



hub: organization that sorts and distributes inbound cargo from wholesale supply sources (airlifted, sealifted, and ground transportable) and/or from within the theater

hung ordnance: weapons or stores on an aircraft that the pilot has attempted to drop or fire but could not because of a malfunction of the weapon, rack, or launcher

hypersonic: speeds in excess of five times the speed of sound



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Words to Ponder:

"May all of you as Americans never forget your heroic origins, never fail to seek Divine guidance, and never lose your natural God-given optimism." ~ Ronald Reagan



Pray for our Deployed Members:

Chaplain Brian Palmer and Family: serving the Lord in Fort McCoy, Wisconsin
LCpl Timothy Robinson, USMC: Praise!! He has come home; now living on base at Cherry Point!

Together in Scripture Reading:

This month:
the book of Ephesians



Turn On the Lights

The loneliness of command can be daunting when timely and difficult decisions must be made based on partial intelligence and without a clear sight picture of the battlefield. In these times, the "fog of war" is a very real opponent and the commander must make decisions in which the lives of many and the course of history rest in the balance. Vice Admiral Marc "Pete" Mitscher (pictured at right), commander of the United States Navy Task Force 58 (TF 58), faced such decisions on June 20, 1944, as his force of ships was performing combat operations off of the Marianas Islands.



Early in the World War II Pacific Theater, the Japanese military had ridden the power of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN), and specifically its mighty aircraft carriers, to victory - quickly capturing territory across East and Southeast Asia. Surprise attacks on Pearl Harbor and the Philippines put the United States Navy at a tremendous disadvantage at the start of the war. However, starting with the battles of the Coral Sea and Midway in mid-1942, the Imperial Navy lost so many experienced aircrews to combat that their ability to project force with its carriers was weakened with each successive battle. By the end of the Guadalcanal campaign in February 1943, the ability of the Japanese to fill available carrier pilot positions was beginning to impact their naval operations.

The capture of the Mariana Islands was critical to supporting the Allies' drive to the main islands of Japan and bringing about the end of World War II. Located 1,400 miles from the Japanese mainland, airfields in Saipan and Tinian later proved to be pivotal because it gave the American Army Air Forces the runways needed to bomb the Japanese with the B-29 "Super Fortress."

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Colonel Steve Martin

On June 20, 1944, Vice Admiral Jisaburo Ozawa, who was now commanding nine-tenths of the Imperial Navy took a gamble by striking against the much larger TF 58 commanded by Vice Admiral Mitscher. The attack was ill-coordinated and the Japanese aircraft operated at the extreme of its range. Communications and coordination were hampered by inexperienced Japanese pilots, many of whom were just out of flight school. By contrast, their American counterparts were well-

equipped, well-trained, and most had extensive combat experience. By this point in the war, the huge gap in resources between the Allied Forces (particularly American) and the Imperial Navy was very apparent. Superior radar capability gave Admiral Mitscher the ability to put aircraft in the air to combat the Japanese as they approached his fleet. Between Mitscher's aircrews and anti-aircraft gunners, Japanese aircraft were obliterated. So over-matched were the Japanese that the aerial battle became known as the "Great Marianas Turkey Shoot" because of the ease with which the Japanese Zeroes were defeated.

Earlier in the day, an American submarine, *USS Albacore*, spotted Admiral Ozawa's fleet and reported their position to Task Force 58. In addition, the crew put a torpedo into one of the Japanese carriers. Admiral Mitscher made his first critical decision of the day. Ozawa's fleet was approximately 300 miles away and the day was quickly advancing. Mitscher knew that the Japanese fleet was at the extreme range of his aircraft and that they would have to return home to their carriers in the darkness. This would undoubtedly be exceptionally perilous to his aircrews.

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'By contrast, their American counterparts were well-equipped, well-trained, and most had extensive combat experience.'

HERE'S WHY: REMEMBER THESE MEN (CONCLUSION)

Editor's Note: Picking up where we left off from last month's listing of TV and movie stars from the "greatest generation" who served in the US Armed Forces.

Norman Fell - US Army Air Corps. Tail Gunner, Pacific Theater.

Pat Hingle - US Navy. Served on the destroyer *USS Marshall*

Paul Newman - US Navy. Rear seat gunner/radioman-torpedo bombers of *USS Bunker Hill*.

Peter Graves - US Army Air Corps.

Randolph Scott - Tried to enlist in the Marines but was rejected due to injuries sustained in US Army in WWI.

Robert Altman - US Army Air Corps. B-24 Co-Pilot.

Robert Mitchum - US Army.

Robert Montgomery - US Navy.

