CORREGIDOR FALLS



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The U.S. National Archives describes this image: "Captured Japanese photograph. U.S. soldiers and sailors surrendering to Japanese forces at Corregidor, Philippine Islands." National Archives Identifier: 531354. Online via the National Archives.

The following month, with <u>air support</u> above them, Japanese soldiers came ashore on <u>Corregidor</u>. General <u>Homma</u> (depicted here at <u>Lingayen Gulf</u>, Christmas Eve 1941, and ultimately <u>tried</u> and executed for <u>war crimes</u> in 1946) had a <u>plan of attack</u> which nearly failed because of fierce American resistance.

His troops, sometimes <u>on bicycles</u>, gained a foothold on <u>the island</u>. From there, they made their way to the Malinta Tunnel, Wainwright's main island defense, which included a hospital for the sick and wounded.

As the battle continued, however, American and Filipino soldiers were not supported. Exhausted and hungry, they were left—on their own—to do what they could against the onslaught.

During the last several hours of fighting, <u>Irving Strobing</u>—a 22-year-old signal corpsman from Brooklyn—was <u>telegraphing messages</u> about the ever-worsening conditions inside his tunnel.

On May 6, 1942, <u>Joanthan Wainwright surrendered</u> Corregidor (and, following <u>a meeting</u> with the Japanese commander, <u>General Homma</u>, the <u>entire</u> Philippine garrison). Filipino and American <u>men inside</u> the tunnel had no choice but to <u>surrender</u> to the invaders.

For the next $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, Japan would occupy the Philippines. An invasion force of 1,000 Japanese had defeated 15,000 Corregidor defenders. In the end, it wasn't <u>lack of</u> numbers which had caused the surrender. It was lack of properly supplied men who—without proper nourishment and weapons—could no-longer do <u>their jobs</u>.

At the time, few of the captured American and Filipino troops knew that Japanese soldiers considered surrender a fate much worse than death.

Surrender, to the average Japanese fighting man, was a traitorous, dishonorable act. And, since Japan had signed, but never ratified, the Geneva Convention (which guarantees protection of war prisoners), captured Filipinos and Americans were about to experience unimaginable treatment and torture.

Japanese conquerors celebrated their triumph with a <u>victory parade</u> through Manila. Captured Filipinos and Americans, however, were far removed from any type of celebration.

In fact, the vast majority of the captured men of Bataan and Corregidor would never celebrate anything again.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/CORREGIDOR-FALLS-Great-Raid-The

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/CORREGIDOR-FALLS-Great-Raid-The

Media Stream













Japanese Airplanes Above Corregidor

Image online, courtesy ibiblio.org website.

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http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Japanese-Airplanes-Above-Corregidor

Corregidor Photograph

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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General Homma

Image online, courtesy ibiblio.org website.

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/General-Homma

Map - Distances to Leyte from Nearby Areas

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Army Medical Department, <u>Office of Medical History</u> website. View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-Distances-to-Leyte-from-Nearby-Areas

General Homma at War Crimes Trial

Image online, courtesy $\underline{\text{The History Notes}}$ website.

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View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/General-Homma-at-War-Crimes-Trial

War Crimes Photograph - Atrocities in the Philippines

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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Japanese Artillery Directed Toward Corregidor

Image online, courtesy $\underline{\sf nps.gov}$ website.

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Japanese Troops on Bicycles - Bataan

Image, described above, <u>online courtesy iBiblio</u> - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Corregidor Island

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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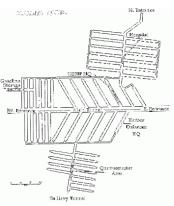
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General Wainwright Photograph

Image online, courtesy the <u>corregidorisland.com</u> website.

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Malinta Tunnel Diagram

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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Corregidor Hospital

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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Corregidor - General Wainwright Surrenders

Image online, courtesy ibiblio.org website.

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General Homma Photograph

Image online, courtesy the <u>corregidorisland.com</u> website.

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<u>Corregidor - Japanese Victory Parade</u>

Image online, courtesy <u>lastchinaband.com</u> website.

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Corregidor Tunnel - Surrender

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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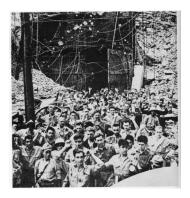


Wainwright Meeting with Japanese

Image online, courtesy ibiblio.org website.

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Surrender at Malinta Tunnel

Image online, courtesy allworldwars.com website.

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<u>Last Morse-Code Messages from Corregidor</u>

Morse-code messages from Cpl. Irving Strobing, online courtesy U.S. National Archives via YouTube.

View this asset at:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Last-Morse-Code-Messages-from-Corregidor}}$