



JULY 1-7, 2024



THROUGH THE LENS

JULY 6, 1943: Soldiers from the 2d Battalion, 145th Infantry, 37th Infantry Division wait to embark at Guadalcanal for New Georgia.



WEEK IN REVIEW

- M** JULY 1-3, 1863: The Battle of Gettysburg takes place, blunting the Army of Northern Virginia's movement into the North. Ohio was represented by 13 infantry regiments, a cavalry regiment and six batteries of artillery.
- Tu** JULY 1, 1962: The Military Intelligence Branch was established by the Army as the Intelligence and Security Branch.
- JULY 2, 1955: Lt. Col. James A. Poston, commander of the 166th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, wins the Ricks Memorial Trophy, a cross-country jet race from California to Michigan.
- Th** JULY 4, 1863: Maj. Gen. Ulysses Grant takes Vicksburg with the assistance of 21 Ohio regiments and eight batteries, which constituted 18 percent of his infantry and 30 percent of his artillery.
- F** JULY 5, 1943: The 3d Battalions of the 145th and 148th Infantry land under Marine command for the attack on Bairoko Harbor, New Georgia, Solomon Islands.
- Sa** JULY 6, 1839: The 134th Field Artillery Regiment is organized in Cleveland as the Gun Section, Cleveland Grays.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Capt. Charles Henne was in command of Company M, 148th Infantry when his unit landed on New Georgia in the early morning of July 5, 1943. He described the events of that morning from his perspective.

"Standing beside my coxswain trying to decide which inlet to duck into. The Japs were off to the south, and I wanted to stay well north of them. I pulled out my trusty compass, shot an azimuth and then attempted to orient my map. I dropped that idea instantly when I heard incoming artillery. The shore battery at Enogai was shooting and their rounds were ripping the air about us. The first salvo hit open water in the center of the milling boats, two more splashed much closer, too close for comfort.

I ordered my coxswain to steer through the milling boats, as we sped through the other boats, I hollered, "Follow me!" I didn't have to tell my coxswain to rear back the throttles. He had already done so. I didn't have to shout more than a couple of times to get the other boats to follow.

Looking back, I could see a crescent of speeding boats following me chased by exploding shells. More rounds than I could count ripped in to hit the water and explode. Each incoming round sent water gouting high into the air. I crossed my fingers and hoped the Jap gunners wouldn't get lucky. We had trouble enough without having to stop to rescue men dumped into the water by a Jap shell.

I had the coxswain go to the end of the inlet and push his bow high on the south shore. Lucky us, on the south side of the inlet had big trees that drooped down far out over the water. They provided a long stretch of concealment under which to hide the boats from anyone except a low flying Jap.

The coxswains following my boat got the idea and peeled right to line up side by side under the overhanging trees. I got off the boat, ran to the top of the high bank and hollered the men off the boats. Spotting several noncoms and officers, I ordered them to load their men with weapons and ammo and move 200 yards into the bush under the concealing big trees. I spurred them on by telling them that the Jap fighters were on the way, the words Jap planes got them moving at the double."



POC: SFC Joshua Mann, 614-336-7311 or joshua.d.mann.mil@army.mil

Follow the Ohio National Guard Heritage Center @

