

Chapter 1 : William Halsey, Jr. | Military Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

Are you sure you want to remove Turning the tide of war from your list? GERMANY'S 'BLACK DAY', 82 LEYTE GULF, NANKING, 86 ARDENNES,

Navy Captain William F. Through his father he was a descendant of Senator Rufus King , who was an American lawyer, politician, diplomat, and Federalist. Halsey attended the Pingry School. He chose Virginia because his best friend, Karl Osterhause, was there. While there, Halsey joined the Delta Psi fraternity and was also a member of the secretive Seven Society. While attending the academy he lettered in football as a fullback and earned several athletic honors. Halsey graduated from the Naval Academy on February 2, No explosion occurred, but the rapid burning of the powder burnt and suffocated to death 31 officers and men. This resulted in Halsey dreading the 13th of every month, especially when it fell on a Friday. Halsey was one of the few officers who was promoted directly from Ensign to full lieutenant, skipping the rank of lieutenant junior grade. Halsey commanded a number of torpedo boats and destroyers during the s and s. At that time, the destroyer and the torpedo boat, though extremely hazardous delivery methods, were the most effective way to bring the torpedo into combat against capital ships. Upon his return to the U. Captain Halsey elected to enroll as a cadet for the full week Naval Aviator course rather than the simpler Naval Aviation Observer program. While he had approval from his wife to train as an observer, she learned from a letter after the fact that he had changed to pilot training, and she told her daughter, "What do you think that the old fool is doing now? Halsey considered airpower an important part of the future navy, commenting, "The naval officer in the next war had better know his aviation, and good. During this time he commanded carrier divisions and served as the overall commander of the Aircraft Battle Force. World War II[edit] Traditional naval doctrine envisioned naval combat fought between opposing battleship gun lines. This view was challenged when army airman General Billy Mitchell demonstrated the capability of aircraft to substantially damage and sink even the most heavily armored naval vessel. In the interwar debate that followed, some saw the carrier as defensive in nature, providing air cover to protect the battle group from shore-based aircraft. Carrier-based aircraft were lighter in design and had not been shown to be as lethal. The adage "Capital ships cannot withstand land-based air power" was well known. Naval intelligence indicated Wake Island would be the target of a Japanese surprise attack. Kimmel had given Halsey "a free hand" to attack and destroy any Japanese military forces encountered. Highly anxious of being spotted and then jumped by the Japanese carrier force, Halsey gave orders to "sink any shipping sighted, shoot down any plane encountered. Instead of returning on December 6 as planned, she was still miles out at sea, when she received word that the surprise attack anticipated was not at Wake Island, but at Pearl Harbor itself. News of the attack came in the form of overhearing desperate radio transmissions from one of her aircraft sent forward to Pearl Harbor, attempting to identify itself as American. In the immediate wake of the attack upon Pearl Harbor, Admiral Kimmel named Halsey "commander of all the ships at sea. Above all else, he was an energetic and demanding leader who had the ability to invigorate the U. Halsey returned to Pearl Harbor from his last raid on May 26, in poor health due to the extremely serious and stressful conditions at hand. A debilitating chronic skin condition covered a great deal of his body and caused unbearable itching, making it nearly impossible for him to sleep. Gaunt and having lost twenty pounds, he was medically ordered to the Hospital in Hawaii. Naval intelligence had strongly ascertained that the Japanese were planning an attack on the Central Pacific island of Midway. Pacific Fleet , determined to take the opportunity to engage them. Losing Midway would have been a very serious threat because the Japanese then could easily take Hawaii and threaten the West Coast of the United States. The loss of his most aggressive and combat experienced carrier admiral, Halsey, on the eve of this crisis was a severe blow to Nimitz. To aid Spruance, who had no experience as the commander of a carrier force, Halsey sent along his irascible chief of staff, Captain Miles Browning. The ensuing harrowing Battle of Midway was a crucial turning point in the war for the United States and a dramatic victory for the U. The skin condition soon

