


Identifying WWII US & Japanese Planes

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www.SVSoggypaws.com

A vintage color photograph of a Hellcat Minsi III carrier aircraft in the process of landing on the deck of the USS Essex CV-9. The aircraft is shown from a low angle, with its landing gear extended and its propeller blurred from motion. The sky is filled with scattered white clouds. In the background, the flight deck of the aircraft carrier is visible, along with a person in a red shirt standing on the deck to the right. The overall scene captures a moment of intense action during World War II.

**Hellcat Minsi III
Landing on USS
Essex CV-9 1944**

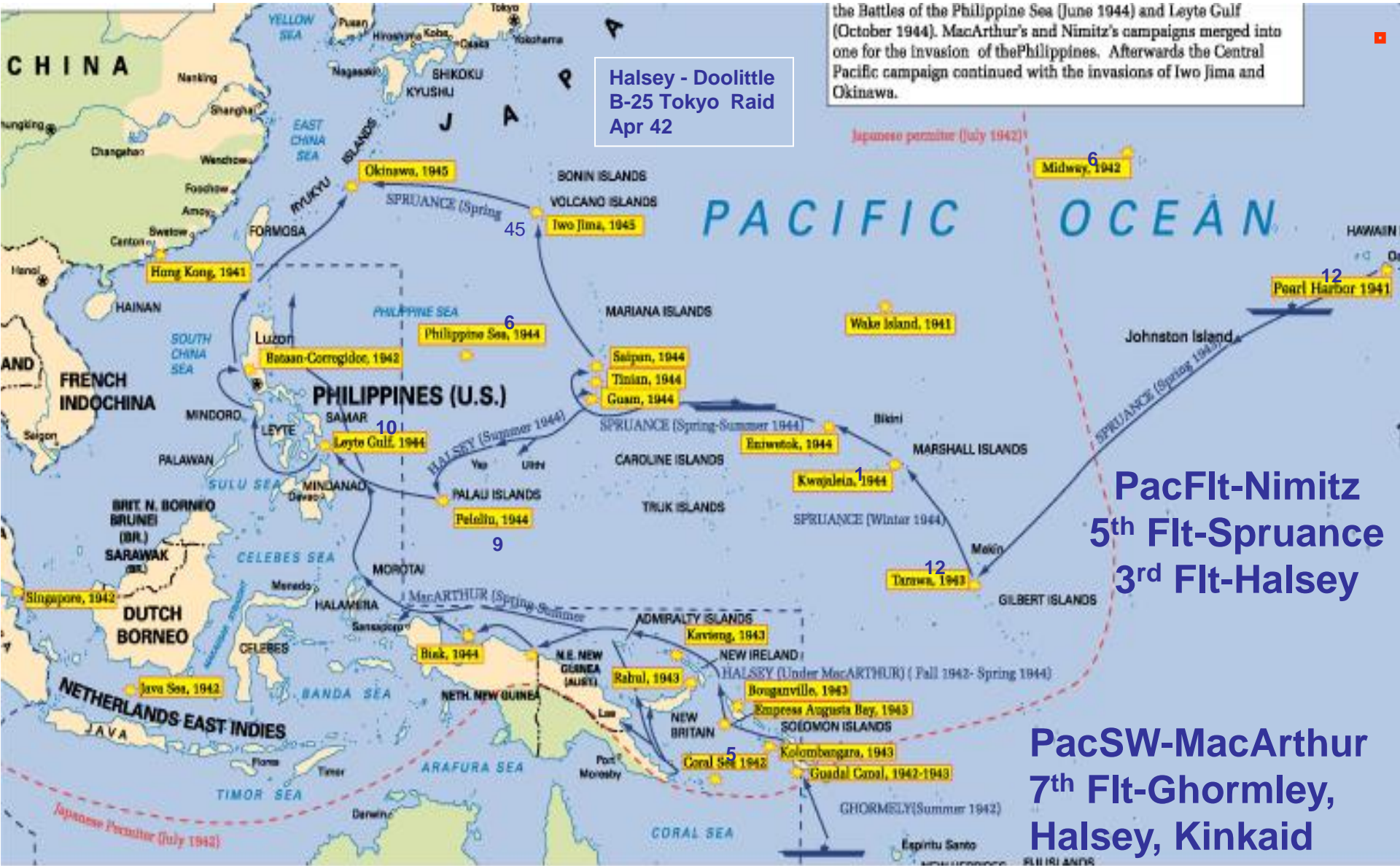
A6M Zero
engine



**Sherry sez: Where are we
and what the heck is this?**

World War II Pacific Theater 1941-45

(Fleet tracks- blue Major assaults- yellow)



the Battles of the Philippine Sea (June 1944) and Leyte Gulf (October 1944). MacArthur's and Nimitz's campaigns merged into one for the invasion of the Philippines. Afterwards the Central Pacific campaign continued with the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Halsey - Doolittle
B-25 Tokyo Raid
Apr 42

PacFlt-Nimitz
5th Flt-Spruance
3rd Flt-Halsey

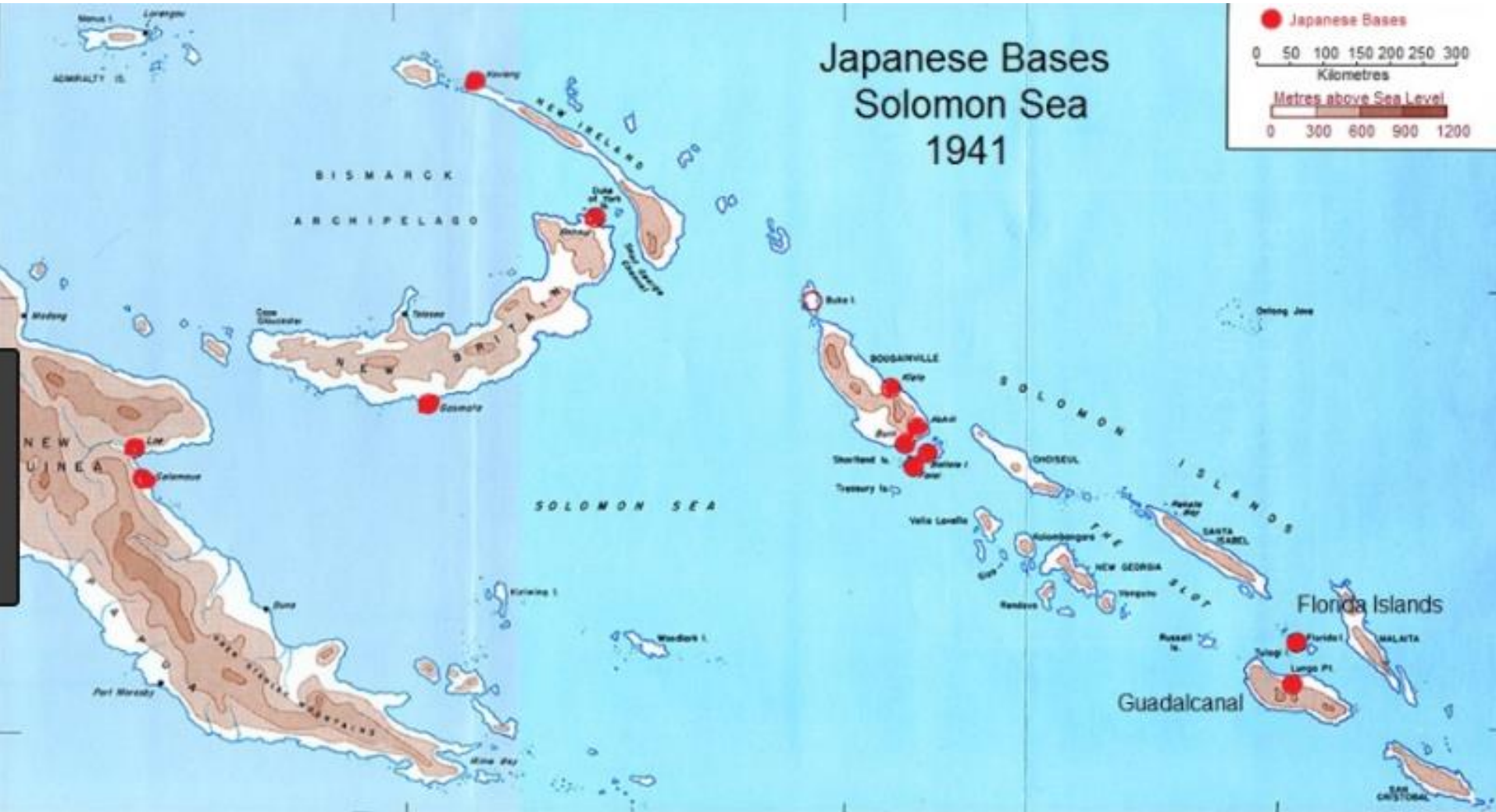
PacSW-MacArthur
7th Flt-Ghormley,
Halsey, Kinkaid

THE PACIFIC AND ADJACENT THEATERS 1942

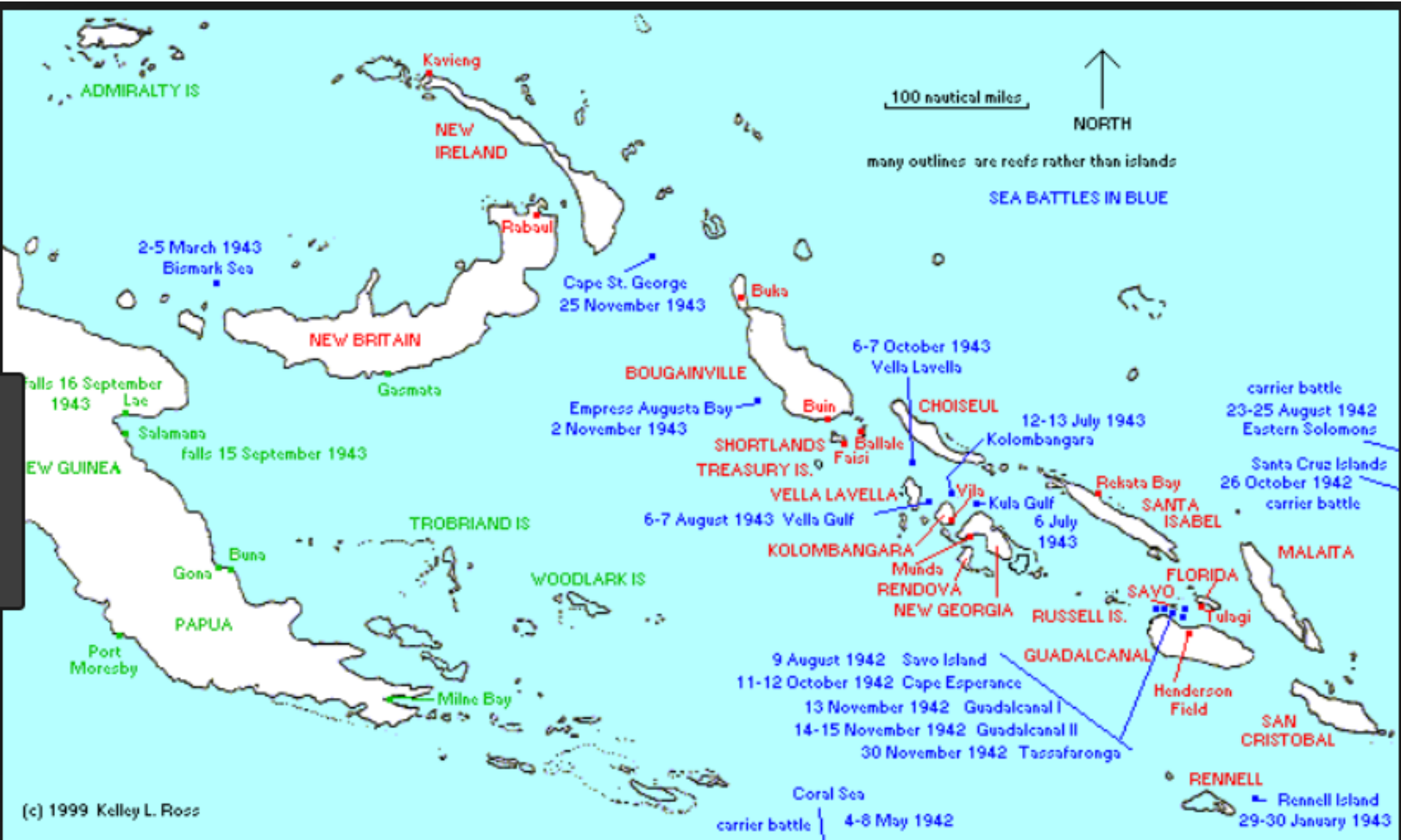
— Japanese Limit of Advance
0 1600
Miles at the Equator



Major Japanese Bases at Start of WWII



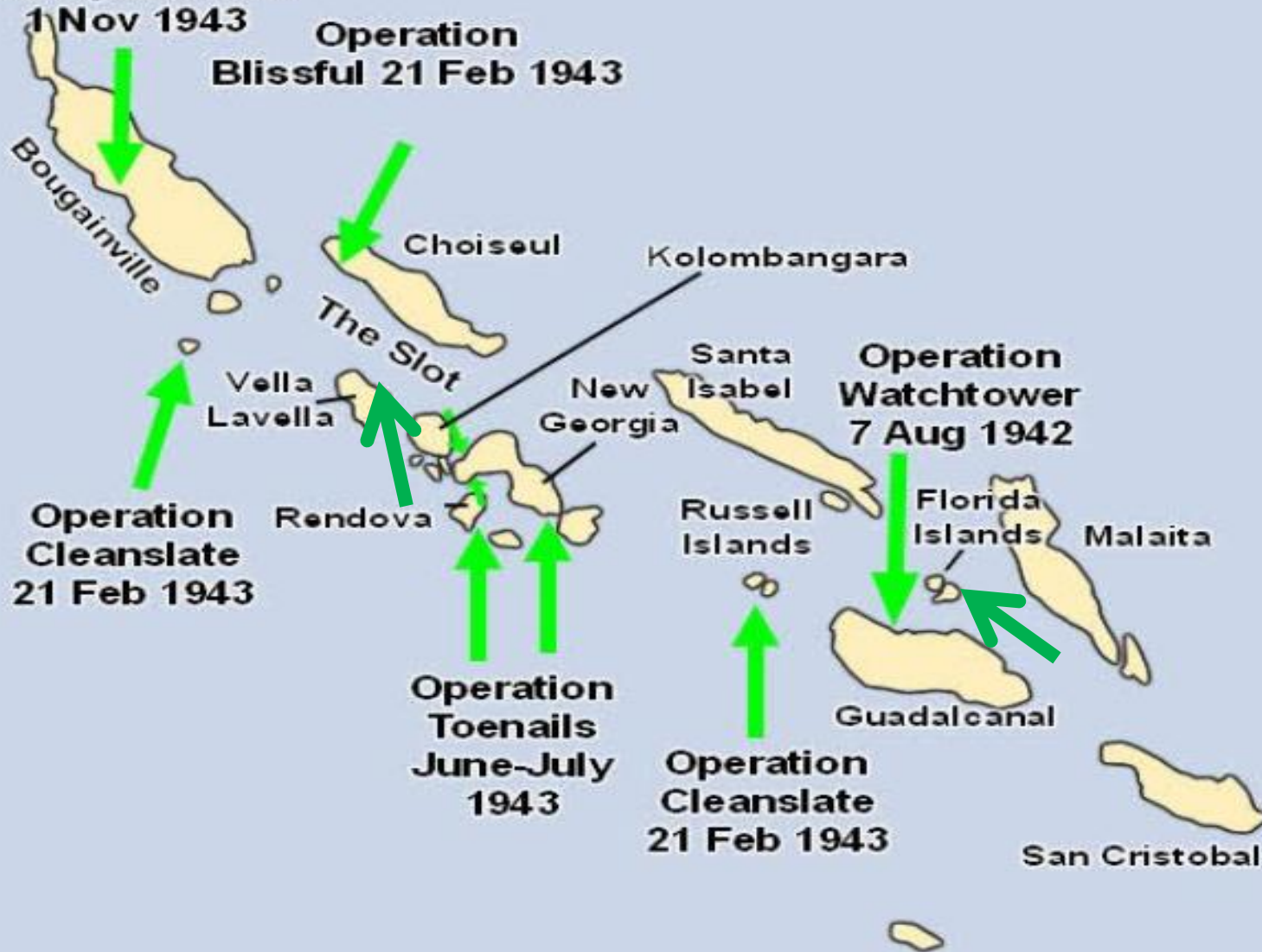
Major Sea Battles 1942-43

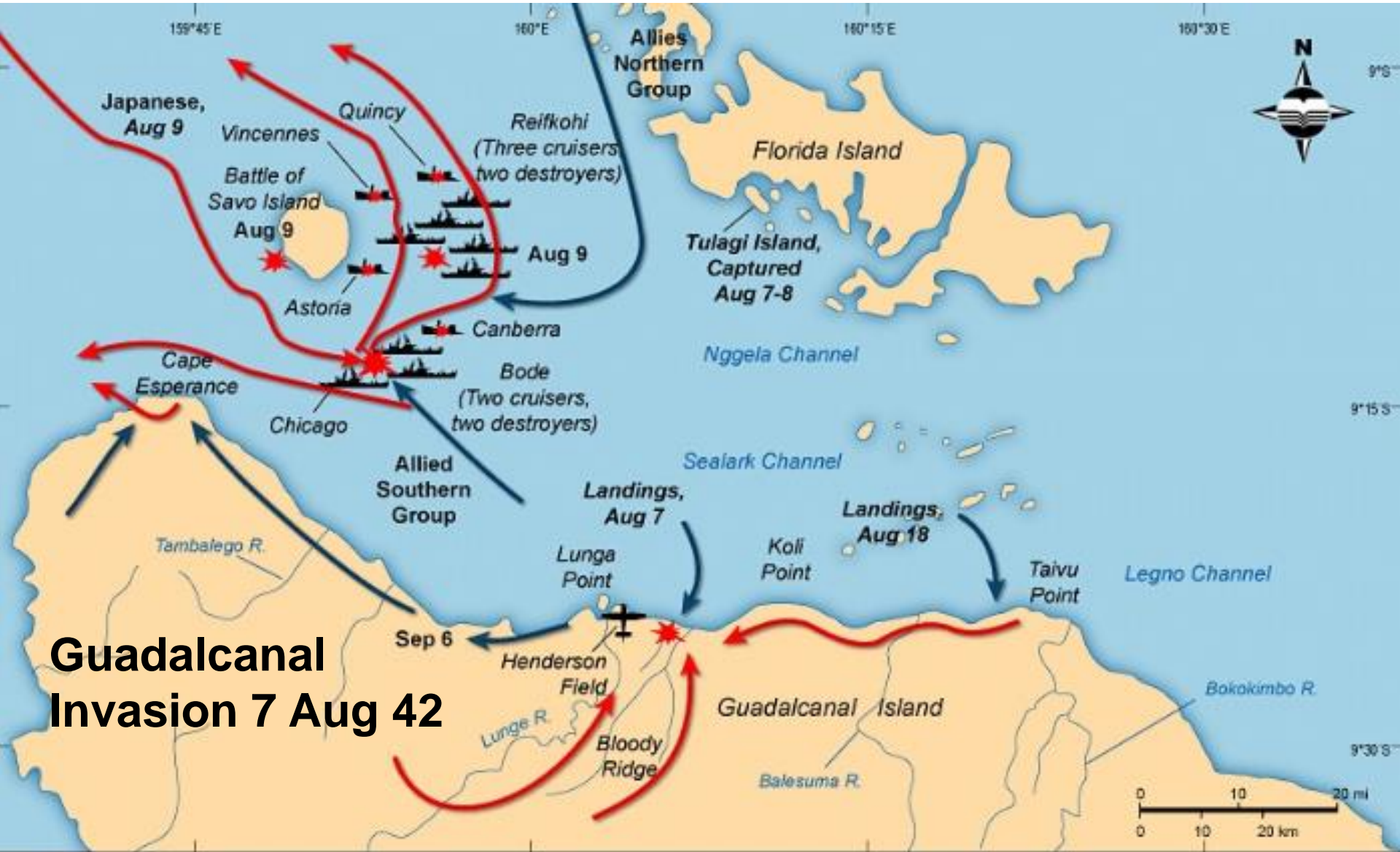


Solomon Islands American Invasions

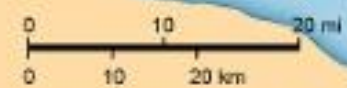
Operation
Cherryblossom
1 Nov 1943

Operation
Blissful 21 Feb 1943





- ➔ Japanese movements
- ➔ Allied movements
- ✘ Ships sunk
- ✈ Airfields
- 🚢 Transport vessels
- ★ Naval engagements



ASIA

SV Soggy Paws Florida to the Philippines

NORTH AMERICA

PACIFIC OCEAN

2007

Philippines
(DAVAO)

2015-2018

F.S.M. (CHUUK)

2011

Palau 2014

Marshall
Islands

2013

Tarawa

Samoa

French
Polynesia

2008-09
Galapagos

SOUTH AMERICA

AUSTRALIA

Fiji
Tonga

2012

Pitcairn
Islands

2010

Easter
Island

Across the Pacific

~30,000 nm





Cruising in SE Asia from the Philippines

WWII Aircraft Production 1941-44

• Japan	58,822
• Germany	92,656
• USSR	116,365
• Total Above Countries	267,843
• US Total	261,826

Nomenclature

- US: (example **F6F-3 Hellcat**)
 - First letter F- type, fighter
 - First number 6- maker design number
 - Second letter F- manufacturer Grumman
 - Second number 3- model number
 - Hellcat- US name
- Japanese: (example **A6M-5 Zeke Zero**)
 - A- fighter
 - 6- design number
 - M- Mitsubishi
 - 5- model
 - Zeke- Japanese name
 - Zero- US name

Plane Types

- Fighter- **1 seat**: pilot
- Dive Bomber- **2 seats**: pilot & rear gunner
- Torpedo Bomber- **3 seats**: pilot, bombardier, rear gunner
- Light Bomber- 2 engines, 2 pilots, ~6 crew
- Heavy Bomber- 4 engines, 2 pilots, 8 crew
- Float Planes- 1 engine, 2-3 crew
- Sea Planes/Amphibians- 2-4 engines, 2 pilots, ~10 crew

Plane Engines

- Most are radial engines w/ circular arranged cylinders
- One or two rows of odd number cylinders
- Two row, 14 cylinders most common
- Some later engines supercharged- water injected for more power
- Few inline or inverted V engines
- 3 or 4 blades- bigger planes have bigger engines and 4 blades
- Bent blades usually mean crash

