



Findings of P-MAN XIIIa and XIIIb Expeditions to Palau
Mission XIIIa (P-MAN XIIIa): 1 to 17 February 2011
Mission XIIIb (P-MAN-XIIIb): 19 March to 15 April 2011

Project Reports:
XIIIa: Dan O'Brien, Mission Leader
XIIIb: Derek Abbey, Mission Leader



Coral encrusted turret of USMC LVT(A)-4 in 100 feet of water off southern end of Orange Beach, Peleliu, Republic of Palau

Patrick J. Scannon, Team Leader
01 March 2012

P-MAN XIIIa Team Members:

1. Daniel T. O'Brien: Mission Leader (California, USA)
2. Joe Maldangesang: Master Guide, Boat Captain (Palau)
3. Flip Colmer: Assistant Mission Leader, Delta A320 Captain Naval Historian, Aviation Expert, Photographer and Former Diving Instructor (Michigan, USA)
4. Paul Schwimmer: Mission Specialist, Surveyor, Former US Army Green Beret and Ordinance Specialist (Pennsylvania, USA)
5. Rick Smith: Mission Specialist, Deep Water Scuba Expert (Washington, USA)
6. Jolie Liston: Mission Specialist, Archeologist (Palau) – part time



L to R: Rick Smith, Dan O'Brien, President Toribiong, Flip Colmer, Jolie Liston, Paul Schwimmer

P-MAN XIIIb Team Members:

1. Patrick Scannon MD, PhD: Team Leader (California, USA)
2. Derek Abbey: Mission Leader (North Carolina, USA)
3. Joe Maldangesang: Master Guide Boat Captain (Palau)
4. Flip Colmer: P-MAN XIIIb Mission Coordinator: Naval Historian, Aviation Expert, Photographer and Former Diving Instructor (Michigan, USA)
5. Daniel T. O'Brien: PMAN XIIIa Mission Leader and Navigator: (California, USA)
6. Major Warren Bruce: Safety Officer and Navigator: USMC active duty: Aviation Expert (California, USA)
7. Molly Osborne: Navigator: (Arizona, USA)
8. Captain Casey Doyle (First mission): Documentation and Photography USMC active duty: (Virginia, USA),
9. Wesley Abbey (First mission): Operations (California, USA)
10. Jolie Liston: Archeologist (Palau) – part time

L to R: Wesley Abbey, Jolie Liston, Warren Bruce, Derek Abbey, Dan O'Brien, Pat Scannon, Joe Maldangesang, Casey Doyle and Molly Osborne



II. Introduction to Findings and Events of the P-MAN XIII Mission:

For the first time in BentProp's history, P-MAN XIII split its annual mission into two parts. P-MAN XIIIa consisted primarily of a follow-up side-scanning sonar (SSS) campaign. P-MAN XIIIb continued the SSS search mission and conducted new land and water searches. This split campaign permitted more members to participate in searching larger areas.

Each mission had a separate Mission Leader, responsible also for writing the respective summaries, which are separately attached.

Over the past three years, the BentProp Project has extended its technology base considerably – in large measure due to the generosity of donations of SSS equipment from Marine Sonic and SSS interpretive software from Chesapeake Software. We also thank History Flight for their generous unrestricted contribution to support our P-MAN XIII missions – thanks, Mark! As the remaining target areas get more difficult to find, either deeper under water or deeper within jungles, these kinds of technologies allow our project's search scope to expand. To make the most of these technologies, it still takes dedicated, driven and smart people, both BentPropers and our amazing “adjunct” supporters and volunteers who follow and assist as appropriate in our efforts. This includes President Toribiong and his staff, Ambassador Reed-Rowe and her US Embassy staff, the Palauan Bureau of Culture, headed by Dwight Alexander, the people of Palau and our many friends in the US Navy and at JPAC. These two P-MAN XIII summaries show clearly that technologies open new doors of discovery but that it still takes people to walk through those doors. As the respective summaries reveal, the P-MAN XIIIa and XIIIb searches would not have been possible without this interwoven combination.

Many Specific and Special Thanks to:



**Marine Sonic
Technology, Ltd.**



Once again, many thanks to everyone at Neco Marine for all your help. To Joe Maldangesang, Master Guide, the owners, Mandy and Shallum Etpison, and the entire staff



Thanks to Sam and Dermot and all the folks at Sam's!



With deep appreciation to Mason Whips and the Surangel Whipps Family!

As with every expedition I have made back to Palau, I want to thank my family for their ongoing and unflinching love and enthusiasm. My wife, Susan, continues, without hesitation, in her incredible year-round encouragement and support of my year-round involvement in this effort. I try to live my love - and with all my love. Pat

