

Section 1.05. Diary of the Day of Infamy. (All times are substantially accurate Hawaiian Time on Sunday, 7 December 1941, unless otherwise indicated.)

3:50 a.m. The U.S.S. Condor, a mine sweeper, sights an unidentified submerged object as she proceeds through the southern defensive sea area toward the two-mile channel entrance to Pearl Harbor.

3:57 a.m. The Condor visually signals the patrolling destroyer U.S.S. Ward that she suspects a submarine is trailing her. The Ward proceeds to investigate, knowing that she can rely upon assistance from the U.S.S. Monaghan, a ready-duty destroyer, with full steam up lying at anchor in the East Loch of Pearl Harbor.

4:00 a.m. The Japanese Task Force, now located approximately 300 miles from the northern tip of Oahu, launches two reconnaissance aircraft.

4:58 a.m. The antitorpedo and submarine nets guarding the entrance of the two-mile channel to Pearl Harbor are opened by the Boom Patrol to allow the Condor, and its companion mine sweeper, the U.S.S. Crossbill, to enter the channel. (For an unexplained reason, these nets are not repositioned and closed until three hours, forty minutes later. The responsibility for closing these nets is that of Admiral Bloch as Commandant of the 14th Naval District.)

6:00 a.m. The Japanese Task Force, the largest ever assembled for a hit-and-run mission, proceeding under the command of Vice-Admiral Nagumo, arrives at a point approximately 230 miles to the north of Oahu. It launches 189 aircraft for the opening attack upon the army and naval forces of the United States, stationed on Oahu. Commander Fuchida, leader

of the First Attack Unit, leads his squadrons above the dense clouds hanging 6000 feet above the Task Force, flying at 3000 meters. By flying above the clouds he escapes detection by American reconnaissance aircraft which would be forced to fly below the clouds in order to detect any hostile fleet activity north of the Islands. There are no American reconnaissance aircraft patrolling this area.

X  
6:28 a.m.

(11:58 a.m. Washington Time) A message from the Chief of Staff, General George C. Marshall, to General Short, containing the directive to relay the message to Admiral Kimmel, is filed in Lt. Colonel Edward F. French's Signal Corps Message Center in the War Department by Colonel Bratton, War Department Far Eastern Intelligence Officer. The message, when decoded, reads:

1549 WS WASHINGTON DC 74/73 RCA USGETAT 71218P  
CG HAWAIIAN DEPT., FT. SHAFTER, T.H.

<sup>7TH</sup>  
529TH JAPANESE ARE PRESENTING AT ONE PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME TODAY WHAT AMOUNTS TO AN ULTIMATUM ALSO THEY ARE UNDER ORDERS TO DESTROY THEIR CODE MACHINE IMMEDIATELY STOP JUST WHAT SIGNIFICANCE THE HOUR SET MAY HAVE WE DO NOT KNOW BUT BE ON ALERT ACCORDINGLY STOP INFORM NAVAL AUTHORITIES OF THIS COMMUNICATION. MARSHALL

*Tolson*  
6:40 a.m.

Three PBY-5s leave Kaneohe Naval Air Station, one-quarter hour late, on a scheduled reconnaissance mission which covers the area southward of Oahu. These planes are armed with machine guns and two depth charges apiece. Their mission is to cover the approach of Admiral Halsey's Task Force.

6:40 a.m.

Four more PBY-5s leave Ford Island Naval Air Station to practice formation flying and tactics with fleet ships located in the fleet operating area 25 miles south of Oahu. These planes carry only armed machine guns. (Such missions have been standard practice since 1940. )

✓ 6:40 a.m. The Ward, having received word from the Antares that a submarine is following it within the defensive sea area, fires a depth charge in cooperation with one of the Navy patrol bombers which has been assigned to sweep the area in front of the returning carrier Enterprise; and is rewarded with the sight of positive oil slicks and debris on the surface. These actions of the Antares and the Ward are overheard at the harbor radio station located at Bishop's Point to which the Ward now reports its action.

6:45 a.m. One of the PBYS detailed to sweep the sea in front of the Enterprise drops two smoke pots near the midget submarine following the Antares.