**Bent prop
blades
usually
mean
crashed
plane, fm
D4Y Judy
Yap**



US Planes



US Grumman F4F Wildcat Fighter

Crew-single pilot
engine-1200 hp
max speed-330 mph
ceiling-37K
range-850 mi
arms-4x50 cal, bombs
prod-7825 ea



Grumman F4F Wildcat Fighter



F4F Wildcat
Engine



F4F Wildcat
Tail Wheel





F4F
Wildcat
Interior

Grumman F6F-5 (early) Hellcat Fighter

Single pilot
2000hp, 380mph
1040mi, 38k'
2x20mm & 4x50cal
or 6x50cal
bombs & rockets
12,275 ea

'Minsi III'
McCampbell, Oct 1944

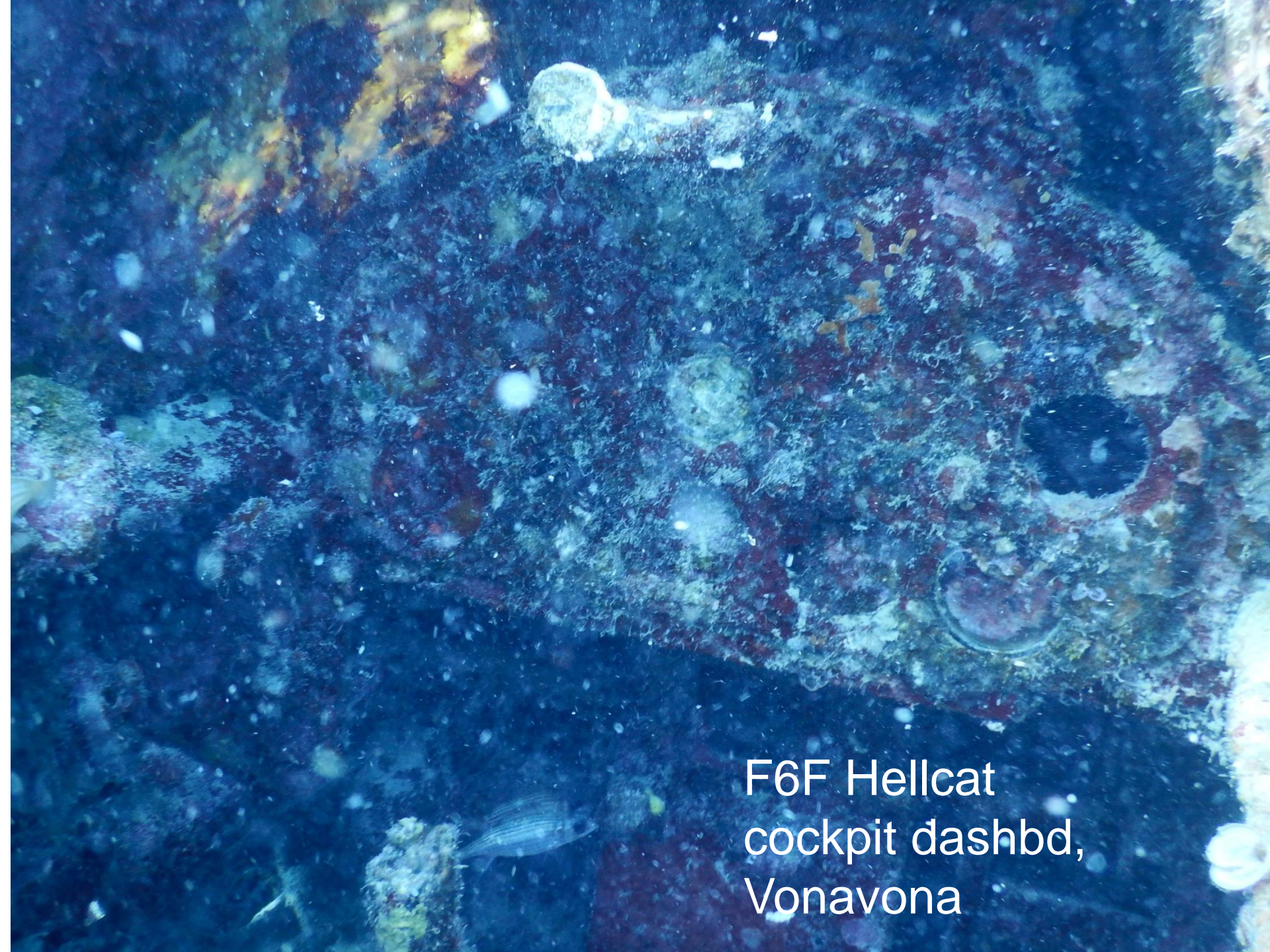


**Ensign Cox
F6F Hellcat Fighter
wreckage in jungle**

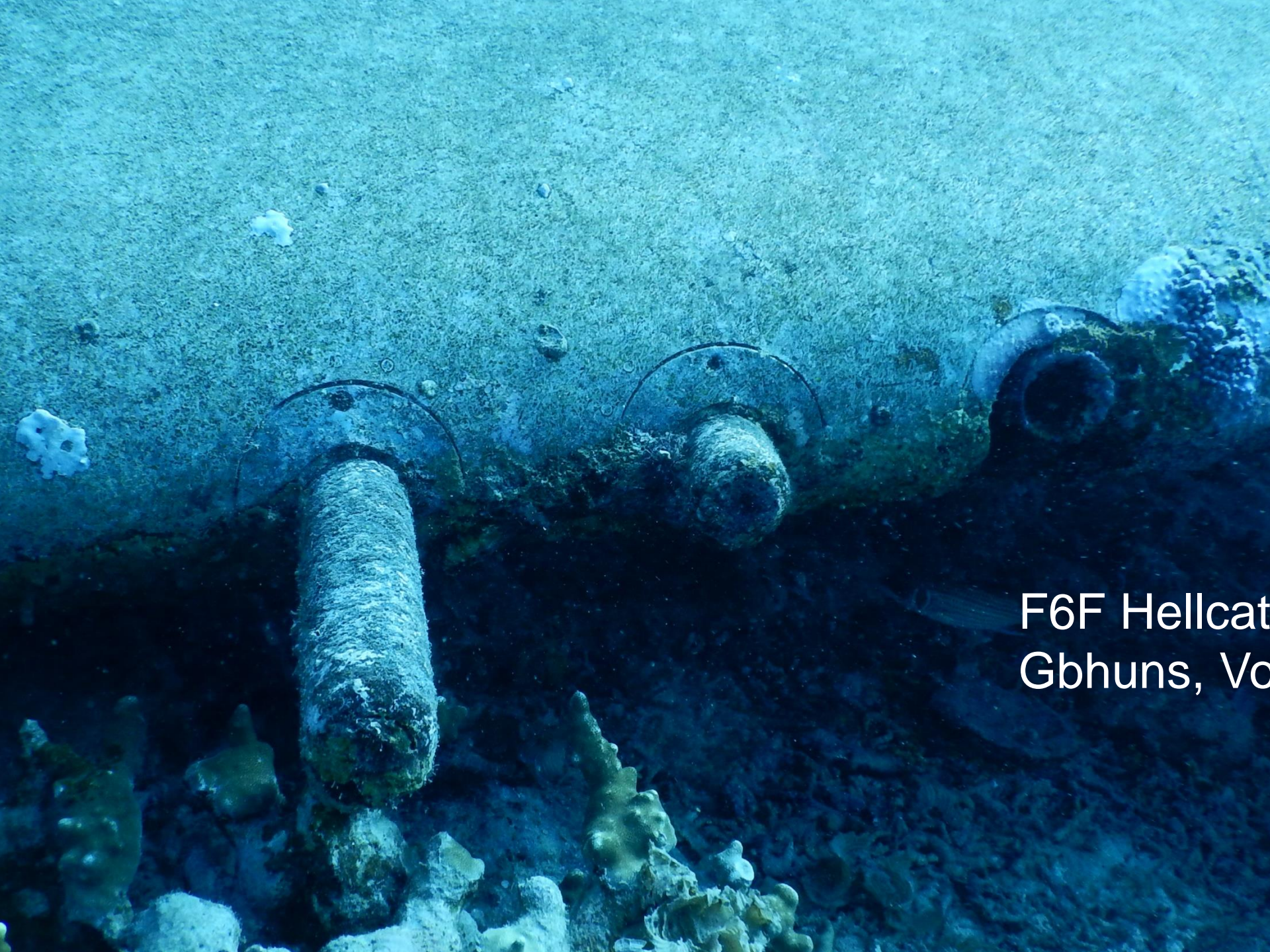


**Sherry on tail of
nose-down F6F Hellcat
At 90 feet, Majaro RMI**





F6F Hellcat
cockpit dashbd,
Vonavona



F6F Hellcat
Gbhuns, Vo



F6F-3 Hellcat
four piece
windscreen,
V

**F6F Hellcat Prop
spinner,
Vonavona**



Vought F4U Corsair fighter



**1 pilot, 2000 hp, 417
mph, 37k, 1000 mi, 6
50 cal, 2 1000lb bombs
and rockets, 8600**



**US F4U Corsair
wreckage,
looking aft at
wing root and
fuselage, near
South Dock**



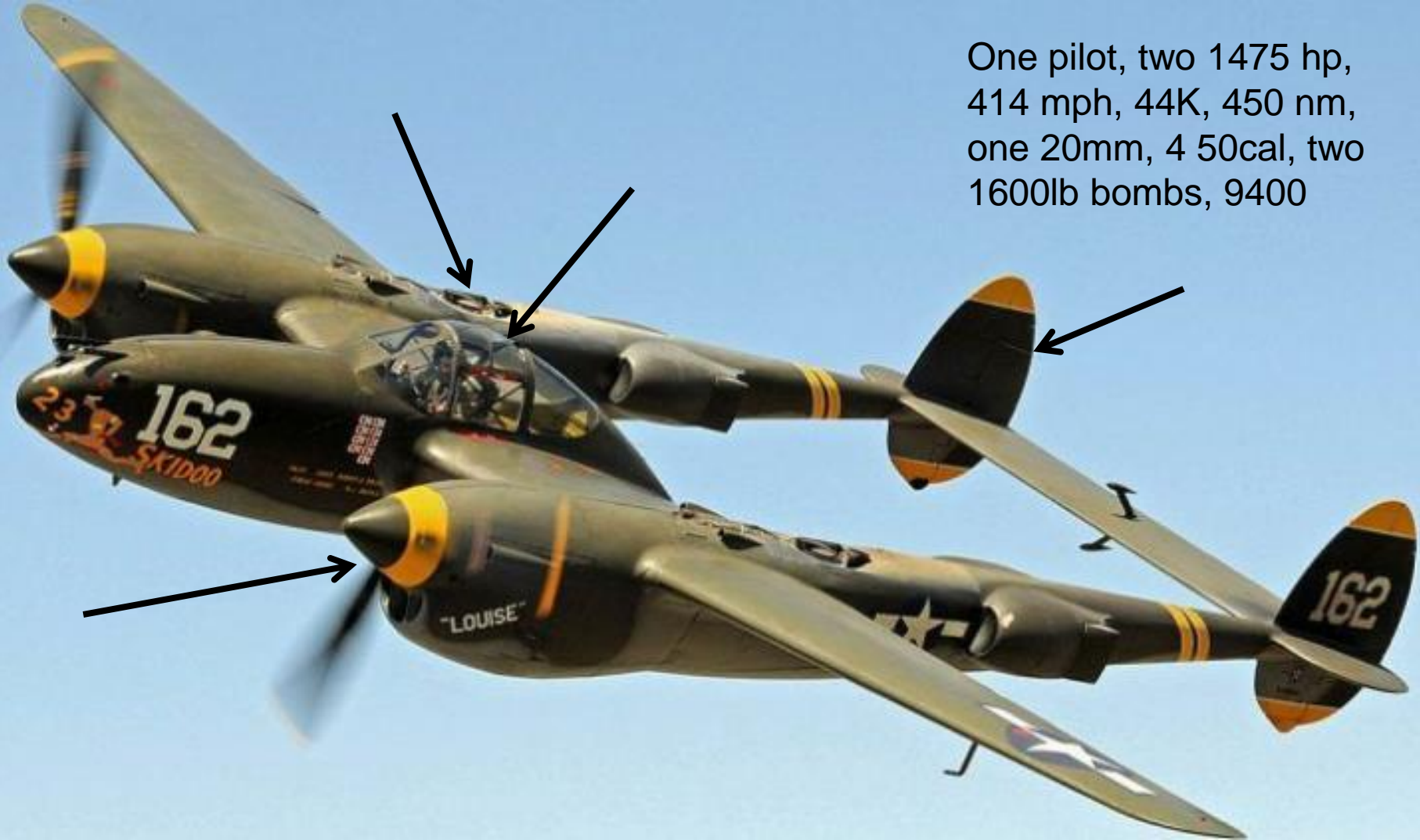
**Dave and US
F4U/F6F? wing on
private land, note
white US insignia**

US F4U/F6F/SBD? cockpit canopy and other plane parts in hollow near POW Camp and Secret Cave



P-38 Lockheed Lightning Fighter Bomber

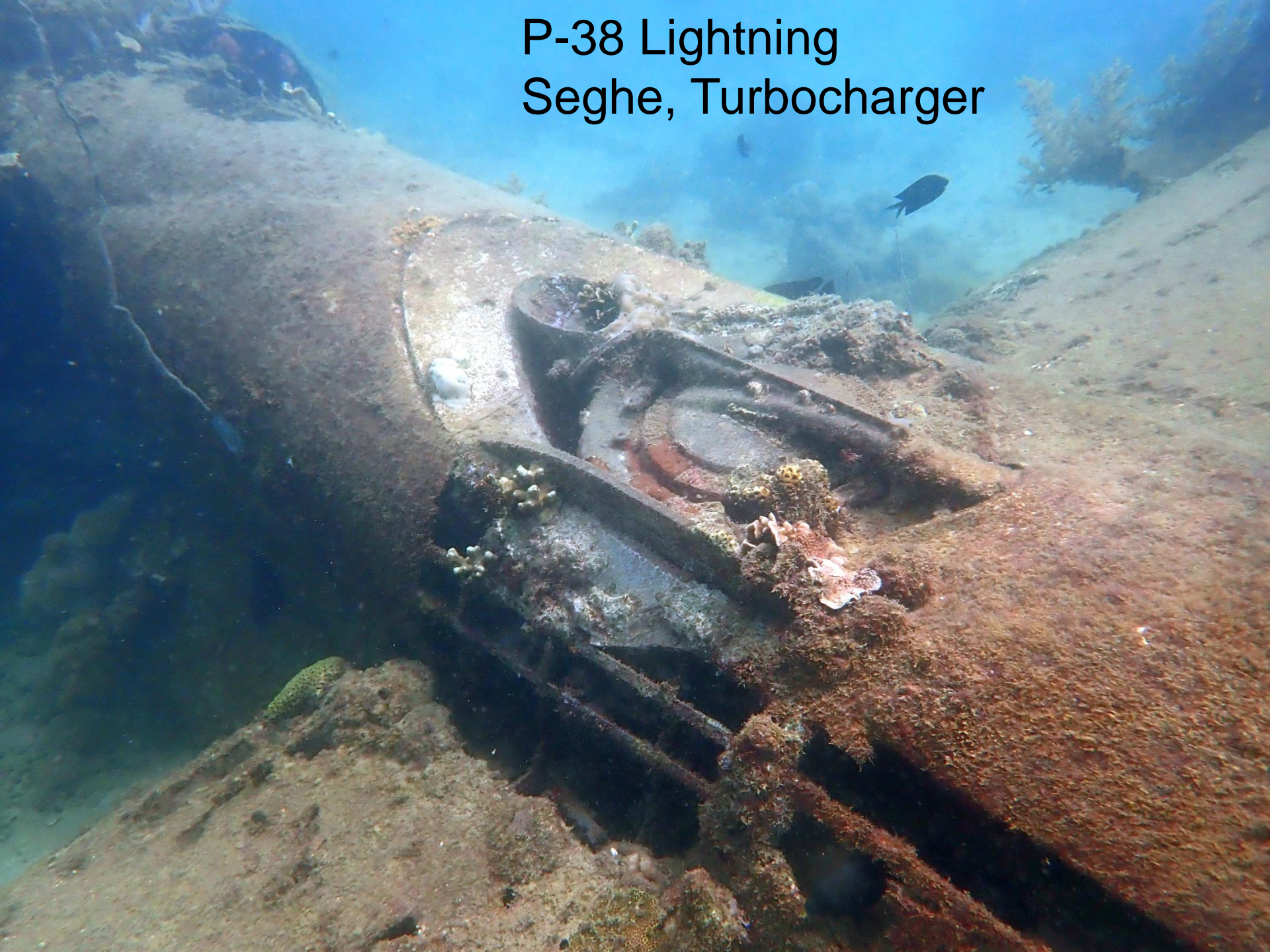
One pilot, two 1475 hp,
414 mph, 44K, 450 nm,
one 20mm, 4 50cal, two
1600lb bombs, 9400



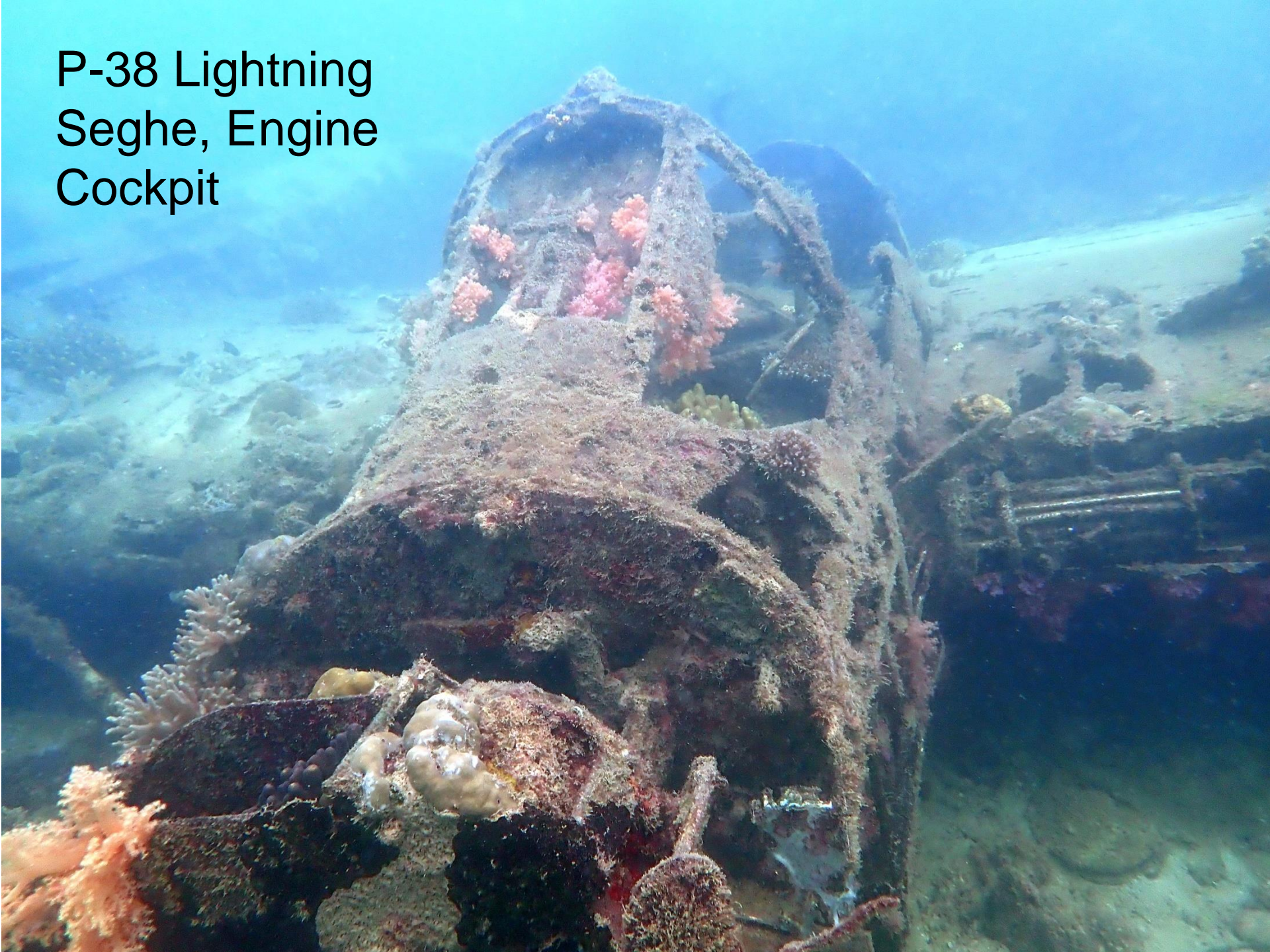


P-38
Lightning
Cockpit
Seghe

P-38 Lightning Seghe, Turbocharger



P-38 Lightning
Seghe, Engine
Cockpit



P-39 Bell Airacobra Fighter

One pilot, 1 1200hp,
38.5 K, 400mph,
750nm, 1 37mm, 2 50
cal, 4 30cal, 1 500lb
bomb, 9500



P-39 Bell Airacobra

Chief armament was the 37mm cannon fed by a belt type magazine holding 30 rounds. Brits had a 20mm cannon instead

Pilot sat in an extremely protected cockpit surrounded by armor. This was especially useful in the ground attack role

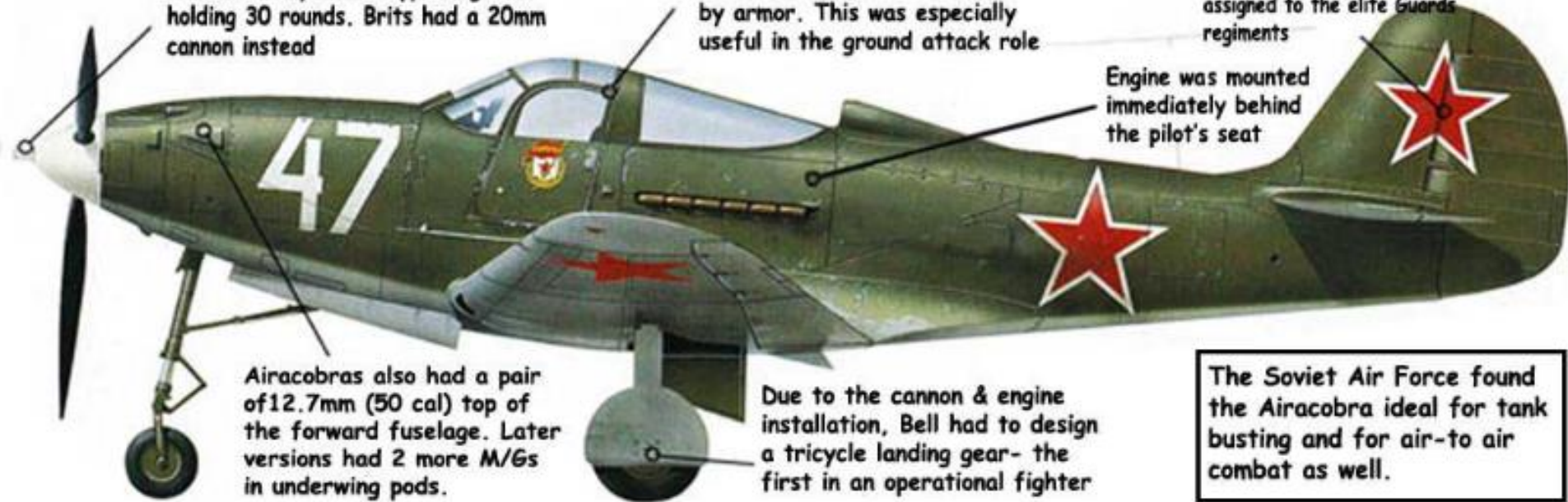
A large percentage of the P-39s wore the Soviet red star & were assigned to the elite Guards regiments

Engine was mounted immediately behind the pilot's seat

Airacobras also had a pair of 12.7mm (50 cal) top of the forward fuselage. Later versions had 2 more M/Gs in underwing pods.

