

DOOLITTLE RAID OF 18 APRIL 1942

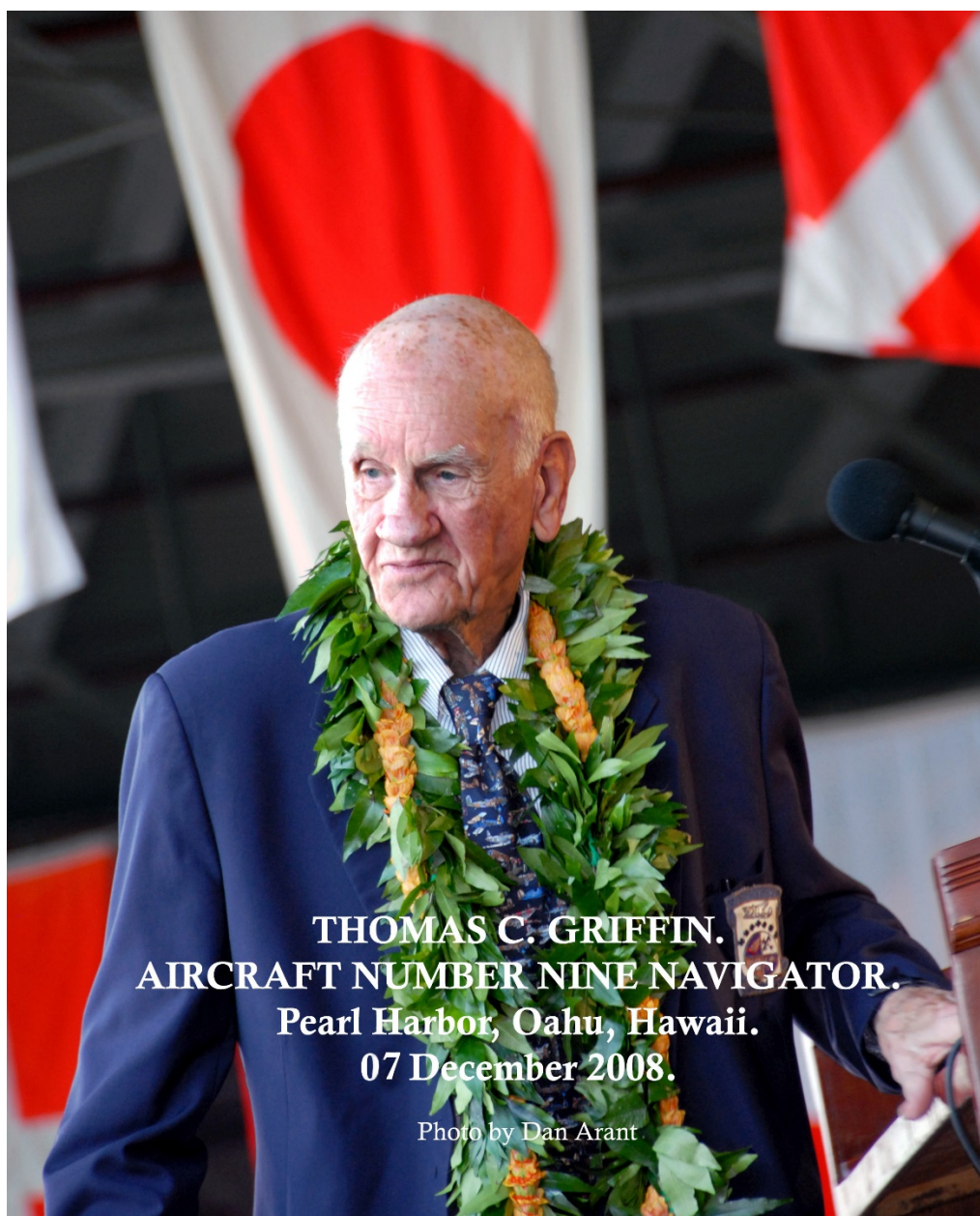
DANIEL R. ARANT arantdr@hotmail.com

DATE OF INFORMATION: 17 APRIL 2017



**B-25J Mitchell "Betty's Dream"
Flies Over World War II Memorial 08 May 2015**

Photo by Dan Arant



**THOMAS C. GRIFFIN.
AIRCRAFT NUMBER NINE NAVIGATOR.
Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii.
07 December 2008.**

Photo by Dan Arant

01. PURPOSE. This document is not a history of the **18 April 1942** Doolittle Raid. It is rather primarily a “gouge” of names and numbers associated with the Raid – more of a document to address in telegraphic form: “who” – “how many” – “when” - “where” – “what kind of” - questions. I find this type of outline to be helpful when I am reading a book that contains a myriad of names, places, and dates (*War and Peace* comes to mind); it is much easier to consult my “scorecard” than to flip back through already-read pages of a book.

A. The names of the Raiders are grouped by aircraft takeoff number; aircraft name, if applicable; squadron association; crewmember position; crewmember birth/death dates; target city; type of ordnance; aircraft disposition after the Raid; and the fate of those crewmembers who died an untimely death during the Raid, later during WW II, or after WW II. As an adjunct, I have included some Doolittle Raid-related “**value-added**” vignettes that may be helpful for rangers/volunteers to enhance their **WW II Memorial Interpretive Talk**. (I attempt to tailor my talk to the anticipated WW II knowledgeability level of a specific audience, *e.g.*, WW II veteran, family of a WW II veteran, school group.) For example, because of an unanticipated happenstance, one of the Raiders who was a prisoner of the Japanese for **forty** months became a life-long friend of the Imperial Japanese Navy pilot who led the attack on Pearl Harbor. All ranks shown are those held at the time of the Raid. I make no distinction between 2nd lieutenant and 1st lieutenant.

B. As in any available large body of literature concerning a specific subject, sources do not always agree. I consulted a wealth of sources and I have tried to present the most accurate information, but I stand to be corrected, especially since there are so many names and dates involved. A list of selected references, some with attendant **comments**, is provided in **paragraph 16**.

02. SUMMARY.

A. Number of Raid participants: **80** members of the U.S. Army Air Forces (USAAF).

(01) The U.S. Army Air Corps (USAAC) officially became the U.S. Army Air Forces on **20 June 1941**, but clearly the Army Air Corps did not “disappear” during WW II - a somewhat confusing subject. I leave it to the reader to do his or her own research to trace the evolution of the Aeronautical Division, U.S. Signal Corps, which was formed on **01 August 1907**, to what eventually became the U.S. Air Force on **18 September 1947**. The reference listed in **paragraph 16.A.(20)** is a good start. Another excellent source of information is U.S. National Park Service Ranger David Rappel.