✓ 6:47 a.m. The encoded message of General Marshall is filed in Washington with Western Union (12:17 p.m. Washington Time).

✓ 6:50 a.m. The operator of a ~~the~~ SCR 270-B Mobile Radar Station, located at Kakuku Point on the northern tip of Oahu and known as "Opana," calls the Army Information Center at Fort Shafter to report a normal early morning horizon and that the Center is preparing to shut down. (Even to Pvt. George E. Elliot, who "... is new to the device ... it is apparent ... that the oscilloscope shows ... only an occasional airplane from one of the military or naval fields on the island." Approval to close the station, which has been operating since approximately 4:15 a.m., is granted by the Information Center in accordance with instructions by ~~Captain Angus M. Taylor, Jr., the commander of the Aircraft Warning Company, issued the previous afternoon.~~ As the truck which is to return Private Elliot and his more experienced instructor, Pvt. Joseph L. Lockard, to their camp has not yet arrived, Elliot asks permission to keep the set on so he may receive additional training in the use of the radar apparatus itself. As it is warmer in

*St Col W.H. Murray  
the Acting Dept  
Chief Signal Officer  
issued 27 Nov 1941*

- 6:50 a.m. the van than outside and as there is no way to estimate when the truck will arrive, Private Lockard agrees to keep the set operating.
- Cont'd
- 6:54 a.m. The Ward radios in voice to the 14th Naval District Commandant: "We have attacked, fired upon, and dropped charges upon submarine operating in defensive sea area."
- ✓ 7:02 a.m. Elliot notices an unusual pip on the scope approximately 136 miles north at an azimuth of approximately five degrees. Within the same minute the pip moves to within 132 miles from Kahuku Point. (Neither man has ever seen such a sizeable echo at such great distance. Private Lockard, thinking there is some trouble in the apparatus, proceeds to check it over. Finding the set in proper working condition and the pip still approaching the Island, he takes over the operation of the set. )
- 7:06 a.m. Private Lockard consents to Private Elliot's phoning the Information Center at Fort Shafter to report their findings. (Receiving no answer on the direct line to the Information Center, Elliot uses the commercial phone and reaches the Information Center switchboard operator, Private Joseph P. McDonald of the 580th Signal Aircraft Warning Company. McDonald informs Elliot that no one in authority is present in the Center, as the operation has closed down and all personnel has been dismissed. )
- 7:11 a.m. The Bishop's Point radio station telephones the 14th Naval District Watch Officer, Lt. Commander Harold Kaminski, and reports that the Ward has sunk what was thought to be a submarine in the defense area.
- 7:12 a.m. Lt. Commander Kaminski reports the situation to Admiral Kimmel's duty officer and then to Captain John B. Earle, Chief of Staff, 14th Naval District.

- 7:15 a.m. Captain Beale informs Admiral Bloch of the message from Lt. Commander Kaminski, because it is the responsibility of the 14th Naval District to provide a safe anchorage for the Fleet.
- 7:15 a.m. Admiral Bloch instructs Captain Beale to contact Admiral Kimmel and to order the Monaghan to proceed and assist the Ward, closing the net gate behind it.
- 7:20 a.m. Private McDonald, at the Fort Shafter Army Information Center, notices a Lieutenant, Kermit A. Tyler, in the plotting room and informs him of Elliot's message, which has been given to him in a very excited manner. He implores Lieutenant Tyler to contact the Opana Radar Station.
- ✓ 7:21 a.m. Lieutenant Tyler, who has been in the Center on only one previous occasion and is assigned to a <sup>only for</sup> ~~different unit~~ <sup>familiarization duty</sup> that morning, contacts the radar station at Opana. Private Lockard, the more experienced operator, takes the call. He informs Lieutenant Tyler that the aircraft pips are now 74 miles from the northern tip of the Island on an azimuth of three degrees. Lieutenant Tyler informs Private Lockard that the aircraft involved must be either a Navy patrol bomber mission or, more probably, a flight of B-17s from Hamilton Field, California, because he has heard a Honolulu radio station broadcasting all night, as had been the case with previous B-17 flights. In essence, he tells Private Lockard there is nothing to worry about. However, the radar operators continue to track and plot the incoming flight as there has seldom been such excellent reception.
- ✓ 7:30 a.m. Admiral Kimmel is notified of the action taken by the Ward. He requests confirmation as there have been several unconfirmed reports in the last few months.
- 7:32 a.m. The patrol bomber, operating in conjunction with the Ward, reports to his operations officer on

7:32 a.m. Ford Island that the midget submarine has been  
Cont'd sunk. This information is relayed to Kimmel's  
duty officer about 7:38 a.m.

