



MARCH 2020

Together in Scripture Reading:
This month: the book of Psalms

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 3
Friendship
BAPTIST
CHURCH



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MILITARY TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

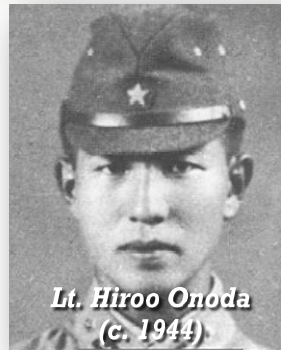
MIA: slang for "missing in action" to describe the status of a person whose whereabouts are unknown

midcourse phase: that portion of the flight of a ballistic missile between the boost phase and the terminal phase

midnight requisition: to acquire supplies for a unit from another w/o their approval or knowledge, usually after business hours / dark

The War is Over

In March 1942, General Douglas MacArthur was ordered out of the Philippines by President Roosevelt as the Japanese were on the verge of overwhelming the American and Filipino armies. Over the next few years, the Japanese entrenched its army in fortified positions across the Philippines and built up logistic staging areas to support defensive operations. In October 1944, two and a half years after General MacArthur promised "I Shall Return," Allied troops returned to liberate the Philippines.



Lt. Hiroo Onoda
(c. 1944)

Between October 1944 and March 1945, a vicious fight took place on land and sea as Allied soldiers and sailors regained control of the island nation. Japanese resistance continued in the weeks and months that followed the American capture of the Philippine capital, Manila. Though the allied assault had been overwhelming, Japanese troops maintained continual resistance by conducting guerrilla operations throughout the Philippine Islands.

On December 26, 1944, Japanese Lt. Hiroo Onoda, of the Japanese 8th Army Division, found himself on a transport taking him to one of the largest islands in the Philippine Archipelago (7,641 islands), Lubang. Prior to his departure for his assignment, he met with Major Yoshimi Taniguchi to receive his orders. Lt. Onoda was to lead the Lubang Garrison in guerrilla warfare to hamper the enemy in its attempts to take the island. Major Taniguchi made his mission clear, "you are absolutely forbidden to die by your own hand. It may take three years, it may take five years, but

Colonel Steve Martin

whatever happens, we'll come back for you. Until then, so long as you have one soldier, you are to continue to lead him. You may have to live on coconuts. If that's the case, live on coconuts! Under no circumstances are you to give up your life voluntarily." Lt. Onoda took these words and his mission assignment seriously, in fact, much more seriously than his commander could have anticipated.

In order to conduct their operations and adequately hide in the jungles, Lt. Onoda split his men into groups of three or four men and dispersed them across the island. Shortly after arriving on Lubang, Allied forces overran the island and every other group, except for Onoda's own group, was either killed or captured. Lt. Onoda's group moved deeper into the jungle to avoid capture and allowing themselves more time to plan for how they would continue their guerrilla operations. Onoda's group lived in proximity and shared their minimal supplies. Occasionally, they would kill a civilian cow to help supplement their food supplies. Intermittently, they would get into a battle with police or other authorities.

In October 1945, Lt. Onoda found his first leaflet claiming the war was over. The leaflet stated: "The war ended on August 15. Come down from the mountains!" Just a few days before finding the leaflet, Onoda and his cell had been fired upon by local authorities. In his mind, if the war was over, then why were his men still being hunted? He decided that the leaflet was a ruse to get him to surrender.

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Pray for our Military Family:

- ♦ **Chaplain Brian Palmer and Family** - US Army, serving the Lord in Fort Hood, TX
- ♦ **Merry Dare Goodwin** - US Navy, serving aboard the USS Decatur
- ♦ **Justin & Kimberly Reece** - US Air Force, stationed at Pensacola NAS
- ♦ **Timothy & Hope Robinson** - USMC, stationed at Camp LeJeune, NC
- ♦ **Sgt Aaron David de Serres** - USMC, deployed in the Middle East

"...The Japanese entrenched its army in fortified positions across the Philippines and built up logistic staging areas to support defensive operations."



Winter Safety Tips (part 2)

Editor's Note: This continues the article begun last month about winter safety.

Prepare your home

Winterize your home to help protect yourself and your family from any potential damage the cold temperatures and snow may bring. Follow these tips to keep your home safe and warm:

- ♦ Check your heating systems.
- ♦ Clean out chimneys and fireplaces.
- ♦ Closely monitor any burning fires or candles.
- ♦ Check your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors.
- ♦ Remove ice and snow from walkways to prevent slips and falls.

- ♦ Keep an emergency kit in your home that includes flashlights, extra batteries, a first-aid kit, extra medicine, and baby items.
- ♦ If you lose power, your kit should also include food and water for three days for each family member, warm clothing if you have to evacuate, and toys and games for children.