receded but Halsey was ordered to stand down for the next 6 weeks and relax. While detached stateside during his convalescence, he visited family and travelled to Washington D. In late August, he accepted a speaking engagement at the U. Naval Academy at Annapolis. Prior to the discussion of his raids against the Japanese positions in the Marshall Islands, Halsey informed the midshipmen before him, "Missing the Battle of Midway has been the greatest disappointment of my career, but I am going back to the Pacific where I intend personally to have a crack at those yellow-bellied sons of bitches and their carriers," which was received with loud applause. After being medically approved to return to duty, Halsey was named to command a carrier task force in the South Pacific Area. Vandegrift holding on by a thread around Henderson Air Field. The Marines did receive additional support from the U. This addition only helped to fill some of the serious holes and was insufficient to sustain the battle of itself. During this critical juncture, naval support was tenuous due to Vice Admiral Robert L. Meeting him before he could board the flagship, the lieutenant handed over a sealed envelope containing a message from Nimitz: Ghormley was a long time personal friend, and had been since their days as teammates on the football team back at Annapolis. Awkward or not, the two men carried out their directives. News of the change flashed and produced an immediate boost to morale with the beleaguered Marines, energizing his command. He was widely considered the U. He set about assessing the situation to determine what actions were needed. Halsey punctiliously made it clear he did not plan to withdraw the Marines. He not only intended to counter the Japanese efforts to dislodge them, he intended to secure the island. Above all else, he wanted to regain the initiative and take the fight to the Japanese. It was two days after Halsey had taken command in October that he gave an order that all naval officers in the South Pacific would dispense with wearing neckties with their tropical uniforms. As Richard Frank commented in his account of the Battle for Guadalcanal: Halsey said he gave this order to conform to Army practice and for comfort. To his command it viscerally evoked the image of a brawler stripping for action and symbolized a casting off of effete elegance no more appropriate to the tropics than to war. Navy the most tenuous phase of the war. Halsey committed his limited naval forces through a series of naval battles around Guadalcanal, including the carrier engagements of the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands and the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal. These engagements checked the Japanese advance and drained their naval forces of carrier aircraft and pilots. Admirals Nimitz and Halsey discuss South Pacific strategy in early Navy winning the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal , the decisive naval engagement of the Guadalcanal campaign that doomed the Japanese garrison and wrested control from the Japanese. IJN aviation proved to be formidable during the Solomon campaign. Pete was a fighting fool and I knew it. South Pacific Command was expecting the arrival of an additional air group to support their next offensive. As a part of the long view of winning the war taken by Nimitz, upon its arrival at Fiji the group was given new orders to return stateside and be broken up, its pilots to be used as instructors for pilot training. South Pacific command had been counting on the air group for their operations up the Solomon chain. The staff officer who brought the dispatch to Halsey remarked "If they do that to us we will have to go on the defensive. At Bougainville the Japanese had two airfields in the southern tip of the island, and another at the northern most peninsula, with a fourth on Buki just across the northern passage. Here, instead of landing near the Japanese airfields and taking them away against the bulk of the Japanese defenders, Halsey landed his invasion force of 14, Marines in Empress Augusta Bay , about halfway up the west coast of Bougainville. There he had the Seabees clear and build their own airfield. The Japanese had been conserving their naval forces over the past year, but now committed a force of seven heavy cruisers, along with one light cruiser and four destroyers. At Rabaul the force refueled in preparation for the coming night battle. Halsey had no surface forces anywhere near equivalent strength to oppose them. The battleships Washington , South Dakota and assorted cruisers had been transferred to the Central Pacific to support the upcoming invasion of Tarawa. Other than the destroyer screen, the only force Halsey had available were the carrier airgroups on Saratoga and Princeton. Rabaul was a heavily fortified port, with five airfields and extensive anti-aircraft batteries. Other than the surprise raid at Pearl Harbor, no mission against such a target had ever been accomplished with carrier aircraft. It was highly dangerous to the aircrews, and to the carriers as

well. With the landing in the balance, Halsey sent his two carriers to steam north through the night to get into range of Rabaul, then launch a daybreak raid on the base. Aircraft from recently captured Vella Lavella were sent over to provide a combat air patrol over the carriers. All available aircraft from the two carriers were committed to the raid itself. The mission was a stunning success, so damaging the cruiser force at Rabaul as to make them no longer a threat. Aircraft losses in the raid were light. Halsey later described the threat to the landings "the most desperate emergency that confronted me in my entire term as ComSoPac. This enabled the continuation of the drive north without the heavy fighting that would have been necessary to capture the base itself. With the neutralization of Rabaul, major operations in the South Pacific Command came to a close. As the war progressed it moved out of the South Pacific and into the Central Pacific. He commanded actions from the Philippines to Japan. From September to January , he led the campaigns to take the Palaus , Leyte and Luzon , and on many raids on Japanese bases, including off the shores of Formosa, China, and Vietnam. By this point in the conflict the U. Navy was doing things the Japanese high command had not thought possible. The Fast Carrier Task Force was able to bring to battle enough air power to overpower land based aircraft and dominate whatever area the fleet was operating in. The Japanese Navy conserved itself in port and would sortie in force to engage the enemy. Navy remained at sea and on station, dominating whatever region it entered.