Robert Preston - US Army Air Corps. Intelligence Officer

Robert Stack - US Navy. Gunnery Officer.

Robert Taylor - US Navy. Instructor Pilot.

Rock Hudson - US Navy. Aircraft mechanic in the Philippines.

Rod Serling - US Army. 11th Airborne Division in the Pacific. He jumped at Tagaytay in the Philippines and was later wounded in Manila

Rod Steiger - US Navy. Was aboard one of the ships that launched the Doolittle Raid.

Ronald Reagan - US Army. Was a 2nd Lt. in the Cavalry Reserves before the war. His poor eyesight kept him from being sent overseas with his unit when war came so he transferred to the Army Air Corps Public Relations Unit where he served for the duration.



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Turn On the Lights

If, however, the admiral missed this opportunity, Ozawa's fleet would be strengthened before the two forces would meet again. Admiral Mitscher decided to send his aircraft in order to strike a severe blow to the Imperial Japanese Navy.

Admiral Mitscher scheduled two launches of aircraft to attack the Imperial fleet. He sent only the first launch deciding to keep the second in reserve. The first launch consisted of 240 aircraft comprised of Hellcat Fighters, Avenger Torpedo Bombers, Helldivers, and Dauntlesses. The aircraft of TF 58 reached the Imperial fleet just before sunset and overwhelmed the 35 Japanese A6M Zeroes (*example pictured at right*) sent to intercept them. The American attack sank the carrier *Hiyo* and severely damaged the carriers *Zuikaku*, *Junyo*, and *Chiyoda*. Though the Japanese left the battlefield with a majority of their vessels, the Imperial Japanese Navy lost the bulk of its carrier air

strength (480 aircraft total) and would never recover. The "Battle of the Philippine Sea" turned out to be the largest carrier-to-carrier battle in history and it was the last carrier-to-carrier battle of the war.



Vice Admiral Ozawa

As the aircraft of TF 58 returned to their carriers, Admiral Mitscher was monitoring the radio traffic and it became clear that most aircraft were dangerously low on fuel. In addition, night had fallen and the desperate pilots were trying to locate their ships in complete darkness. In accordance with naval regulations, TF 58 was running under the cover of darkness to avoid Japanese submarine attacks. At this point, Admiral Mitscher made his second critical decision of the day after weighing the risks. He gave the order, "Turn on the lights!" In a wartime scenario, this is the equivalent to lighting up a giant neon sign saying "HERE WE ARE" to enemy submarines and night-flying enemy

(continued from page 1)

aircraft. Though against naval regulations, it sent a clear message across the fleet, "Our pilots are not to be expendable!" Knowing that his aviators would have great difficulty finding their carriers in the dark, Mitscher ordered every ship to turn on its running lights; searchlight beams rose to the sky; and picket destroyers fired starshells to help the aircraft find the task force. In addition, he gave permission for planes to land on any available flight deck - not just on their home carrier. Planes landing on the carrier decks were almost completely out of fuel and some engines sputtered and came to stop as the wheels touched down. Even with these extreme measures, approximately one-third of the aircraft had to ditch in the ocean. For the next several days, rescue vessels crisscrossed the ocean; only a handful of aircrew members were never found.



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Reaching Out for Help

The Real Warriors Campaign encourages all service members, veterans and families to seek help for psychological health concerns. Experiencing psychological stress as a result of life transitions, deployment or other long-term separations can be common in military life. Because psychological wounds are often invisible, seeking care early is critical for successful care and positive outcomes.

1st Sgt. Aaron Tippett understands firsthand that reaching out for help is a sign of strength that benefits the service member, his/her family, unit and community. Some service members worry that seeking psychological health care or support will negatively affect their careers. However, reaching out for help did not hinder

Tippett's advancement in the military and he has since been promoted to first sergeant.

'I'm actually diagnosed with PTSD, ...but I was brought up... to drive on; don't let your soldiers see that anything's wrong.'

"Being promoted to first sergeant was always a dream, but now it's a dream realized. And I'm so happy that I sought treatment because I know that if I hadn't ... there's no way I'd be a first sergeant right now."

Tippett has been in the Army for 17 years and currently is a chief air assault instructor for the Sabalauksi Air Assault School of the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell. As a result of working in route clearance sappers, Tippett experienced multiple mild traumatic brain injuries and was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. He experienced speech and sleep challenges,

(Staff Writer, RealWarriors.Net)

dizziness, equilibrium disturbances and constant headaches.

"I'm actually diagnosed with PTSD and multiple cases of mild traumatic brain injury, but I was brought up...to drive on, don't let your soldiers see that anything's wrong."