B. Number of aircraft in the Raid: **16** North American B-25B Mitchell medium bombers.

- C. Aircraft subordination: 34th, 37th, 95th Bombardment Squadrons and the attached 89th Reconnaissance Squadron of the 17th Bombardment Group.
- D. Crew per aircraft: **five**.
- E. Crew positions: In general - pilot, copilot, navigator, bombardier, engineer/gunner.
- F. Ordnance: **Four 500-pound** bombs. Bombs were demolition and incendiary. The mix depended upon the intended target. The normal bomb load was **three** demolition bombs and **one** incendiary bomb. Some aircraft carried **four** incendiaries.
- G. Takeoff platform: USS *Hornet* (CV-8). USS *Hornet* was commissioned on **20 October 1941**. This was the last fleet carrier to be commissioned prior to the appearance of the formidable *Essex* Class fleet carriers.
- H. U.S. Navy Task Force 16 support: **Two** fleet carriers, **three** heavy cruisers, **one** light cruiser, **eight** destroyers, and **two** oilers.
- I. Targeted cities: Primarily Tokyo but also Yokohama, Yokosuka, Nagoya, and Kobe. Osaka was a city of “choice” but was not bombed.
- J. Aircraft/crew disposition after the Raid: **Eleven** crews bailed out, **one** aircraft crashed landed on land, **three** aircraft ditched in the sea, and **one** aircraft was interned in the USSR.
- K. Raiders killed in bailouts or crashes: **One** killed during bailout. **Two** killed during ditching at sea.
- L. Raiders captured by Japanese: **Eight**.
- M. Disposition of captured Raiders: **Three** were executed and **one** died in prison. **Four** were released after the war.
- N. Disposition of Raiders interned in the USSR: Aircraft landed at an airfield in Primorsky Krai (Приморский край), about **40-miles** west of the administrative center of Vladivostok. The crew was subsequently moved to a few other cities and eventually to Ashkhabad, Soviet Turkmenistan, just north of Iran (Persia). The crew eventually “escaped” to Iran.
- O. Number of Raiders who later died during the war in a combat theater of operations: **Ten**.
- P. Number of Raiders who later died during the war in aircraft crashes in the USA: **Two**.
- Q. Number of Raiders who died in aircraft crashes after the war: **Two**.
- R. Number of Raiders who died from **all** causes **during** WW II: **Nineteen**. Number of Raiders who survived WW II: **Sixty-one**.

- S. Number of Raiders who were later shot down in the war and captured by the Germans: **Four**.
- T. Disposition of ships in U.S. Navy Task Force 16: **Seven** of the **14** combatant ships were subsequently sunk during the war.
- U. B-25 pilots who **first** completed a takeoff from an aircraft carrier prior to the Raid: **Lt. John Fitzgerald** and **Lt. James McCarthy**. **Two** lightly loaded B-25s took off from USS *Hornet* in the Norfolk, Virginia, operations area on **02 February 1942**. These pilots did not participate in the Doolittle Raid.
- V. U.S. Navy personnel associated with the Raid: **(01)** In **January 1942**, **Capt. Francis S. “Frog” Low** (a submariner), the operations officer on the staff of **Admiral Ernest J. King**, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet, and soon to be Chief of Naval Operations (**26 March 1942**), conceived the idea of launching USAAF bombers from a carrier to strike the Japanese Home Islands. **(02)** **Capt. Donald B. “Wu” Duncan** (a naval aviator), the air operations officer on **King’s** staff, helped to formulate the operational concept. **(03)** **Lt. Henry L. Miller** was assigned: “To train Army pilots in carrier take-off procedures employing B-25 aircraft.” **(04)** **Vice Adm. William F. “Bull” Halsey, Jr.** commanded Task Force 16. **(05)** **Capt. Marc A. “Pete” Mitscher** commanded USS *Hornet* (CV-8). **(06)** **Lt. Cdr. Stephen Jurika, Jr.**, a pilot, had served as an assistant naval attaché in Tokyo and now was the *Hornet’s* intelligence officer. He provided the Raiders with valuable targeting information and lectured on the history and customs of Japan. He was one of **four** individuals who provided medals they had received from the Japanese to be attached to one of the bombs. The other **three** individuals were former Navy enlisted men who had received commemorative medals from the Japanese during the Great White Fleet’s visit to Yokohama in **October 1908**. They requested the Secretary of the Navy to have their medals attached to a bomb and returned to Japan. They had no idea that their medals would be part of the Doolittle Raid. **(06)** **Seaman First Class Robert Wall** lost his left arm when he was assisting Aircraft Number Sixteen, whose tail dangled over the stern of *Hornet*, from being blown overboard because of high winds and a slippery deck; he was blown into one of *Bat Out of Hell’s* propellers. **(07)** During the return to Hawaii, TF-16 SBD Dauntless dive-bombers searched for or engaged Japanese picket boats (previously, **one** boat was sunk just prior to the launch of the B-25s, which resulted in the decision for an early launch). **One** SBD crew of **two** was lost: pilot **Lt. G. D. Randall** and radioman/gunner **T. A. Gallagher**.
- (01)** The **Low/Duncan** concept was approved by **Maj. Gen. Henry H. “Hap” Arnold**, commander of the USAAF. **Arnold** called upon **Lt. Col. James H. “Jimmy” Doolittle** to put the concept into operational reality.
- W. Number of Raiders who attained general rank: **Five**. (**Three** brigadier generals and **one** major general. **Doolittle** left active duty as a reserve lieutenant general and by a special act of Congress, he was appointed a general in **1985**.)
- X. **Only** living Raider: **Richard E. Cole**, copilot of Aircraft Number One. Lieutenant Colonel, USAF (Ret.). Age of **101** as of the date of this document.

03. DISCLAIMER. This document is not an official publication of the U.S. National Park Service, Friends of the National WW II Memorial, or the Department of Defense. Any grammatical/substantive errors are solely mine. **Questions/comments/corrections are solicited.**

04. AIRCRAFT LISTED BY TAKEOFF NUMBER. AIRCRAFT NAME. AIRCRAFT SQUADRON. TARGET CITY. NATURE OF ORDNANCE. AIRCRAFT DISPOSITION AFTER THE RAID. CREW BIOGRAPHIC DATA.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER ONE. 34th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. FOUR INCENDIARY BOMBS. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. Col. James H. “Jimmy” Doolittle (45). 14 December 1896-27 September 1993.