Chapter 2 : Osprey Campaign | Awards | LibraryThing

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His father was a descendant of Senator Rufus King , who was an American lawyer, politician, diplomat, and Federalist candidate for both Vice President , and President of the United States Halsey attended the Pingry School. He chose Virginia because his best friend, Karl Osterhause, was there. While there, Halsey joined the Delta Psi fraternity. Halsey graduated from the Naval Academy in after lettering in football as a fullback and earning several athletic honors. Halsey was one of the few officers who was promoted directly from Ensign to full Lieutenant, skipping the rank of Lieutenant junior grade. At that time, the destroyer and the torpedo boat, though extremely hazardous, were the most effective way to bring the torpedo into combat against capital ships. Upon his return to the U. Captain Halsey elected to enroll as a cadet for the full twelve-week Naval Aviator course rather than the simpler Naval Aviation Observer program. Halsey considered airpower an important part of the future navy, commenting "The naval officer in the next war had better know his aviation, and good. During this time he commanded carrier divisions and served as the overall Commander of the Aircraft Battle Force. World War II Edit Traditional naval doctrine envisioned naval combat fought between opposing battleship gun lines. This view was challenged when army airman General Billy Mitchell demonstrated the capability of aircraft to substantially damage and sink even the most heavily armored naval vessel. In the inter-war debate that followed, some saw the carrier as defensive in nature, providing air cover to protect the battle-group from shore-based aircraft. Carrier based aircraft were lighter in design, and had not been shown to be as lethal. The adage "Capital ships cannot withstand land-based air power" was well known. The planes flew off her deck on December 2. Highly anxious of being spotted and then jumped by the Japanese carrier force, Halsey gave orders to "sink any shipping sighted, shoot down any plane encountered. Instead of returning to Pearl Harbor on December 6 as planned, she was still miles out at sea when she received word that the surprise attack anticipated was not at Wake Island, but at Pearl Harbor itself. News of the attack came in the form of overhearing desperate radio transmissions from one of her aircraft sent forward to Pearl Harbor, attempting to identify itself as American. Now at war, Enterprise searched south and west of the Hawaiian islands for the Japanese attackers, but did not locate the six Japanese fleet carriers then retiring to the north and west. Above all else, he was an energetic and demanding leader who had the ability to invigorate the U. Serving as commander, Carrier Division 2 aboard his flagship Enterprise, Halsey led a series of hit-and-run raids against the Japanese, striking the Gilbert and Marshall islands in February, Wake Island in March, and carrying out the Doolittle Raid in April against targets on the Japanese homeland. Halsey returned from his last raid in May in poor health. A debilitating chronic skin condition had flared, making it difficult for him to sleep. Gaunt and having lost twenty pounds, he was medically ordered ashore. Naval intelligence had determined that the Japanese were planning an attack on the Central Pacific island of Midway. Pacific Fleet , intended to take the opportunity to engage them. The loss of his most aggressive and combat experienced carrier admiral on the eve of a crisis was a severe blow to Nimitz. Halsey sent along his irascible chief of staff, Captain Miles Browning , to aide Spruance. The ensuing battle was a turning point in the war, resulting in a dramatic victory for the US Navy. He traveled stateside and visited family. While there, he accepted a speaking engagement at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Prior to a discussion of his raids against the Japanese positions in the Marshall Islands, Halsey told the young midshipmen before him, "Missing the Battle of Midway has been the greatest disappointment of my career, but I am going back to the Pacific where I intend personally to have a crack at those yellow bellied sons of bitches and their carriers," to the rousing applause of the assembled midshipmen. After being medically approved to return to duty, he was named to command a carrier task force in the South Pacific Area. The Guadalcanal Campaign was at a critical juncture, with the Marines on the island holding on by a thread and naval support tenuous. Meeting him before he could board the flagship, the lieutenant handed over a sealed envelope containing a message from Nimitz: Ghormley

