

Chapter 1 : The United States declares war on Japan - HISTORY

December 23, is the 23rd day of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are 8 days remaining until the end of this year. There are 8 days remaining until the end of this year. The day of the week is Tuesday.

Diary of Teodoro M. Loocsin December 23, Posted on December 23, at The war reveals the parasite, the non-essential man self-confessed. He who does not produce is regarded, with suddenly clear eyes, as an enemy. In peacetime he often occupies an honored position, being then only a thief who lives lawfully on what his neighbor makes. The war leaves us with only human values to go by. It is not very comfortable. It either shows a man or shows him up. Out of this new revelation may come a new society, a true society, a society of man. There are economic problems because there are rich men and poor men. There are wars because there are economic problems. Let us, simply, eliminate the rich men? Heavy fighting is in progress in Lingayen Gulf, miles north of Manila, where the Japanese are attempting a landing in force. Soon afterward a large number of about man barges entered Lingayen Gulf, attempting a landing in the vicinity of Agoo La Union Some of them succeeded in getting ashore. The attempted invasion is being met with fierce resistance by American and Filipino troops. The enemy, nevertheless, continued to gain. Air-raid alarm this afternoon, catching the city on its way back from lunch to work. I was in a bookstore when the alarm came. I was not amused, though I tried hard to be. The necessity of maintaining a decent serenity during a raid leaves a man not quite up to the enjoyment of even the most Rabelaisian humor. It is no longer fashionable to believe in heroes. Even as men conduct themselves unmistakably as such, they perversely refuse to acknowledge it. They die with their boots and a quip on. They refuse to honor the enemy by taking him "at least in their speech" seriously. This is more than a case of whistling in the dark "the practice of adolescence. This, they vaguely feel, is the proper attitude to be adopted by the host toward an uninvited guest.

Chapter 2 : World War II Day-By-Day: Day December 23,

The Executive Order of July 11, , 6 F.R. page , provides, in part, as follows: "By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, it is ordered as follows.

Silang, Cavite Headquarters, 51st Division Still no action. Troops ready in positions. Morale of men very high. Spent whole day running to a nearby foxhole every time Jap planes flew overhead. Several bombs dropped on grass field near ammunition dump but no damage done. He gave me ham and eggs and coffee. He said he was glad the 51st was in Silang to defend the town from Japs who might land in Nasugbu Bay. High spirit of troops impressed me. Tuned in on San Francisco, Tokyo and Manila. Signal Corps officers said they intercepted Jap messages at about eleven last night. When I offered to pay, the waitress said: She was a smart looking girl although somewhat plump. Wrote Mama three nights ago. Asked her to stop worrying about me because I can take care of myself. Fred also wrote to his mother but his letter to his wife was longer. I wonder whom a man loves more, his wife or mother. Fred smiled and remarked: The general said main effort of enemy being exerted on northern front. He said a huge enemy fleet of about 80 transports was sighted off Lingayen Gulf. He stated that Gen. The general explained that this was the second enemy thrust upon the Lingayen sector. The first landing was attempted on December The division G-2 pointed out that Jap troops from 40 transports landed in Atimonan. It was decided to establish closer contact with units under Gen. Albert Jones to coordinate defensive efforts. Fred Castro was told to act as liason and he was given a fast Ford coupe and Signal Corps men for transmission of messages as need arises. The general told Fred that he must observe conditions in Camarines and Tayabas fronts and relay information to our command post continuously. It is a beautiful night. Thousands of stars in the sky. Fields are green, river beyond is quiet, papaya trees are about to bear fruits. I can feel a soft wind blowing on my face right now.

Chapter 3 : December 23 - Wikipedia

What happened on December 23, Browse historical events, famous birthdays and notable deaths from Dec 23, or search by date, day or keyword.

