLE | TRUDGE |
| REEL | TOTTER | PARADE |
| STROLL | LUMBER | STAGGER |
| FLOUNCE | SKIP | WADDLE |
| ROLL | TRAIPISE | PLOD STALK |
| STRUT | LURCH | WALK |
| FOOTSLOG | SKULK | PRANCE |
| SASHAY | TRAMP | STAMP |
| STUMBLE | MARCH | |
| HIKE | SLEEPWALK | |



WHO SAID IT?
“A hero is no braver than an ordinary man, but he is braver five minutes longer.”

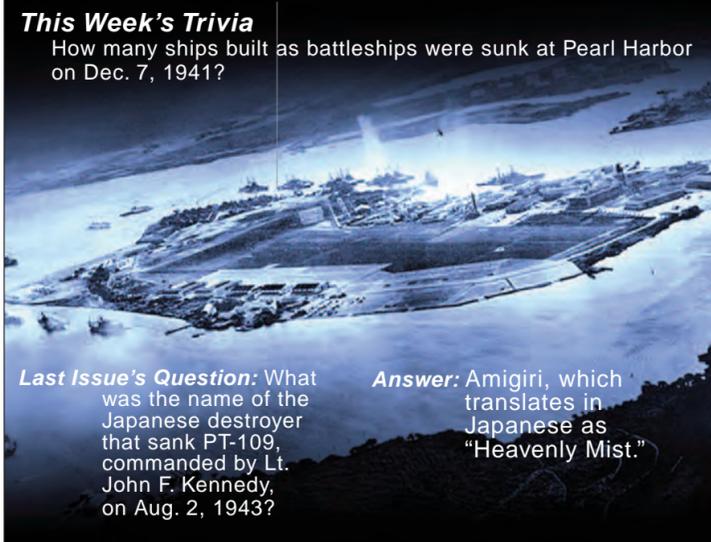


LAST ISSUE'S WHO SAID IT?
“LEADERSHIP IS A POTENT COMBINATION OF STRATEGY AND CHARACTER. BUT IF YOU MUST BE WITHOUT ONE, BE WITHOUT THE STRATEGY.”
- Norman Schwarzkopf

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION
Find these 76 **WEATHER TERMS**

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| ADVISORY | GROWING SEASON | ISOTHERM |
| FLOOD STAGE | SATELLITE PHOTO | DISTURBANCE |
| NORMAL | BLACK ICE | JET STREAM |
| AIR MASS | HARD FREEZE | TROUGH |
| FORECAST | SLIGHT GRABCE | DOPPLER RADAR |
| OZONE LAYER | CEILING | KILLING FROST |
| AIR POLLUTION | HEAT LIGHTNING | VISIBILITY |
| FREEZE WARNING | SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY | DROUGHT |
| PERMAFROST | CELSIUS | KNOTS |
| ALBERTA CLIPPER | HEAVY SURF | WARM FRONT |
| FUNNEL CLOUD | CIRCULATION | EL NINO |
| PRECIPITATION | INDIAN SUMMER | LA NINA |
| ARCTIC AIR | STATIONARY FRONT | WARNING |
| GALE WARNING | CLOUD INVERSION | EXTENDED OUTLOOK |
| PRESSURE | STORM TRACK | LAKE EFFECT |
| ATMOSPHERE | COLD FRONT | WATCH |
| GLOBAL WARMING | IONOSPHERE | FAHRENHEIT |
| RELATIVE HUMIDITY | TEMPERATURE | LIKELY |
| BAROMETER | DEPRESSION | WHITEOUT |
| GREENHOUSE EFFECT | ISOBAR | FLASH FLOOD |
| RIDGE | TROPICAL DEPRESSION | NOR'EASTER |
| BEAUFORT SCALE | DEW POINT | WIND CHILL |

This Week's Trivia
How many ships built as battleships were sunk at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941?



Last Issue's Question: What was the name of the Japanese destroyer that sank PT-109, commanded by Lt. John F. Kennedy, on Aug. 2, 1943?

Answer: Amigiri, which translates in Japanese as "Heavenly Mist."

