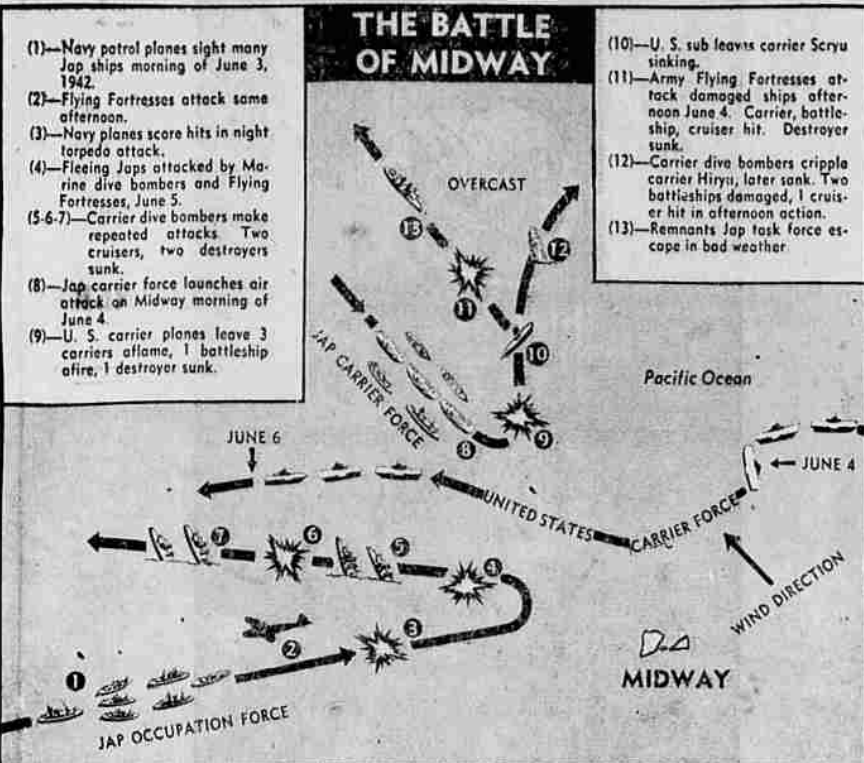


Map Story of U. S. Sea Victories



Basically, a sea war, the U. S. navy had one of the most vital roles of the armed forces in the war against Japan. The turning point in the war came in two great sea battles, at Midway and the Coral Sea, when the navy halted Jap advances east and south. At Midway, June 3-6, 1942, Jap occupation and carrier forces heading for Wake were thoroughly beaten as described in map at left. In May, 1942, a U. S. task force had intercepted a Jap naval squadron moving from Rabaul into the Coral Sea with the intention of expanding southward. AAF land bombers attacked, then surface forces closed in, as shown in map at right. The struggle ended with 17 Jap ships sunk or damaged, and remainder fleeing northward. From then on, the war rolled back against the Japs and, in October, 1944, U. S. troops invaded Leyte under cover of another great naval battle; map at lower right. It was like a three-ring circus, with U. S. planes and submarines in ring one south of Leyte; Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's planes in ring two off San Bernardino Strait; and Adm. William F. Halsey's Third Fleet in ring three to the north. The Japs lost 14 ships sunk or damaged and 705 to 720 planes destroyed, according to official U. S. report.



Apparently heading to clear the way for a new drive southward, a Jap naval squadron from Rabaul sailed into the Coral Sea in May, 1942. An American squadron steamed north to intercept it. AAF land bombers attacked first, then surface forces closed in. The struggle ended with remainder of the enemy force fleeing northward and 17 Jap ships sunk or damaged.

The Island Empire—Its Growth and Death



MAJ. GEN. CARL SPAATZ had just taken command of his far eastern air forces when the war was over. He had previously set a record in Europe.



GEN. H. H. ARNOLD whose air forces played such a large part in bringing the Japanese to the point of surrender.



Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto, commander of the combined Jap fleet and designer and director of the Pearl Harbor attack, Dec. 7, 1941, was reported shot down in air action in the South Pacific in April, 1943. He boasted that he would dictate peace terms in the White House.



CANADIANS JOIN YANKS IN PACIFIC—Canadian liaison officers on Guam prepare for first contingents of 30,000 Canadian troops. Veterans of European war, 60 ships Canada will send to Pacific. They are (left to right) Lt. Comdr. R. C. Beavis, South Hampton, England, British liaison officer at CINCPAC; Col. Richard S. Malone, Canadian army, Toronto; Cmdr. Peter Macritchie, RCN, Toronto; Maj. Colin MacDougall, Canadian army, Ottawa. Canadians will use American weapons.



JAPS PROCESSED, NOT PAMPERED AT ANGEL ISLAND—Jap prisoners of war, at processing center on Angel Island, San Francisco bay, Calif., before being transferred to inland POW camps. eat simple mid-day meal of fish, rice, vegetable, salad, bread and water. Prisoners here learn military courtesy, keep quarters clean, do own dishes, are not coddled.