was a long time personal friend, and had been since their days as teammates on the football team back at Annapolis. Awkward or not, the two men carried out their directives. The change immediately invigorated his command. He had the reputation of a fighting admiral, and for good reason. He set about assessing the situation to determine what actions were needed. Halsey made it clear he did not plan to withdraw the Marines. He not only intended to counter the Japanese efforts to dislodge them, he intended to secure the island. Above all else, he wanted to regain the initiative and take the fight to the Japanese. It was two days after Halsey had taken command in October that he gave an order that all naval officers in the South Pacific would dispense with wearing neckties with their tropical uniforms. As Richard Frank commented in his account of the Battle for Guadalcanal: Halsey said he gave this order to conform to Army practice and for comfort. To his command it viscerally evoked the image of a brawler stripping for action and symbolized a casting off of effete elegance no more appropriate to the tropics than to war. Navy the most tenuous phase of the war. Halsey committed his limited naval forces through a series of naval battles around Guadalcanal, including the carrier engagements of the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands and the Battle of the Eastern Solomons. These engagements checked the Japanese advance and drained their naval forces of carrier aircraft and pilots. Admirals Nimitz and Halsey discuss South Pacific strategy in early Navy winning the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal , the decisive naval engagement of the Guadalcanal campaign that doomed the Japanese garrison and wrested control from the Japanese. The Solomons campaign ended up being a meat grinder of IJN aviation. Pete was a fighting fool and I knew it. South Pacific Command was expecting the arrival of an additional air group to support their next offensive. As a part of the long view of winning the war taken by Nimitz, upon its arrival at Fiji the group was given new orders to return stateside and be broken up, its pilots to be used as instructors for pilot training. South Pacific command had been counting on the air group for their operations up the Solomon chain. The staff officer who brought the dispatch to Halsey remarked "If they do that to us we will have to go on the defensive. At Bouganville the Japanese had two airfields in the southern tip of the island, and another at the northern most peninsula, with a fourth on Buki just across the northern passage. Here, instead of landing near the Japanese airfields and taking them away against the bulk of the Japanese defenders, Halsey landed his invasion force of 14, marines in Empress Augusta Bay, about halfway up the west coast of Bouganville. There he had the Seabees clear and build their own airfield. 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With the landing in the balance, Halsey sent his two carriers to steam north through the night to get into range of Rabaul, then launch a daybreak raid on the base. Aircraft from recently captured Vella Lavella were sent over to provide a combat air patrol over the carriers. All available aircraft from the two carriers were committed to the raid itself. The mission was a stunning success, so damaging the cruiser force at Rabaul as to make them no longer a threat. Aircraft losses in the raid were light. Halsey later described the threat to the landings "the most desperate emergency that confronted me in my entire term as ComSoPac. This enabled the continuation of the drive north without the heavy fighting that would have been necessary to capture the base itself. With the neutralization of Rabaul major operations in the South Pacific Command came to a close. As the war progressed it moved out of the South Pacific and into the Central Pacific. He commanded actions from the Philippines to Japan. From September to January , he led the campaigns to take the Palaus, Leyte and Luzon, and on many raids on Japanese bases, including off the shores of Formosa, China, and Vietnam. By this point in the conflict the U. Navy was doing things the Japanese high command had not thought possible.

The Fast Carrier Task Force was able to bring to battle enough air power to overpower land based aircraft and dominate whatever area the fleet was operating in. The Japanese Navy conserved itself in port and would sortie in force to engage the enemy. Navy remained at sea and on station, dominating whatever region it entered. The size of the Pacific ocean which Japanese planners had thought would limit the U. Command of the "big blue fleet" was alternated with Raymond Spruance. While Spruance was at sea operating the fleet, Halsey and his staff, self-dubbed the "Department of Dirty Tricks", would be planning the next series of operations. Halsey was aggressive and a risk taker. Spruance was calculating, professional and cautious. Most higher-ranking officers preferred to serve under Spruance; most common sailors were proud to serve under Halsey. In October , amphibious forces of the U. It was aimed at destroying the invasion shipping in the Leyte Gulf. The Northern Force of Admiral Ozawa was built around the remaining Japanese aircraft carriers, now weakened by the heavy loss of trained pilots. The Northern Force was meant to lure the covering U. These forces were built around the remaining strength of the Japanese Navy, and comprised a total of 7 battleships and 16 cruisers. The operation brought about the Battle for Leyte Gulf , the largest naval battle of the Second World War and, by some criteria, the largest naval battle in history.