Due to the cannon & engine installation, Bell had to design a tricycle landing gear- the first in an operational fighter

The Soviet Air Force found the Airacobra ideal for tank busting and for air-to air combat as well.



P-39 Airacobra
Rendova



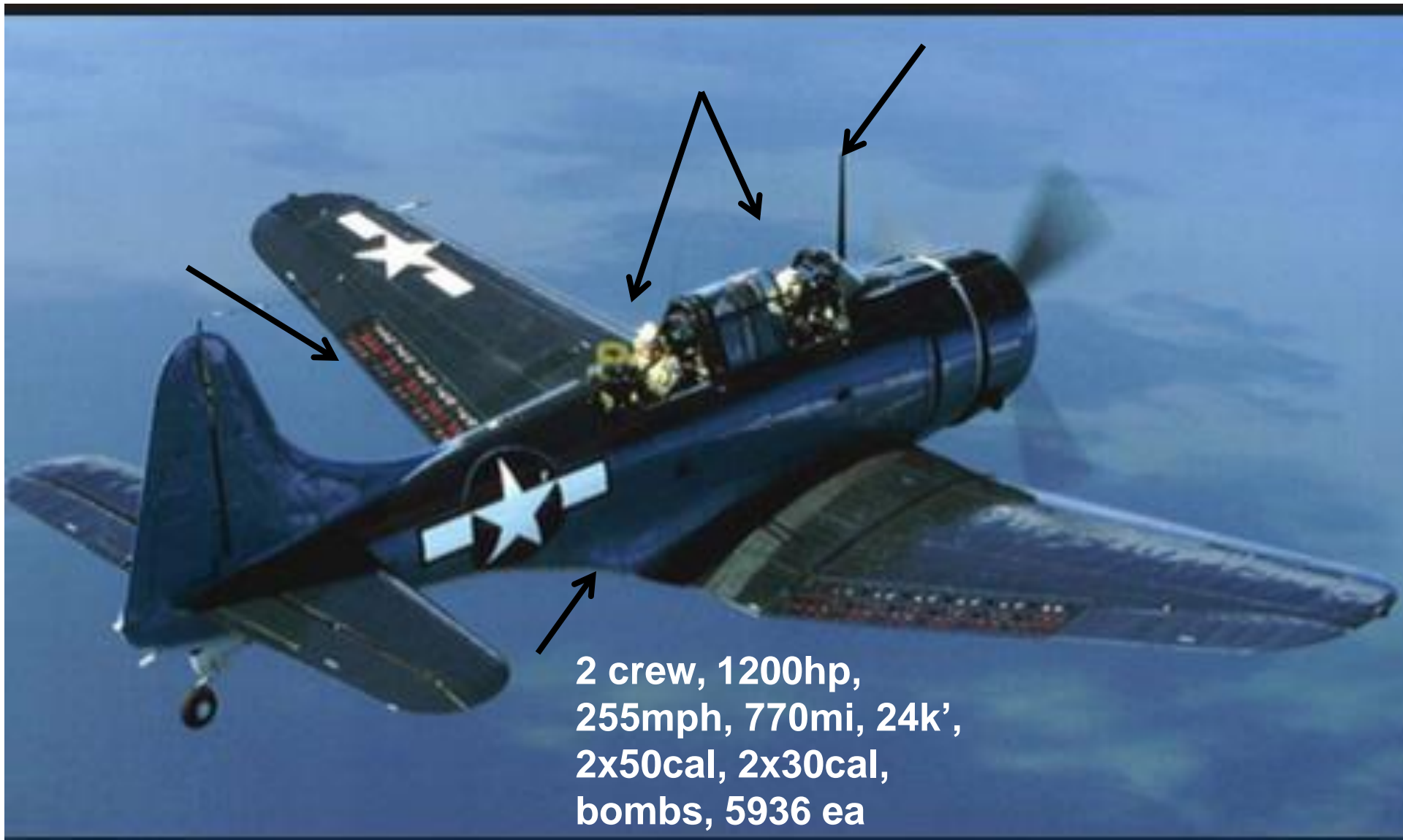


P-39 Airacobra
Rendova, 37mm

P-39 Airacobra
Rendova,
Cockpit



Douglas SBD Dauntless Dive Bomber

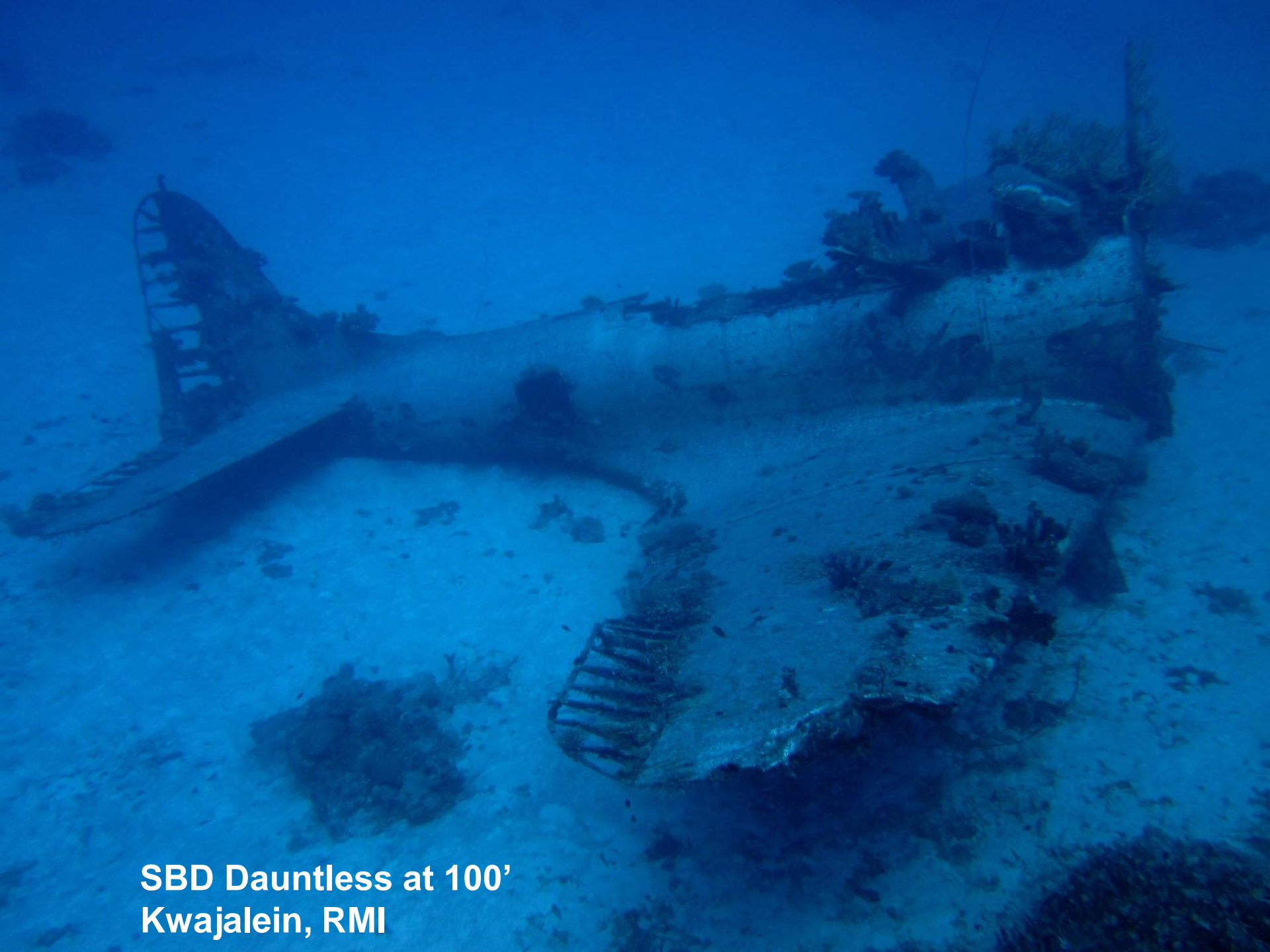


2 crew, 1200hp,
255mph, 770mi, 24k',
2x50cal, 2x30cal,
bombs, 5936 ea


Douglas SBD Dauntless Dive Bombers



Two crew, 250 mph, 27k, 1345
mi, 4x50 cal, 650lbs bombs,
5300



**SBD Dauntless at 100'
Kwajalein, RMI**

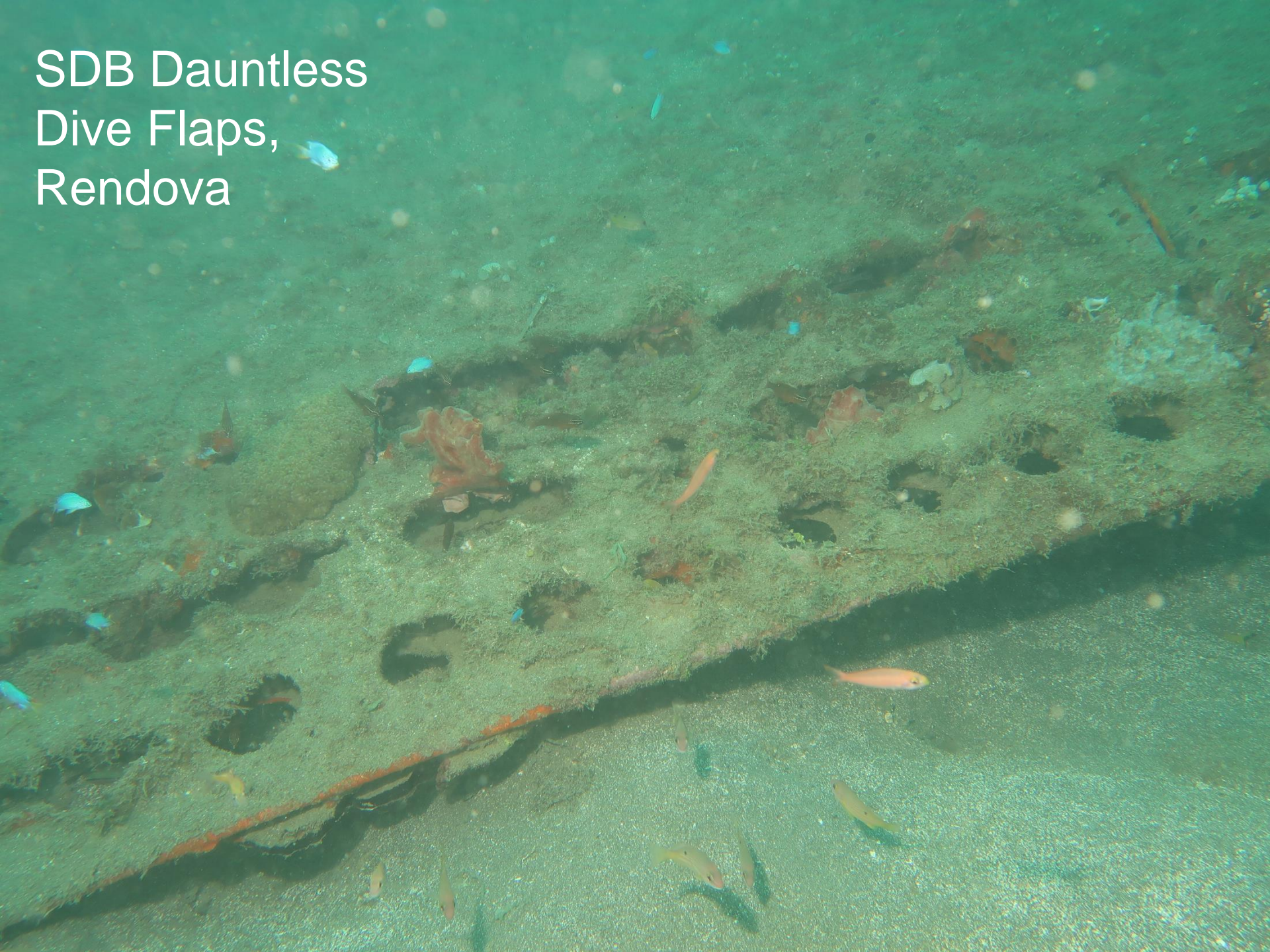
An underwater photograph showing a large, rusted metal component, likely an engine part, resting on the seabed. The component is heavily encrusted with green and brown marine growth. The surrounding water is murky green, and several small orange fish are visible swimming around the wreckage. The text 'SDB Dauntless Engine, Rendova' is overlaid in the bottom left corner.

SDB Dauntless
Engine,
Rendova

SDB Dauntless
Cockpit, Rendova



SDB Dauntless
Dive Flaps,
Rendova



Curtiss SB2C Helldiver Dive Bomber



2 crew, 1900hp, 295mph,
1200mi, 29k', 2x20mm,
2x30cal, bombs, 7150 ea

SB2C Helldiver

On USS Saratoga
CV-3



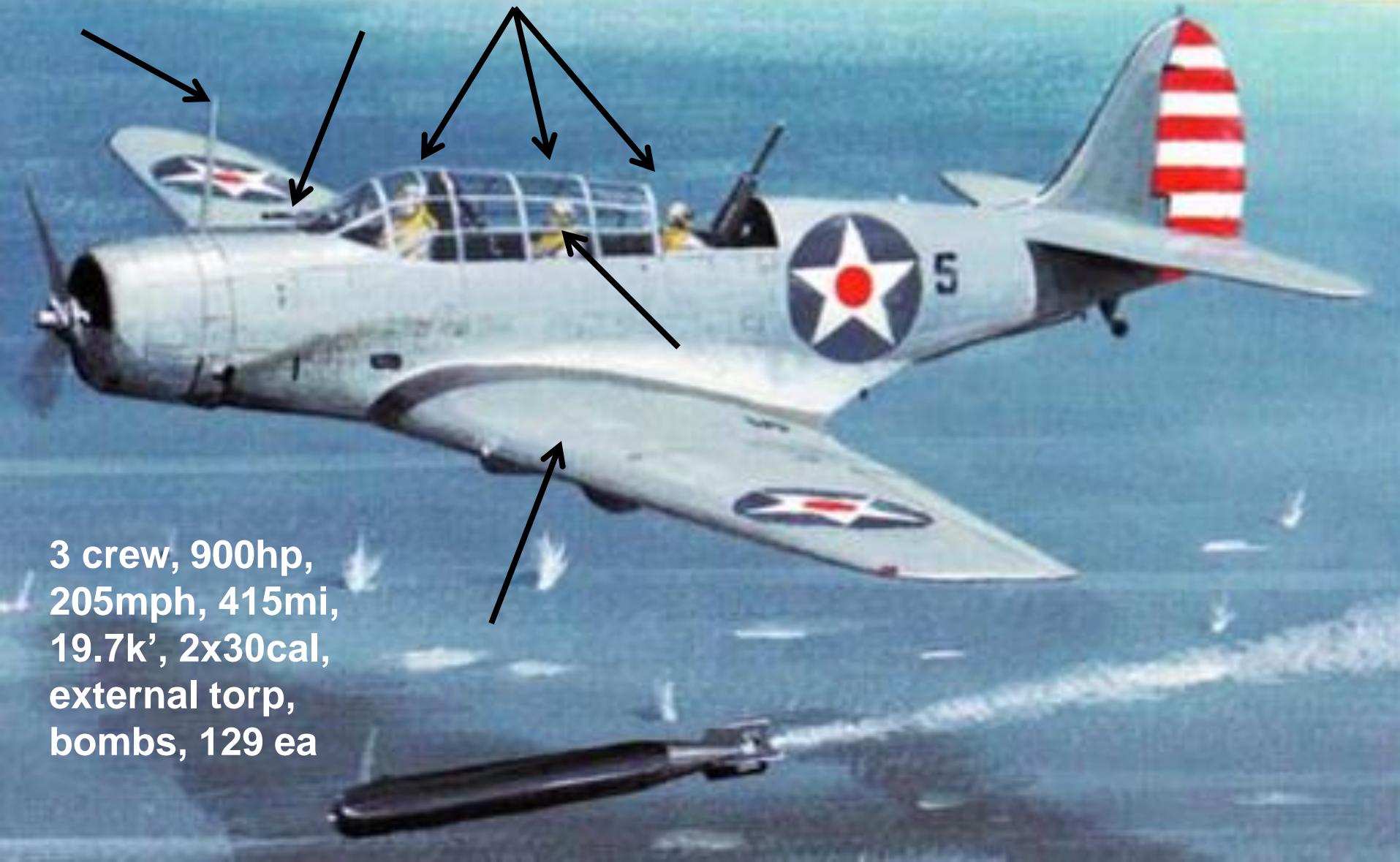
**Dave & SB2C Helldiver in
Hangar Deck at 130'**





**SB2C Helldiver
instrument panel
w/ most gages in
place!**

Douglas TBD Devastator Torpedo Bomber



3 crew, 900hp,
205mph, 415mi,
19.7k', 2x30cal,
external torp,
bombs, 129 ea

Douglas TBD Devastator Torpedo Bomber

Early rare torpedo bomber, of only 70 operational 40 lost at Midway 4 Jun 42, now only 4 known, 2 lost 1 Feb 42 on Yorktown CV-5 Jaluit raid





**TBD in 45', engine
in fore ground,
west Jaluit Atoll**



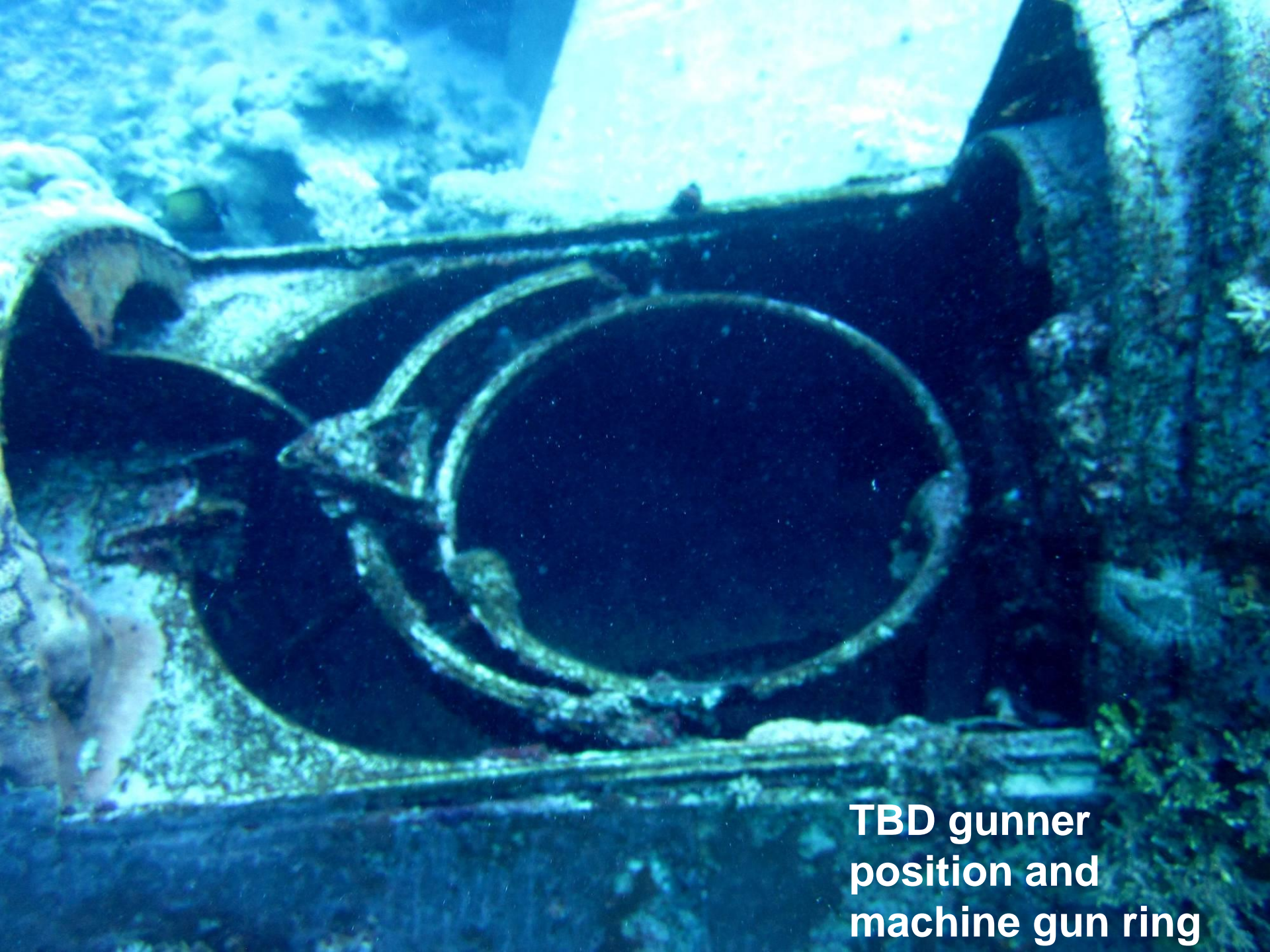
Unique TBD wing surface ridges, Sherry inspecting bomber and gunner's seats