Prepare your car

Is your car ready for winter travel? It's not too late to winterize your car. Check out

these car care tips to prepare you for winter driving:



- ♦ Check your tires and replace with all-weather or snow tires, if necessary.
- ♦ Keep your gas tank full to prevent ice from getting in the tank and fuel lines.
- ♦ Use a wintertime fluid in your windshield washer.
- ♦ Make an emergency kit to keep in your car. Include water, snacks, first-

aid kit, blankets, flashlight, extra batteries, portable cell phone charger, and emergency flares.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

Should You Borrow from Your 401(k)?

When faced with an unexpected expense, the first reaction is often, "How am I going to pay for it?" The answer for many of us is taking out a loan or borrowing against a credit card to cover the bill. Some people consider borrowing against their employer-based 401(k) because this type of loan requires no credit check and may be available with minimal hassle. While it may seem appealing, there are several reasons why this type of loan may not be the best option. Here are some things you need to know before you obtain a 401(k) loan:

- ♦ The potential for your 401(k) to grow may be lessened. When saving long-term, compounded earnings are the primary reason for the growth of your account. Taking funds from your 401(k) means you are forgoing market returns, and the compounding effect will be smaller while the loan is outstanding.
- ♦ If you lower your contributions to help you afford the loan payments during the repayment period, you will further erode your potential for long-term compounded growth.

SECU Grassroots Newsletter writer

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The War is Over

Near the end of 1945, a B-17 dropped leaflets across remote parts of the island printed with the surrender order signed by General Yamashita of the Fourteenth Area Army. Still, the wording on the leaflet seemed suspicious and Lt. Onoda considered it to be an Allied hoax. In the following months, many more leaflets were dropped; newspapers were left; photographs and letters from relatives were dropped; friends and relatives spoke over loudspeakers. In every instance, something seemed suspicious and Onoda and his men remained vigilant. In the coming years, Lt. Onoda and his men got into clashes with Filipino villagers and soldiers, often while searching for food. After each encounter, search parties of soldiers or police would come looking for them. This further solidified in Onoda's mind that the war was still going on.



Lt. Hiroo Onoda (c. 2010)

In 1949, one of Lt. Onoda's men decided to surrender. Without notifying Onoda, he left camp and turned himself in. Onoda, horrified by this security leak, was more suspicious than ever of any attempts to convince his men to come out of hiding. In 1954, one of the three remaining soldiers was killed in a skirmish. For nearly 20 years, Lt. Onoda and Private Kinshichi Kozuka remained in hiding, waiting for the time when the Japanese army would come to bring them home. They were obedient to their orders to remain behind enemy lines, reconnoiter and gather intelligence. In October 1972, Private Kozuka was killed by a Filipino patrol. Now Lt. Onoda was alone, yet he continued to follow his mission assignment given to him in December 1944.

In 1959, Hiroo Onoda was officially declared dead by the Japanese government. However, when Private Kozuka was killed in 1972, it was suspected

that Onoda might still be alive. In 1974, a college dropout named Norio Suzuki traveled to the Philippines to see if he could find Lt. Onoda. He finally found Onoda living in the jungles of Lubang and surviving on coconut milk, bananas, and stolen livestock. When Suzuki told Onoda that the war was over, Onoda was insistent that he would not give up his post until officially told to do so by his commander. Suzuki traveled back to Japan and found Major Taniguchi who was now a bookseller. Taniguchi traveled back to Lubang and on March 9, 1974, met Lt. Onoda at a pre-appointed place. Major Taniguchi read the official order stating that the war was over, and Onoda was relieved of his assignment.

Lt. Hiroo Onoda was in disbelief that the Japanese had lost the war. In many ways, he felt betrayed and foolish for having stayed at his post for so long. However, when he slid the bolt back on his rifle and surrendered his ammunition, the realization came over him that his long ordeal was finally over. He received a hero's welcome when he returned to Japan.

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Editor's Note: This is the second installment in a series of "military-friendly" continuing education opportunities.

The Army Credentialing Assistance Program (CAP) provides up to \$4,000 in funding to active duty Soldiers for courses and exams leading to an industry-recognized academic or vocational credential. This voluntary program allows current soldiers to pursue civilian credentials, licenses, and certifications to enhance skills in an area beyond their military occupational specialty (MOS).

The Air Force Credentialing Opportunity On-Line (COOL) program provides up to \$4,500 in funding to enlisted RegAF,

AFRES, and ANG component members for courses and exams leading to an industry-recognized academic or vocational credential. Senior NCOs (E-7 through E-9) may also be eligible for leadership and management credentials. This voluntary program allows enlisted airmen to pursue civilian credentials, licenses, and certifications to enhance skills in an area within their control/duty AFSC.

