

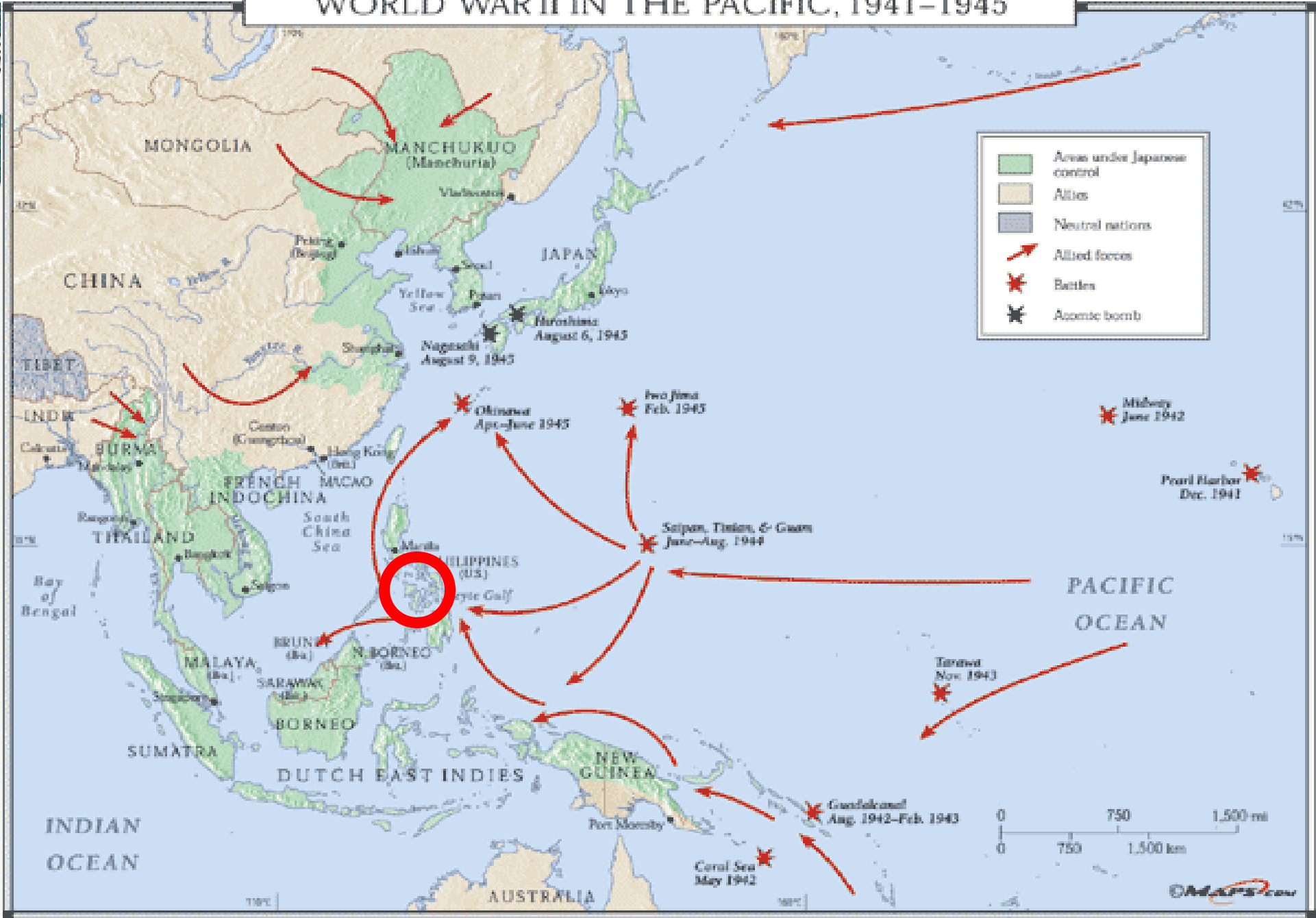


World War II Battle History Recreation-Occupation

1st Lt Lambert
Weapons Company



WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC, 1941-1945





Reactivation



- 3rd Raider Battalion
 - Organized in September 1942 on American Samoa.
 - The Battalion saw action during several operations, but truly proved its mettle during the invasion of Bougainville.
 - The Battalion fought through a determined resistance during their initial landing on Purata Island, supporting the initial landings. Over the next month the Raiders participated in near constant combat in the muddy jungles before the island was secure.