Events leading to the attack on Pearl Harbor Diplomatic background War between Japan and the United States had been a possibility that each nation had been aware of, and planned for, since the s. The relationship between the two countries was cordial enough that they remained trading partners. Japan spent considerable effort trying to isolate China, and endeavored to secure enough independent resources to attain victory on the mainland. The "Southern Operation" was designed to assist these efforts. In , Japan invaded French Indochina , attempting to stymie the flow of supplies reaching China. The United States halted shipments of airplanes, parts, machine tools , and aviation gasoline to Japan, which the latter perceived as an unfriendly act. War Plan Orange had envisioned defending the Philippines with an elite force of 40, men; this option was never implemented due to opposition from Douglas MacArthur , who felt he would need a force ten times that size. Late that year, Admiral Thomas C. Hart , commander of the Asiatic Fleet , was given orders to that effect. Japan and the U. In the course of these negotiations, Japan offered to withdraw from most of China and Indochina after making peace with the Nationalist government. It also proposed to adopt an independent interpretation of the Tripartite Pact and to refrain from trade discrimination, provided all other nations reciprocated. Washington rejected these proposals. Japanese Prime Minister Konoye then offered to meet with Roosevelt, but Roosevelt insisted on reaching an agreement before any meeting. The Konoye government collapsed the following month, when the Japanese military rejected a withdrawal of all troops from China. Despite these preparations, Emperor Hirohito did not approve the attack plan until November 5, after the third of four Imperial Conferences called to consider the matter. Pacific bases and facilities had been placed on alert on many occasions, U. This presumption was due to the threat that the air bases throughout the country and the naval base at Manila posed to sea lanes, as well as to the shipment of supplies to Japan from territory to the south. First, it intended to destroy important American fleet units, thereby preventing the Pacific Fleet from interfering with Japanese conquest of the Dutch East Indies and Malaya and to enable Japan to conquer Southeast Asia without interference. Second, it was hoped to buy time for Japan to consolidate its position and increase its naval strength before shipbuilding authorized by the Vinson-Walsh Act erased any chance of victory. A further important disadvantageâ€”this of timing, and known to the Japaneseâ€”was the absence from Pearl Harbor of all three of the U. Despite these concerns, Yamamoto decided to press ahead. The first wave was to be the primary attack, while the second wave was to attack carriers as its first objective and cruisers as its second, with battleships as the third target. First wave dive bombers were to attack ground targets. Fighters were ordered to strafe and destroy as many parked aircraft as possible to ensure they did not get into the air to intercept the bombers, especially in the first wave. Fighters were to serve CAP duties where needed, especially over U. Reconnaissance aircraft flights risked alerting the U. A report of the absence of the U. However, Ward sank another midget submarine at A midget submarine on the north side of Ford Island missed the seaplane tender Curtiss with her first torpedo and missed the attacking destroyer Monaghan with her other one before being sunk by Monaghan at The wreck was in the debris field where much surplus U. Both of its torpedoes were missing. This correlates with reports of two torpedoes fired at the light cruiser St. He originally stipulated that the attack should not commence until thirty minutes after Japan had informed the United States that peace negotiations were at an end. Tokyo transmitted the word notification commonly called the "Part Message" in two blocks to the Japanese Embassy in Washington. Transcribing the message took too long for the Japanese ambassador to deliver it on schedule; in the event, it was not presented until more than an hour after the attack began. While it was viewed by a number of senior U. S government and military officials as a very strong indicator negotiations were likely to be terminated [75] and that war might break out at any moment, [76] it neither declared war nor severed diplomatic relations. For decades, conventional wisdom held that Japan attacked without first formally breaking diplomatic relations only because of accidents and bumbling that delayed the delivery of a document hinting at war to Washington. The

final two paragraphs of the message read: Thus the earnest hope of the Japanese Government to adjust Japanese-American relations and to preserve and promote the peace of the Pacific through cooperation with the American Government has finally been lost. The Japanese Government regrets to have to notify hereby the American Government that in view of the attitude of the American Government it cannot but consider that it is impossible to reach an agreement through further negotiations. The first wave was detected by U. Opana Radar Station R Bs from mainland 1. First strike group Second strike group

Day December 23, Invasion of Wake Islands. After their defeat on December 11, Japanese return with SNLF Marines, aircraft carriers Soryu and Hiryu, 6 cruisers, 6 destroyers and 2 patrol boats.