Chapter 3 : Military History “ Page 15 “ UNTO THE BREACH

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The boundaries were modified in 1901, and The Station, now under nominal Australian command, was reduced to only cover Australia and its island dependencies to the north and east. Colonial navies of Australia Before the Federation of Australia in 1901, five of the six self-governing colonies in Australia operated a navy, the exception being Western Australia which did not have a naval force. When Victoria returned to Australia, the vessel had taken part in several minor actions, with the loss of one crew member. The deployment of Victoria to New Zealand marked the first occasion that an Australian warship had been deployed overseas. In the years leading up to Federation, Victoria had the most powerful of the colonial navies. NSW had two very small torpedo boats, the *Porpoise* and the corvette *Wolverine*. The colonial navies were expanded greatly in the 1880s and usually consisted of gunboats and torpedo-boats for coastal defence of harbours and rivers, and naval brigades to man vessels and forts. On 1 January 1901, Australia became a federation of six States, as the Commonwealth of Australia, which on 1 March took over the defence forces from the States, to form the Commonwealth Naval Forces. The boundaries were again modified in 1901. Formation[edit] The official welcome to the new units of the Royal Australian Navy A growing number of people, among them Captain William Rooke Creswell, the director of the Commonwealth Naval Forces, demanded an autonomous Australian navy, financed and controlled by Australia. The Admiralty rejected and resented the challenge, but suggested diplomatically that a small fleet of destroyers and submarines would be sufficient. The visit prompted public enthusiasm for a modern navy and led to the order of two ton River-class torpedo-boat destroyers, a purchase that angered the British. The surge in German naval construction in 1906 led the Australian admiralty to change its position on an Australian navy, which resulted in the Naval Defence Act of 1909 being passed which created the Australian navy. Both ships were commissioned into the Royal Navy on 19 September and sailed for Australia, arriving at Port Phillip on 10 December. The event was marred by the death of Engineer Lieutenant W. The Station was reduced to cover Australia and its island dependencies to the north and east, excluding New Zealand and its surrounds, which became part of the China Station and called the New Zealand Naval Forces. Under the Naval Defence Act the power to make the transfer was conferred in the Governor-General. The RAN would become the Australia Squadron of the Royal Navy with all ships and personnel under the direct control of the British Admiralty, while the RAN remained responsible for the upkeep of the ships and training. On Saturday 4 October the Australian fleet, consisting of the battle cruiser *Australia*, the cruisers *Melbourne* and *Sydney*, the protected cruiser *Encounter*, and the torpedo-boat destroyers *Parramatta*, *Yarra* and *Warrego*, entered Sydney Harbour for the first time. The United Kingdom declared war on Germany the next day, and on 8 August, the Australian Government received a reply, requesting that the transfer be made immediately, if not already done. Two days later, on 10 August, the Governor-General officially transferred control of the Royal Australian Navy to the British Admiralty, which would retain control until 19 August. The light cruiser *Brisbane* and three destroyers were under construction, and a small fleet of auxiliary ships was also being maintained. As a consequence the Royal Australian Navy at the start of the war was a small but formidable force. Germany had colonised the northeastern part of New Guinea and several nearby island groups in 1900, and the colony was currently used as a wireless radio base, Britain required the wireless installations to be destroyed because they were used by the German East Asia Squadron which threatened merchant shipping in the region. The force then sailed for German New Guinea on 7 September, leaving *Kanowna* behind when her stokers refused to work. *Melbourne* was detached to destroy the wireless station on *Nauru*, while on 14 September, *Encounter* bombarded a ridge near *Rabaul*, [21] while half a battalion advanced towards the town. The only major loss of the campaign was the disappearance of the submarine *AE1* during a patrol off *Rabaul* on 14 September. *Sydney* arrived within two hours, and was engaged by *Emden*. At first, *Emden* refused to

strike its colours and surrender; Sydney fired on the stationary Emden until it eventually struck its colours. Pioneer then returned to Australia, to be decommissioned in October AE2 spent five days in the area, was unsuccessfully attacked several times, but was unable to find any large enemy troop transports. On 29 April, she was damaged in an attack by the Turkish torpedo-boat Sultan Hisar in Artaki Bay and was scuttled by her crew. The wreck of AE2 remained undiscovered until June. The speed at which the flu spread, coupled with the cramped mess decks and poorly ventilated living spaces on early 20th century warships, created a favourable environment for the disease. The pandemic swept through the British Grand Fleet in ; the Australian cruisers assigned to the fleet suffered high casualties, with up to casualties in one ship alone. Outbreaks in the Mediterranean fleets were more severe than those in the Atlantic. The RAN lost a total of 26 men to the disease; further loss prevented primarily by the ready availability of professional medical treatment. Talune stopped in Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Nauru: The local authorities were generally unprepared for the size of the outbreak, allowing the infection to spread uncontrollably. The German territory of Samoa was the worst affected of the small islands, the New Zealand administration carried out no efforts to lessen the outbreak and rejected offers of assistance from nearby American Samoa. The New Zealand government officially apologised to Samoa in for their reaction to the outbreak. Australia offered the only alternate source of aid. On 20 November, the Naval Board began forming a joint relief expedition from available military medical personnel. Encounter departed Sydney on 24 November, ten minutes after completing loading. Encounter arrived in Suva on 30 November and took on half of the available coal and 39 tonnes of water. Encounter departed Suva in the evening of the same day and arrived off Apia on 3 December. Within six hours, the medical landing party assigned to Apia and their stores were ashore. The last of the medical staff and supplies were unloaded, and Encounter sailed for Suva on 7 December to re-coal. On arriving in Suva, Encounter received orders to return to Sydney, where reached on 17 December and was immediately placed into quarantine. Australia had based its naval policy on the Henderson Recommendations of, developed by Sir Reginald Henderson. Jellicoe remained in Australia for three months, before returning to England via New Zealand and Canada. Jellicoe submitted his findings in August, titled the Report on the Naval Mission to the Commonwealth. The report outlined several policies designed to strengthen British naval strength in the Pacific Ocean. This would be achieved by strict adherence to the procedures and administration methods of the Royal Navy. The report also suggested constant officer exchange between the two forces. Jellicoe also called for the creation of a large Far East Imperial Fleet, which would be based in Singapore and include capital ships and aircraft carriers. The suggested makeup of the RAN would include; one aircraft carrier, two battlecruisers, eight light cruisers, one flotilla leader, twelve destroyers, a destroyer depot ship, eight submarines, one submarine depot ship, and a small number of additional auxiliary ships. Japan had continued to build up its naval force, and had reached the point where it outgunned the Royal Navy in the Pacific. The RAN and the government believed that the possibility of a Japanese invasion was highly likely. In his report, Admiral Jellicoe believed that the threat of a Japanese invasion of Australia would remain as long as the White Australia Policy remained in place. Due to the perceived threat, and bilateral support in Australia for the White Australia Policy, the Australian Government became a vocal supporter of the continuance of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. No decision on the alliance was agreed on, and the discussion was shelved pending the outcome of the Washington Naval Treaty. The results of the treaty, which allowed the British to retain naval supremacy in the Pacific Ocean, created a sense of security in Australia. This sense of security became known as the Ten Year Rule. This purchase was partly paid for by scrapping Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, and most of the destroyers. The Great Depression of led to another reduction of manpower; although reduced in size, the available posts were easily filled as many men were unemployed and the offered pay was greater than most jobs. By, the strength of the Reserves stood at 5,