Purata Island





3rd Raiders- Bougainville





Reactivation



- 1944
 - In preparation for the forthcoming invasion of Guam, the decision was made to recreate the 4th Marines by redesignating the Raider Battalions and combining them into the Regiment.
 - On 1 February 1944 the 3rd Raider Battalion was officially redesignated the 3rd Battalion 4th Marines, and with the rest of the 4th Marines and 22d Marines became the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade.
 - The combat experience and esprit de corps of the 3rd Raider Battalion formed a strong base on which to build to new 3rd Battalion 4th Marines.



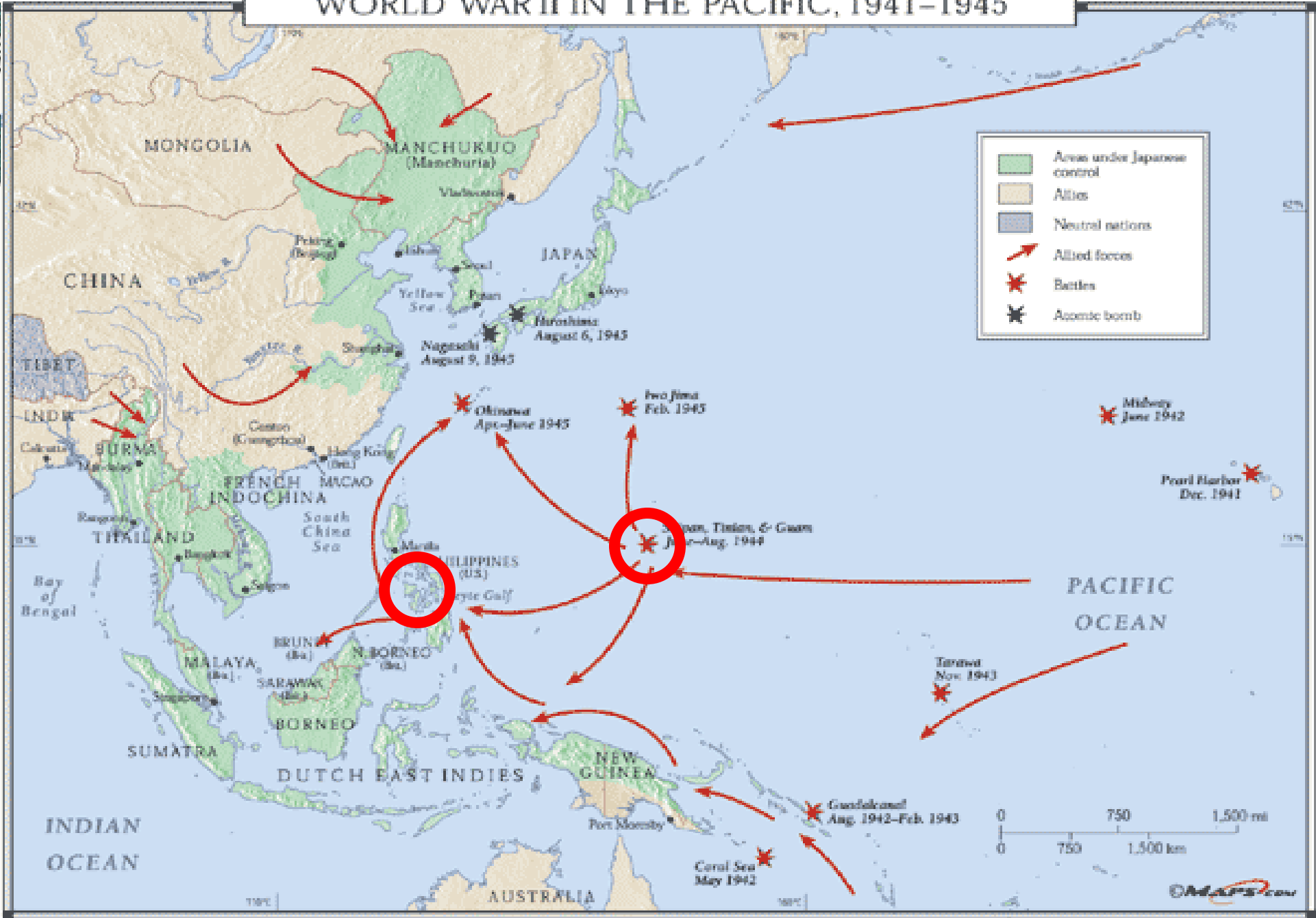
Initial Action



- Emirau
 - Before the invasion of Guam, the recreated 4th Marines was tasked with the recapturing of the island of Emirau in order to isolate the Japanese stronghold of Rabul.
 - 3rd Battalion, along with the rest of the 4th Marines went ashore on March 20th to no Japanese resistance, and quickly secured the island for follow-on Army troops.



WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC, 1941-1945





Guam



- Strategic Significance
 - The island of Guam was essential to the strategic progress of the war in the Pacific as it had a protected anchorage for the fleet, as well as airfields from which land based bombers could strike mainland Japan.
- Initial Landings
 - 3rd Battalion 4th Marines came ashore on Guam on 21 July 1944 as the Regimental Reserve.



Guam- Initial Landing





Guam



- First Combat
 - After advancing to objectives inland, the battalion got its first taste of combat on Guam when the Japanese mounted a night assault against the Brigade's right flank, protected by Kilo 3/4. It was only after an intense firefight and bayonet assault that the Japanese were repelled.



Guam





Guam



- Orote
 - After being relieved by the Army's 77th Infantry Division, the battalion spearheaded the assault through the enemy's defensive lines on the Orote Peninsula, and seized the Orote Airfield. Organized resistance on the island was declared over on 10 August 1944.

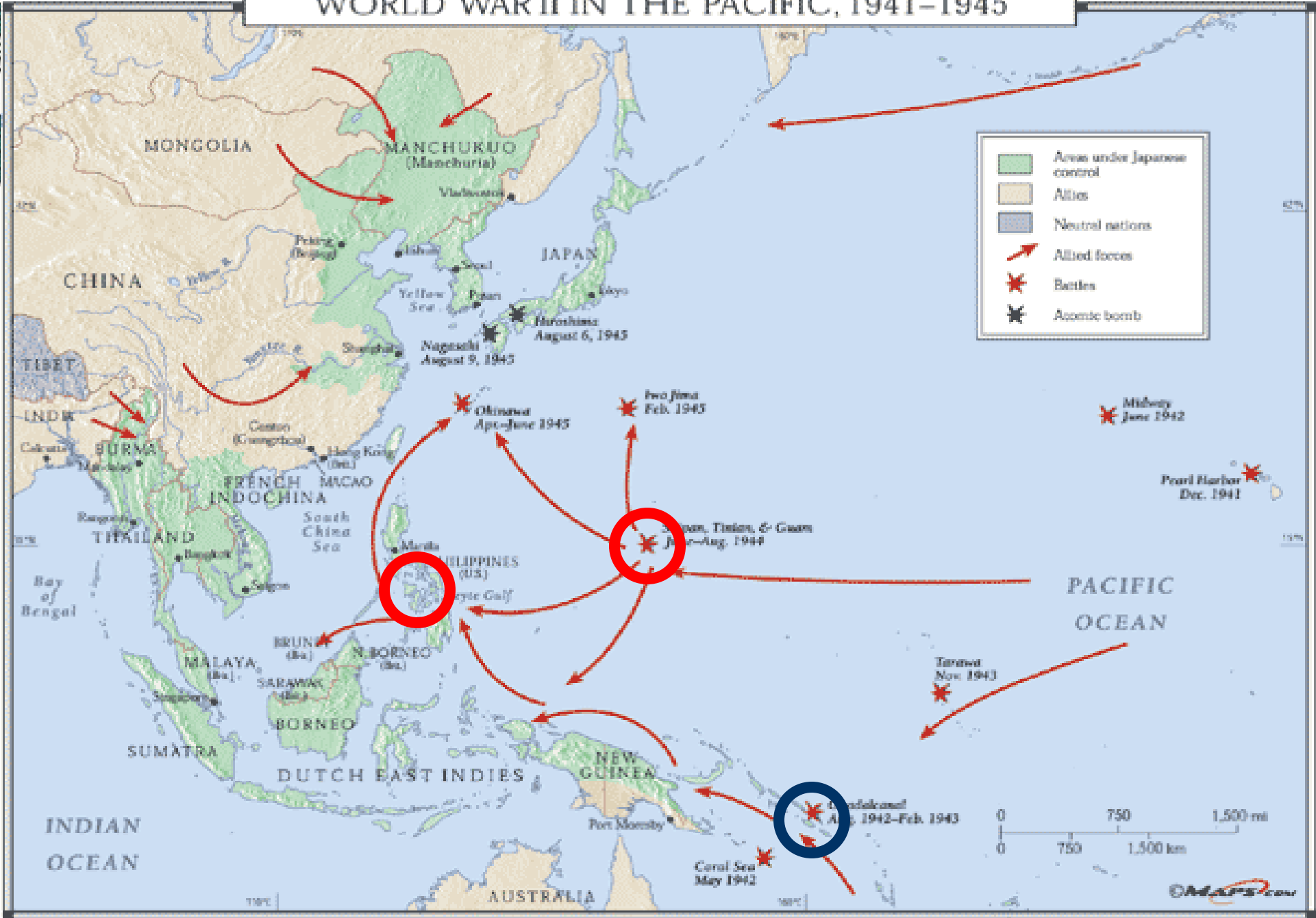