Copilot: Lt. Richard E. Cole (26). 07 September 1915-

Navigator: Lt. Henry A. “Hank” Potter (23). 22 September 1918-27 May 2002.

Bombardier: SSgt. Fred A. Braemer (25). 31 January 1918-02 February 1989.

Engineer/Gunner: SSgt. Paul J. Leonard (29). 19 June 1912-05 January 1943.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER TWO. 37th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. CRASH LAND ON LAND.

Pilot: Lt. Travis Hoover (24). 21 September 1917-17 January 2004.

Copilot: Lt. William N. Fitzhugh (27). 18 February 1915-31 August 1981.

Navigator: Lt. Carl R. Wildner (26). 18 May 1915-07 March 1994.

Bombardier: Lt. Richard E. Miller (26). 02 March 1916-22 January 1943.

Engineer/Gunner: Sgt. Douglas V. Radney (25). 17 March 1917-28 January 1994.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER THREE (*WHISKEY PETE*). 95th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. Robert M. Gray (22). 24 May 1919-18 October 1942.

Copilot: Lt. Jacob E. “Shorty” Manch (23). 26 December 1918-24 March 1958.

Navigator: Lt. Charles J. Ozuk, Jr. (25). 13 June 1916-09 October 2010.

Bombardier: Sgt. Aden E. Jones (21). 07 September 1920-09 March 1983.

Engineer/Gunner: Cpl. Leland D. Faktor (21). 17 May 1921-18 April 1942.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER FOUR. 95th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. BOMBS SALVOED INTO TOKYO BAY. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. Everett W. “Brick” Holstrom (25). 04 May 1916-02 December 2000.

Copilot: Lt. Lucian N. Youngblood (23). 26 May 1918-28 February 1949.

Navigator: Lt. Harry C. McCool (23). 19 April 1918-01 February 2003.

Bombardier: Sgt. Robert J. Stephens (27). 28 February 1915-13 April 1959.

Engineer/Gunner: Cpl. Bert M. Jordan (22). 03 September 1919-03 April 2001.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER FIVE. 95th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Capt. David M. Jones (28). 18 December 1913-25 November 2008.

Copilot: Lt. Rodney R. “Hoss” Wilder (25). 10 January 1917-07 June 1964.

Navigator: Lt. Eugene F. McGurl (25). 08 February 1917-03 June 1942.

Bombardier: Lt. Denver V. Truelove (22). 10 November 1919-05 April 1943.

Engineer/Gunner: Sgt. Joseph W. Manske (21). 13 April 1921-04 April 1998.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER SIX. (*THE GREEN HORNET*). 95th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. DITCH IN SEA OFF CHINA COAST.

Pilot: Lt. Dean E. Hallmark (28). 20 January 1914-15 October 1942.

Copilot: Lt. Robert J. Meder (24). 23 August 1917-11 December 1943.

Navigator: Lt. Chase J. Neilsen (25). 14 January 1917-23 March 2007.

Bombardier: Sgt. William J. Dieter (29). 05 October 1912-18 April 1942.

Engineer/Gunner: Cpl. Donald E. Fitzmaurice (23). 13 March 1919-18 April 1942.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER SEVEN. (*THE RUPTURED DUCK*). 95th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. TOKYO. DITCH IN SEA OFF CHINA COAST.

Pilot: Lt. Ted W. Lawson (25). 07 March 1917-19 January 1992.

Copilot: Lt. Dean Davenport (23). 29 June 1918-14 February 2000.

Navigator: Lt. Charles L. McClure (25). 04 October 1916-19 January 1999.

Bombardier: Lt. Robert S. Clever (25). 22 May 1914-20 November 1942.

Engineer/Gunner: Cpl. David J. Thatcher (20). 31 July 1921-22 June 2016.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER EIGHT. 95th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. TOKYO. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. LANDED AND INTERNED IN THE SOVIET UNION.

Pilot: Capt. Edward J. York (29). 16 August 1912-31 August 1984.

Copilot: Lt. Robert G. Emmens (27). 22 July 1914-02 April 1992.

Bombardier/Navigator: Lt. Nolan A. Herndon (23). 12 December 1918-07 October 2007.

Engineer: SSgt. Theodore H. Laban (27). 13 July 1914-16 September 1978.

Gunner: Sgt. David W. Pohl (20). 31 December 1921-18 February 1999.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER NINE. (*WHIRLING DERVISH*). 34th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. TOKYO. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. Harold F. Watson (26). 03 April 1916-14 September 1991.

Copilot: Lt. James M. Parker (22). 04 February 1920-19 June 1991.

Navigator: Lt. Thomas C. Griffin (24). 10 July 1916-26 February 2013.

Bombardier: Sgt. Wayne M. Bissell (20). 22 October 1921-09 January 1997.

Engineer/Gunner: SSgt. Eldred V. Scott (34). 29 September 1907-31 July 1978.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER TEN. 89th RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON. TOKYO. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. Richard O. Joyce (22). 28 September 1919-13 February 1983.

Copilot: Lt. J. Royden Stork (25). 11 December 1916-02 May 2002.

Navigator/Bombardier: Lt. Horace E. “Sally” Crouch (23). 29 October 1918-21 December 2005.

Engineer: Sgt. George E. Larkin, Jr. (23). 26 November 1918-18 October 1942.

Gunner: SSgt. Edwin W. Horton, Jr. (26). 28 March 1916-26 November 2008.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER ELEVEN. (*HARI KARI-ER*). 89th RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON. TOKYO. FOUR INCENDIARY BOMBS. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Capt. Charles R. Greening (27). 12 November 1914-29 March 1957.

Copilot: Lt. Kenneth E. Reddy (21). 29 June 1920-02 September 1942.

Navigator: Lt. Frank A. Kappeler (28). 02 January 1914-23 June 2010.

Bombardier: SSgt. William L. Birch (24). 07 September 1917-18 November 2006.