Chapter 4 : William Halsey Jr. - Wikipedia

Chancellor of Germany from to and Führer ("Leader") of Nazi Germany from to [a] As dictator, he initiated World War II in Europe with the invasion of Poland in September and was central to the Holocaust.

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were less prepared to yield than their former allies, finally establishing the Gustav Line as ended p. Initial Allied attempts to break the Gustav Line at Cassino in early met with failure p. The second Allied offensive on the Gustav Line was somewhat more successful than its predecessor, pushing the Germans to the Fuhrer-Senger line p. The intention of the Anzio operation was to cut German communications by landing behind their front line p. The Allies on the road to Rome p. The unsuccessful Anzio landing on 22 January , which left both sides in a siege position p. Breaking the Gothic Line, the final German defense in Italy p. The Allies advance into Northern Italy p. Coral Sea was the first naval battle fought without surface vessels sighting each other p. The complex Japanese plan of attack at Midway involved no less than eight task forces p. The battle took place north of Midway and ended in decisive defeat for the Japanese p. Occupying the Solomons was a lengthy process that took the Allies over a year to complete p. US landings on Guadalcanal and the resistance encountered p. Japanese supply ships and their escorts met US Task Force 67 near Tassafaronga on 30 November in one of the many naval actions off Guadalcanal. On this occasion, the Japanese emerged on top p. US landings on New Guinea p. The opposing fleets rendezvous p. The course of the battle on June p. The land battles for Leyte saw superior US forces emerge triumphant p. The sea actions comprising the Battle of Leyte Gulf resulted in a US victory despite the involvement of three separate Japanese forces p. The capture of Luzon p. Iwo Jima, a small island with immense strategic significance p. The invasion of Okinawa was seen as the dress rehearsal for a similar action against the Japanese home islands p.

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suicide pilots 1st used by the Japanese in the battle of Leyte Gulf , crashed into American aircraft carrier, university students were recruited by the idea of a noble death Okinawa costliest naval campaign in US history, 12, US soldiers dead, 70, Japanese deaths (wouldn't surrender, fought to the death, refusing to surrender was.