7:33 a.m. The Honolulu commercial radio telegraph station  
completes the reception of General Marshall's  
telegram (one hour and five minutes after it  
was sent), and acknowledges receipt. The tele-  
graph office phones the ~~Information~~ <sup>Message</sup> Center at  
Fort Shafter, but no one answers the phone,  
because the Center was closed down at 7:06 a.m.  
The office sends a Japanese messenger boy to  
Fort Shafter with the message.

7:37 a.m. The Ward is requested to verify its action in  
sinking a submarine.

7:39 a.m. The main body of planes of the Japanese First  
Attack Unit turn westward. At this point the  
aircraft are approximately 20 miles from the  
Opana Radar Station. Private Elliot, oper-  
ating the set, watches and logs the readings as  
the flight proceeds in a westerly direction and  
falls farther away from the station. By this  
time distortion caused by the radar signal bounc-  
ing off nearby mountains and leaving false images  
on the oscilloscope, has begun to obscure the  
signal of the flight. Elliot continues to track  
the flight until 7:43 a.m., when it is 65 miles  
to the west of the site at an azimuth of 41 de-  
grees (319 degrees clockwise).

7:43 a.m. The truck for which Privates Lockard and Elliot  
have been waiting finally arrives, and the  
SCR 270-B Mobile Radar Station known as Opana  
is now shut down, as additional training and  
maintenance has been cancelled for the day. The  
two privates climb into the truck and are driven  
back towards their camp at Waimea.

7:45 a.m. The message from General Marshall is transcribed  
by the telegraph company and the messenger boy,  
riding a bicycle, is en route to Fort Shafter,  
between 4 and 5 miles away.

7:48 a.m. An excited Japanese switchboard operator calls  
Schofield Barracks, wanting to know what is

7:48 a.m. happening at his location, Kaneohe Naval Air  
Cont'd Station. He reports fighter aircraft are strafing the area.

✓ 7:51 a.m. The reserve destroyer, Monaghan, receives orders to assist the Ward in the defensive sea area and to close the antitorpedo net behind it.

*OK to live -*

PHASE I: 7:55 - 8:25 a.m.

Combined Torpedo and Dive Bomber Attacks

7:55 a.m. As Admiral Kimmel awaits confirmation of the reported submarine sinking by the Ward, Pearl Harbor comes under concentrated attack.

8:00 a.m. Commander Fuchida relays the code word, "Tora, tora" (Tiger, tiger), to Admiral Nagumo, which signals Japanese achievement of complete surprise in the mission of the First Attack Unit.

8:00 a.m. The US Pacific Fleet radio station broadcasts in clear language "Air raid - Pearl Harbor - this is no drill."

*Times over - optimistic*

8:00 a.m. ✓ The ~~manned~~ anti-aircraft guns on the American battleships are manned and firing within three to five minutes. Heavy cruiser anti-aircraft guns all respond within four minutes, and guns on the destroyers, within seven minutes.

8:00 a.m. General Short gives the order to implement Alert Condition No. 3, which will cause all ground units of the Hawaiian Department to take up battle positions. This calls for the mobile and semimobile anti-aircraft batteries stationed at Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks to form up and deploy to predesignated positions, some of which have never before been used. It also requires these units to draw their ammunition stored respectively at Aliamanu Crater and Schofield Barracks.

8:03 a.m. The entire American Fleet is entering the engagement.

8:03 a.m. Personnel of the 25th Division make their first return of fire with standard machine guns.

