

20 Years Ago: Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor And War

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By JACK SCHREIBMAN
PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP)—The sorrowing ghost of Dec. 7, 1941, stalks the waters of Pearl Harbor for the 20th year today.
 It marks for the world the anniversary day the war lords of Imperial Japan began a conflict that was to rage for 1,351 days.
 But for America alone is reserved the special sadness of bowing to the memories of 2,300 sailors, soldiers, Marines and civilians who perished in a few nightmare hours.

Those few hideous minutes cost the Navy more men than it lost in the Spanish-American War, World War I and the Korean War combined, a searing lesson of unpreparedness.
 How did it go, that Black Sunday, the day Americans call "the day of infamy?"
 The time was 7:30 a. m. in Hawaii.
 On Oahu Island, the sun climbed over grizzled old Diamond Head; plump white clouds drifted lazily over the lovely green mountains behind Honolulu. Church bells summoned the faithful.
 On the other side of the world, on a 200-mile front before Moscow, the Russian Army unleashed its first real offensive against Hitler's Nazi legions.
 In Britain, Prime Minister Winston Churchill devoutly hoped that America would get into the war quickly to share his country's heavy burden.
 Mr. Churchill had only a few minutes to wait.
 Across the United States, newspapers speculated on how much store they could put in the peaceful words of Japan's ambassador,

Adm. Kichisaburo Nomura. He offered some hope, they thought.
 But Imperial Japan already was committed. On Nov. 26, from Takan Bay in the Kurile Islands, a Japanese striking force of 6 aircraft carriers, 9 destroyers, 2 battleships, 2 cruisers and 3 submarines had put to sea.
 The target: Pearl Harbor.
 In Washington, not long before the attack, American cipher experts delivered a decoded Japanese message to President Roosevelt. He knew it meant war. But he did not know where it would begin.
 The time was 7:45 in Hawaii.
 As the minute hand crept upward, waves of 40 torpedo bombers, 50 high-level bombers, 50 dive bombers and 40 fighters — all emblazoned with the Japanese "meatball" insignia — roared toward the northerly coast lines of Oahu.
 The knell of doom had come.
 The clock on Aloha Tower read 7:55.
 A low-flying plane dumped a bomb on Ford Island in the middle of the harbor. The Pearl Harbor signal tower flashed the word—"Enemy air raid — this is no drill."
 Bombers came in at 1000 feet and lower, laying deadly eggs in the quiet water. Fighters raked the harbor at will. Explosions tore the Hawaiian Sunday. On the heights of leeward Oahu — Aiea, Pacific, Punchbowl and Tantalus — residents looked down at Pearl and could not believe what they saw.
 The Arizona got it worst of all. With general quarters sounded only seconds, Arizona took a school of torpedoes. Her forward magazines exploded. Bombs dropped on deck. Flames shot hundreds of feet into the air. On the signal bridge, Rear Arm. Isaac C. Kidd was killed.
 Then, a "one-in-a-million" bomb went down an Arizona stack, as some half a dozen more eggs hit the deck. In a tortured convulsion of smoke, flame and bomb blast, her keel cracked, the Arizona sank on the spot: a tomb to this day for 1,102 souls.
 Today, a generation later, mysterious puddles of oil are still found here and there in the harbor — from Black Sunday, they say. They also say, the oil will never leave.

Honolulu Star-Bulletin 1st EXTRA
 (Associated Press by Transpacific Telephone)
WAR!
OAHU BOMBED BY JAPANESE PLANES
 SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—President Roosevelt announced this morning that Japanese planes had attacked Manila and Pearl Harbor.