Guam- Orote





WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC, 1941-1945





Training For Okinawa



- Training
 - The winter of 1944-1945 saw the Battalion return to Guadalcanal for training in preparation for OPERATION ICEBERG, the invasion of Okinawa.
 - Located only 350 miles from Mainland Japan, Okinawa was considered part of the home islands by the Japanese, and the Battalion trained accordingly for a difficult fight. Their training in knocking out bunkers and reducing strong points would be invaluable during the invasion.



Guadalcanal





Guadalcanal



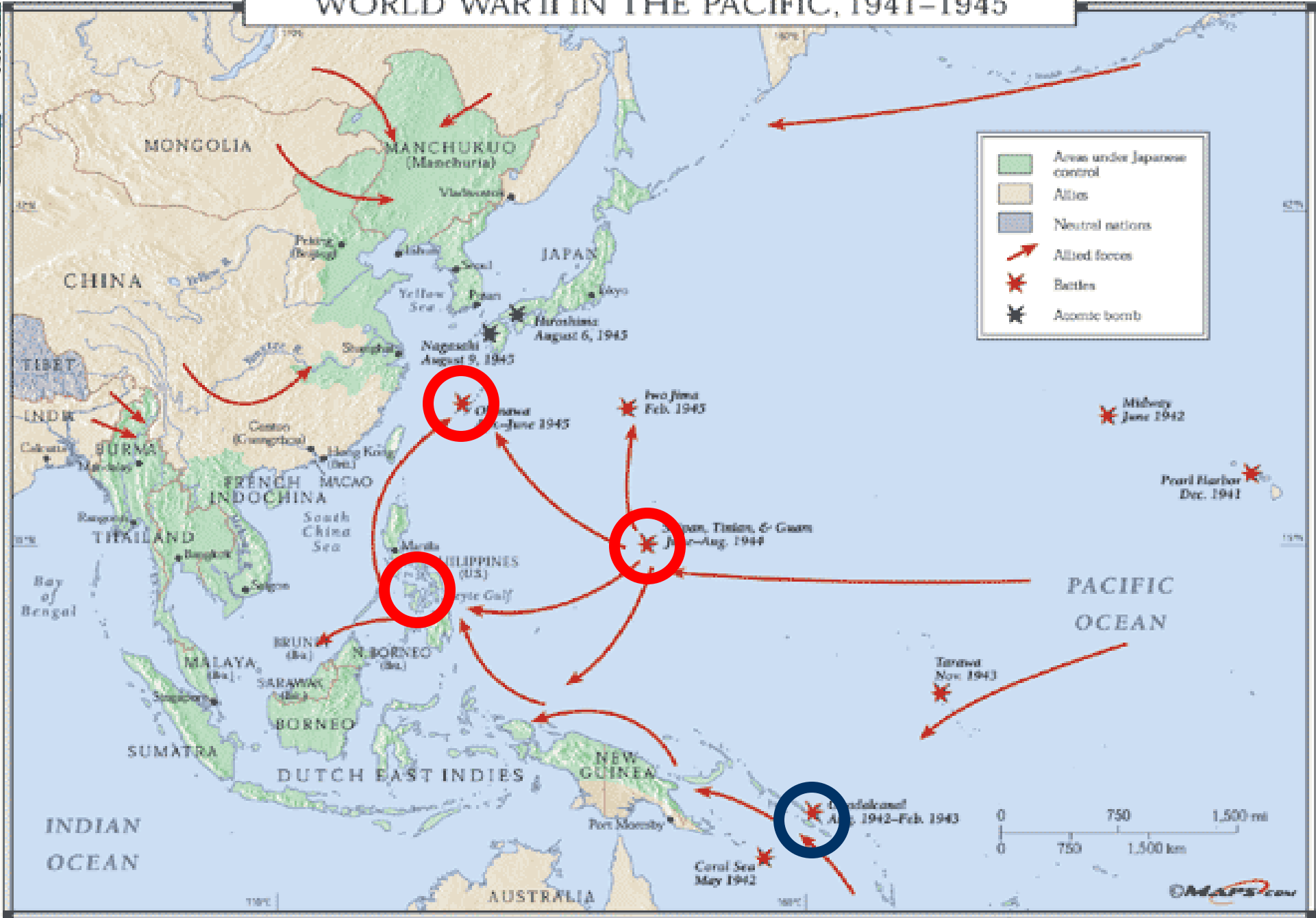


Guadalcanal





WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC, 1941-1945





Okinawa



- The 4th Marines landed on the island of Okinawa as part of the 6th Marine Division, which had been formed with the redesignation of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, on 1 April 1945.
- Facing little resistance on the beaches, the Division moved North, with the battalion taking part in the capture of the Younan Airfield and the Motobu Peninsula.