Engineer/Gunner: Sgt. Melvin J. Gardner (22). 06 April 1920-03 June 1942.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER TWELVE. (*FICKLE FINGER OF FATE*). 37th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. YOKOHAMA. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. William M. Bower (25). 13 February 1917-10 January 2011.

Copilot: Lt. Thadd H. Blanton (23). 25 February 1919-27 September 1961.

Navigator: Lt. William R. Pound, Jr. (23). 18 May 1918-13 July 1967.

Bombardier: TSgt. Waldo J. Bither (36). 31 October 1906-25 February 1988.

Engineer/Gunner: SSgt. Omer A. Duquette (26). 25 January 1916-03 June 1942.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER THIRTEEN. (*THE AVENGER*). 37th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. YOKOSUKA. THREE DEMOLITION BOMBS AND ONE INCENDIARY BOMB. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. Edgar E. McElroy (30). 24 March 1912-04 April 2003.

Copilot: Lt. Richard A. “Knobby” Knobloch (23). 27 May 1918-13 August 2001.

Navigator: Lt. Clayton J. Campbell (25). 14 March 1917-17 November 2002.

Bombardier: Sgt. Robert C. Bourgeois (24). 28 September 1917-13 November 2001.

Engineer/Gunner: Sgt. Adam R. Williams (22). 27 September 1919-30 November 1993.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER FOURTEEN. 89th RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON. NAGOYA. FOUR INCENDIARY BOMBS. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Maj. John A. Hilger (33). 11 January 1909-03 February 1982.

Copilot: Lt. Jack A. Sims (23). 23 February 1919-09 June 2007.

Navigator/Bombardier: Lt. James H. Macia, Jr. (26). 10 April 1916-20 December 2009.

Gunner: SSgt. Edwin V. Bain (24). 23 September 1917-19 July 1943.

Engineer: SSgt. Jacob Eierman (29). 02 February 1913-16 January 1994.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER FIFTEEN. (*TNT*). 34th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON. KOBE. FOUR INCENDIARY BOMBS. DITCH IN SEA OFF CHINA COAST.

Pilot: Lt. Donald G. Smith. (24). 15 January 1918-12 November 1942.

Copilot: Lt. Griffith P. Williams (21). 10 July 1920-14 August 1998.

Navigator/Bombardier: Lt. Howard A. Sessler (24). 11 August 1917-09 February 2001.

Flight Surgeon/Gunner: Doctor (Lt.) Thomas R. White (33). 29 March 1909-29 November 1992.

Engineer: Sgt. Edward J. Saylor (22). 15 March 1920-28 January 2015.

AIRCRAFT NUMBER SIXTEEN. (BAT OUT OF HELL). 89th RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON. NAGOYA. FOUR INCENDIARY BOMBS. BAIL OUT.

Pilot: Lt. William G. “Bill” Farrow (24). 24 September 1918-15 October 1942.

Copilot: Lt. Robert L. Hite (22). 03 March 1920-29 March 2015.

Navigator: Lt. George Barr (25). 06 April 1917-12 July 1967.

Bombardier: Cpl. Jacob D. DeShazer (29). 15 November 1912-15 March 2008.

Engineer/Gunner: Sgt. Harold A. Spatz. (20). 14 July 1921-15 October 1942.

05. THREE RAIDERS WHO DIED DURING BAILOUT OR CRASH LANDING ON 18 APRIL 1942.

Cpl. Leland D. Faktor. Aircraft Number Three. Killed during bailout.

Sgt. William J. Dieter. Aircraft Number Six. Killed during aircraft ditching into sea.

Cpl. Donald E. Fitzmaurice. Aircraft Number Six. Killed during aircraft ditching into sea.

06. THREE RAIDERS WHO WERE TAKEN PRISONER AND EXECUTED IN SHANGHAI, CHINA, ON 15 OCTOBER 1942.

Lt. Dean E. Hallmark. Aircraft Number Six.

Lt. William G. Farrow. Aircraft Number Sixteen.

Sgt. Harold A. Spatz. Aircraft Number Sixteen.

07. ONE RAIDER WHO WAS TAKEN PRISONER AND DIED IN PRISON ON 11 DECEMBER 1943.

Lt. Robert J. Meder. Aircraft Number Six.

08. FOUR RAIDERS WHO WERE TAKEN PRISONER AND RELEASED ON 20 AUGUST 1945.

Lt. Chase J. Neilsen. Aircraft Number Six.

Lt. Robert L. Hite. Aircraft Number Sixteen.

Lt. George Barr. Aircraft Number Sixteen.

Cpl. Jacob D. DeShazer. Aircraft Number Sixteen.

09. FIVE RAIDERS OF AIRCRAFT NUMBER EIGHT WHO LANDED IN PRIMORSKY KRAI, USSR, ON 18 APRIL 1942 AND INTERNED FOR THIRTEEN MONTHS.

Capt. Edward J. York.

Lt. Robert G. Emmens.

Lt. Nolan A. Herndon.

SSgt. Theodore H. Laban.

Sgt. David W. Pohl.

10. TEN RAIDERS WHO LATER DIED DURING THE WAR IN A COMBAT THEATER OF OPERATIONS.

SSgt. Paul J. Leonard. Aircraft Number One. North Africa. 05 January 1943.

Lt. Richard E. Miller. Aircraft Number Two. Died of wounds. North Africa. 22 January 1943.

Lt. Robert M. Gray. Aircraft Number Three. China-Burma-India (CBI) Theater. 18 October 1942.

Lt. Eugene F. McGurl. Aircraft Number Five. CBI. 03 June 1942.

Lt. Denver V. Truelove. Aircraft Number Five. Italy. 05 April 1943.

Sgt. George E. Larkin, Jr. Aircraft Number Ten. CBI. 18 October 1942.

Sgt. Melvin J. Gardner. Aircraft Number Eleven. CBI. 03 June 1942.

SSgt. Omer A. Duquette. Aircraft Number Twelve. CBI. 03 June 1942.

SSgt. Edwin V. Bain. Aircraft Number Fourteen. Italy. 19 July 1943.

Lt. Donald G. Smith. Aircraft Number Fifteen. England. 12 November 1942.

11. TWO RAIDERS WHO LATER DIED DURING THE WAR IN AIRCRAFT CRASHES IN THE USA.

Lt. Robert S. Clever. Aircraft Number Seven. Ohio, USA. 20 November 1942.

Lt. Kenneth E. Reddy. Aircraft Number Eleven. Arkansas, USA. 02 September 1942.