Soon he was referred to as "Oklahoma Pete", with the nickname shortened to just "Pete" by the winter of his youngster year. At the insistence of his father, Mitscher re-applied and was granted reappointment, though he had to re-enter the academy as a first year plebe. Following graduation he served two years at sea aboard USS Colorado , and was commissioned ensign on March 7, . During that time Mexico was experiencing a political disturbance, and the California was sent to protect U. Naval aviator Marc A. Mitscher took an early interest in aviation, requesting a transfer to aeronautics while aboard the Colorado in his last year as a midshipman, but his request was not granted. The ship had been fitted with a catapult over her fantail. Mitscher trained as a pilot, earning his wings and the designation Naval Aviator. Mitscher was one of the first naval aviators, receiving No. Almost a year later, on April 6, , he reported to the renamed armored cruiser USS Huntington for duty in connection with aircraft catapult experiments. At this early date the Navy was interested in using aircraft for scouting purposes and as spotters for direction of their gunnery. On July 18, , he was promoted to lieutenant commander. Interwar assignments Edit NC-4 prior to the transatlantic crossing. On May 10, , Mitscher was among a group of naval aviators attempting the first transatlantic crossing by air. Among the men involved was future admiral Jack Towers. Taking off from Newfoundland, he nearly reached the Azores before heavy fog caused loss of the horizon, making flying in the early aircraft extremely dangerous. What appeared to be fairly calm seas at altitude turned out to be a heavy chop, and a control cable snapped while setting the aircraft down. Mitscher and his five crewmen were left to sit atop the upper wing of their "Nancy" while they waited to be rescued. Of the three aircraft making the attempt, only NC-4 successfully completed the crossing. For his part in the effort Mitscher received the Navy Cross , the citation reading: He served under Captain Henry C. Aroostook was assigned temporary duties as flagship for the Air Detachment, Pacific Fleet. Mitscher was promoted to commander on July 1, . General Billy Mitchell was advancing the idea that the nation was best defended by an independent service which would control all military aircraft. The debate culminated in the hearings of the Morrow Board, convened to study the best means of applying aviation to national defense. When General Mitchell took his case to the press he was summoned for a court-martial. Mitscher was called as one of the witnesses for the prosecution. The end result was the Navy was left to develop its own, independent aviation branch. A converted collier, she could only make 14 knots, thus limiting her ability to generate wind over her flight deck and lift under the wings of her aircraft for launching and recovery. Nevertheless it was here aboard Langley that Mitscher helped develop many of the methods by which aircraft are handled aboard US Navy aircraft carriers. Following this Mitscher was assigned command of the air group for the newly launched aircraft carrier Saratoga. As air group commander Mitscher was the first person to land an airplane onto her flight deck. She was there in Virginia when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Following her shake down cruise in the caribbean, Mitscher was consulted on the possibility of launching long range bombers off the deck of a carrier. Under the command of Admiral Halsey , the task force proceeded in radio silence to a launch point miles from Japan. Hornet, then, was the real life "Shangri-la" that president Roosevelt referred to in his announcement of the bombing attack on Tokyo. During the Battle of Midway Hornet and Enterprise carried the air groups that made up the strike force of Task Force 16, while Yorktown carried the aircraft of Task Force Mitscher had command of the newest carrier in the battle and had the least experienced air groups. As the battle unfolded the Japanese carrier force was sighted early on June 4 at degrees and about miles from Task Force 16, sailing on a northwest heading. In plotting their attack there was strong disagreement among the air group commanders aboard Hornet as to the best intercept course. Lieutenant Commander Stanhope C. Ring, in overall command of Hornets air groups, chose a course of

degrees, nearly true west, as the most likely solution to bring them to the Japanese carrier group. Lieutenant Commander John C. An aggressive aviator, he assured Mitscher he would get his group into combat and deliver their ordinance, no matter the cost. This group had launched last off Enterprise and had not been able to catch up with or locate the Enterprise dive bombers, but when Waldron dropped his group down to the deck to prepare for their attack the Enterprise fighters lost sight of them. The fifteen Devastators of VT-8 form up as they leave the Hornet. The first of the carrier squadrons to locate the Japanese carriers, Waldron bore down upon the enemy. He brought his group in low, slowing for their torpedo drops. With no fighter escort and no other attackers on hand to split the defenders, his group was decimated by defending Japanese Zeros flying combat air patrol. Though not known at the time, the valiant efforts of Torpedo Eight failed to deliver a hit on the Japanese carriers. Again, no torpedo hits were made, but five of the aircraft managed to survive the engagement. Though failing to inflict any damage, the torpedo attacks did pull the Japanese CAP down and northeast of the carrier force, leaving the approach from other angles unhindered. SBD dive bombers from Enterprise arriving from the south flew over the Japanese carrier force to reach their tipping points almost unopposed. They delivered a devastating blow to Kaga and managed to put a bomb into Akagi as well, while SBDs coming from the east from Yorktown dove down upon the Soryu and shattered her flight deck. All three ships were set ablaze, knocked out of the battle to sink later that day. While all this raged Ring continued his search on a course of degrees, flying to the north of the battle. All ten fighters in the formation ran out of fuel and had to ditch at sea. Several of her SDBs heading to Midway also ran out of fuel and had to ditch on their approach to the Midway base. Other SBDs attempting to return to the Hornet were unable to locate her, and disappeared into the vast Pacific. All these aircraft were lost, though a number of the pilots were later rescued. For the next three years he would try to get the entire unit awarded the Medal of Honor , but without success. The pilots of Torpedo Eight were eventually awarded the Navy Cross. Pete was a fighting fool and I knew it. Mitscher brought a fresh outlook, and instilled an offensive mindset to his assorted air commands. To that point in the conflict carriers had been able to bring enough airpower to bear to inflict significant damage on opposing naval forces, but they always acted as a raiding group. They would approach their objective, inflict damage and then escape away into the vast reaches of the Pacific. Even the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor , devastating though it was, was a carrier raid. Naval airpower was not thought to have the capacity to challenge land based airpower over any length of time. Mitscher was about to change that, leading US naval airpower into a new realm of operations. The fleet had recently completed operations in the Gilbert Islands, taking Tarawa in a bloody and costly invasion in the process. This mission was done for the purpose of providing a land base for aircraft to support naval operations against the next objective, the Marshall Islands. The idea that land based air support was necessary to successfully conduct an amphibious operation was traditional doctrine. Intelligence estimates of the Japanese defenders of the Marshall Islands believed they had approximately aircraft at their disposal. It was thought it would take two days to attain air superiority. Though the Japanese battled briskly, they lost control of the skies over the Marshall Islands by noon of the first day. The two days of destruction saved a great many of the lives of the marines that were landed. The Japanese are estimated to have lost aircraft. The manner in which the fast carrier task force operated established a pattern for future Pacific operations. In his summary report for the month of January, Admiral Nimitz commented it was "typical of what may be expected in the future. I nearly jumped overboard. As tactical commander of the striking force, he developed techniques that would help give his airmen the edge of surprise. The airmen brought devastation to the heavily defended base, destroying 72 aircraft on the ground and another 56 in the air, while a great number of auxiliary vessels and three warships were sunk in the lagoon. These raids demonstrated that the air power of Task Force 58 was powerful enough to overwhelm the air defenses of not just a single island airbase, or several bases on an island, but the airbases of several island groups at one time. Facing the kamikaze threat Edit Adm Mitscher and chief of staff Arleigh Burke transfer over to Enterprise after the Bunker Hill is hit twice by kamikazes. During the next year, his carriers spearheaded the thrust against the heart of the Japanese Empire, covering successively the invasion of the Palaus , the liberation of