During the battle a small force of U. Marines and civilian defenders fought elements of the Imperial Japanese Navy, which ultimately seized the island but at great cost. Located about 2, miles 3, km west of Hawaii and miles approximately 1, km north of the Japanese-held Marshall Islands , Wake Island impressed American naval planners as an ideal site for an advance defensive outpost. A garrison of U. Marines, several dozen navy personnel, and a handful of army radio operators also were stationed on Wake. That force had nearly 2, fewer troops than American strategists had deemed necessary to properly defend the atoll. The Japanese first struck Wake Island at noon local time on December 8, , with a wave of tactical bombers launched from the Marshall Islands. Wake was bombed on an almost daily basis for the next two weeks. Once Wake became a battlefield, CPNAB employees volunteered to fight beside the marines, and about another workers found other ways to support the embattled garrison, from building bomb shelters to delivering hot meals to gun positions and other battle stations. Two Japanese destroyers were sunk, several other ships sustained damage, and the transports were withdrawn. That small engagement, the first tactical defeat experienced by the Japanese navy in World War II, electrified the American people, dispelling much of the gloom caused by Pearl Harbor. Humiliated by that setback, the Japanese navy continued to bomb Wake Island and eventually sent a much larger task force of approximately 2, SNLF troops to take the atoll. Nine hundred Japanese stormed ashore before dawn on December Although the fight for Wake ended in a U. The survivors became prisoners of war , and most were evacuated to China and Japan, although 98 civilian workers were kept on the island to be used as forced labour. The Japanese garrisoned Wake with more than 4, troops and erected extensive fortifications to protect them from attack. The Japanese garrison commander, Capt. Sakaibara Shigematsu, interpreted one such attack, in October , as an invasion attempt, prompting him to order the execution of the remaining civilians on the island. On September 4, , two days after Japan formally surrendered, the surviving Japanese troops on Wake Island lowered their flag. For his role in ordering the killing of nearly prisoners of war, Sakaibara was executed for war crimes in June

Chapter 5 : Battle Of Wake Island | HistoryNet

Above is a larger visual representation of how the date December 23, is converted to roman numerals, this can be used to represent this date for your purpose such as a birthday / anniversary card or gift or tattoo.