12. TWO RAIDERS WHO WERE KILLED AFTER THE WAR IN AIR CRASHES.

Lt. Jacob E. Manch. Aircraft Number Three. Nevada, USA. 24 March 1958.

Lt. Lucian N. Youngblood. Aircraft Number Four. Mexico. 28 February 1949.

13. FOUR RAIDERS WHO WERE SHOT DOWN LATER IN THE WAR AND BECAME PRISONERS OF GERMANY.

Capt. David M. Jones. Aircraft Number Five.

Lt. Thomas C. Griffin. Aircraft Number Nine.

Capt. Charles R. Greening. Aircraft Number Eleven.

Lt. Griffith P. Williams. Aircraft Number Fifteen.

14. SIXTEEN SHIPS OF U.S. NAVY TASK FORCE 16 (TF-16) COMMANDED BY VICE ADM. WILLIAM F. “BULL” HALSEY.

USS *Enterprise* (CV-6). Flagship of Vice Adm. William F. Halsey, Jr. Commanded by Capt. George D. Murray.

USS *Hornet* (CV-8). Commanded by Capt. Marc A. “Pete” Mitscher. **Sunk** 26 October 1942. Santa Cruz.

USS *Salt Lake City* (CA-25).

USS *Northampton* (CA-26). Flagship of Rear Adm. Raymond A. Spruance. **Sunk** 30 November 1942. Lunga Point.

USS *Vincennes* (CA-44). **Sunk** 09 August 1942. Savo Island.

USS *Nashville* (CL-43).

USS *Balch* (DD-363). Flagship of Capt. Richard L. Conolly.

USS *Benham* (DD-397). **Sunk** 15 November 1942. Guadalcanal.

USS *Ellet* (DD-398).

USS *Fanning* (DD-385).

USS *Grayson* (DD-435).

USS *Gwin* (DD-433). **Sunk** 13 July 1943. Kolombangara.

USS *Meredith* (DD-434). **Sunk** 15 October 1942. Solomons.

USS *Monssen* (DD-436). **Sunk** 13 November 1942. Guadalcanal.

USS *Cimarron* (AO-22).

USS *Sabine* (AO-25).

15. “VALUE-ADDED” COMMENTS FOR WW II MEMORIAL INTERPRETIVE TALK.

A. Cpl. Jacob D. DeShazer and Cdr. Mitsuo Fuchida.

(01) During his imprisonment, **Jacob DeShazer** (Aircraft Number Sixteen) was permitted to read the Bible for a period, and he underwent a deep religious “conversion” (my term). If he survived prison, he vowed to obtain a university degree in religion and to return to Japan as a missionary. Both goals were attained. During his senior year at Seattle Pacific College, he wrote an essay titled: “I Was a Prisoner of Japan.” This essay was soon published as a pamphlet and issued in English and Japanese. **DeShazer** was accepted by the Free Methodist Church’s missionary board for service and he arrived in Japan on **28 December 1948**. In **October 1948**, retired **Captain Mitsuo Fuchida**, who led the Imperial Japanese Navy’s **07 December 1941 air attack on Pearl Harbor**, was exiting from Tokyo’s Shibuya train station (site of the famous statue of Japan’s favorite canine, **Hachiko**) when he was handed a Japanese translation of **DeShazer’s** pamphlet. The words inspired **Fuchida** to purchase a Bible and subsequently to convert to Christianity. **DeShazer** and **Fuchida** first met in Japan on **14 April 1950**. They became close friends and at times participated in joint preaching activities in both Japan and the U.S. **Fuchida** also preached with the American-founded organization, Worldwide Christian Missionary Army of Skypilots.

a. An American version of the **Hachiko** story was depicted in the **2009** movie *Hachi: A Dog’s Story* starring **Richard Gere**.

- (02) Some authors claim that **Fuchida** became an American citizen; this has been disputed (I think correctly) by other authors. Noted historians/authors of several books that detail the Pearl Harbor operation (*At Dawn We Slept: The Untold Story of Pearl Harbor, et al*) **Gordon W. Prange, Donald M. Goldstein, and Katherine Dillion** in their book *God's Samurai: Lead Pilot at Pearl Harbor* describe the event when one **Fuchida's** children became an American citizen. The authors do not address specifically whether **Fuchida** became an American citizen, but they do state: "Despite his love for the United States and the presence of his children and grandchildren, the call of his native land could not be denied. There in Kashiwara he passed his remaining years with **Haruko** (his wife), tending the farm, and preaching the gospel." Further, regarding various wartime perspectives of **Fuchida**, I strongly recommend *Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of the Battle of Midway* by Jonathan Parshall and Anthony Tully.

B. Lt. Cdr. John C. Waldron, USN.

- (01) The commander of USS *Hornet's* torpedo squadron, Torpedo Eight (VT-8), during the Doolittle Raid was **Lt. Cdr. John C. Waldron**. During the **03-07 June 1942** Battle of Midway, all **15** VT-8 Douglas TBD-1 Devastator torpedo bombers were shot down and **29** of the **30** crewmen were killed during an attack on Japanese carriers on **04 June 1942**. Total TBD-1 losses among the torpedo squadrons (**one** each) assigned to USS *Hornet*, USS *Yorktown* (CV-5), and USS *Enterprise* (CV-6) on **04 June 1942** were **37** of **41** aircraft and **68** of **82** crewmen.
- (02) When I give the WW II Memorial talk and am at the NAVY IN ACTION *bas-relief*, I quote the text of a note that **Lt. Cdr. Waldron** gave to members of his squadron the night before the attack: "If there is only **one** plane left to make a final run in, I want that man to go and get a hit. May God be with us all. Good luck, happy landings and give 'em hell." **Lt. Cdr. Waldron** was one of the **29** VT-8 crewmen killed.