Okinawa- Initial Landing





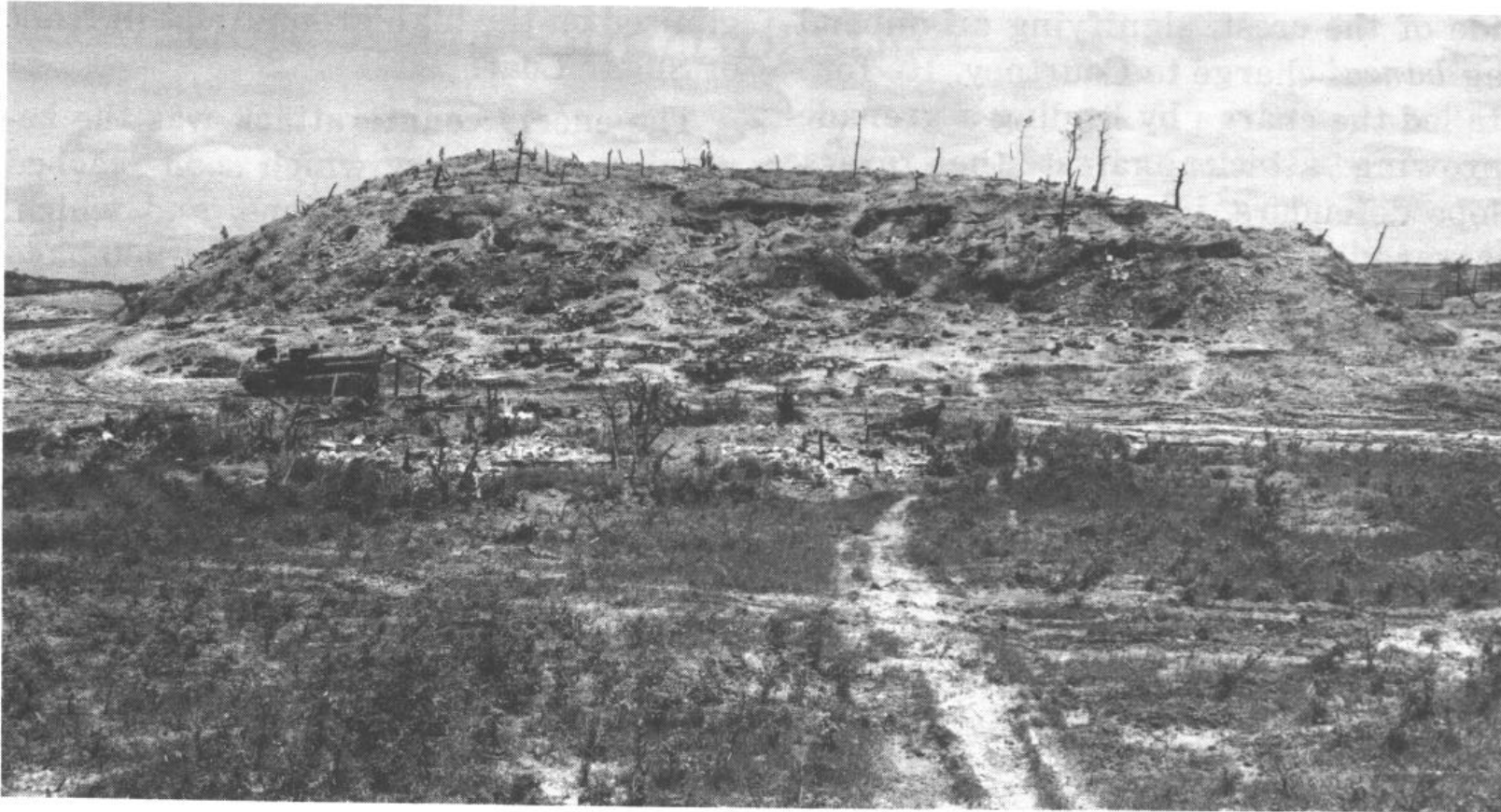
Okinawa



- Horseshoe Hill and Sugarloaf
 - The next month the battalion took part in the intense battle to crack the mutually supporting Japanese defensive lines, particularly around the Sugar Loaf Hill and Horseshoe areas.
 - Using demolitions, flame throwers, and tanks, the battalion burned and blasted the Japanese from their honeycombed defensive positions on Horseshoe Hill.