Credentialing Assistance will pay for all necessary books, supplies, exams and associated materials required for an approved training course. Funding is provided

for courses leading to an industry-recognized credential. ProTrain programs are portable, flexible, and allow you to study at your own pace from anywhere. ProTrain offers 39+ programs to get you ready to transition to your next career pathway.

U.S. Army Credentialing Assistance Program (CA) - allows Soldiers to earn professional and technical credentials by offering programs approved by Human Resources Command (HRC) that align with Army COOL.

U.S. Air Force Credentialing Opportunity On-Line (COOL) - provides funding to enlisted Airmen to pursue civilian credentials, licenses, and certifications to enhance skills in an area within their control/duty AFSC.

For more info, visit www.protrainedu.org

The War is Over

When he surrendered, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos pardoned Onoda for the 30 people he and his men had killed in his 30 years of following his commander's order. Lt. Hiroo Onoda was finally at peace.

If you were to go into a Christian bookstore today, you would find bookshelf upon bookshelf with books on spiritual warfare. It seems to be a popular subject because of the struggles we face - temptations, discouragement, hardships in our daily lives. We all wrestle with past sins. Some have lost their confidence as a Christian - even doubting their own salvation. At some point, spiritual battles make us believe we are unworthy of God's blessings, knowing that we fall short of what God expects of us. Others

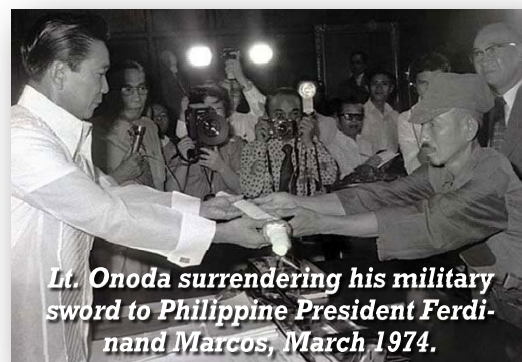
have not fully surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ, and struggle with the hopelessness of sin, not knowing the way out of the continual cycle that consumes them.

It's a sad but true statement that mankind is always fighting a battle of some

"At some point, spiritual battles make us believe we are unworthy of God's blessings, knowing that we fall short of what God expects of us."

type. Why do Christians live defeated lives? It's because they believe Satan's propaganda. He tells you that you are a worthless sinner; that you are unworthy of the blessings of God; he questions your salvation; points out your sins and mocks you for them; makes you feel ashamed; pulls you away from communion with God; Satan tells you that there is no life beyond the grave. Jesus Himself told us that Satan is the "father of lies." Some are still fighting battles that Christ has

already won because they believe the propaganda of Satan instead of the Word of God. Make no mistake, Satan is the enemy of mankind. Whether you are a believer or unbeliever, Satan is your enemy and he continually battles against you.



Lt. Onoda surrendering his military sword to Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, March 1974.

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Did You Know: Origins of Navy Terminology (conclusion)

www.navy.mil

Editor's Note: And now, the conclusion.

Three Mile Limit

This was originally the recognized distance from a nation's shore over which that nation had jurisdiction. This border of international waters or "high seas" was established because, at the time this international law was established, three miles was the longest range of any nation's most powerful guns, and therefore, the limit from shore batteries at which they could enforce their laws. (The 1988 Territorial Sea Proclamation established the "high-seas" border at the 12-mile limit.)



Took the Wind Out of His Sails

Often we use "took the wind out of his sails" to describe getting the best of an opponent in an argument. Originally it described a battle maneuver of sailing ships. One ship would pass close to its adversary and on its windward side. The ship and sails would block the wind from the second vessel, causing it to lose headway. Losing motion meant losing maneuverability and the ability to carry on a fight.

Wallop

When the French burned the town of Brighton, England in the 1500s, King Henry

VIII sent Admiral John Wallop to retaliate and teach the French a lesson. He so thoroughly wrecked the French coasts, that ever since, a devastating blow is said to be an "awful wallop."

Watches

Traditionally, a 24-hour day is divided into seven watches. These are: midnight to 4 a.m. [0000-0400], the mid-watch; 4 to 8 a.m. [0400-0800], morning watch; 8 a.m. to noon [0800-1200], forenoon watch; noon to 4 p.m. [1200-1600], afternoon watch; 4 to 6 p.m. [1600-1800] first dog watch; 6 to 8 p.m. [1800-2000], second dog watch; and, 8 p.m. to midnight [2000-2400], evening watch. The half hours of the watch are marked by the striking the bell an appropriate number of time.