C. John M. Birch.

- (01) While **Lt. Col. Doolittle** and his **four** other crewmembers were hiding in the cabin of a Chinese riverboat, en route to an escape from Japanese-held territory in which they were then situated, there was a knock on the cabin door. A voice with an American Southern accent asked, "Are there any Americans in there?" After some group hesitation, one of **Doolittle's** crewman opined: "Hell, no Japanese can talk American like that." The visitor was missionary **Reverend John M. Birch** (23). **John Birch** then assisted the **Doolittle** crew during a portion of its journey to friendly-controlled territory, and he later tended to the burial of **Cpl. Leland D. Faktor**, who was killed in in the bailout of Aircraft Number Three. **Lt. Col. Doolittle** promised to support **Birch's** request to join the U.S. military as a chaplain. **Doolittle** contacted "**Colonel**" **Claire L. Chennault**, commander of the American Volunteer Group (AVG), better known as the Flying Tigers. The AVG, which saw

its first combat action on **20 December 1941**, the **John Wayne** movie notwithstanding, was disbanded on **04 July 1942** and now **Brig. Gen. Chennault** became the commander of the China Air Task Force (CATF). The CATF was dissolved on **19 March 1943** and now **Maj. Gen. Chennault** became the commander of the 14th Air Force (14th AF). **Chennault** obtained a commission for **John Birch** as a first lieutenant. **Birch** served as an intelligence officer with the CATF and the 14th AF; he was also “seconded” to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). **Birch** was more valuable as an intelligence officer than as a chaplain, but he did conduct religious services as needed. **Capt. Birch** was killed by Chinese communists on **25 August 1945**. Those of us of a certain age are familiar with the **John Birch Society**. In his autobiography, **Doolittle** states: “He had no way of knowing that the **John Birch Society**, a highly vocal postwar anticommunist organization, would be named after him because its founders believed him to be the ‘first casualty of World War III.’ I feel sure he would **not** have approved.”

- a. Author **James P. Walsh** states that the Theater Judge Advocate report, which detailed the circumstances of the death of **Capt. Birch**, found that: “**Birch** was guilty of poor judgement and failure to take proper precautions, and his superiors were found guilty of improper co-ordination with Communist forces. The Communists were indicted for maliciously killing a fully uniformed American soldier, for mistreating the other members of the group, and for exercising insufficient control over their troops.”

D. Doctor (Lt.) Thomas R. White.

- (01) **Doctor White**, flight surgeon with the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron, begged **Maj. John A. Hilger** (Aircraft Number Fourteen) the commander of the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron and **Lt. Col. Doolittle’s** deputy commander, for permission to participate in the Raid. **Maj. Hilger** refused at first but relented and said **White** could go if he qualified as a gunner. Author **Col. Carroll V. Glines** wrote that **White** took gunnery training and had the **second** highest score against ground targets with the **twin .50-caliber** machine guns. Fortunately, Chinese guerrillas reunited **Doctor White** (Aircraft Number Fifteen) with the crew of Aircraft Number Seven, **four** of whom suffered severe injuries in the ditching of their aircraft. **Doctor White** amputated the severely infected leg of **Lt. Ted W. Lawson**, clearly saving **Lawson’s** life. **Doctor White** also provided **Lt. Lawson** with **two** pints of his own (**White’s**) blood. **Lt. Lawson** subsequently wrote the **1943** book *Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo*, which was the basis for the well-received **1944** movie of the same name. In the movie, **Lt. Col. Doolittle** is played by **Spencer Tracy**; **Ted Lawson** is played by **Van Johnson**; **Cpl. Thatcher** is played by **Robert Walker**.

E. Japanese Retaliation.

(01) A reported **250,000** Chinese may have been killed by the Japanese in retaliation for the Doolittle Raid. Author **James Scott** describes atrocities that compare in ferocity to those depicted in **Iris Chang's** *The Rape of Nanking: The Forgotten Holocaust of World War II*. **Scott** reveals that much of his detailed and graphic information is based on recently discovered missionary records. Retaliation included participation by Japan's bacteriological warfare organization, Unit 731. Author **David Bergamini** states that on **20 April 1942**, **Emperor Hirohito** signed an order for **General Okamura Yasuji**, the senior Japanese commander in China, to prepare a reprisal expedition against Chekiang (Zhejiang) Province, where the Raiders received help from the Chinese. A few days later, another order was given "to destroy the air bases from which the enemy might conduct aerial raids on the Japanese Homeland." Further: "Airfields, military installations, and important lines of communication will be totally destroyed." Chinese Nationalist leader **Chiang Kai-shek**, who was born in Chekiang Province, informed **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** on **28 April 1942**: "These Japanese troops slaughtered every man, woman, and child in those areas – let me repeat – these Japanese troops slaughtered every man, woman, and child in those areas."

F. USSR Internment.

(01) The saga of the crewmembers of Aircraft Number Eight would make a great adventure movie. There were differences among some of the crewmembers whether the diversion of the aircraft to the USSR was planned (not an act of fate or unintentional poorly calibrated carburetors) and to the role played by the USSR vis-a-vis the crew's "escape" to Iran (Persia). It seems that navigator **Lt. Nolan Herndon** had post-war thoughts that the landing in the USSR was preplanned by U.S. authorities and that pilot **Capt. Edward York** and copilot **Lt. Robert Emmens** were ordered to land in the USSR for intelligence-related reasons (I have seen no official evidence to support this). Also, it seems that **York** and **Emmens** disagreed whether the Soviets moved the crew to Ashkhabad, Soviet Turkmenistan Republic, to facilitate their escape to Iran. **York** felt the Soviets had; **Emmens** disagreed. Further, there is the question whether the Soviets provided an assist/"turned a blind eye" to the actual escape.

(02) Prior to the Soviet invasion of Manchuria on **08 August 1945**, the U.S. and the USSR were allies in the war against Germany, but the USSR was neutral vis-à-vis Japan. The U.S. Lend Lease program provided the USSR with almost **8,000** aircraft, flown by **Soviet aircrews** from Alaska to Siberia. But, U.S. aircraft (and their aircrews) that landed in the USSR because of unintended combat or operational circumstances, were interned. Authors **Otis Hays, Jr.** and **Lt. Col. George A. Larson, Jr., USAF (Ret.)** discuss the internment of **37** (one author states the number is **36**) U.S. Navy and USAAF aircrews in the USSR during the war and how the USSR assisted some of these men to "escape" to Iran. Evidence of Soviet assistance is also documented in **Janes Scott's** book.