Tippett initially ignored the symptoms but realized he needed to reach for help not only for himself, but for his family. With the encouragement of his wife, Tonya, a National Guard soldier, he sought help from RESPECT-Mil, a treatment model designed by the Defense Department's Deployment Health Clinical Center (DHCC) to screen, assess and treat active-duty soldiers with depression and/or PTSD. Tippett began treatment for mild traumatic brain injury in 2005 and continues to communicate with his RESPECT-Mil care facilitator to ensure he's staying on the right track.

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2016 Military Times Benefits Guide

(conclusion)

Editor's Note: This is part two of the *Military Times* article on the 72-page military benefits guide.

EDUCATION has information on the Department of Defense Education Activity's transition to "College and Career Ready Standards," an initiative based on the Common Core standards adopted by most states. DoDEA plans to phase in the national standards for math and literacy over the next five years. This chapter also includes details on military education for service members, programs for spouses and how to use GI Bill benefits.

HEALTH CARE details the possibility of changes to the military health system as Congress weighs recommendations from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission. The commission advised privatizing health care for family members and retirees. While the Defense Department has proposed Tricare changes for years, its fiscal 2017 budget request calls for

reorganizing the system and charging higher fees to beneficiaries who choose civilian care rather than military hospitals.

HOUSING includes the latest Basic Allowance for Housing changes as the Defense Department moves a greater share of housing costs to service members.

RECREATION updates developments in various military morale, welfare and recreation programs. Service members, veterans and family members can take advantage of a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities, many of them free. If you want to travel in your free time, don't miss the perks that can make your trips more affordable, including discounts on vacation rentals, cruises, car rentals and military resorts.

MOVING includes details and suggestions for service members dealing with permanent change-of-station moves, including rules on personal vehicle shipments, filing

claims for damage on personal property, contacts for setting up a schedule that will take some of the stress out of a process that will almost always fray the nerves.

RETIREMENT details the landmark changes in the military retirement system to take effect in 2018. The system has been transformed from the traditional pension into a "blended" plan that shrinks the size of the current pension by 20 percent and replaces that portion of the benefit with government contributions to individual investment accounts owned by service members. These Thrift Savings Plan accounts will belong to individual service members who complete two years of service.

Contributing reporters included Karen Jowers, Patricia Kime, Andrew Tilghman, Stephen Losey, Lance M. Bacon, Jim Tice, and George Altman.

For more information, visit www.militarytimes.com

REMEMBER THESE MEN

(continued from page 2)

Russell Johnson - US Army Air Corps. B-24 crewman who was awarded Purple Heart when his aircraft was shot down by the Japanese in the Philippines.

Soupy Sales - US Navy. Served on the *USS Randall* in the South Pacific.

Sterling Hayden - US Marines and OSS. Smuggled guns into Yugoslavia and parachuted into Croatia; Silver Star.

Steve Forrest - US Army. Wounded, Battle of the Bulge.

Ted Knight - US Army. Served with Combat Engineers.

Telly Savalas - US Army.

Tom Bosley - US Navy.

Tony Curtis - US Navy. Sub tender *USS Proteus*. In Tokyo Bay for the surrender of Japan.

Tyrone Power - US Marines. Transport pilot in the Pacific Theater.

Walter Matthau - US Army Air Corps. B-24 Radioman, Gunner, and cryptographer.

Wayne Morris - US Navy. Fighter pilot on *USS Essex*. Downed seven Japanese fighters.

William Conrad - US Army Air Corps. Fighter Pilot.

And of course we have **Audie Murphy**, America's most-decorated soldier, who became a Hollywood star as a result of his US Army service that included his being awarded the Medal of Honor. "Would someone please remind me again how many of today's Hollywood elite, sports celebs and politicians put their careers on



hold to enlist for service in Iraq or Afghanistan?" (an unknown quote)

Audie Murphy, circa 1945

Reaching Out for Help



After hiding the fact that he was receiving treatment for a year and a half, Tippet (pictured at left) is now sharing his story to encourage other warriors who may be hesitant to seek care and show that nothing should be able to set you back.

"It is a stronger thing to do to recognize and seek help than it is to hide from it and shy away from it."

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To learn more about Tippet's story or to listen to other warriors share their story of reaching out for help with successful outcomes, visit the videos section of the Real Warriors Campaign website at www.realwarriors.net.



Life As a Military Kid (part 1)

Editor's Note: This two-part feature was adapted from an article by spouseBuzz.com staff writer, freelance journalist, and Navy wife & mom Mari Krueger.