the Philippines , and the conquest of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. During the later operation there was a delay in the Army preparing serviceable air bases to support their operations. Mitscher was obliged to keep Task Force 58 sailing in a box on station some 60 miles off the coast of Okinawa for the next two months. During this time they were subject to air attack around the clock, and the psychological pressures of warding off these attacks was enormous. There was rarely a night that would go by that the crews would not be called to quarters, and the days were worse. Bunker Hill was struck by kamikazes, knocking her out of the operation and causing much loss of life. The Enterprise at that time was functioning as a "night carrier", launching and recovering her aircraft in the dark to protect the fleet against bomber and torpedo aircraft slipping in to attack the fleet in the relative safety of night. When Enterprise was struck by kamikaze attack as well Mitscher had to transfer once more, this time to the USS Randolph , the Essex-class carrier that had been damaged by a long range kamikaze attack at Ulithi. Throughout this period Mitscher repeatedly led the fast carriers northward to attack airbases on the Japanese home islands. Commenting on Admiral Mitscher upon his return from the Okinawa campaign, said Admiral Nimitz "He is the most experienced and most able officer in the handling of fast carrier task forces who has yet been developed. It is doubtful if any officer has made more important contributions than he toward extinction of the enemy fleet. At the conclusion of the war and in the face of markedly reduced military spending, a political battle ensued over the need for a military, with advocates from the Army Air Corps insisting that with the development of the atomic bomb the nation could be defended by the devastating power that strategic bombers could now deliver, doing away with the need for Army or Navy forces. In their view, air assets in the Navy should be brought under the control of the soon to be formed Air Force. In the face of such proposals Mitscher remained a staunch advocate for Naval aviation, and went so far as to release the following statement to the press: Japan is beaten, and carrier supremacy defeated her.

Chapter 6 : Military Maps of Second World War

â€¢ Oct 20 - WW2: Battle of Leyte Gulf began. Largest naval battle of the war. â€¢ Oct 21 - The gun frigate Constitution launches at Edmund Hartts Shipyard, Boston, Mass.

Chapter 7 : WWII Leyte photos on Flickr | Flickr

The Battle of Leyte Gulf October PDF: Furnishes a blow-by-blow account, based on new research, of the greatest naval battle in the history of warfare, a battle that almost became a disaster for the U. Navy, and a sign of impending doom for.

Chapter 8 : List of cruisers of the United States Navy - Wikipedia

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Chapter 9 : Marc Mitscher | Military Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

World War II: The Liberty ship was torpedoed in the Leyte Gulf by Japanese aircraft and sank. A total of troops, 26 gunners, and 42 crewmen were rescued by USS San Pedro and USS Coronado (both United States Navy), and USAS LT (United States Army).