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MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

- Jeanne Hayden - 2
- Chris Harris - 3
- Brent Brondyke, Avery Stewart - 5
- Ric Nelson - 11
- Natalia Carver - 15
- Gene Mesley - 20
- Todd Huskey - 23
- Bob DeAngelo - 26
- Bill Blake - 29

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES:

- NONE

REMINDER: YRM LUNCHEONS IN 2020

The Yellow Ribbon Ministry Luncheon dates for this calendar year are: March 29; June 28; and November 8. These luncheons will be held in the Multi-purpose Room immediately following the morning worship service. The lunches will be "pot luck" so bring enough for your family and a few

more. If you have any questions please contact Steve Martin at 919-817-0706 or Deborah Martin at 919-412-6804. All veterans, military families and those interested in praying for and supporting the military are welcome.

The War is Over

Author and Theologian Dr. Jim Kallas wrote: *"The resurrection of Jesus Christ was not the end of the war with Satan. It was the turning point in the war. The war has been won, but the battle goes on. People continue to fall in sin, but Jesus does not tell us that Satan's reign is over. He assures us that the devil is doomed. His immediate victories will not endure."*

How many of us have taken the time to reflect on the fact that Jesus Christ has already won the war? How would you face the struggles you encounter daily if you knew the outcome has already been decided? When Jesus died on the cross, He won the ultimate victory for mankind. Since the fall of Adam, man has struggled against the consequences of sin in the world. The struggle is as old as the fall of man in the garden. When Jesus died for us, He did for us what we could

not do for ourselves. 1 Peter 2: 24 says, *"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."*

How has the war been won? Through His death, burial, and resurrection, Christ Jesus has defeated sin...we are no longer slaves to sin. Those who are in Christ are overcomers. God accepted the payment for our sins by the death of His Son on the cross. If you have trusted Christ as your savior, your sins have been forgiven. Satan can accuse you of sin, but the price has already been paid...you are free. Our Savior has also defeated death. Romans 6:9 says, *"Knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over him (NKJV)."*

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Through His resurrection, Christ has defeated death. Though our mortal bodies may die, those who trust in Christ will live with Him forever in His eternal kingdom.

In John chapter 16, Jesus tells us, *"These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."* Through Jesus' sacrifice, our sins have been paid for. We are offered salvation through our belief in Jesus Christ; and through our salvation, He has imparted His righteousness to us. Greatest of all, we are assured of eternal life with our Lord and Savior. Our daily struggles may persist, but the war is already won - victory is assured - Jesus Christ is King of

Kings and Lord of Lords to the glory of God!!!

1st YRM Luncheon:
29 Mar 2020

SAVE
THE
DATE

Should You Borrow from Your 401(k)

- ♦ You may forfeit company matching contributions. If you stop making regular contributions altogether, any employer match you receive may be reduced or eliminated. The match is free money - a benefit you may not want to lose!
- ♦ If you leave employment before the loan has been repaid, the loan balance will be due by the federal tax filing deadline for the year you leave employment (including extensions). If you are unable to repay the loan, you may owe federal



(continued from page 2)

and state taxes on the remaining balance. If you are under age 59 1/2, you will also owe a 10% early withdrawal penalty.

If the need for a loan arises, it pays to research other low-cost options rather than borrowing from your retirement savings. Your 401(k) is intended for your retirement income, and you may need this balance to cover retirement expenses for 25 years or more. Leave the nest egg intact to increase the probability of achieving your retirement goals.

Prayer Notes, Event Announcements

Please pray for Missionaries Brian and Ivey Palmer at Fort Hood, TX. They will soon be moving back to Alaska where Brian will be stepping into a position of greater authority. Congratulations!!! (Albert & Becky Watkins' son-in-law & daughter). Remember Justin & Kimberly Reece (Dan & Becky Reece's son & daughter-in-law) stationed at Pensacola. Pray for Merry Dare Price-Goodwin serving aboard the USS Decatur (Dale & Dixie Ulmer's granddaughter; Rachel Vradenburgh's niece). Please keep those recovering from recent illnesses in your prayers: Don Small, Bob Perry, and Redgie Chambers. Best wishes to Dan, Becky and Daisy Reece on their recent move to

Greenville, TN. Dan and Becky were on the initial planning team for the Yellow Ribbon Ministry eleven years ago. Through these years they have worked, planned, participated and most of all prayed for this ministry. Though they have moved across the mountain, they will always be in our hearts - they will be missed!

If you know of anyone who is a Veteran that I've missed in the Prayer Notes, please let me know so that I can add them to our prayer list.

- Colonel Martin

Coming Up Next Month:

- Winter Safety Tips (conclusion)
- Craziest military jobs in WWI/WWII



The Brian Palmer Family