Navy Region Hawai'i Manawa Nanea

Morale Welfare & Recreation

12 DAYS OF FITNESS

Participate in a different workout on 12 consecutive days (from Dec. 1 to 12) to help you get in shape before the holiday parties begin. This is an opportunity to shed those last unwanted pounds in 2009. Times and events for these free classes are posted at Bloch Arena. FMI: 473-0793

25 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS SWIM

From Dec. 1 to 24, swim 20,000 yards and receive a gift for the holiday season. Sign up at Scott, Towers or Richardson pools and log your swimming to reach the magical number. FMI: 473-0394.

HONOLULU CITY LIGHTS TROLLEY TOUR

Beginning Dec. 1, visit any Information, Ticket and Travel location to purchase tickets for a holiday trolley tour. Tour dates are Dec. 11-13 and 17-23. Tour times are 6 and 6:30 p.m. for all dates. Tickets are only \$12 per person (ages five and older). Children ages four and under may ride free. Seating is limited. FMI: 473-0792.

HOLIDAY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The holiday basket tournament runs Dec. 11-20 and is open to active duty only from Pearl Harbor, Barbers Point, NCTAMS, West Loch and NSGA Kunia. The cost is \$50 per team. Games will be played at Bloch Arena. Deadline for entry is Dec. 2. An organizational meeting will be at Bloch Arena's main basketball court on Dec. 2 at 1 p.m. FMI: 473-4182.

BOAT DECORATING CONTEST AT RAINBOW BAY MARINA

On Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m., stop by Rainbow Bay Marina and watch a parade of boats as patrons display their holiday lights. Vote for your favorite boat and enjoy free refreshments and snacks. FMI: 473-0279.

For more information on Navy Region Hawai'i MWR events, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com

Community Calendar

December

5 - Quicksilver Pro-Surfers Reef McIntosh from North Shore and Mark Healey from Kauai will be at the Navy Exchange (NEX) noon to 1 p.m. at the men's department for photos and autograph signing. FMI: 423-3216.

6 - Affliction Entertainment, the Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Company, will be at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) 1-3 p.m. at the men's department to promote their clothing line and meet with patrons for photos and autographs. Fighters scheduled to appear include: Bablu Sobral, Keith Jardin, Big John McCarthy and Brandon and Kerry Vera. Attendance [of fighters] is subject to change. FMI: 423-3216.

11 - Join in on the season's festivities with Winterfest 2009 at Club Pearl. The fun begins at 6 p.m. Enjoy activities, games, crafts, snacks and more including a visit with Santa. Entertainment includes a performance by the Children's Theatre of Oahu. Get into the holiday spirit by bringing in canned goods to donate to the Armed Forces YMCA Food Bank. Winterfest 2009 is free and open to all active duty, military-affiliated personnel and Department of Defense civilians, family members and their sponsored guests. FMI: www.greatlifehawaii.com.

12 - Raiatea Halm, local recording artist and two-time Grammy nominee, will perform at the NEX from noon to 1 p.m. at the audio department to help celebrate the holiday season. The performance will be free and followed by a meet and greet autograph session. FMI: 423-3216.

12 - A Holiday Family Fun Night will be held from 5 to 10 p.m. at the NEX. The event will feature free Christmas card and ornament-making activities for kids, special guest appearances by Aloha Bear and Wally Amos, and a musical performance by Mailani. Also featured will be various prizes and give aways, including NEX gift cards, gift baskets and an LCD television. FMI: 423-3274.

Sharkey Showtimes



Astro Boy (PG)

Astro Boy is a young robot from futuristic Metro City. Created by a brilliant scientist named Tenma, and powered by pure positive "blue" energy that gives him such abilities as x-ray vision, inhuman speed, and flight, the wide-eyed android longs to find his true place in the world. He sets out on an epic journey that brings him face to face with an underworld army of robots and some of the strangest creatures ever to walk the earth, and along the way learns to experience human feelings and emotions. Astro Boy's remarkable mission of discovery is suddenly cut short; however, when he learns that his friends and family back in Metro City are in grave danger.

TODAY

7:00 PM The Stepfather (PG 13)

SATURDAY

2:30 PM Astro Boy (PG)

4:45 PM Whip It (PG 13)

7:00 PM Couples Retreat (PG 13)

SUNDAY

2:30 PM Where the Wild Things Are (PG)

4:45 PM Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG)

7:00 PM Cirque Du Freak:
The Vampire's Asst (PG 13)

THURSDAY

7:00 PM Law Abiding Citizen (R)