**TBD from stbd aft, Sherry
inspecting gunner's
position, flaps deteriorated**

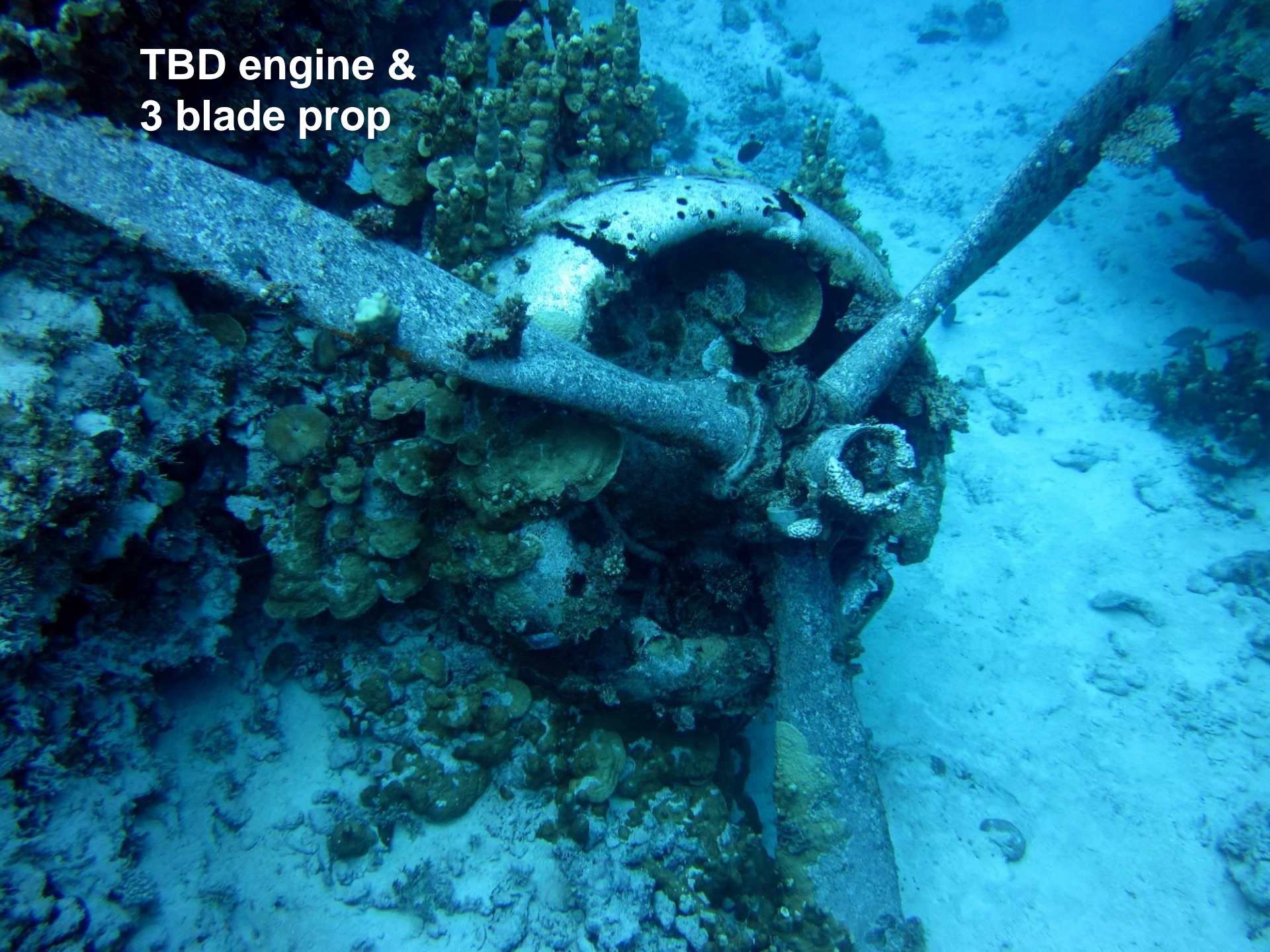
**Dave inspecting
TBD bomber and
gunner seats**



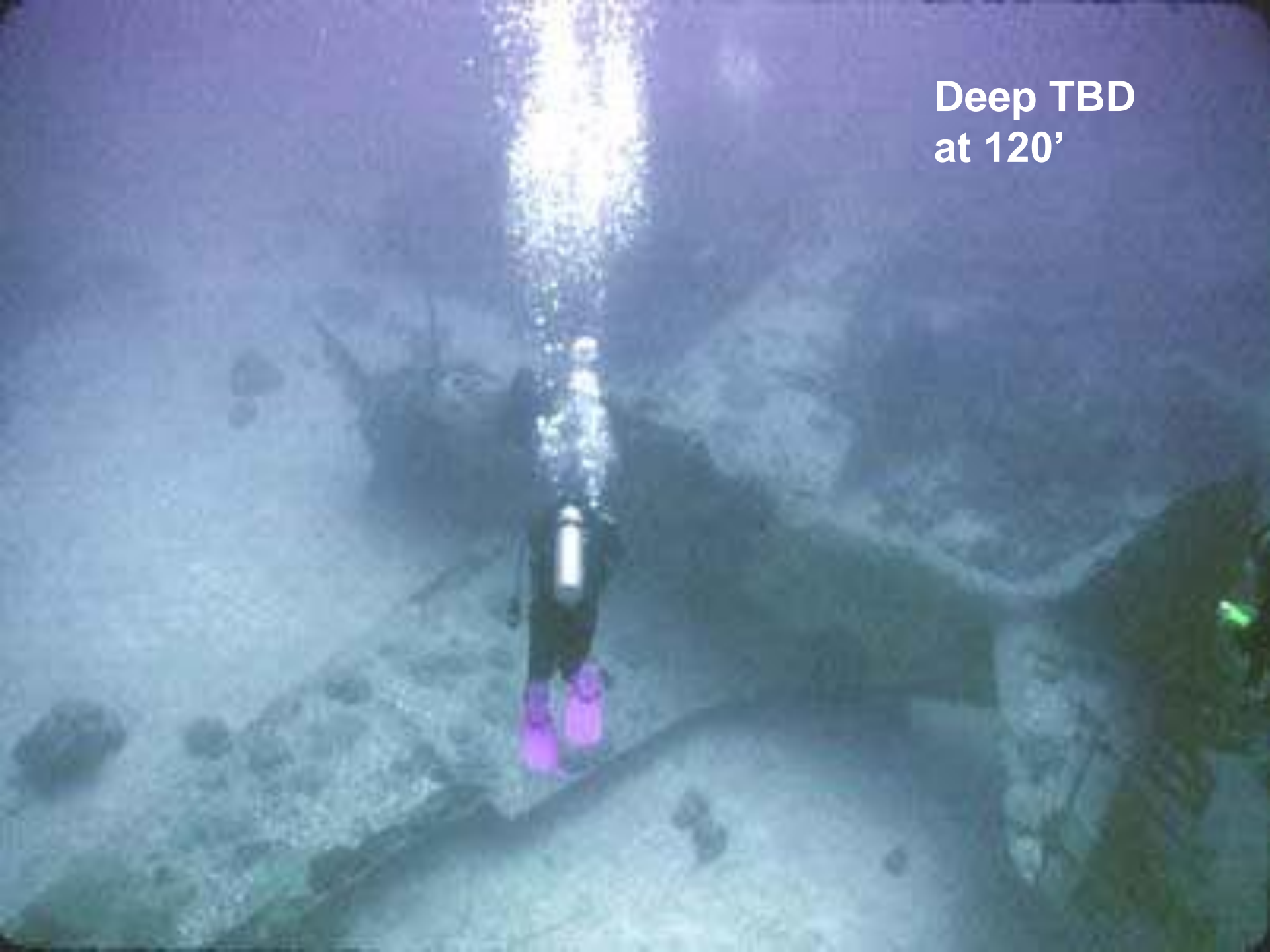


TBD gunner
position and
machine gun ring

**TBD engine &
3 blade prop**



Deep TBD
at 120'

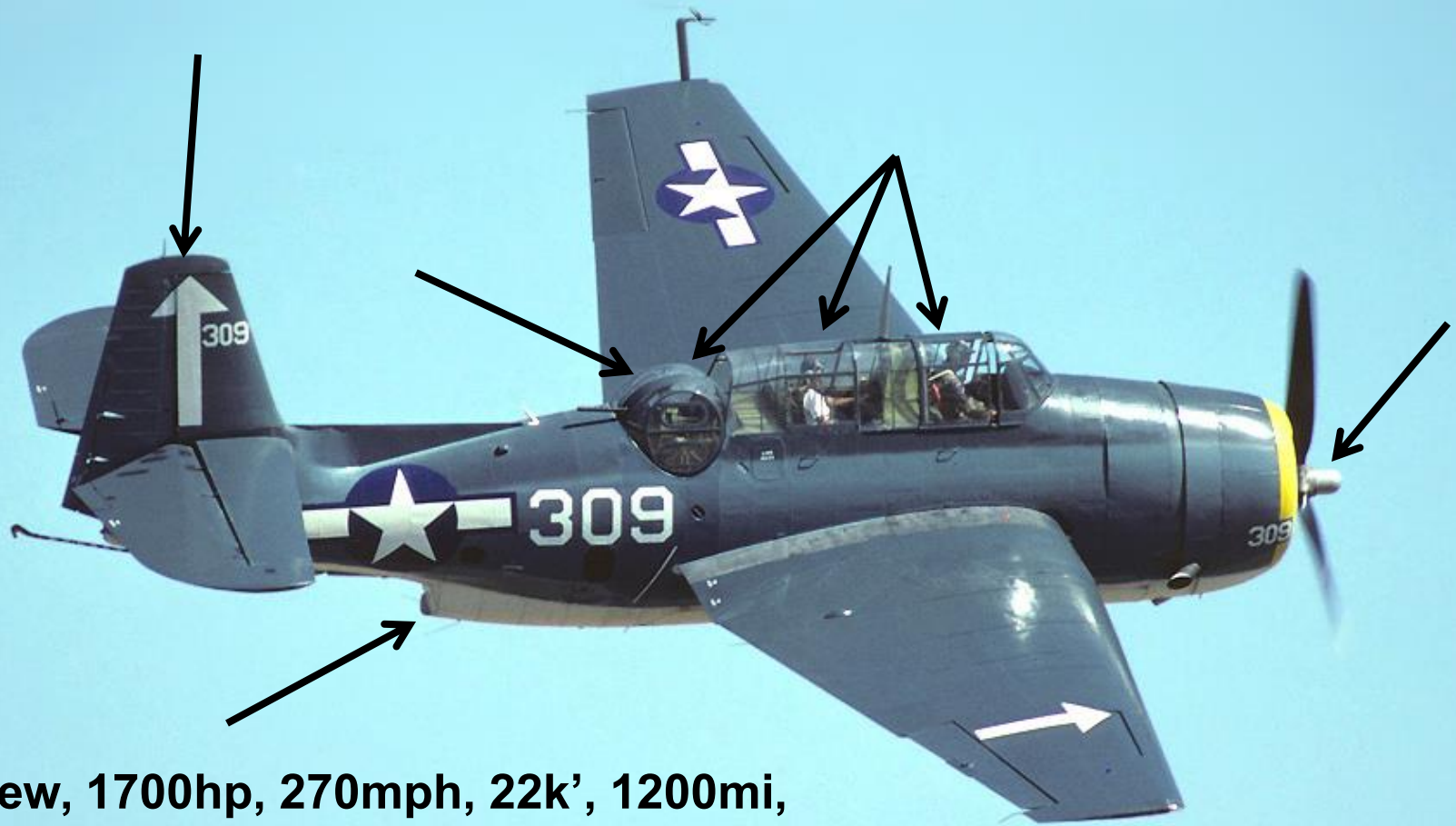


**Deep TBD at 120', pilot
and bomber's seats, gun
sight, antenna pylon**



**DUSTIN
JOHNSTON
PHOTOGRAPHY**

Grumman TBF/M Avenger Torpedo Bomber



**3 crew, 1700hp, 270mph, 22k', 1200mi,
3x50 cal, internal torp, bombs, 9839ea**

An underwater photograph showing the wreckage of a TBF/M Avenger torpedo bomber engine. The engine is heavily corroded and covered in marine life, resting on a rocky seabed. The water is clear and blue. The engine's main shaft and various components are visible, though somewhat obscured by the corrosion and biofouling. The overall scene is a somber reminder of the aircraft's final moments.

**TBF/M Avenger
Torpedo Bomber
Engine Palau**

TBF/M Avenger,
Sterling Isl
Treasurys

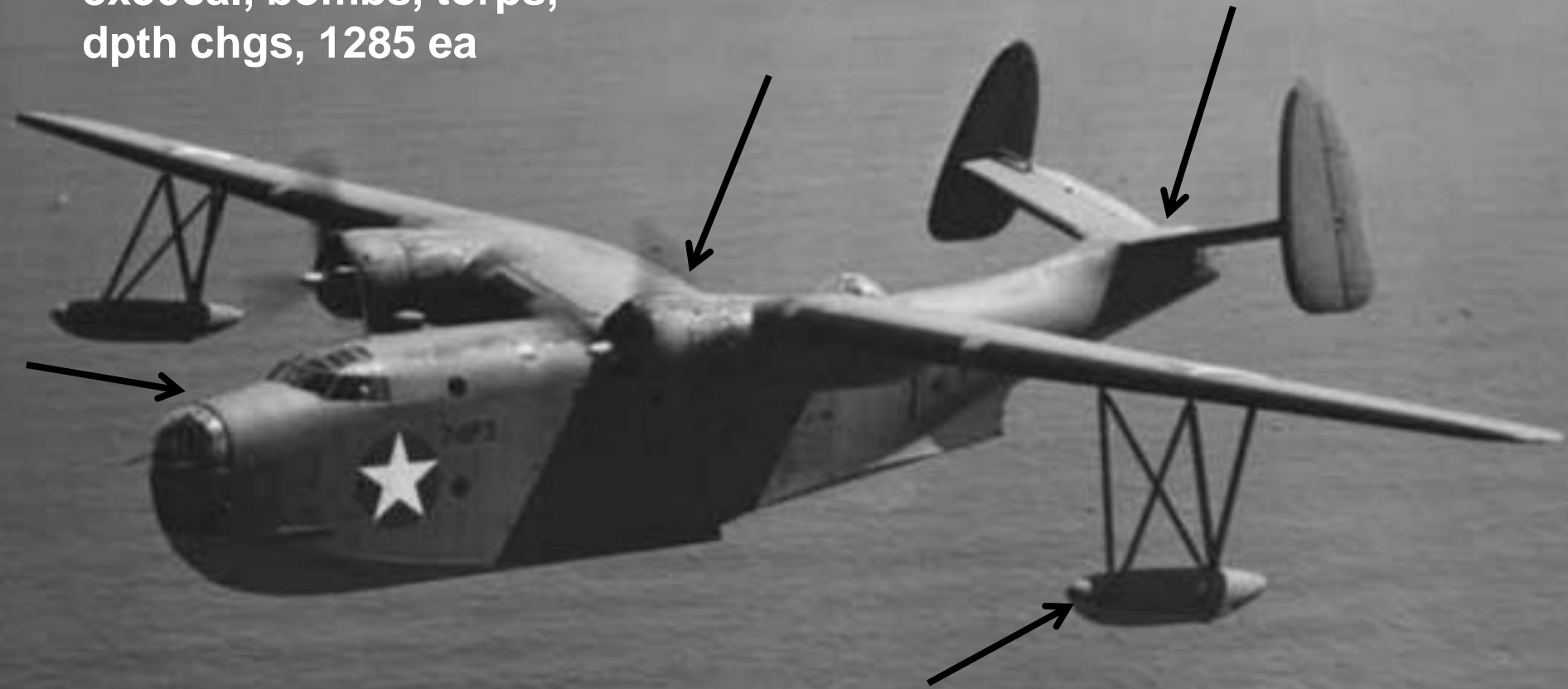


TBF/M Avenger,
Sterling Island
Treasurys



Martin PBM Mariner Sea Plane

8 crew, 2x1900hp,
210mph, 720mi, 20k',
8x50cal, bombs, torps,
dpth chgs, 1285 ea

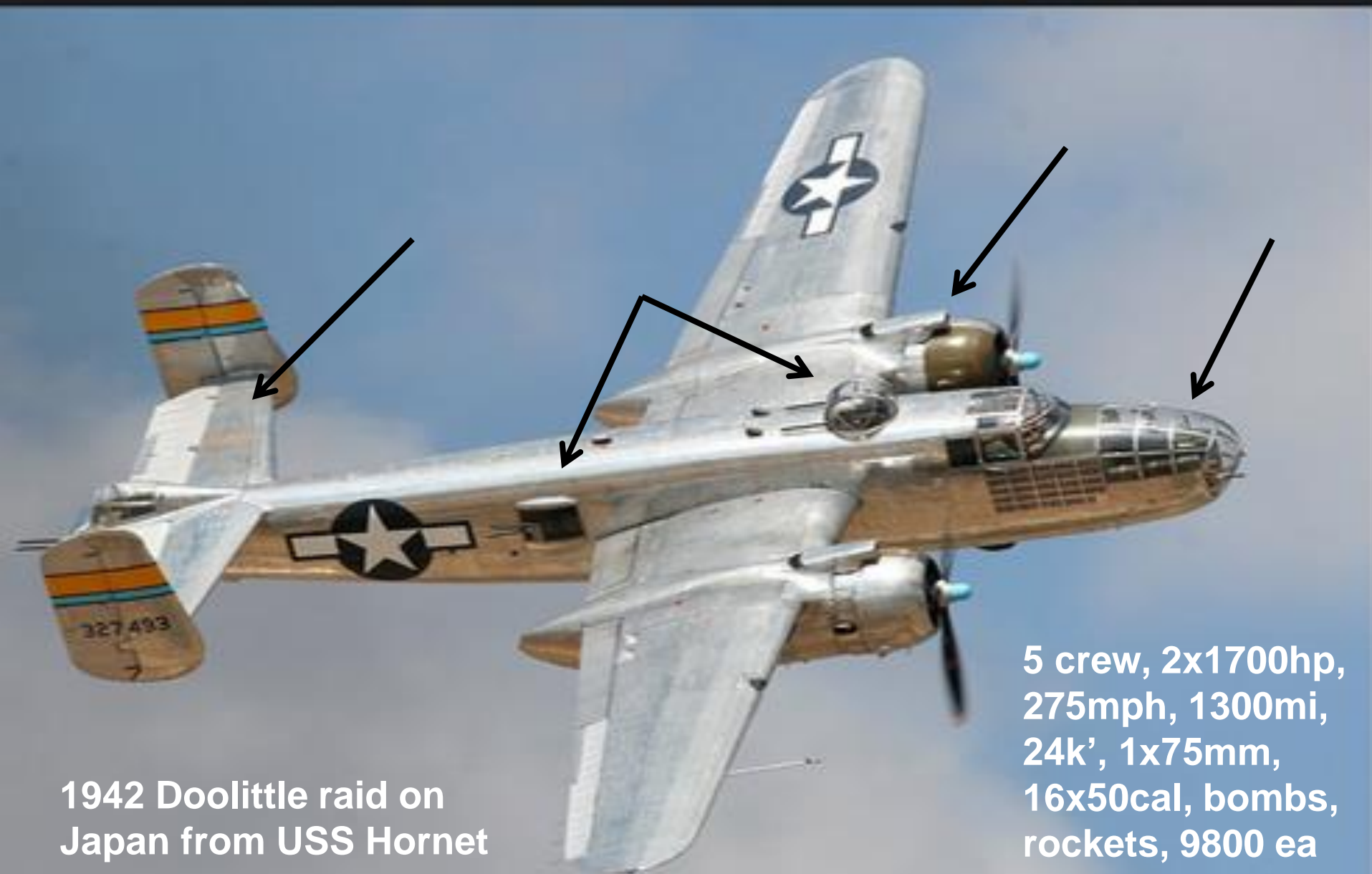






**Dan Farnham
over Martin
PBM 5 nose,
cockpit, wing
roots**

North American B-25 Mitchell Bomber



1942 Doolittle raid on
Japan from USS Hornet

5 crew, 2x1700hp,
275mph, 1300mi,
24k', 1x75mm,
16x50cal, bombs,
rockets, 9800 ea

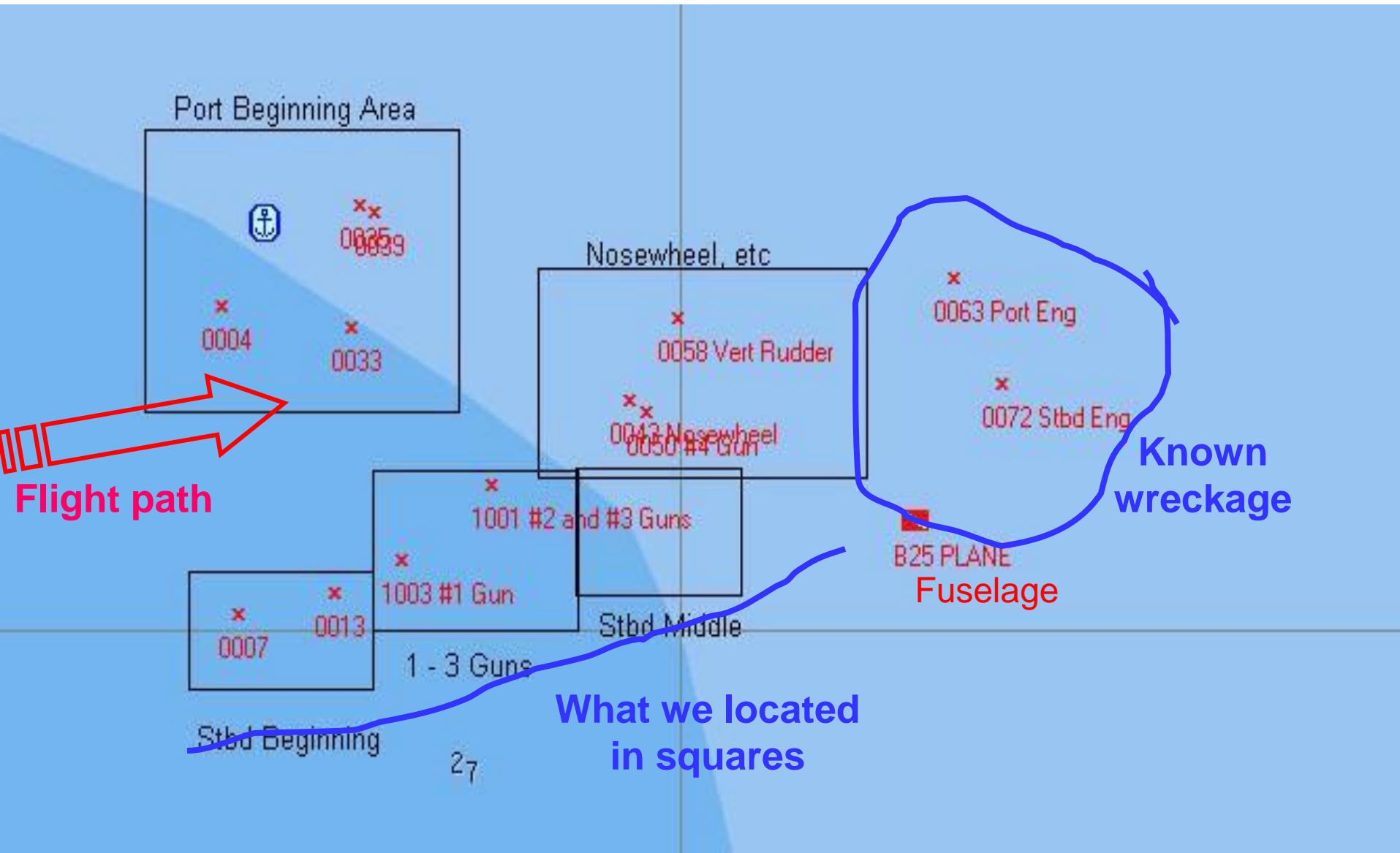
**B-25 Mitchell looking aft
at 100' Kwajalein RMI**