Okinawa-Horseshoe Hill





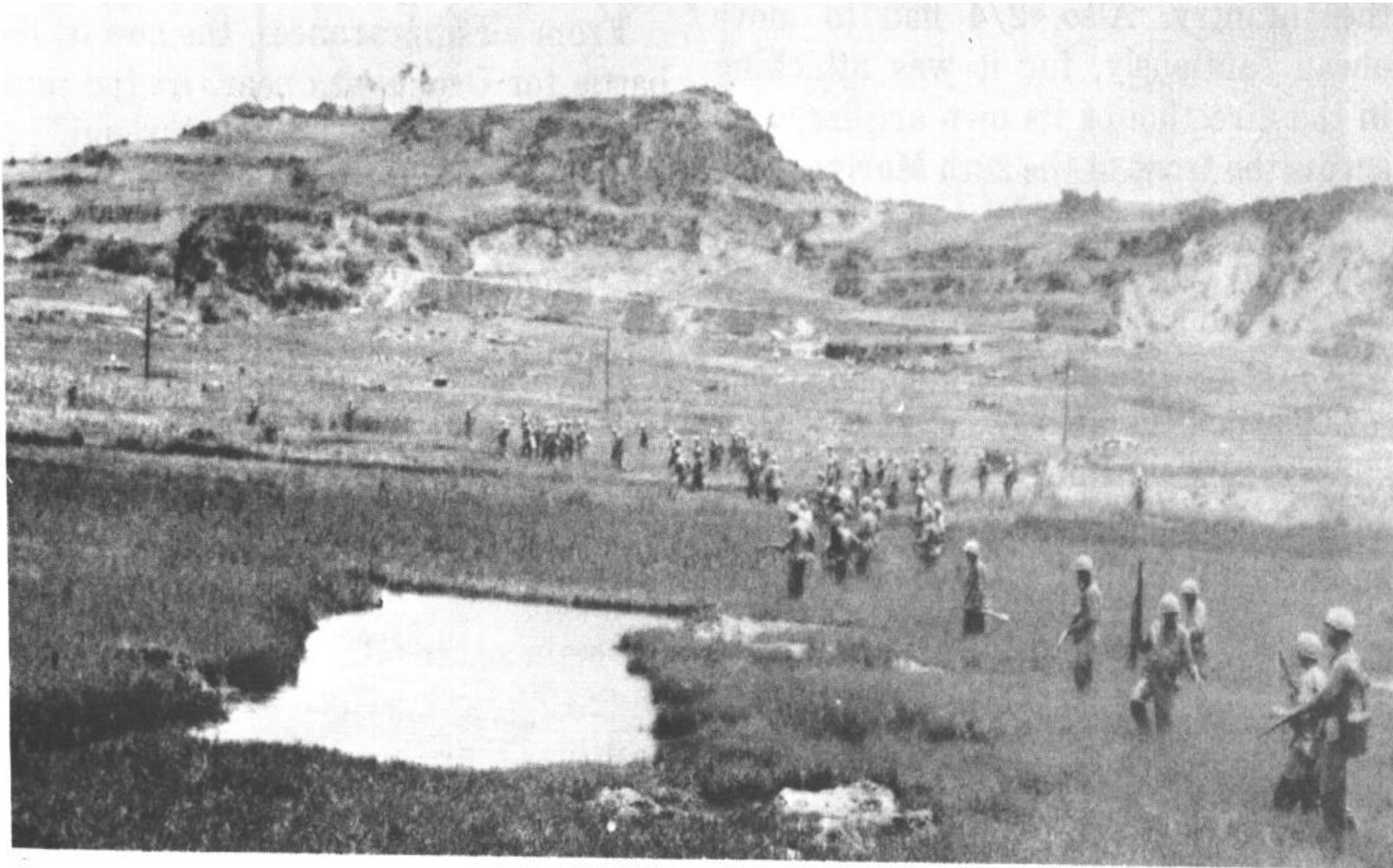
Okinawa



- Horseshoe Hill and Sugarloaf
 - After a bitter night of fighting that saw 500 enemy dead in front of the battalion's lines, 3/4 still owned the high ground on Horseshoe, making possible the Division's advance toward the Asato River line.
 - In June 3/4 spearheaded the Division's shore to shore assault against the Oroku Peninsula and in two weeks of bitter fighting secured the area by 14 June.