8:05 a.m. Brig. General Durwald S. Wilson, of the 24th Division, places Alert Position No. 3 in force.

8:05 a.m. The Marine Defense Battalion, using Army anti-aircraft guns located on hillsides around the harbor, responds immediately. Personnel guarding the fixed Army anti-aircraft installations surrounding the channel to the anchorage, but which have their ammunition locked in adjacent fixed Seacoast Artillery installations, are forced to break the locks to the ammunition caches, and finally begin firing.

8:05 a.m. When alerted infantry and anti-aircraft artillery personnel attempt to draw ammunition for their machine guns, it is discovered there is not enough belted machine gun ammunition for each automatic weapon. Air Force personnel at Hickam Field dismantle 30-caliber machine guns from bombers and set them up to return the fire. Personnel at Schofield Barracks shoulder-fire Browning automatic rifles in attempts to turn back attacks there.

*Otto*  
8:05 a.m. During the early minutes of the attack, the first of the new 12 B-17s arrive from a 2091-mile trip from Hamilton Field, California, manned with only skeleton crews, their machine guns still covered with preservative and no ammunition aboard. (General H. H. Arnold, Commanding General of the Army Air Forces and Deputy Chief of Staff for Air to General Marshall, watched them leave at 2-minute intervals beginning at 9:30 p.m. (California Time) on 6 December 1941. ) The aircraft fly individually, not in formation, and follow only a general flight pattern. Thus, some aircraft approach Oahu from west-northwest or northwest-north of the Island. The pilots of the lead planes, surprised by an attack of some of the 27 Japanese Zero fighter planes, which are flying aircover over the Island, are forced to



8:05 a.m. climb to a higher altitude out of range of the  
Cont'd enemy fighters and begin to seek suitable areas  
for emergency landings because their fuel re-  
serves are extremely low, wherever they can--  
one on a golf course.

✓ 8:10 a.m. Lieutenant Tyler recalls the Information Center  
personnel.

8:15 a.m. Antiaircraft Detachment Battery F of the 55th  
Coast Artillery, located on Sand Island, opens  
fire, destroying two Japanese planes.

8:15 a.m. Haleiwa Field, the only field not to be attacked,  
under the Japanese plan, is alerted.

8:19 a.m. The destroyer U.S.S. Helm opens fire on a midget  
submarine outside the channel entrance to Pearl  
Harbor.

X  
*Halsey*  
8:19 a.m. Eight Navy scout bombers, providing reconnaissance  
for Admiral Halsey's returning Task Force and  
entirely unaware of the attack, fly into the  
Japanese planes and engage them. Five of  
these scout bombers are shot down. Several of  
them are fired upon not merely by the Japanese,  
but by the Americans *on the ground*.

✓ 8:20 a.m. The Information Center begins to function, but  
minus the Air Force interceptor control officer,  
the Army antiaircraft artillery officer, and  
the Navy liaison officer, none of whom was re-  
quired to be present during the training session  
held in the Information Center that morning.

PHASE II: 8:25 - 8:40 a.m.

Lull in Attack

9  
*Some were  
just*  
X  
8:30 a.m. The 12 B-17s which had first been heralded as  
coming from Hamilton Field, California, on a  
Honolulu radio station at 7:21 a.m., begin to  
land over a period of thirty minutes. It is  
pure good fortune that these planes come at a  
time when there is an intermission in the Japane-  
se attack.

- 8:30 a.m. Four American P-40s and one P-36 take off from Haliewa Field, which was alerted a quarter of an hour ago.
- 8:30 a.m. Wheeler Field is alerted and one P-36 is airborne.
- 8:30 a.m. Battery G, of the 97th Antiaircraft Coast Artillery Regiment stationed at Fort <sup>Ver</sup>Wear, opens fire.
- 8:30 a.m. The U.S.S. Curtiss and U.S.S. Tangier, both sea-plane tenders, open fire on a midget submarine west of Ford Island.
- 8:30 a.m. Heavy cruiser U.S.S. North Hampton, escorting Admiral Halsey's Task Force out in the Pacific, launches its lightly armored observation planes which shoot down one Japanese fighter over Niiehu.
- 8:34 a.m. Battery A, of the 97th Antiaircraft Coast Artillery Regiment stationed at Fort Kamehamea engages the Japanese with small arms fire.