**B-25 Mitchell tail
section at 100'**

B-25D Mitchell Crash Site Map





**B-25D stbd front in
25', nose cone
missing , cockpit open**



B25 port front

**B-25D cockpit,
yokes, throttles**

**Stbd eng
pitch
control**





B-25D port waist 50 cal machine gun

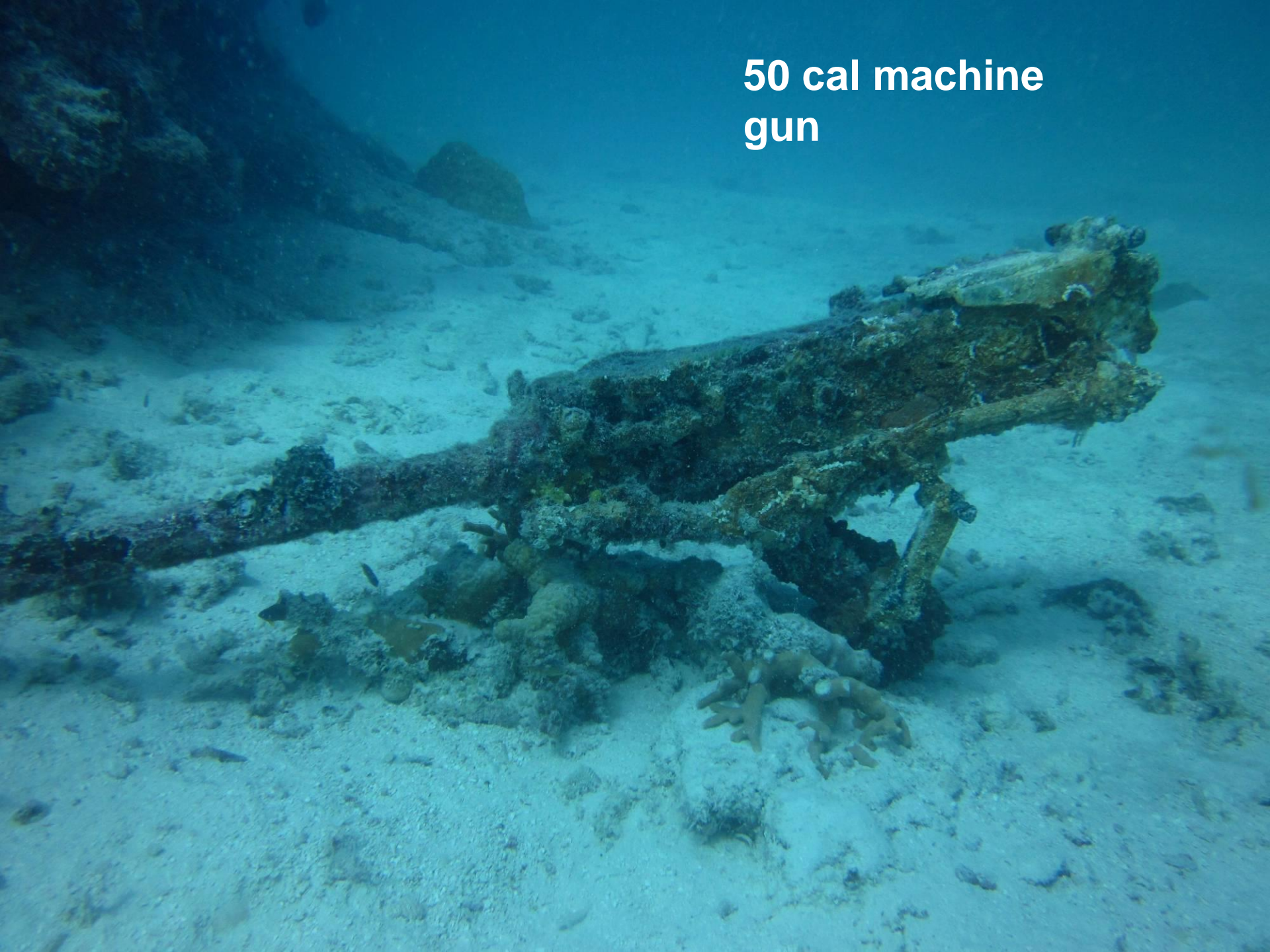


50 cal machine gun belt

**B-25D 50 cal
dorsal twin
mount**



50 cal machine
gun



Consolidated C-46 Commando Cargo Plane



More common
DC-3/C-47 Cargo
Planes

4 crew, 40 troops,
2x2000hp,
270mph, 3150mi,
24.5k', 3181 ea



**C-46 Commando
in 100'**

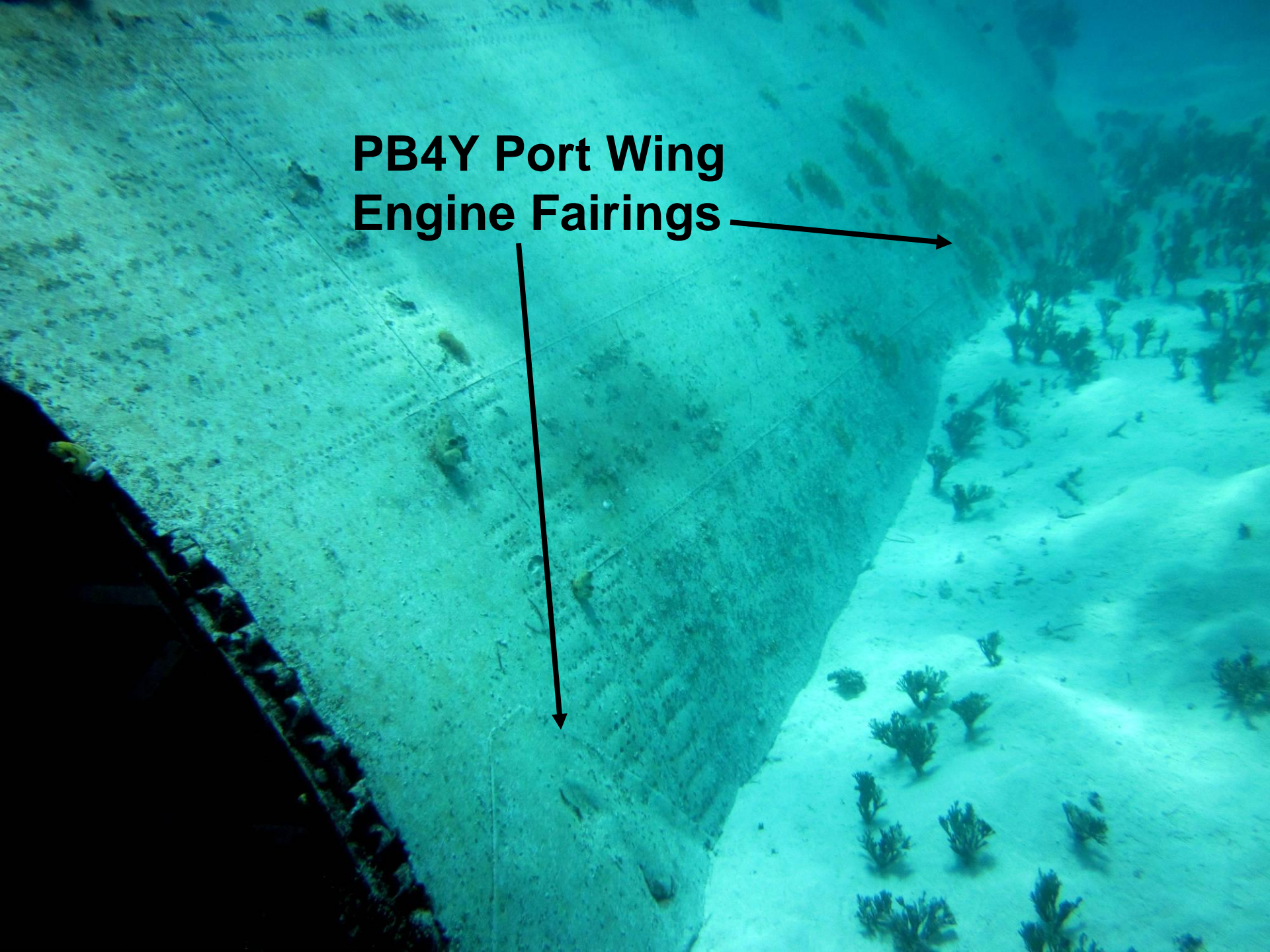
Consolidated PB4Y Privateer Heavy Bomber

Same as B-24,
Need new pic of
twin rudder early
model, one dorsal
turret

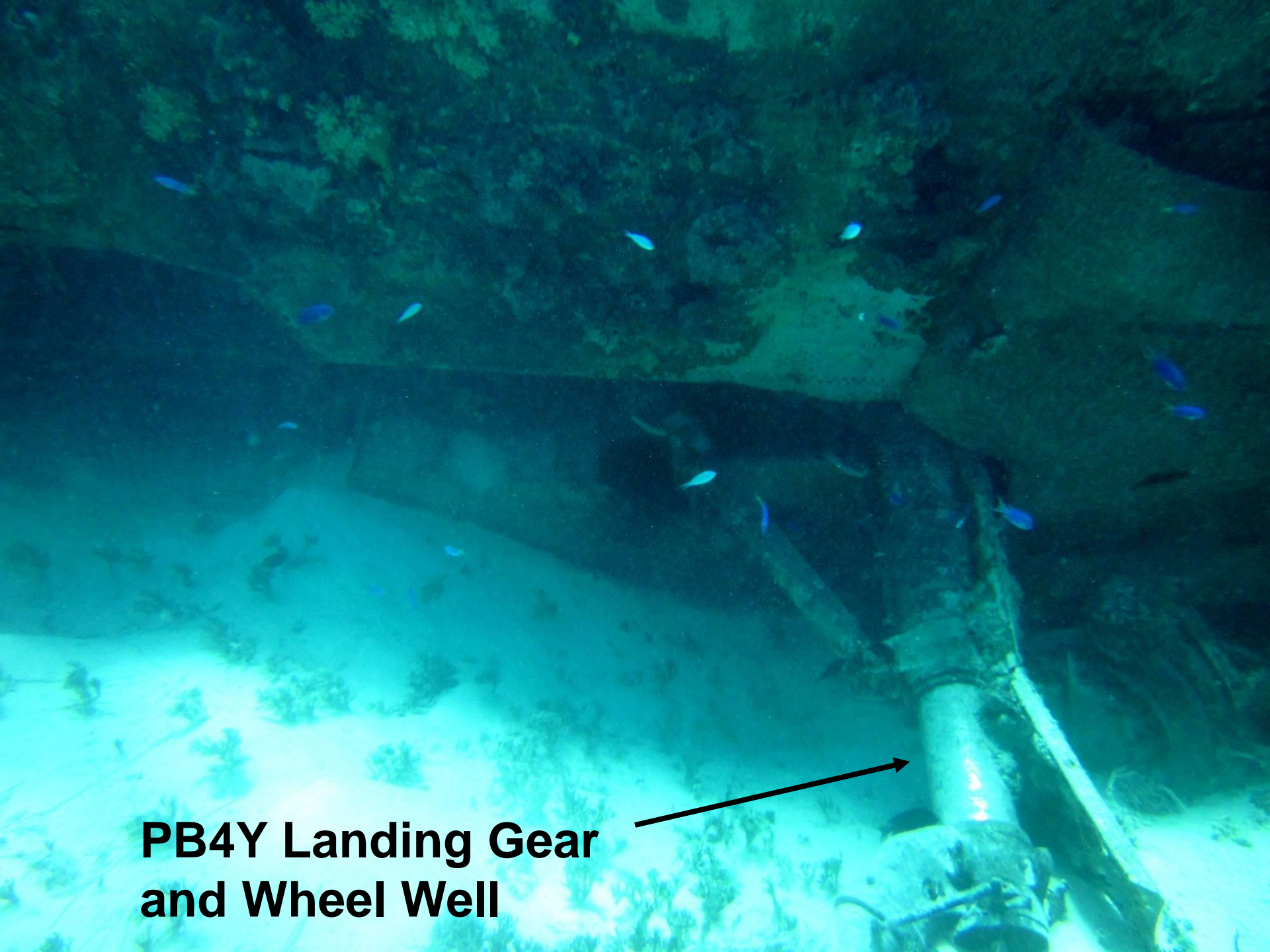


11 crew, 300 mph, 2820 mi,
21k, 12x50 cal, bombs,
mines, torpedoes, 739 ea

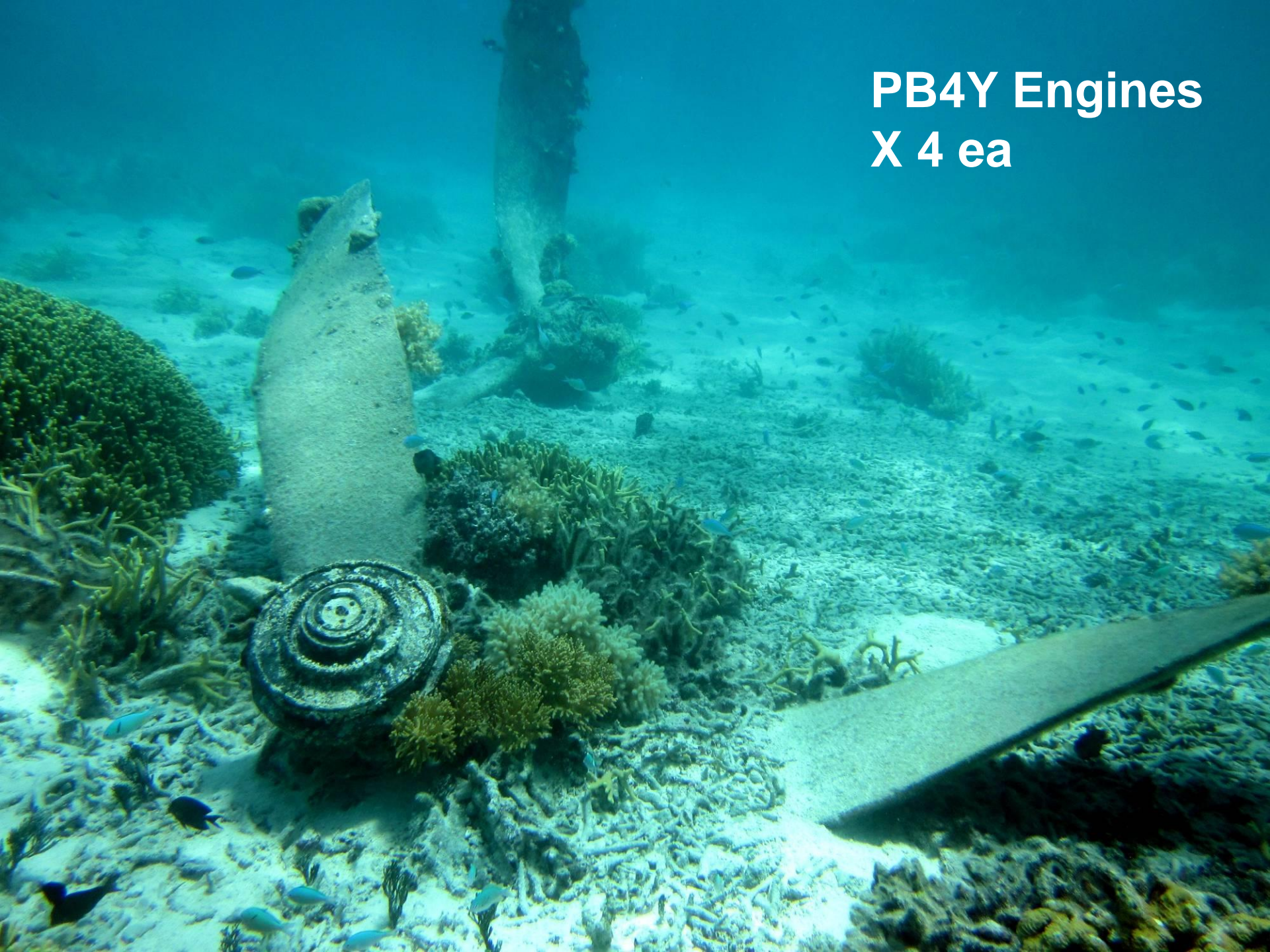
**PB4Y Port Wing
Engine Fairings**



**PB4Y Landing Gear
and Wheel Well**



**PB4Y Engines
X 4 ea**



Sherry & PB4Y Wreckage



PB4Y Cockpit

16.JPG (1544 x 1024 = 1.58 MP , 330 KB) [5 / 13] 59%



Consolidated PBY5A Catalina Maritime Patrol Amphibian Bomber



7 crew, 2x1200hp,
175mph, 3050mi, 18k',
2x50cal, 3x30cal, bombs,
dpth chgs, 3300 ea