Most military parents share fears about how the military lifestyle will affect their kids. What if the kids hate moving? What if they fall behind in school? Is it better to 'geobach,' or move to a remote assignment and risk being the new kid yet again?



We consulted a panel of (rather young) experts. Who better to report back on being a military kid than military kids themselves? Listen to some of the Real Experts on Life as a Military Kid.

Amber, 20: As an older military brat, Amber admits frequent school changes are a challenge, especially when she's lost credit hours for classes she'd already completed. But while

moving makes things difficult, she credits the military lifestyle with her open-mindedness—plus her penchant to dive into new foods.

Amber also said her dad's lengthy deployments, though difficult at the time, certainly didn't ruin her life.

"Even though he isn't here much," she said, "he still takes care of the family. I'm more proud of him as a dad than as a man in the military."

(We'll hear from more "Real Expert" kids in next month's edition.)

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

(Mari Krueger)

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

- Joe Wilson, Jr - 3
- Elena Carver - 10
- Sophie Wilson - 15
- Joyce Allen - 17
- Brenna Stewart - 24
- Cheryl Folz, Josh Perez - 27
- Gina Stewart - 29

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES:

- Don & Edith King - 22
- Bill & Cheryl Blake - 30

THIS MONTH IN MILITARY HISTORY

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1 Aug 1942 - US Navy battlefleet departs San Francisco for Pearl Harbor.

2 Aug 1862 - The US Army Ambulance Corps was established by Maj. Gen. George McClellan.

6 Aug 1847 - Lt Colonel S. E. Watson's Marines commenced their march on the Halls of Montezuma in Mexico.

11 Aug 1798 - Congress reactivates the USMC after temporarily disbanding it in 1784

14 Aug 1913 - birth of Gerald Ford, US Navy officer (LCdr in WWII), US President (1974-1976)

18 Aug 1943 - German U-boat downs 'K-47', the only US airship lost to enemy action in WW II

Turn On the Lights

As a result of the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the Imperial Japanese Navy lost all of its offensive capabilities and the United States had control of Guam, Saipan and Tinian where B-29 bombers (pictured below, right) were based that targeted Japan. Of great importance, North Field - Tinian was where both B-29s that bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki were based. The United States Navy also had a new hero, Vice Admiral Marc "Pete" Mitscher whose ability to remain calm and make tough decisions in battle had crippled the Imperial Japanese Navy and severely hampered their ability to prosecute war in the Pacific. However, he was most famously remembered by his men and the entire Pacific Theater for a single statement that boosted morale across the U.S. Navy and showed a senior officer's care for his men as the catchphrase "Turn on the lights" became a part of navy jargon.

We live in a world of evil and darkness where men and women are groping in the dark for answers to the questions and the longing of their lives. We can see these people in all walks of life and in places that are often very familiar to us.

Though we may not know of their struggles, they are so often there - sometimes apparent to all, but most of the time hidden below the surface. If you were to walk into a completely dark room where people are trying to find the exit and you were to light a candle or turn on a flashlight, the people would quit groping for the exit and turn immediately to you. Their searching would end with the light you have provided. Would you not give a light or flashlight to a stranger trying to get out of a dark place if it was in your power to help them?

If you are a Christian, then you have the light of life within you. Jesus said in John 8:12: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." Jesus also tells His followers in Matthew 5: 14-16: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a

candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." If you have this great light within you, why would you not share it with others who are themselves living in darkness? Some people are too afraid of what people would think, of being ostracized, of trying to be politically correct, or just wanting to blend in rather than to let others see the light of Christ in their life. You don't have to have a neon sign or a bass drum to announce the light of life dwelling within you. If your life honors Christ, it will be readily apparent to those around you. Live your life in such a way that those around you will see the light of Christ in your life. Your light will point others to Christ and our Heavenly Father will receive the glory. Each day of your life, determine to "let your light so shine before men!"



August

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16



Prayer Notes, Event Announcements

Please continue to keep Ashley Huskey in your prayers as doctors are treating her for vasculitis over the next few months.

Ashley is the daughter of Todd and Tammy Huskey; please pray that the treatments she is taking will completely stop the vasculitis.

Please keep Justin and Kimberly Reece in your prayers as they await the birth of their fourth son (Due on July 31). Justin is in the Air Force and currently assigned to

Pensacola Naval Air Station. Please pray for the good health of both mother and son! Please also pray for Brian and Ivey Palmer as they minister to soldiers and families at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin.

~ Colonel Martin

Coming up Next Month:

- The Ride of Your Life: Injured Soldiers
- Life as a Military Kid (conclusion)