PHASE III: 8:40 - 9:15 a.m.

Horizontal Bomber Attacks

- Comment*
- 8:40 a.m. The antitorpedo and submarine nets guarding the entrance to Pearl Harbor, which were inadvertently left open when the Condor and the Crossbill entered the harbor, are repositioned and closed.
- 8:40 a.m. The battleship Nevada clears her berth alone.
- 8:40 a.m. The U.S.S. Curtiss shoots down one Japanese bomber.
- 8:43 a.m. The U.S.S. Monaghan rams and depth charges a Japanese midget submarine at which the Curtiss and Tangier have been firing.
- 8:45 a.m. The Hawaiian Department Command Post at Fort Shafter in Aliamanu Crater begins operating after the corps of engineers has <sup>replaced</sup> ~~replaced~~ the <sup>switch board</sup> ~~communications~~ cables there.
- Halsey*

8:45 a.m. The commanders of the 24th and 25th Divisions are notified to execute Alert Condition No. 3.

8:55 a.m. Wheeler Field launches two P-40s.

PHASE IV: 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

Dive Bomber Attacks

9:15 a.m. Lt. Commander Shimazaka, leader of the Japanese Second Attack Unit, begins the execution of his mission. The personnel and materiel assigned to him and the route which its various groups are to follow, are clearly set forth in Chart No. 2, "Course of Attack of the Component Parts of the First Attack Unit and Second Attack Unit of the Japanese Forces."

9:15 a.m. Kaneohe Naval Air Station directs that four of the seven PBYS conducting inter-air tactics proceed north of Oahu to attempt to locate the Japanese Task Force. Contact with the other three PBYS fails to materialize.

9:15 a.m. Wheeler Field launches six P-36s.

9:30 a.m. Hal<sup>si</sup>ewa Field launches (possibly relaunches) four P-40s and one P-36.

9:30 a.m. Wheeler Field launches one P-40 and five P-36s.

PHASE V: 9:45 - 10: a.m.

Clean-Up Operations and Withdrawal

*Comment*  
9:45 a.m. The Japanese commanders, in conformity with their missions, begin withdrawing their aircraft and auxiliary naval vessels from the vicinity of Oahu.

9:50 a.m. The U.S.S. Blue successfully depth charges a submarine off Diamond Head which it has been pursuing and attacking since 9:15 a.m.

- 9:50 a.m. Bellows Field launches one observation plane.
- 9:55 a.m. Battery B, of the 98th Coast Artillery Antiaircraft Regiment stationed at Schofield Barracks, is finally in position and ready to fire.
- 10:20 a.m. The Blue depth charges a "sound contact" near Diamond Head and brings up a positive oil slick.
- 10:30 a.m. The remaining six antiaircraft batteries of the 98th Coast Artillery Antiaircraft Regiment are in position and ready to fire, the first of the six being ready at this moment.
- 11:15 a.m. The U.S.S. Breeze, a <sup>light</sup> destroyer mine layer, depth charges a submarine off Diamond Head and in twenty minutes produces a positive oil slick. It is not known whether this is the same submarine previously attacked by the Blue.
- 11:40 a.m. Hickam Field dispatches four A-20s and two B-17s in a futile attempt to locate the Japanese Task Force. Similar attempts will be unsuccessfully made this afternoon.
- 11:45 a.m. The antiaircraft battery of the 1st Battalion of the completely mobile 251st Antiaircraft Coast Artillery, whose prime assignment is the defense of the American naval vessels and installations in the immediate vicinity of Pearl Harbor, finally emplaces its batteries and is ready to fire.
- 4:00 p.m. The 25th Division is now completely emplaced in its defensive positions. It, however, has no ammunition for its ~~two~~<sup>340</sup> 400 millimeter howitzers.
- 5:00 p.m. The 24th Division is completely emplaced in its defensive position, but has no ammunition for the ~~two~~<sup>340</sup> 400 millimeter howitzers which form a part of its armament.