PBY Catalina
Nose, Biak PNG



PBY Catalina Side
Blister, Biak





PBY Catalina
Biak



PBY Catalina
Biak

**PBY Engine
on Maloelap
RMI beach**





Other PBY Engine

Martin PBM Mariner Sea Plane

8 crew, 2x1900hp,
210mph, 720mi, 20k',
8x50cal, bombs, torps,
dpth chgs, 1285 ea

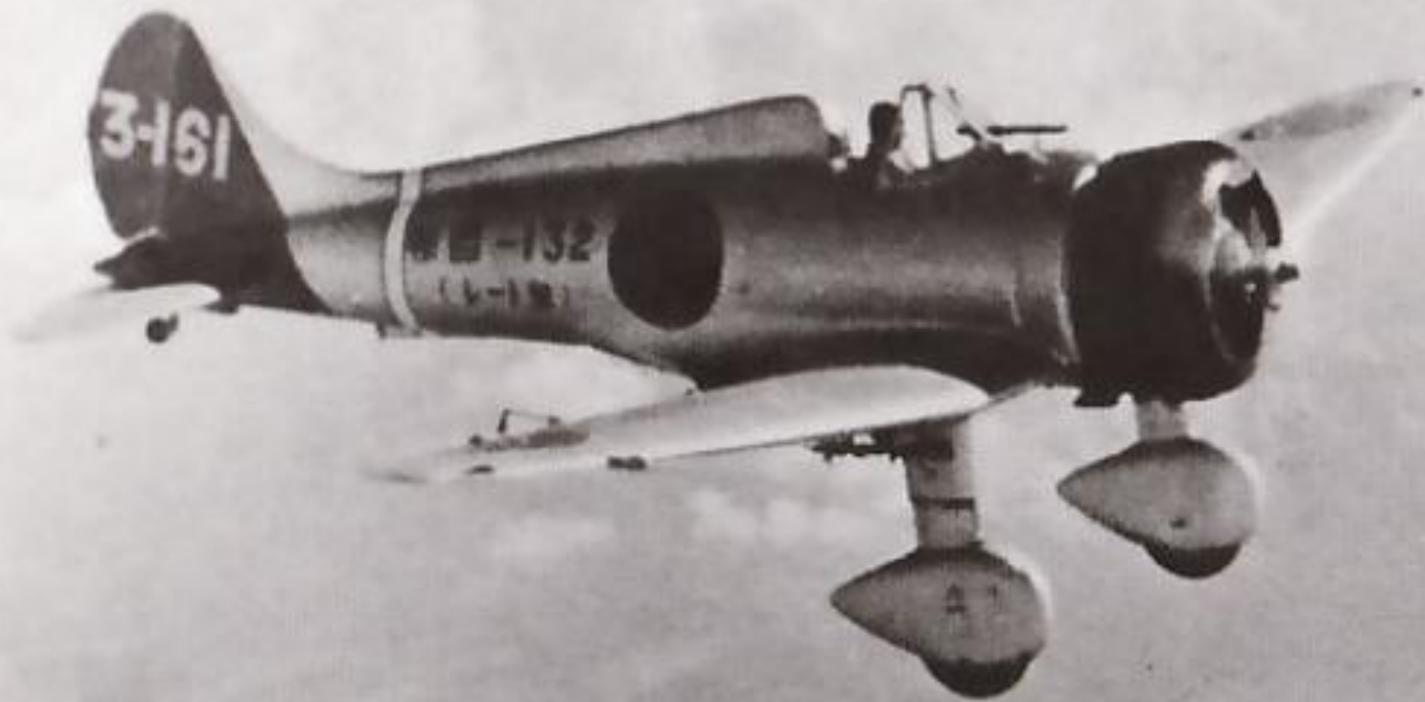




**Dan Farnham
over Martin
PBM-5 nose &
cockpit**



Japanese WW2 Planes

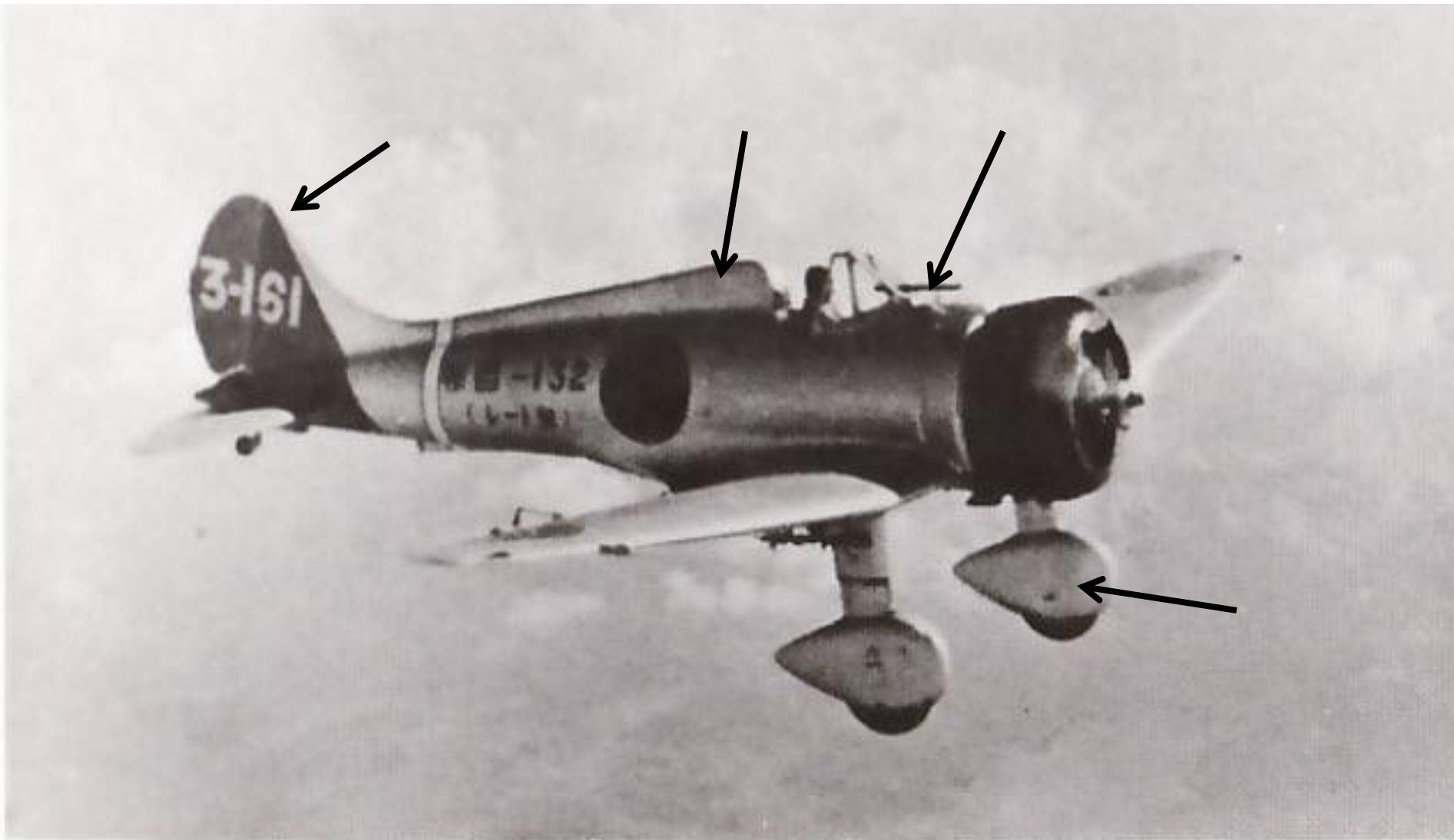


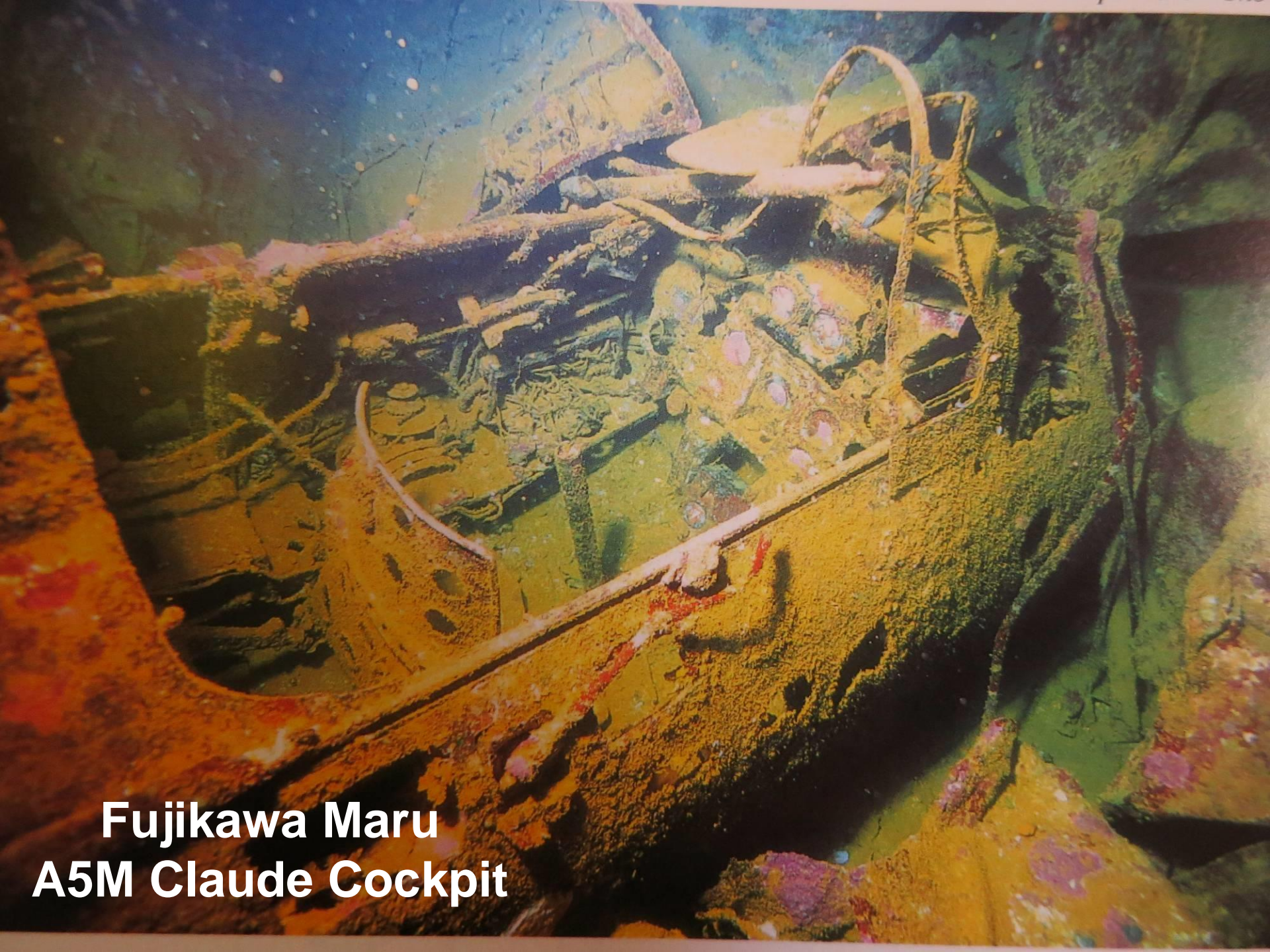
Mitsubishi A5M Claude Fighter

Single pilot, 280 mph, 30K,
650nim, 2x7.7 mm guns,
bombs



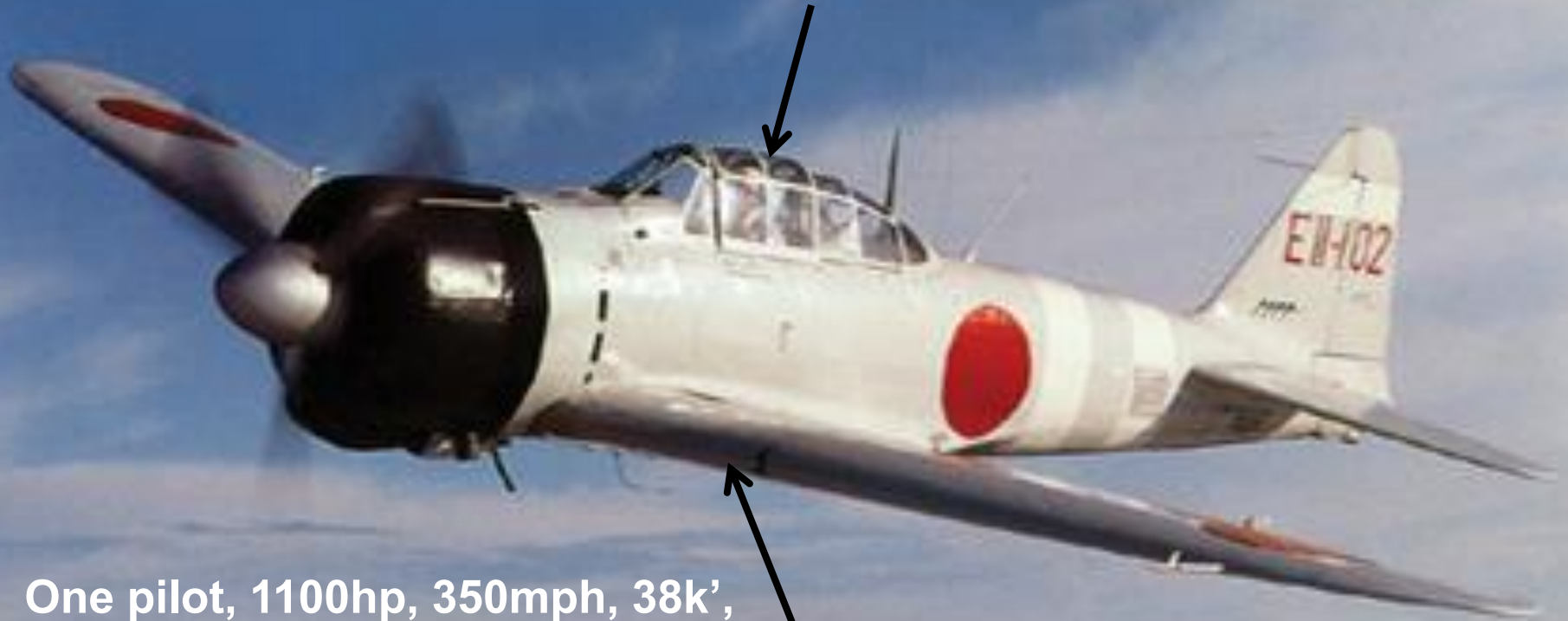
Mitsubishi A5M Claude Early Fighter





**Fujikawa Maru
A5M Claude Cockpit**

Mitsubishi A6M Japanese Zero Fighter



One pilot, 1100hp, 350mph, 38k',
1200 nm, 2x20 mm, 2x7.7 mm
guns, bombs, 10499 ea

Early A6M5
Zero Fighter,
se nr 4007



**Zero
Engine,
Model 22
Sakae**





**Mitsubishi A6M2
Zero Fighter**



**A6M Zero
Fighter**



**Nakajima Sakae
Model 21 Zero
engine w/ one
bent blade**



Sherry behind tail section of Zero in Yap



20mm
gun

A6M Zero Upside Down off
Rio Namur Kwaj RMI



**A6M Zero Maloelap
RMI Plane Graveyard**



Japanese A6M Zero upside down wing/engine



**A6M Zero 20mm
wing cannon**

Aichi D3A Val Dive Bomber



**Two crew, 240 mph, 30k, 915
mi, 3x7.7 mm guns, bombs**

D4Y Judy Dive Bomber



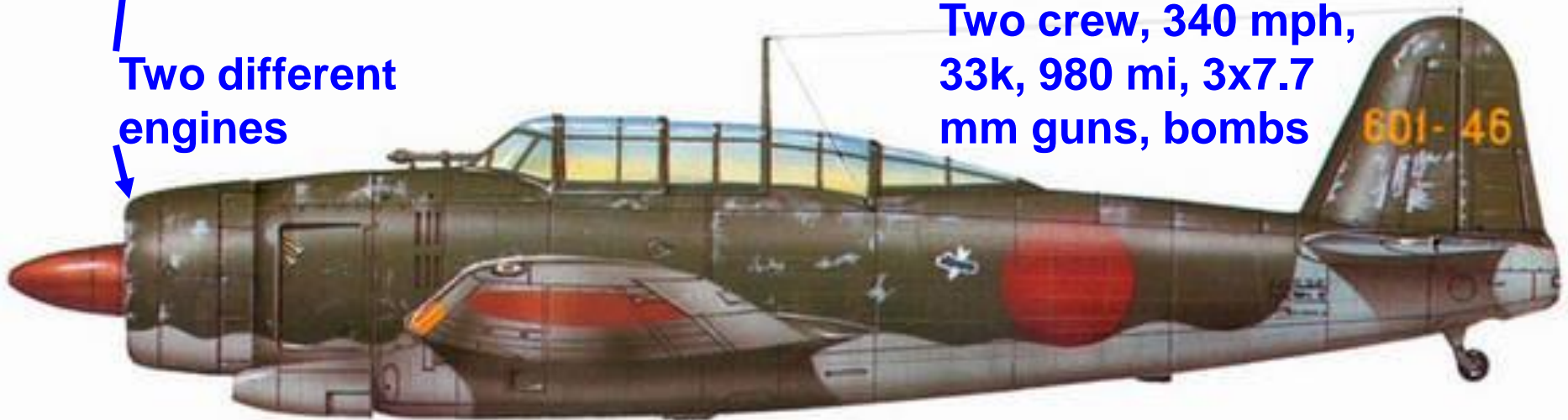
- Illustrations not to scale. Actual length 143mm.
- May contain small parts and sharp edges.
- Recommended for modelers 10 and over.
- CONTAINS PARTS FOR ONE AIRCRAFT MODEL.

Yokosuka D4Y Judy Dive Bomber



Yokosuka D4Y1-C Suisui Type 2 Model 11 of the 523rd kokutai '*Taka Butai*', Peleliu Island, Western Caroline Islands, September 1944. '*Taka Butai*' means 'Eagle Group' by literal translation.

Two different engines



Two crew, 340 mph,
33k, 980 mi, 3x7.7
mm guns, bombs


Yokosuka D4Y3 Type 2 Model 33 of Kougeki (Attack) 1st Hikotai, 601st kokutai, Hyakurihara Naval Air Base, Ibaraki Prefecture, August 1945.



**Japanese D601D4Y Judy
inverted V engine,
upside down, on
Babeldaob Isl, courtesy
armyjunk2, 2007**



**Yokosuka D4Y Judy
Dive Bomber Cockpit**



**Judy Aichi
Inverted V
Engine, Atsuta
V-12
3 Blade Prop**



**Judy Inverted V 12
cylinder engine**



**Yokosuka D4Y3 Judy, IJN Lt Yamaguchi
kamikazi attack on Essex 25 Nov 44, just
after Dad left ship for US**

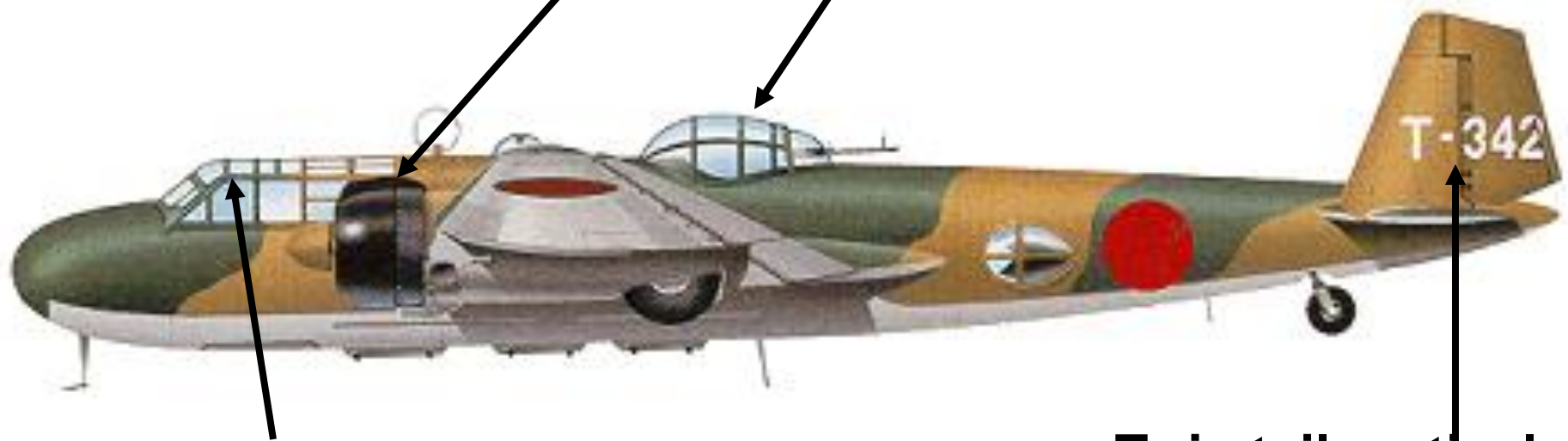
Mitsubishi G3M Nell Medium Bomber



5-7 crew, 2x1300hp,
258mph, 3870mi,
33.7k', 1x20mm,
4x7.7mm, bombs,
torps, 1048 ea

2 piece engine cowlings

Birdcage gun blister



Angled cockpit canopy side brace

Twin tail vertical stabilizers

G3M Nell ID



**Rare G3M Nell,
1980s photo**



**Intact engine in Plane
Graveyard-probable G3M Nell**



**G3M Nell
cockpit,
1980s photo**

Mitsubishi G4M Betty Bomber

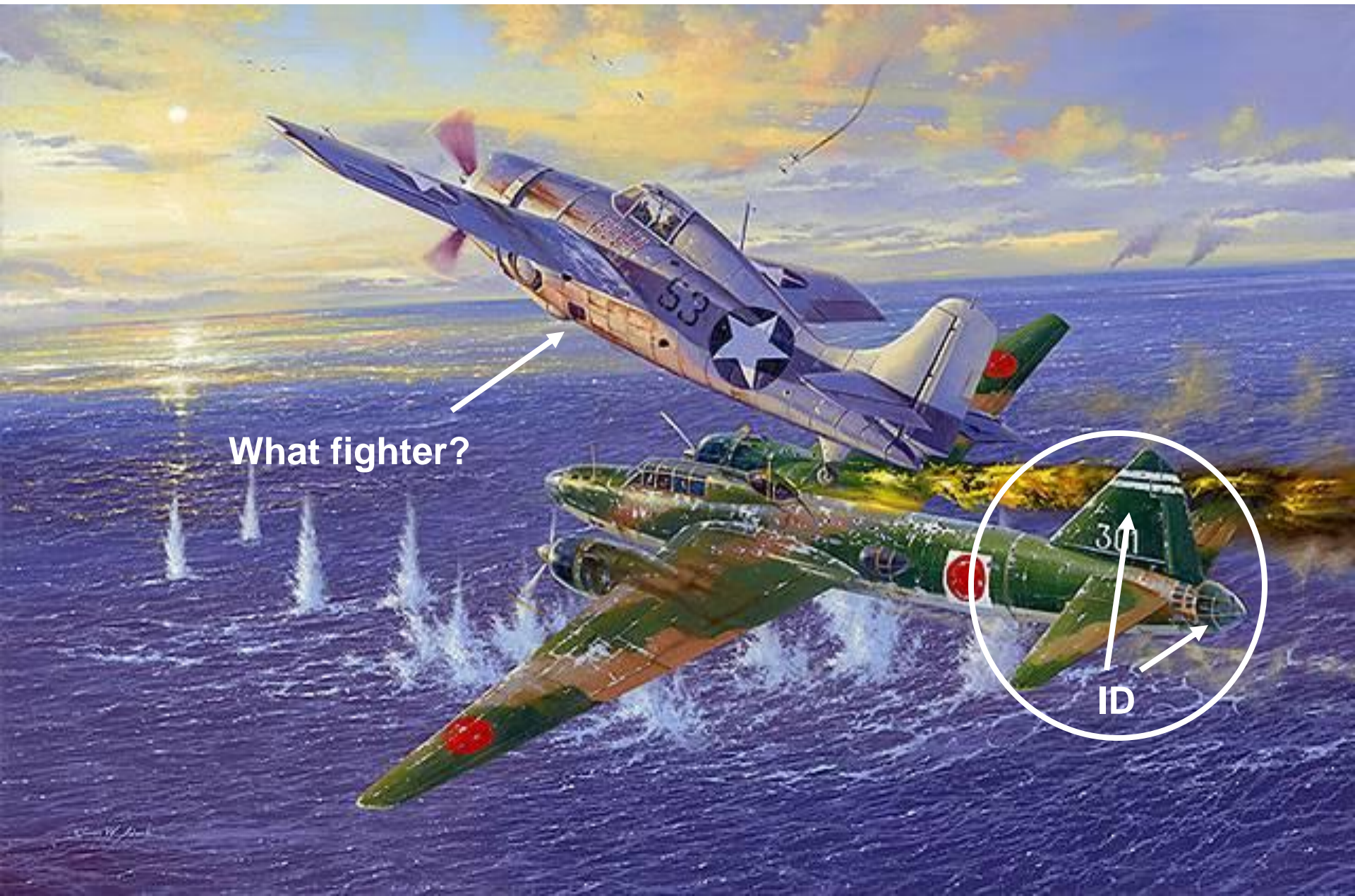


7 crew, 265 mph, 29k,
3750 mi, 1x20 mm & 4
7.7 mm guns, bombs
or torpedoes

Mitsubishi G4M Betty Bomber



Mitsubishi G4M Betty Bomber



What fighter?

ID

**Japanese
crashed G4M2
late model
Betty Bomber
Engine,
Mitsubishi
Kasei**





**VK & Mitsubishi G4M
Betty Bomber tail**



**G4M-1
Betty Bomber
tail section**



**G4M
Betty Tail
Section**



**G4M Betty Bomber
engine w/ bent blades**



**Betty Bomber
interior looking aft**



**Betty Bomber
Tail section and Zero
20mm gun**

Betty Bomber cockpit
w/ seats,
engine controls,
dashboard





**Intact Betty Bomber
seat w/ bullet holes**

**G4M Betty
Bomber nose area**

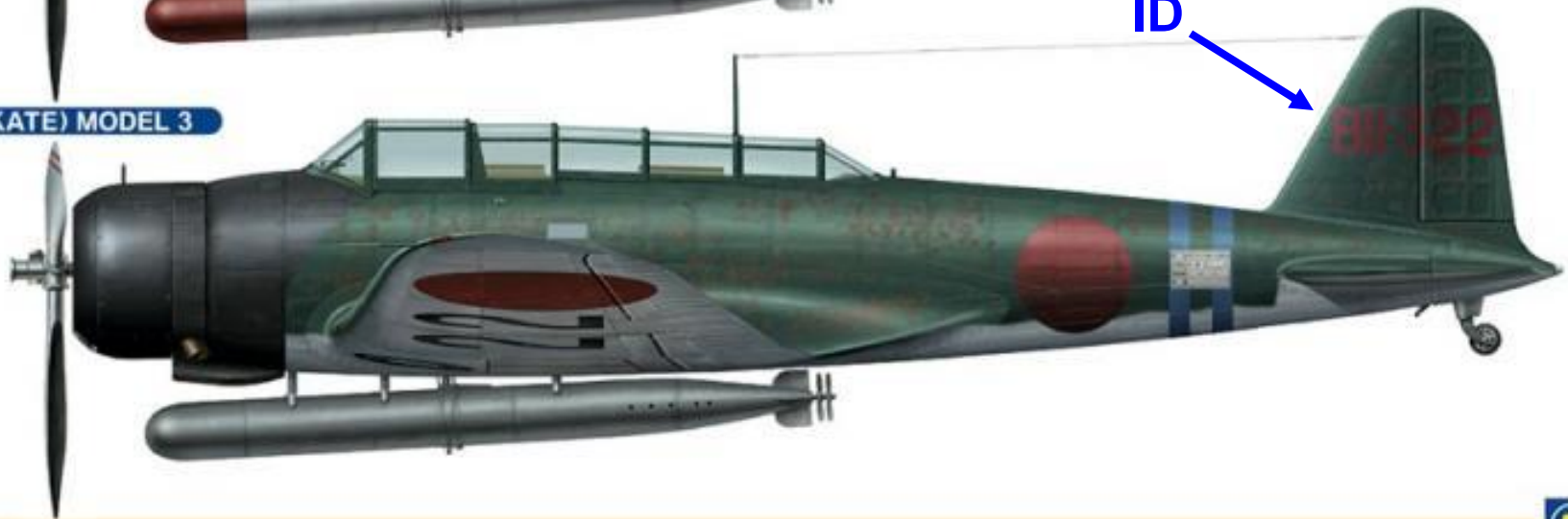


Nakajima B5N Kate Torpedo Bomber

B5N1 (KATE) MODEL 1



B5N2 (KATE) MODEL 3



LIMITED
EDITION

Nakajima B5N1/2 TYPE 97 CARRIER ATTACK BOMBER (KATE) MODEL 1/3 COMBO

Hobby kits

3 crew, 235 mph, 27k, 1240 mi,
1x7.7 gun, torpedo/bombs

Nakajima B5N Kate Torpedo Bomber



Early model 1

Nakajima B5N Kate Torpedo Bomber



Late Model 3

**B5N-2 Kate Torpedo Bomber
fuselage near old runway**



**B5N-2 Kate
Torpedo Bomber
fuselage w/3 seats**



**B5N-2 Kate
Torpedo Bomber
engine controls**



**Nakajima Sakae
Model 11 Kate
engine near
Kate**



Nakajima B6N Jill Torpedo Bomber



B6N1 Model 11 nr Ri-371 z Hyakurigahara Kokutai.