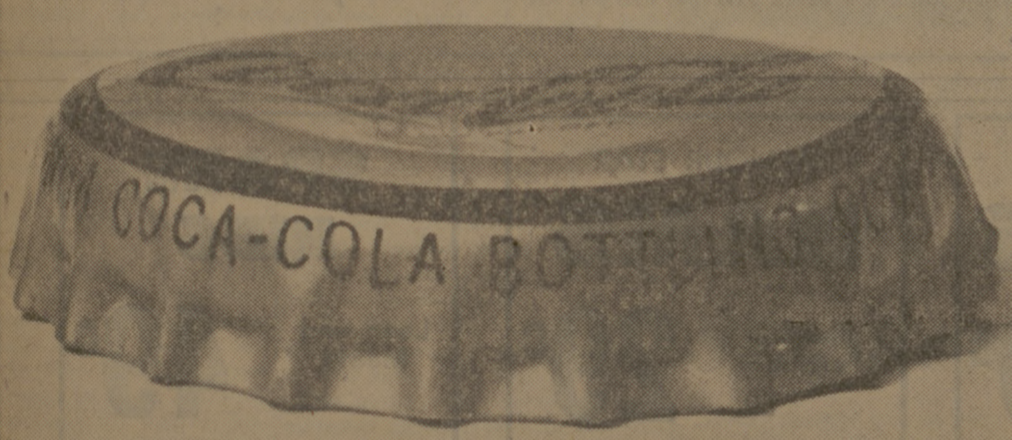
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Pearl Harbor Attack Holds Memories For Trigon Men

Twenty years ago today Japanese bombs fell over Pearl Harbor and the United States suddenly found itself in the midst of World War II.
 What were the reactions of some of the officers and men in the service at the time? Did they have a different outlook on life, knowing that they would soon be engaging the enemy in combat?
 Capt. William F. Atwater, Air Force administrative officer here, recalls that he had a special problem the day war was declared. Then a corporal, Atwater of the 30th Bomber Group was stationed at New Orleans Air Base.
 He had just made a date for the evening of Dec. 7 in New Orleans when he heard the news of the Japanese attack on the radio, and reasoning (correctly) that all military personnel would

soon be restricted to the base, he immediately started for town. The base was restricted shortly after his exit, but he managed to keep his date.
 M. Sgt. Loren E. Lowe, non-commissioned officer in charge of the Department of Air Science advanced records section, was a member of the 53rd School Squadron at Randolph Field in San Antonio in 1941. He first heard the news of the bombing from a friend who had heard it on the radio.
 According to Lowe, the general feeling of the men around him was one of belligerence. "We felt that we had been done an injustice and were ready to retaliate."
 "No one seemed to be very much concerned," said M. Sgt. Charles A. Pantalion, Army NCO-1C of the advanced section here.

Sergeant Pantalion was returning to Ft. Sam Houston, from a re-enlistment leave (he had just completed his first three-year enlistment) when he heard about Pearl Harbor on the car radio.
 According to the sergeant, the men in his outfit, Company G, 9th Infantry, Second Division, took the news in stride and went calmly about their business.
 Lt. Col. Thomas A. Hotchkiss, Army operations officer, was a lieutenant platoon leader with the 9th Division at Ft. Bragg, N. C. He had just returned from maneuvers when he heard the news of war.
 The colonel said that his division was affected immediately and was moved out to emergency guard duty for the state of North Carolina. They moved in the early morning hours of Dec. 8.

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303 Cans—Libbys	Fruit Cocktail 2 Cans 49c	6-Oz.—Sunshine State	DINNERS Each 39c
303 Cans—Libbys	Sliced Beets 2 Cans 29c	Patio—Enchilada	Orange Juice 3 Cans 59c
14-Oz. Bottles—Libbys	CATSUP 3 For 59c	BORDENS	
46-Oz. Cans—Libbys	Pineapple Juice Can 29c	Sweet Milk Gallon Jug 79c	
12-Oz. Cans—Libbys	Pineapple Juice 3 Cans 29c	-MARKET-	
46-Oz. Cans—Libbys	Tomato Juice Can 29c	PEN FED BABY BEEF CUTS	
Maryland Club	COFFEE 1-lb. Can 63c	Round Steak 1-lb. 79c	
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18-Oz. Tumblers—Krafts	Strawberry Preserves .. Each 45c	T-Bone Steak 1-lb. 79c	
CRISCO 3-lb. Can 79c	Veal Rib Chops 1-lb. 69c	
12-Oz. Jars—Bama	Peanut Butter Jar 25c	Deckers—Tall Korn	
No. 2 1/2 Cans—O'Sage	Elberta Peaches 2 Cans 49c	Sliced Bacon 1-lb. 49c	
10-Oz. Jars—Folgers	Instant Coffee Jar 99c	Wisconsin—Medium Aged	
		Cheddar Cheese 1-lb. 59c	
		Hormels—Dairy Brand	
		Sliced Bacon 1-lb. 59c	
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		Tangerines 2-lbs. 29c	
		Russet Potatoes 10-lb Bag 39c	
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