Okinawa- Oroku



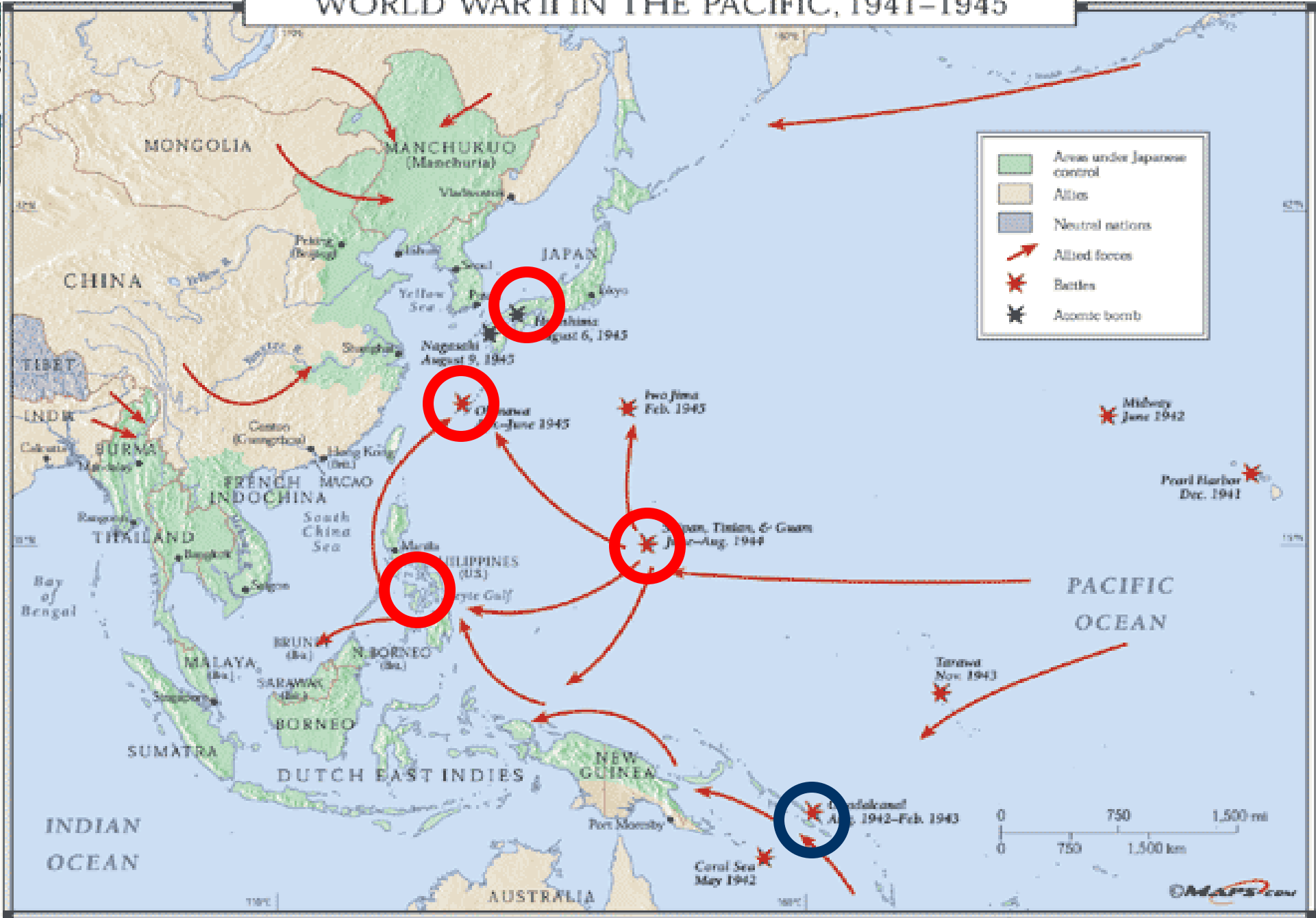


Okinawa





WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC, 1941-1945





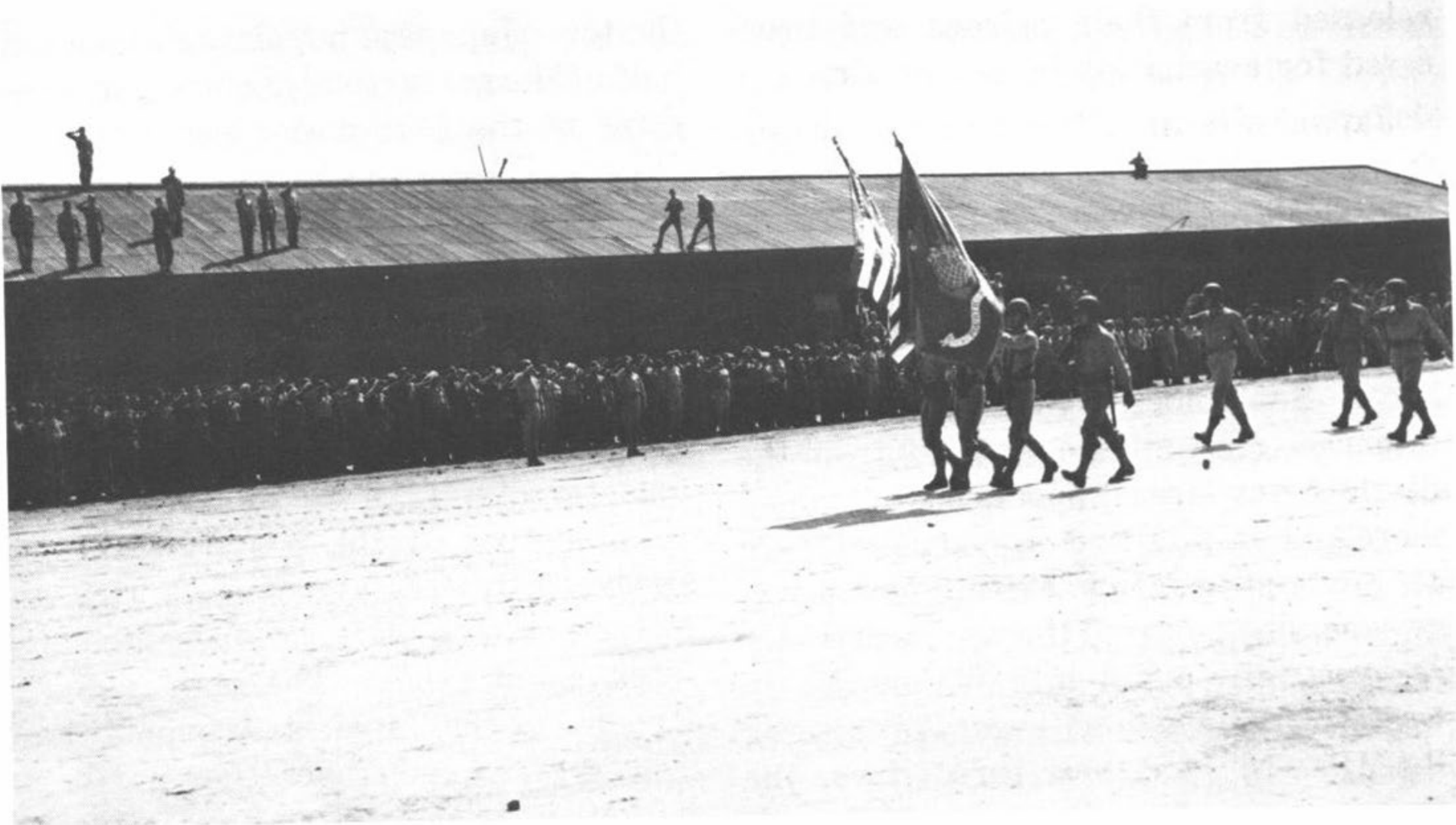
Mainland Japan



- On 20 August 1945, 3rd Battalion 4th Marines landed at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan and secured it against no resistance.
- In a poignant and moving memorial, newly liberated Marines formerly of the 4th Marines captured at Corregidor reviewed a parade given by the recreated 4th Marines in their honor.



Victory Parade





Deactivation



- In November, the 4th Marines were detached from the 6th Marine Division, and the majority of the regiment was demobilized.
- On 15 February 1945, 3rd Battalion 4th Marines became the last battalion of the 4th Marines to pass out of service, as it was redesignated the 2nd Separate Guard Battalion at Yokuska, Japan.



4TH MARINES

CORRECTORA
SATBAY
HARVELES
BLANCAPO
BATECO
PUNTA
TULACI
GUADALCANAL
NEW GEORGIA
BOUAINVILLE
GUAM



Into The Rising Sun