B6N1 Model 11 Ri-371 from Hyakurigahara Kokutai.



B6N2 Model 12 nr 131-01 z 131. Kokutai, 1945 rok.

B6N2 Model 12 131-01 from 131 Kokutai, 1945.

**3 crew, 300 mph, 30k, 1890 mi,
2x7.7 mm guns, bombs/torpedo**



**Nakajima B6N Jill
in the bush**

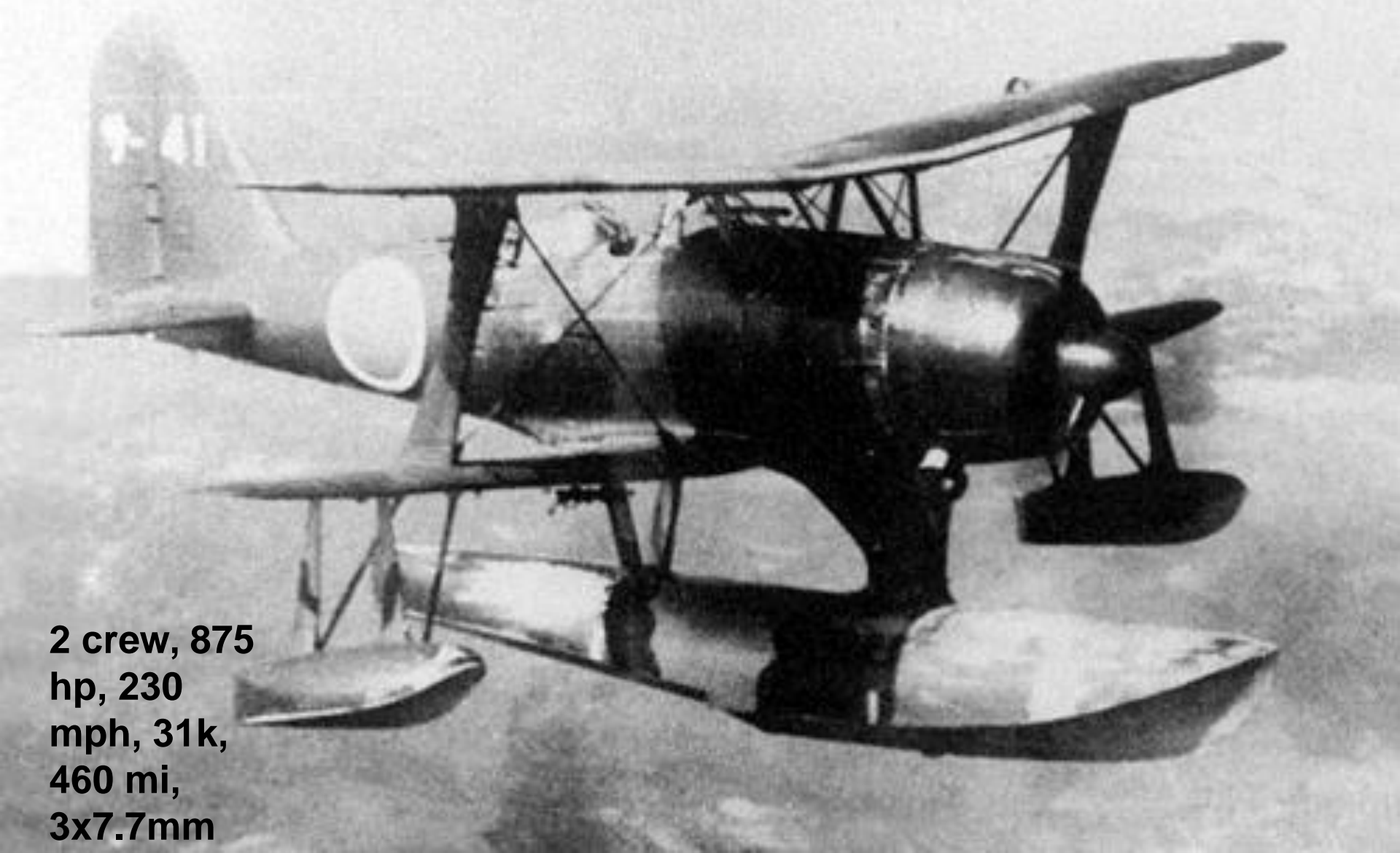
Jill
cockpit
canopy
front





**Jill 4 Blade
Nakajima or
Mitsubishi
Engine**

Mitsubishi F1M2 Pete Observation Float Plane



2 crew, 875
hp, 230
mph, 31k,
460 mi,
3x7.7mm



**Mitsubishi 3 Blade 2 Row 14
Cylinder Pete Radial Engine**

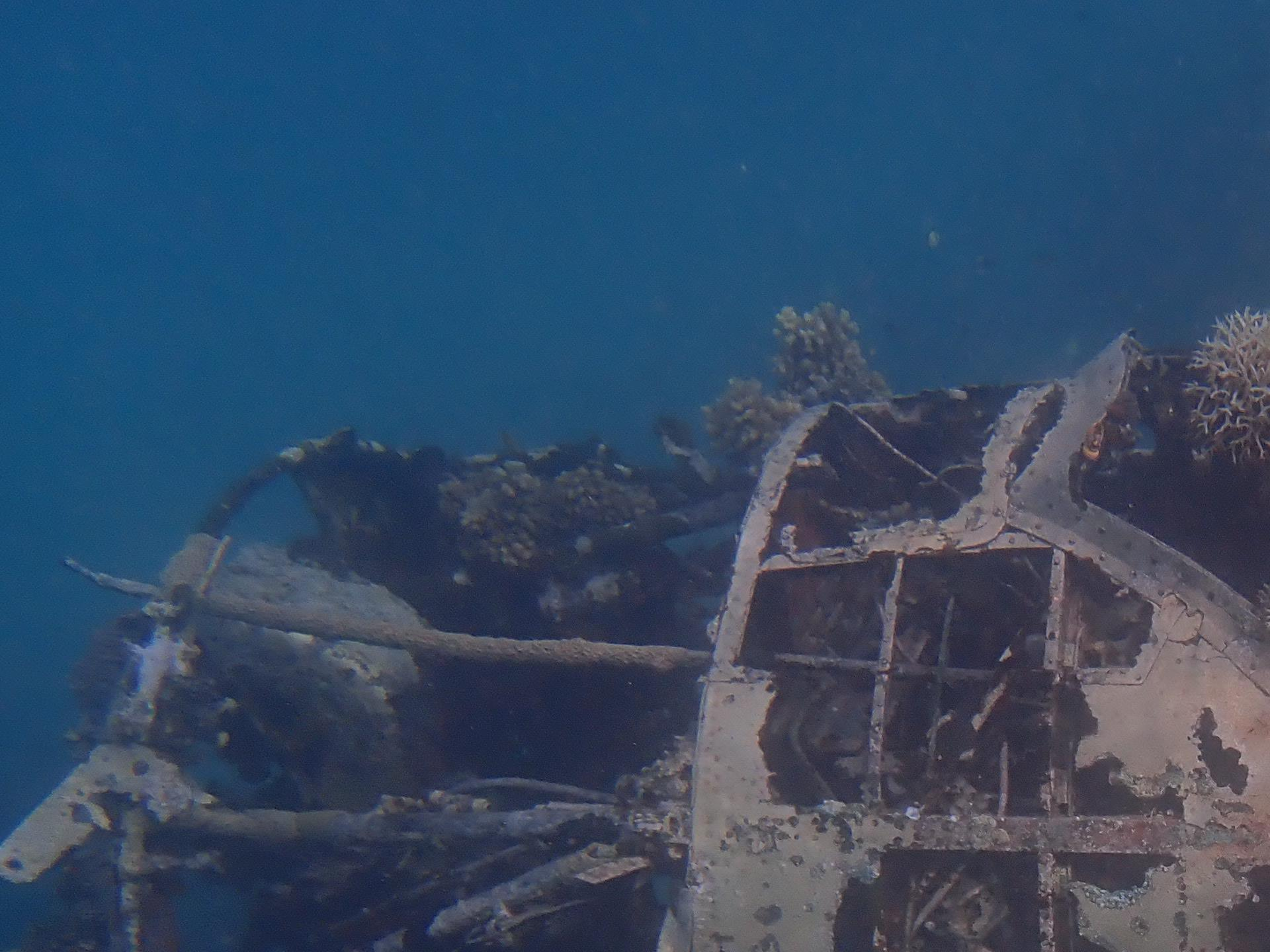


**Center float of F1M2 Naval Type 0 Pete Mitsubishi
Observation Floatplane in collapsed hangar**

Aichi E13A Jake Reconnaissance Seaplane



**3 crew, 1100hp, 234mph,
29k', 1300 mi, 1x20mm &
1x7.7mm guns, bombs,
depth charges, 1418 ea**





**E13A Jake Float
Plane Kwajalein RMI**

**Sherry inspecting
Jake at 90'**



E13A Jake Float Plane Palau



Jake Seaplane Cockpit

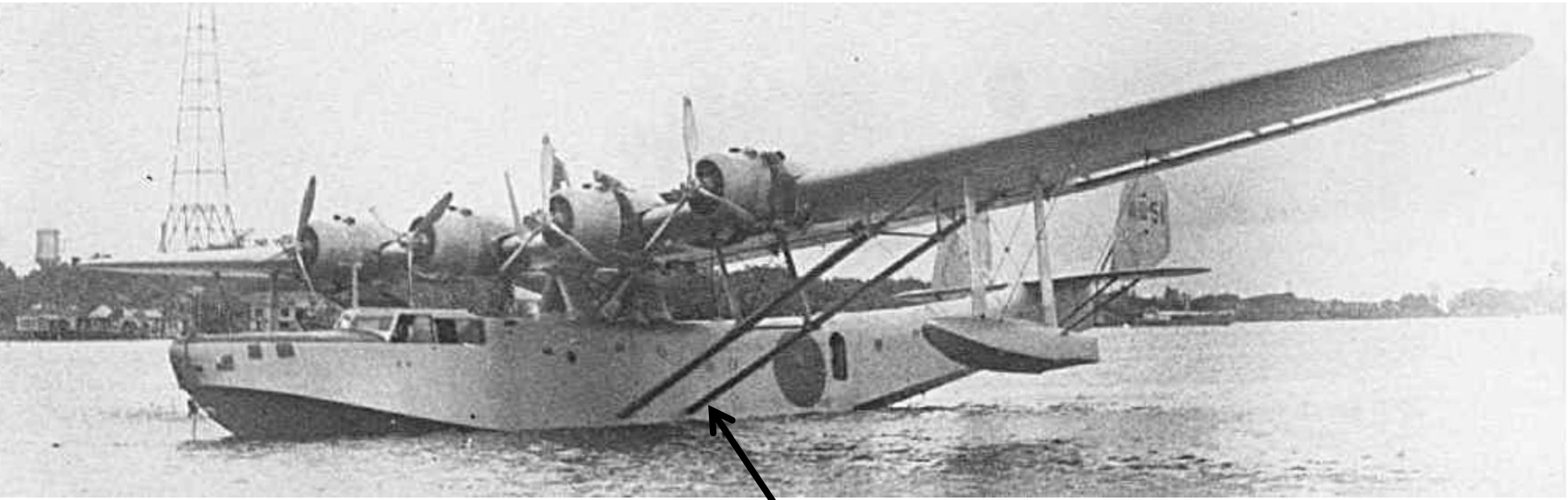


Kawanishi H6K Mavis Large Flying Boat


Type 97, 9 crew,
4x 1000 hp, 211
mph, 31.5k, 4110
mi, 4x7.7,
1x20mm, 2
torpedoes, 1000
kg bombs, 131'
wingspan



Kawanishi H6K Mavis Large Flying Boat



Long heavy
wing struts

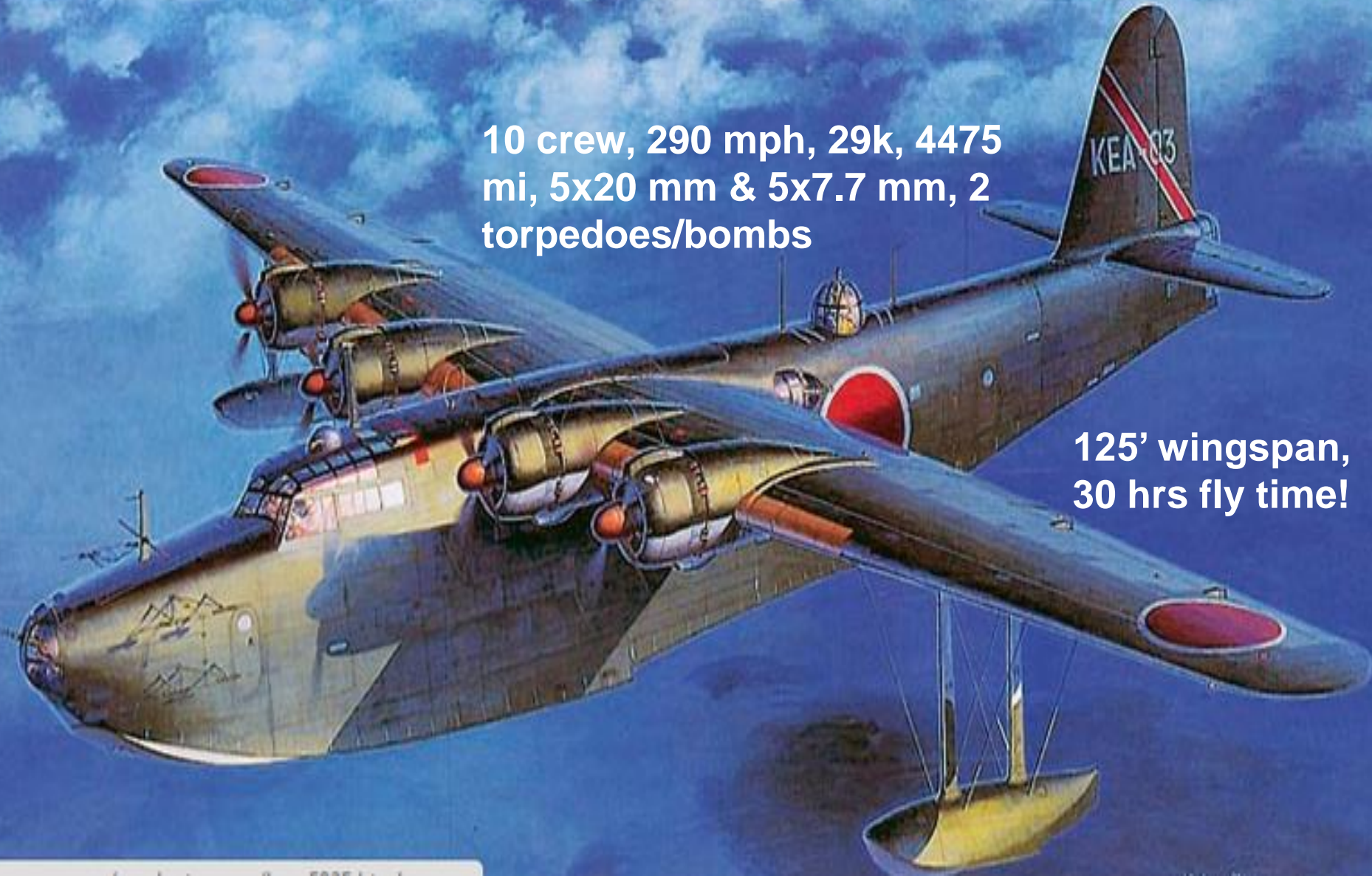


**Mangled H6K Mavis
in Shortland Harbor
on Nila side**

Kawanishi H8K Emily Flying Boat

10 crew, 290 mph, 29k, 4475
mi, 5x20 mm & 5x7.7 mm, 2
torpedoes/bombs

125' wingspan,
30 hrs fly time!



Huge 125' wingspan,
64 troops, 29 staff
officers, very well
armed and longest
range, CNO Adm Tojo
killed off PI