Shigeyoshi Inoue, Sadamichi Kajioka Outcome: Japanese Victory Soldiers Engaged: The surrender was of American troops to those of Japan. The battle was for a small island in Central Pacific with the Marines and civilians of the island defending against invaders from Japan. It was a site for a submarine and air base for the U. Just a few hours before the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, Japan hit the island with 36 bombers. A few days later, on December 11th a naval task force from Japan complete with destroyers and cruisers attempted an attack but was forced back by a strong defense on the coast from aircraft and guns. The Japanese Overrun Wake Island Though it sounded like the island would pull through, the Japanese kept the island under a near constant air attack and even U. The Japanese came back December 23 with more force and power and within a mere five hours the island had to surrender. Commander from the U. Navy Winfield Scott Cunningham was in charge of the forces and their eventual surrender. The result was 1, Americans being captured and in turn being evacuated then to Japan and even China. Though the Japanese heavily fortified the island and attempted to hold it, American aircrafts repeatedly attacked it throughout the war creating major devastation. It was again surrendered on September 4, back to America. An interesting and sad historical note is that on October 5, when the Japanese saw imminent invasion an execution was ordered of 98 American civilians. They were taken to one side of the island and shot with machine guns. This prisoner was caught and also executed shortly after. Wensyel Early on the morning of December 8, , Wake Island hummed with activity. For months, the wishbone-shaped Pacific atoll of three small islandsâ€”Wake, Wilkes and Pealeâ€”less than 10 miles long and barely above sea level, had been the site of construction work. Working feverishly to complete an airstrip and defensive fortifications were U. War with Japan was imminent, and an airstrip on Wake, about 2, miles west of Hawaii, would allow American heavy bombers to strike the Japanese-controlled Marshall Islands. And, if Guam were lost to the Japanese, Wake would be one of the closest American outposts to the Japanese mainland. Each day work began early and finished late. There were no other diversions on the tiny, barren atoll, and the defenders all realized that war could begin at any time. This is the real thing. Soon their fragmentation bombs, accompanied by a steady drumming of machine-gun fire, tore the island to pieces. Japanese land-based aircraft from Roi in the Marshalls, later joined by aircraft from approaching Japanese carriers, pounded the atoll day after day. Before each attack, a dwindling number of American Wildcat fighters rose to meet them. Marine gunners let them close to 4, yards before their 5-inch naval guns opened fire. Their patience was rewarded with the sinking of one Japanese destroyer and damaging of the cruiser and three additional destroyers. Kajioka retreated, now knowing that Wake would not be taken without a fight. By the 21st, the last of the Wildcats had been destroyed in dogfights over the atoll. Japanese airplanes now roamed over the island at will, pounding American positions in preparation for a renewed attempt to seize the atoll. Soon a desperate battle was being fought across the atoll between groups of men fighting with rifles, bayonets, grenades and fists. At dawn, Devereux and Cunningham, separated but talking over the single phone line between the islands, took stock of the situation. The American flag still flew from a battered water tower, the highest point on Wake, but Japanese flags fluttered everywhere else. Reports from the three islands were discouraging; there were simply too many Japanese and too few Americans. Cunningham radioed Pearl Harbor: Devereux, unable to contact his remaining strongpoints, had no idea what was happening a few yards beyond his own command post. Later he would reflect: We could keep on expending lives, but we could not buy anything with them. The naval commander phoned Devereux to tell him the depressing news. Malleck, who carried a white cloth tied to a mop handle, then walked across the island, ordering surviving Americans to lay down their weapons. Stunned defenders threw away rifle bolts, destroyed delicate range-finding instruments, drained hydraulic fluid from recoil cylinders and then surrendered. Eighty-one Marines, eight sailors and 82 civilian construction workers had been killed or wounded. The Japanese, however, paid a heavy price for their victory. The fight for Wake Island had cost