G. Admiral Raymond A. Spruance.

(01) Admiral Spruance commanded the cruisers during the Doolittle Raid. He played a paramount role in the U.S. victories at the Battle of Midway, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the Battle of Okinawa. Concerning the Doolittle Raid, **Spruance's** biographer, **Thomas B. Buell**, wrote: "**Spruance** was vocally critical of the entire operation, because it diverted **two** carriers and **numerous** cruisers and destroyers from the main Japanese area of operation, the southwest Pacific, and unnecessarily endangered these ships with no objective other than raising the spirits at home." **Buell** quotes **Spruance**: "The Doolittle raid was a spectacular operation, good for American morale, but unless it caused the Japanese to retain at home forces which they intended to send to the South Pacific, it did not impress me as particularly valuable from a military point of view." Some historians feel that *Enterprise* and *Hornet* would have been more of value for availability to partake in the Battle of the Coral Sea in which USS *Lexington* (CV-2) was sunk and USS *Yorktown* (CV-5) was heavily damaged. However, many authors feel that the Raid resulted in the meeting of Japanese and U.S. forces at the Battle of Midway, which ended in a decisive, war turning point, U.S. victory.

H. General James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle.

(01) Jimmy Doolittle was a reserve Lt. Col. in **April 1942**. He left active duty in **1930** as a 1st Lt. He returned to active duty as a major in **1940**. After the Raid, he was promoted to brigadier general. He subsequently commanded the 12th Air Force in North Africa, the 15th Air Force in the Mediterranean, and the 8th Air Force in England. He retired as a reserve lieutenant general in **January 1946**. (He never served in the rank of captain or colonel.) On **04 April 1985**, Congress approved a general's **fourth** star for the **88-year-old Doolittle**. Shortly thereafter, a pinning ceremony was conducted by **President Ronald Reagan** and **Senator Barry Goldwater**. **President Reagan** told the story that the stars used in the pinning were given to **Jimmy Doolittle** in **1945** by newly-promoted **General George S. Patton, Jr.** and that **Patton** promised that he would someday pin the same stars on **Doolittle**. The opportunity was not to be as **Patton** died on **21 December 1945**, the result of a **09 December 1945** automobile accident. **President Reagan** ended the ceremony by saying: "And these stars have reposed at the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base all these years until today. And now, on behalf of a grateful nation, I have the great honor to finally pin these **four** stars on you **Jimmy**."

16. SELECTED REFERENCES.

A. There is a wealth of books, journal articles, magazine articles, oral histories and the like concerning the Doolittle Raid and its impact on the war. I list just a few. Some have attendant **comments**.

- (01) Bergamini, David. *Japan's Imperial Conspiracy: How Emperor Hirohito Led Japan into War Against the West*, 2 vols. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1971.
- (02) Buell, Thomas B. *The Quiet Warrior: A Biography of Admiral Raymond A. Spruance*. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1974.
- (03) Chang, Iris. *The Rape of Nanking: The Forgotten Holocaust of World War II*. New York: Basic Books, 1997.
- (04) Chun, Clayton. *The Doolittle Raid 1942: America's First Strike Back at Japan*. Oxford, UK: Osprey Publishers, 2006.
- a. **Comment:** Follows the standard Osprey format of good maps, wiring diagrams, drawings, and photos. Good primer.
- (05) Cole, Brig. Gen. George P., Jr. "Gen. Doolittle Gets His Fourth Star." *The History Channel Magazine*, March/April 2011.
- (06) Coletta, Paolo E. "Launching the Doolittle Raid on Japan, April 18, 1942." *Pacific Historic Review*, February 1993.
- (07) Craven, Frank and James Lea Cate, eds. *The Army Air Forces in World War II. Volume One. Plans and Early Operations: January 1939 to August 1942*. Chicago, IL: Office of Air Force History, University of Chicago Press, 1948.
- a. **Comment:** Good map of the proposed Doolittle Raider landing sites in China.
- (08) Dolan, Michael. "So Far, So Good: Conversation with Richard Cole." *World War II*, July/August 2016.
- a. **Comment:** Richard Cole at **101**, is the only surviving Doolittle Raider.
- (09) Doolittle, Brig. Gen. James H. "General Doolittle's Report on Japanese Raid: April 18, 1942." War Department, Headquarters of The Army Air Forces, Washington, July 9, 1942.
- a. **Comment:** An early detailed official account of the Raid.
- (10) Doolittle, General James H. "Jimmy" with Carroll V. Gaines. *I Could Never Be So Lucky Again*. New York: Bantam Books, 1991.
- a. **Comment:** Includes a first-hand account of the Raid and its aftermath plus the autobiography of **Jimmy Doolittle**.
- (11) Emmens, Lt. Col. Robert G., USAF. *Guests of the Kremlin*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1949.

- a. Good first-hand account of the saga of the crew of Aircraft Number Eight and life as internees in the USSR. Ancillary comments about the stark existence of the populace in the wartime Soviet Union is especially interesting.
- (12) Glines, Carroll V. *Doolittle's Tokyo Raiders*. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, 1964.
- a. **Comment:** Excellent even though one of the earlier detailed books describing the Raid and ancillary topics. Good interviews, graphics, and photos.
- (13) Glines, Carroll V. "Strike Against Japan." *Aviation History*, March 1998.
- a. **Comment:** Excellent updated article of the author's 1964 and 1988 books.
- (14) Glines, Carroll V. *The Doolittle Raid: America's Daring First Strike Against Japan*. New York: Orion Books, 1988; Jove Books, 1990.
- a. **Comment:** I like this publication. **Colonel Glines** has authored several publications about the Doolittle Raid. Although this book was written almost 30-years ago, it still "holds-up." It is well written (no wasted verbiage), well organized, and contains photographs of all the participants. The book was also issued in paperback – more specifically, a pocket book.
- (15) Halsey, Vice Adm. William F., USN. "Report of action in connection with the bombing of Tokyo on April 18, 1942 (Zone minus Ten)." Commander Carriers, Pacific Fleet, 24 April 1942.
- (16) Halsey, William F. Fleet Admiral and Lt. Cdr. J. Bryan, III, USNR. *Admiral Halsey's Story*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1947.
- (17) Hayostek, Cindy. "World War II: Interview with Doolittle Raider James Macia." *Military History*, March 1996.
- (18) Hays, Jr., Otis. *Home From Siberia: The Secret Odysseys of Interned American Airmen in World War II*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1990.
- a. **Comment:** Good description of a little-known aspect of WW II.
- (19) Howe, Robert F. "They Turned the Tide." *Smithsonian*, August 2002.
- (20) Jessup, John E., editor-in-chief. *Encyclopedia of the Military: Studies of the History, Traditions, Policies, Institutions, and Roles of the Armed Forces in War and Peace*, 3 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1994.

a. Comment: See p.421ff of vol.1 for the organizational history of the USAF from **1907**.