**Sherry on
H8K port
wing, plane is
upside down
in 90', Emidj
IsI RMI**



**H8K
interior
seat**



**H8K 4 blade
prop and
engine**

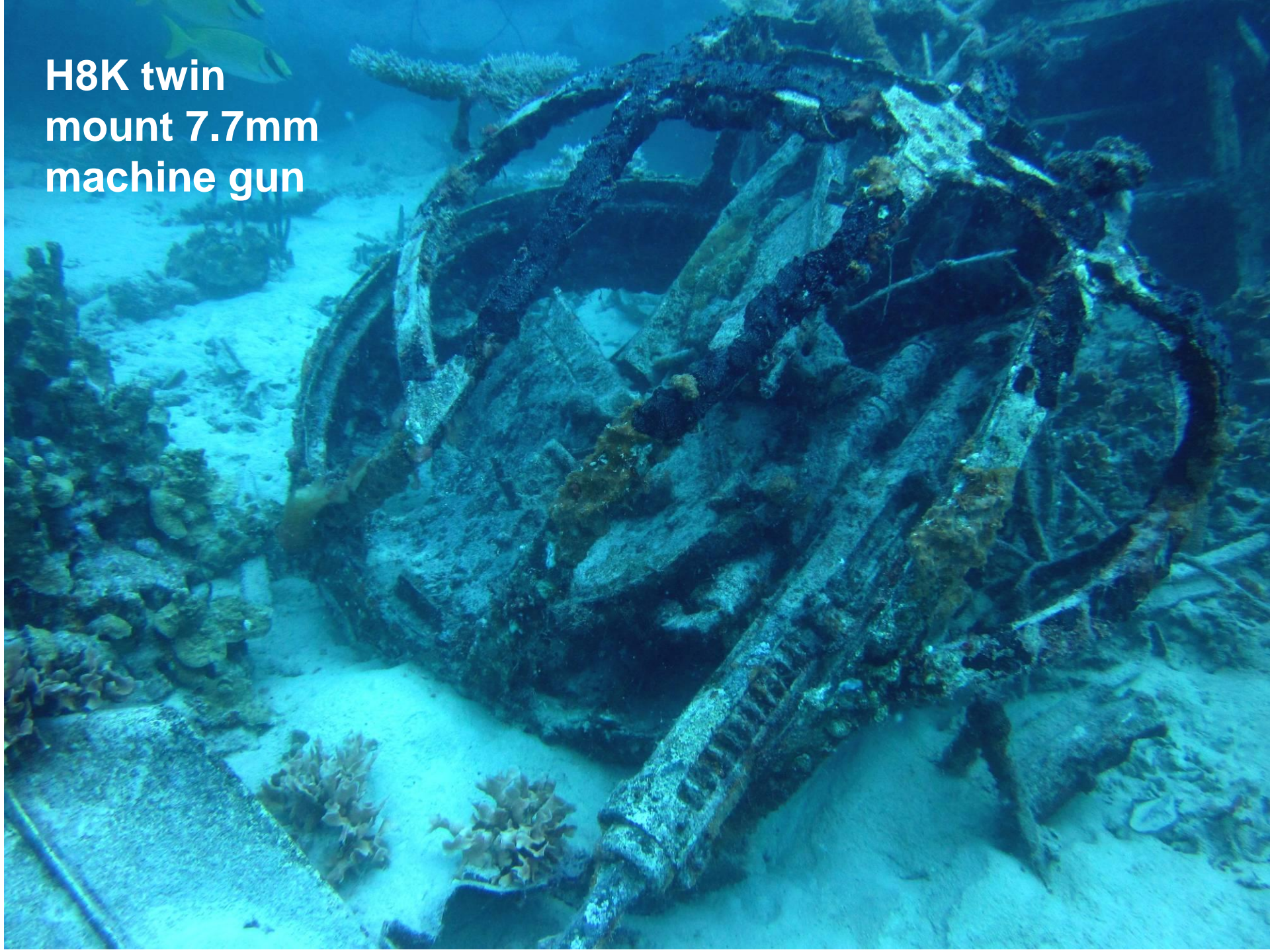


**H8K Emily
nose and
under side**



**H8K 20mm tail gun,
one of 9 guns onbd**

**H8K twin
mount 7.7mm
machine gun**





**H8K stbd float,
upside down**



**Kawanishi H8K Emily
Flying Boat Chuuk FSM**

Sherry & H8K Emily Engine

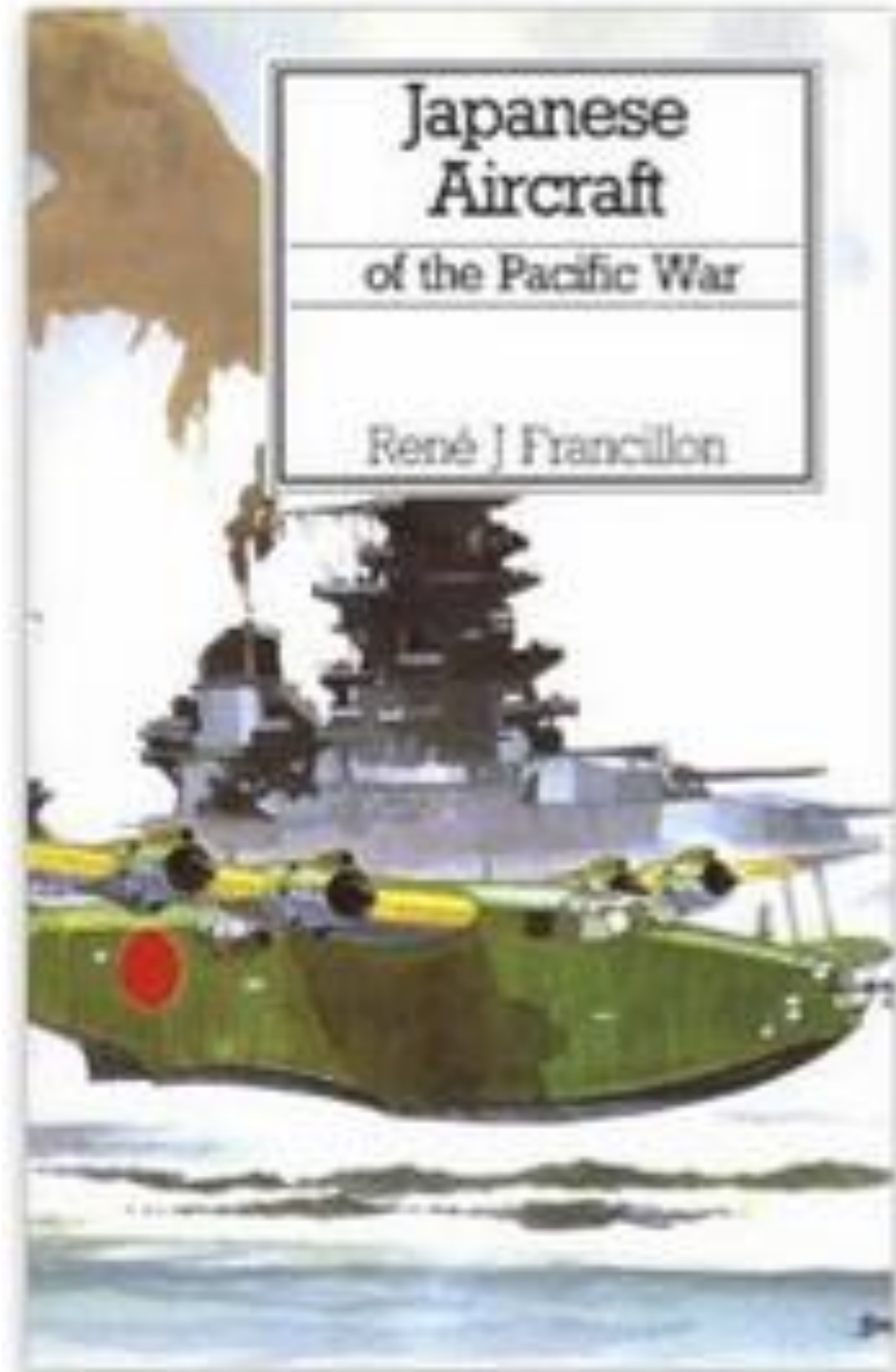




**H8K Emily 20mm Tail
Cannon & Blister**

Best Japanese Aircraft Book – Rene Francillon

Available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



Great World War II Aircraft Book

All Nations – Jim Winchester



IJN Type 93 Long Lance Torpedo



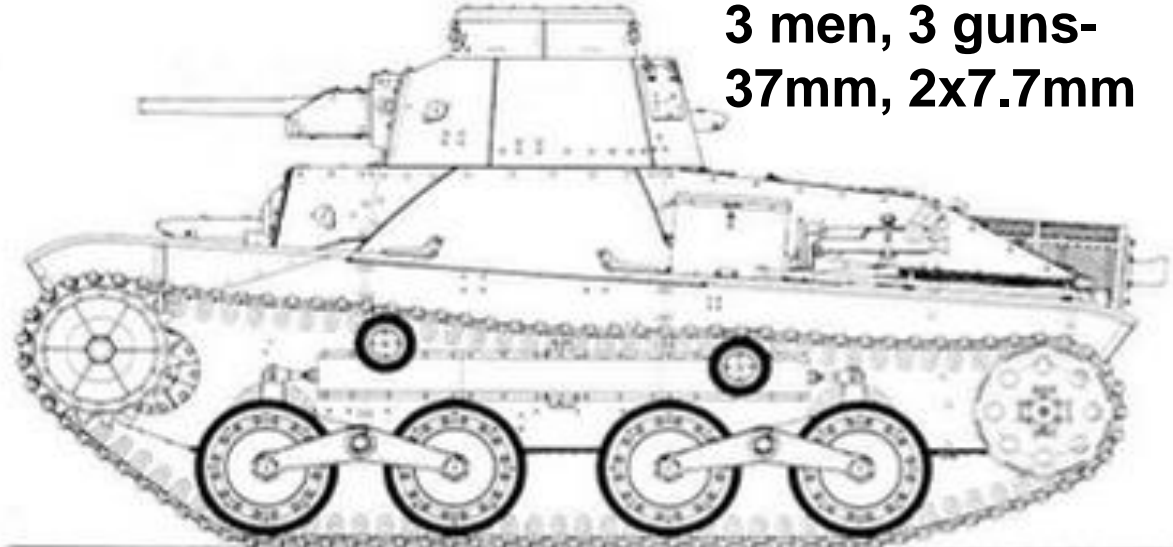
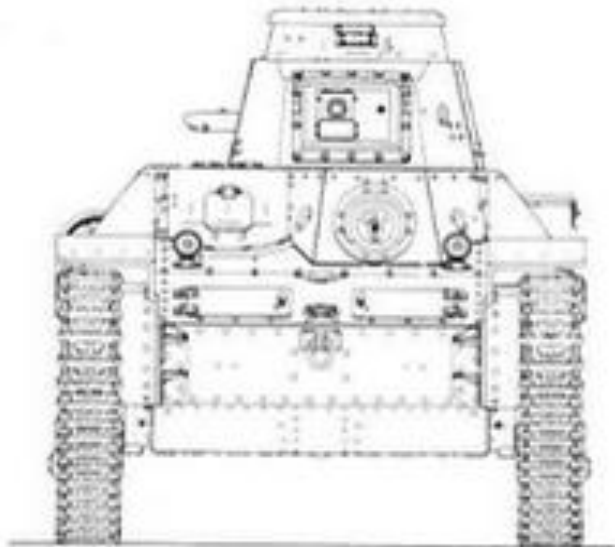
Japanese Long Lance Torpedo



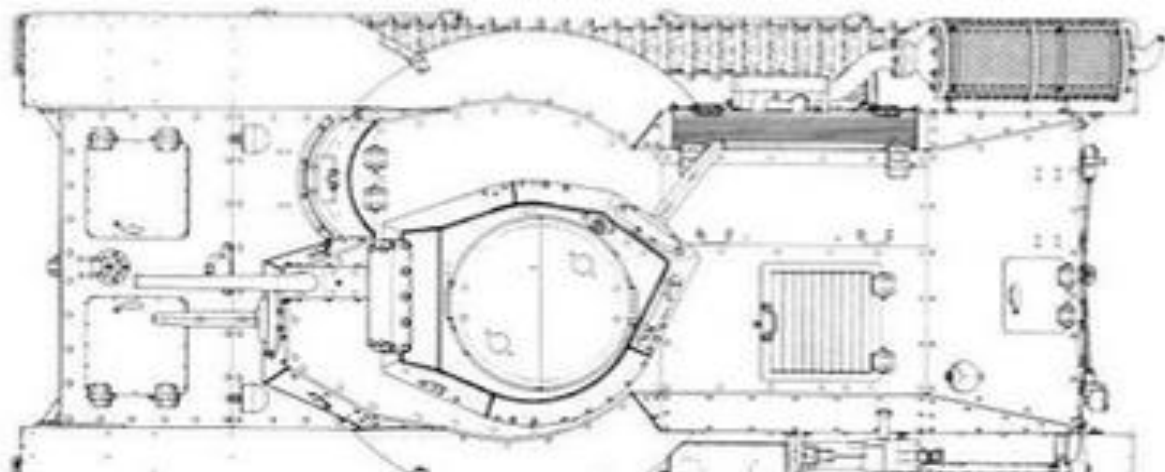
**Much more reliable than
early US torpedoes**

War Relics –

Type A95 Japanese Ha Go Light Tank



3 men, 3 guns-
37mm, 2x7.7mm



**Japanese
Type A95
3-Man
Lightweight
Tanks**





TarawaOnTheWeb.org

Japanese Type 95 LW 3 Man Tank

Early US Carrier Lexington CV-2



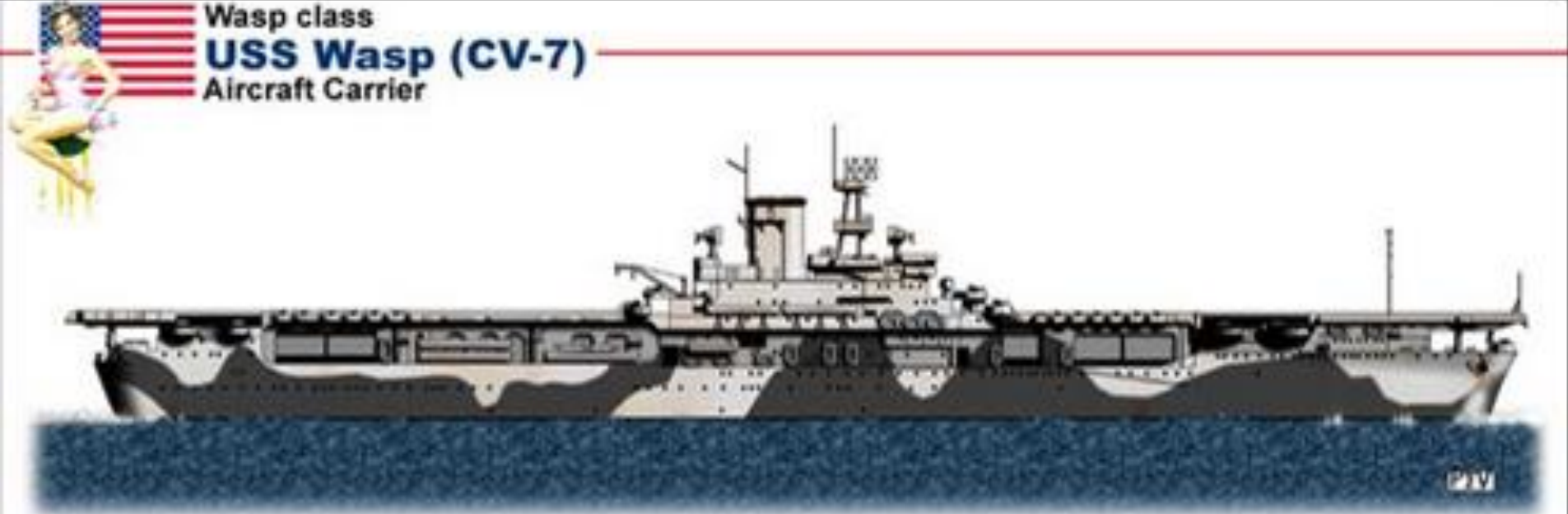
Sunk at Battle of
Coral Sea May 1942

USS Saratoga CV-3



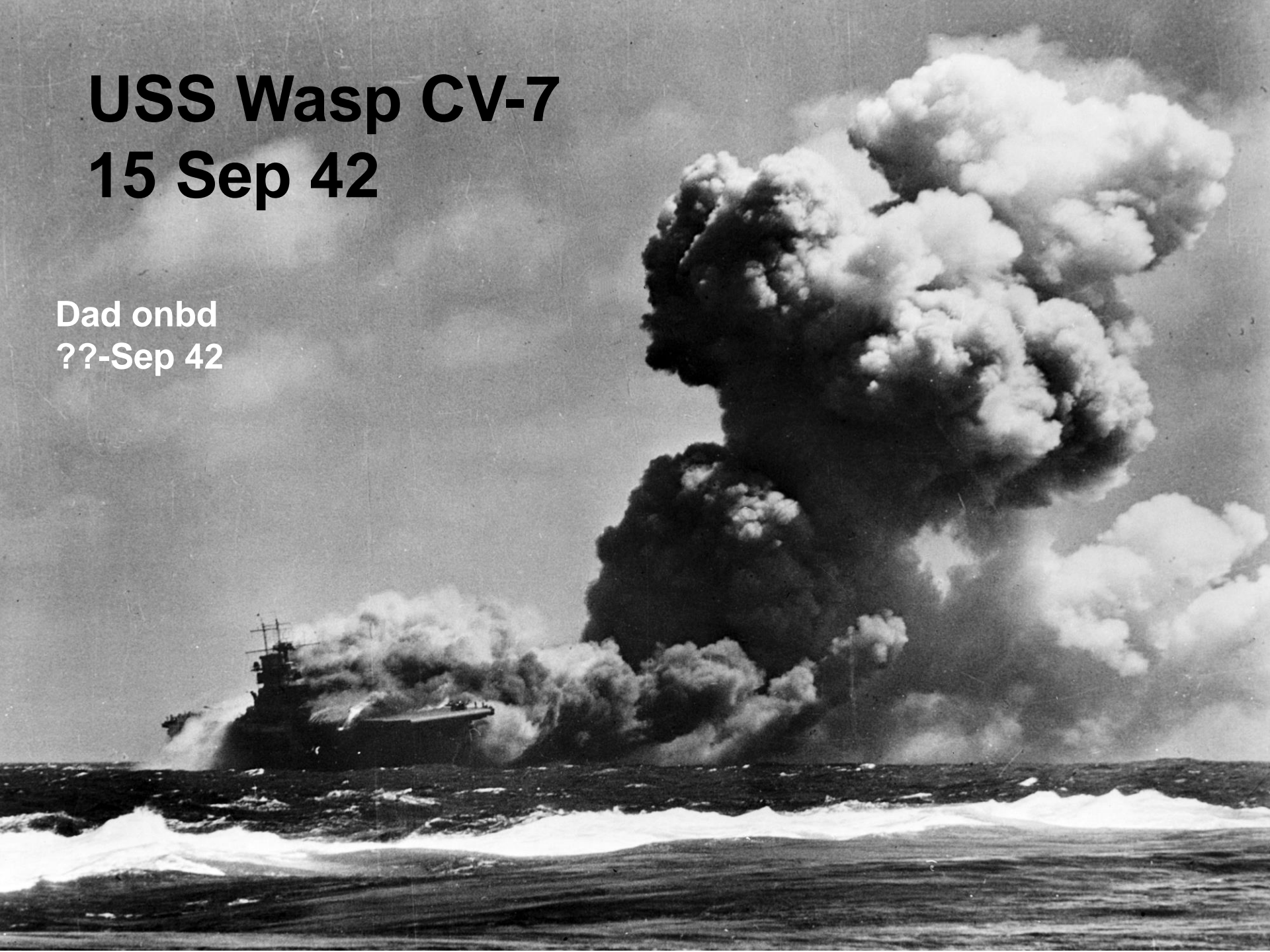
Sunk at Bikini Nuclear
Tests Jul 1946

USS Wasp CV-7



USS Wasp CV-7 15 Sep 42

Dad onbd
??-Sep 42



USS Wasp CV-7, 15 Sep 42 off Guadalcanal



Dad?

USS Hornet CV-12

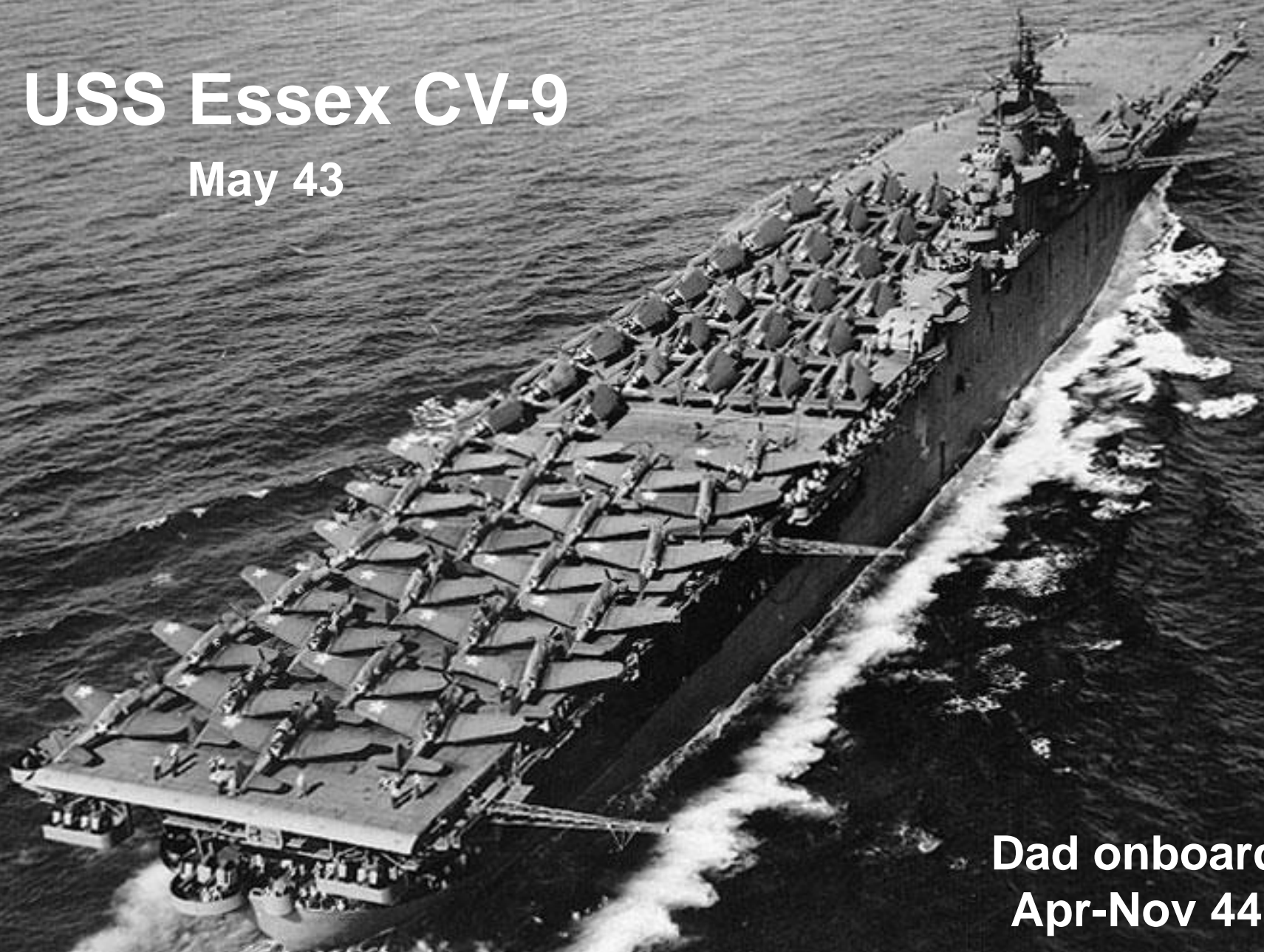
Oct 1945



Dad onboard with
Air Group 16
Mar-Apr 44

USS Essex CV-9

May 43



Dad onboard
Apr-Nov 44

Early Japanese Carrier Kaga



**Built on IJN battleship hull,
sunk at Midway June 1942**

Later Japanese Carrier Hiryu

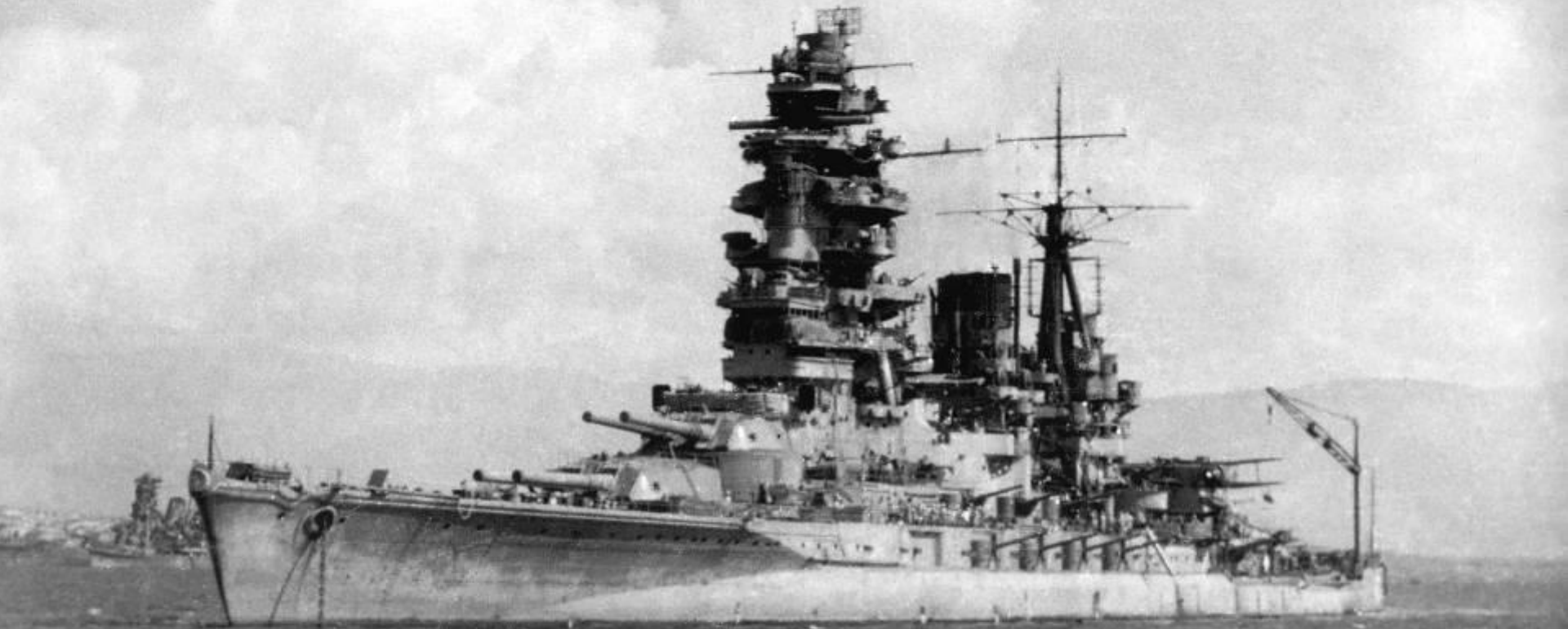


Later Japanese Carrier Hiryu



Sunk at Midway June 1942

Japanese Battleships Nagato



Pagoda superstructure, Adm
Yamamoto & Nagumo's flagship,
sunk at Bikini