them two destroyers and one submarine sunk, seven additional ships damaged, 21 aircraft shot down and almost 1, men killed. Enraged by their losses, the Japanese treated their prisoners' military and civilian' brutally. Some were stripped naked, others to their underwear. Most had their hands tied behind their backs with telephone wire, with a second wire looped tightly from their necks to their wrists so that if they lowered their arms they would strangle themselves. Personal valuables were taken and wounds ignored. The prisoners were then jammed into two suffocating concrete ammunition bunkers. Later they were herded to the airstrip and made to sit, naked, on the blistering hot concrete. When the Japanese set up machine guns nearby, most of the prisoners expected to be executed. That night, bone-chilling winds replaced the heat. The prisoners sat there, still waiting for food, water or medical treatment. The unfortunate prisoners remained sitting on the airstrip for two days. Finally, they were given food, much of it spoiled by the heat, and water, contaminated from being placed in unclean gasoline drums. Piles of assorted clothing seized earlier were placed before them; an individual had little chance of finding his original clothing. Marines found themselves in civilian dress, civilian workers in Marine khaki. Lieutenant John Manning would begin his captivity in a pair of Marine trousers and two oversized, hip-length rubber work boots. They cared for their own wounded with whatever supplies they could obtain. On January 11, , Kajioka informed the prisoners that they would soon be transferred. This was alarming news because although they had been poorly treated by their captors, both sides had come to some accommodation with one another. Now all that would change. The next day most of the prisoners were taken to the merchant ship Nitta Maru. Before boarding, however, they were forced to run a gantlet of cursing and spitting Japanese sailors who struck them with clubs, fists and heavy belts. Those unfortunates would slave away until October , when, in retaliation for the strikes on the island by a U. Navy task force and fearful of an Allied invasion, the Japanese garrison murdered them all. It took Nitta Maru six days to reach Yokohama, Japan. In one instance a Japanese guard thought he saw Pfc Herman Todd talking without permission. The private was ordered to jump up and grab an overhanging beam. As Todd hung suspended above the deck, a Japanese bayonet was thrust at his stomach while a Japanese petty officer beat him with a pick handle. Once they had reached Yokohama, eight American officers and 12 enlisted men were sent to a prison camp in Japan while the remainder of the men continued on to Shanghai, China. On the voyage to China, Lieutenant Toshio Sato, commander of the Japanese guard detachment, selected five Americans, three seamen and two Marines, at random, blindfolded and bound them, and took them on deck. There, surrounded by Japanese sailors, the Americans were made to kneel. Sato then read to the Americans in Japanese: For what you have done you are now going to be killed'as representatives of American soldiers. Perhaps it was just as well, for when Sato finished speaking the five unfortunates were beheaded. Their bodies were then used for bayonet practice before being thrown overboard. After landing at Woosung the prisoners were forced to march five miles to what the Japanese called the Shanghai War Prisoners Camp's seven gray, ramshackle single-story buildings with no fresh water or plumbing and limited electricity. To deter escape, the camp was surrounded by barbed wire, electric fences and four constantly manned guard towers. The prisoners were housed in large, open rooms called sections. Within each section 36 men slept shoulder to shoulder on wooden pallets. Although the temperature seldom exceeded 20 degrees, most of the men wore ragged garments and many had no shoes. There was no heat. In the cold, crowded rooms disease spread quickly. Enforcement of prison rules was simple'if any man in a section misbehaved, all were punished. At Woosung the Japanese commissary routinely issued food for only prisoners. Rations provided only about calories per man per day. Each of the Wake prisoners would lose at least 60 pounds during his captivity at the prison. The Americans would never forget Woosung. The bleak loneliness, bitter cold winds whistling through their flimsy huts, wormy stone-studded rice and dawn-to-dusk work made a lasting impression. The excesses of the Japanese guards only added to their misery. Although a few of them adopted a live-and-let-live attitude toward the Americans, most of the guards were brutal. The worst of the Japanese at Woosung was Isamu Isihara, a civilian interpreter who enjoyed beating the helpless Americans. Although he was a civilian who had once driven a taxi in Honolulu, Isihara wore a samurai sword and insisted that the prisoners treat him as an officer. He struck me four times'with a saber'. Later'the sentry held a bayonet against my abdomen [while] they beat me with their fists'.

Chapter 6 : December 23rd, - FDR: Day by Day

The following events occurred in December December 1, (Monday) The Battle of Pljevlja was fought in the December 23, (Tuesday).

Chapter 7 : December 23, in Roman Numerals (12/23/)

Dec 8 to Dec 10 First Battle of Guam The First Battle of Guam, was an engagement during the Pacific War in World War II, and took place on December 8, on Guam in the Mariana.

Chapter 8 : December 23, | The Siege of Bastogne

One of the most tragic stories though is the final deaths from the Japanese attack were not claimed until December 23, sixteen days after the event. On the morning of December 7, , the USS West Virginia (BB) was moored on Battleship Row outboard of the USS Tennessee (BB).

Chapter 9 : Attack on Pearl Harbor - Wikipedia

Historical events for the 23rd of December. See what famous, interesting and notable events happened throughout history on December