(21) Joffrion, F. J. “Buddy.” “A Profile of Excellence.” *Warbirds*, September/October 1985.

(22) Joffrion, F. J. “Buddy.” “Personnel Glimpses of Jimmy Doolittle.” *Vintage Airplane*, 18 October 1985.

(23) Kelly, Clint. “Flight into Eternity.” *Response: Seattle Pacific University Magazine*, Spring 2004.

a. Comment: Interesting biographical information about **Jacob DeShazer**.

(24) Larson, Lt. Col. George A., (USAF-Ret.). “American Airmen Held as POWs in Far East Russia During World War II.” *Air Power History*, June 2012.

(25) Larson, Elsie J. “From Bombs to Something Else.” *Today’s Christian*, November 1997.

a. Comment: Biographical information about **Jacob DeShazer**.

(26) Lawson, Captain Ted. Edited by Robert Considine. *Thirty Seconds over Tokyo*. New York: Random House, 1943.

a. Comment: An early account of the Raid by the pilot (and amputee) of Aircraft Number Seven. Made into the movie of the same name. A quick read.

(27) Merrill, James M. *Target Tokyo: The Halsey-Doolittle Raid*. New York: Rand McNally & Company, 1964.

(28) Miller, Lt. Harry L., USN. “Temporary additional duty assignment, report on.” U.S. Naval Station, Pensacola, Florida, 07 May 1942.

a. Comment: **Lt. Miller** trained the Doolittle fliers to takeoff from an aircraft carrier. His report contains a short description of the training and comments on the **18 April 1942** takeoffs from *Hornet*.

(29) Morison, Samuel Eliot. *History of United States Naval Operations in World War II. Volume III. The Rising Sun in the Pacific*. Boston: Little Brown and Company, 1948.

(30) Murray, Capt. George D., USN. “Report of action in connection with the bombing of Tokyo on April 18, 1942 (Zone minus Ten). USS *Enterprise* (CV-6), 23 April 1942.

(31) Nelson, Craig. *The First Heroes: The Extraordinary Story of the Doolittle Raid-America’s First World War II Victory*. New York: Penguin Books, 2003.

- a. Comment:** Good information derived from the research of first-hand accounts of the participants.
- (32) Oxford, Edward. “Jimmy Doolittle and the Tokyo Raiders Strike Japan During World War II.” *American History Magazine*, August 1997.
- (33) Potter, E. B. *Bull Halsey: A Biography*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1985.
- (34) Prange, Gordon W. and Donald M. Goldstein and Katherine V. Dillon. *God’s Samurai: Lead Pilot at Pearl Harbor*. New York: Brassy’s (US), 1990.
- a. Comment:** The life of the Imperial Japanese pilot who led the attack on Pearl Harbor, **Mitsuo Fuchida**. Includes **Fuchida’s** views of the impact of the Doolittle Raid.
- (35) Russell, Lord of Liverpool. *The Knights of Bushido: A History of Japanese War Crimes During World War II*. New York: Skyhorse Publishing, 2008.
- (36) Scott, James M. *Target Tokyo: Jimmy Doolittle and the Raid that Avenged Pearl Harbor*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2015.
- a. Comment:** My favorite “one-stop-shopping” book. It has the advantage of being published in **2015**, and it seems that the author is familiar with most of the vast body of Raid-associated literature that precedes **2015**. Scott’s prose style makes for an easy read and many of the “what-ever-happened-to” questions are addressed, *e.g.*, the recovery of the remains of crewmembers who participated in the raid, the trial of the Japanese who oversaw the incarceration/execution of the **eight** captured Raiders, the damage to targets struck by the B-25s, and the Japanese “revenge” on China.
- (37) Suid, Lawrence H. *Guts & Glory: The Making of the American Military Image in Film, Revised and Expanded Edition*. Lexington, KY: University of Kentucky Press, 2002.
- a. Comment:** One of the chapters gives some interesting commentary on the production of the movie *Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo*, which generally follows closely **Lt. Ted Lawson’s** book of the same name. Interestingly, the screenwriter was **Dalton Trumbo**, who was later Blacklisted during the “**McCarthy** era.” **Trumbo** subsequently wrote under assumed names until he again used his real name in the **Kirk Douglas** production of the **1960** movie *Spartacus*.
- (38) Sweetman, Jack. “Bombers from Shangri-la.” *Proceedings*, April 1992.
- (39) Tillman, Barrett. “Into the Rising Sun: The Doolittle Raid.” *Proceedings*, April 2007.

- (40) Ugaki, Admiral Matome. Masataka Chihaya, trans. Donald M. Goldstein and Katherine V. Dillon, eds. *Fading Victory: The Diary of Admiral Matome Ugaki, 1941-1945*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburg Press, 1991.
- a. **Comment:** Vice Admiral Ugaki was serving as the Chief-of-Staff to the Commander of the Combined Fleet, **Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto**, during the Doolittle Raid. **Ugaki** gives some interesting insights into the immediate operational reaction by the Japanese Navy to the Raid. He also describes the feelings of himself and those of Japanese naval authorities to the Raid. **Ugaki** (in a second transport) was shot down along with **Adm. Yamamoto** on **18 April 1943** by USAAF P-38 Lightnings, interestingly, the first anniversary of the Doolittle Raid. **Yamamoto** was killed, but **Ugaki** survived. **Ugaki** later became the Commander of the First Battleship Division, which included the **18.1-inch** battleships *Yamato* and *Musashi*. He later organized the Special Attack Corps (*Tokkotai*), also known as the *Kamikaze*, attacks on the U.S. fleet at Okinawa. After Emperor Hirohito's surrender broadcast, **Vice Adm. Ugaki** participated in the last *Kamikaze* (unsuccessful) attack on U.S. ships. After **Ugaki's** death, a note was found in his belongings: "Having a dream, I will go up into the sky."
- (41) Walsh, James P. "The Death of John Birch: Documented." *The Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Spring 1975.
- a. **Comment:** The author concludes that **John Birch** was the victim of an atrocity, but the official report concluded that "**Birch** contributed directly to his own demise, a datum missing from **(Robert) Welch's** *The Life of John Birch*."
- (42) Wilsont, William R. "Jimmy Doolittle Reminiscence About World War II." *American History*, August 1997.
- (43) www.doolittleraider.com.

END