Findings of P-MAN XIV Mission to Palau
15 March to 15 April 2012

Mission Leader: Flip Colmer
Mission Report: Patrick Scannon, MD, PhD, Team Leader

01February 2013

Transformational technologies and vision for the BentProp Project: MIA Search application of Autonomous Underwater Vehicle from Scripps Institution of Oceanography (La Jolla, California, USA) and Remotely Operated Vehicle from Stockbridge High School (Stockbridge, Michigan, USA)

INTRODUCTION: During the year 2013, the BentProp Project will celebrate twenty years of continuous effort to locate, identify and cause to return Americans Missing in Action from World War II. As part of this celebration, during the summer of 2012, several members of the BentProp Project, including Derek Abbey, Flip Colmer, Reid Joyce, Dan O'Brien and Pat Scannon, met at the home of Rebecca and Flip Colmer to formalize our statements of Vision, Mission and Values. As a team, we have grown sufficiently to be able to define, capture and now proudly declare our purpose and who we strive to be, both as a team and as the individuals who make up the BentProp Project.

VISION

To repatriate every American service member who has not come home. To provide information and closure to the families of these service members. To provide a platform to educate all on the importance of service to one's country. To provide unique educational opportunities in the arenas of science, history, leadership and diplomacy to a select and committed student audience in conjunction with our missions in order to provide a real world application to the students and broaden the outlook of our team members.

MISSION

A self-funded team of volunteers, each with essential expertise (history, aviation, diving, navigation), who are dedicated to locating and assisting with identifying American prisoners of war and missing in action from World War Two within the Palau Islands. This effort is done through detailed research and exploration while consistently coordinating with appropriate national authorities.

VALUES

Safety

Each team member, and the team as a whole, have individual and joint responsibilities in ensuring safety, both in planning and in execution of each and every mission. No team member will knowingly expose other team members to harm. Each team member has the ability to suspend an operation for any perceived safety issue.

Leadership

We understand that leadership within the team is essential, and the need constant. We strive to promote leadership as part of the search experience for all team members. We encourage everyone to step up and take charge of what they are responsible for.

Respect

For the POW/MIAs and their families. For each other. For the cultures with whom we interact. Respect encompasses all aspects of our project, including such things as privacy, property, need for information, differences in outlook and differences in backgrounds, laws and traditions. We are bound by this respect to avoid belligerent confrontation. We are especially respectful of the privilege of working in other countries.

Humility

Our affect is determined by our understanding that Americans have died in defense of us and our families – without ever having known us. We know we can learn from all around us. Our focus is our POW/MIAs and their families – not ourselves nor the general public. We orient pride, including self-pride, toward our team and our joint accomplishments. We view arrogance as a shallow shield hiding ignorance.

Integrity

We value integrity, which is the integration of honesty with reality. Integrity of each individual and the team as a whole is fundamental to our success. We recognize and correct our mistakes expeditiously, privately and publicly, starting from within the team and extending as needed to those affected.

Responsibility

We understand that individuals, families and others can and will be affected by our actions and we have a commitment to anticipating, as much in advance as practical, the ramifications of our efforts. Team members accept the responsibility to visualize the second and third order effects of their actions, and the team's actions all the way to the national and world level.

Rigor, Diligence and Perseverance

These overlapping values create a team obligation and approach to investigate, study, search and prepare for and follow through with each mission using all practical venues so that our search can be productive. We either accept each mission fully or not at all. We owe this to the POW/MIAs and their families, to the individuals, agencies and governments we work with and to ourselves. In doing so, we understand that such values also define practical boundaries hindering potential success. This leads to a constant re-evaluation of our approaches, methodologies and techniques, while having a never ending thirst for knowledge and success.

Innovation and Resourcefulness

We are resourceful in maximizing use of technologies, records, personal recollections, selection of future team members and whatever else is needed in accomplishing our mission. We do not let individual or collective experience hinder future solutions. We value thinking 'outside of the box'.

Education

Through our thirst for knowledge, we seek to learn from others' experiences, knowledge and talents. We embrace and utilize education for sharing our efforts, methods and accomplishments with others.

Sharing of Information

We commit to timely sharing of information and discoveries within our organization, with families, agencies and others: we recognize that we have need to be both transparent and confidential in that sharing: transparent with ourselves and as appropriate, with agencies, families and others – confidential in holding information closely as appropriate.

Trustworthy and Trusting

Once accepted, each team member is deemed worthy of team trust in accepting and carrying out our mission. Because of this, differences between or among team members can and must be brought forward and expeditiously dealt with.

Joy and Fun

Our mission is somber for which we are respectful. Nonetheless, these separate but overlapping values provide continuity and humanity to our efforts. If we cannot smile at what we are doing, we are not doing what we should.

Team Participation

Each team member is selected as, and considered to be, a valuable asset in the quest for finding POW/MIAs. Each team member is encouraged to participate in any and all aspects of any mission: from archival research to crawling in the mangroves. Each mission will have assigned tasks that will be distributed among all team members based on experience, skill set and desires.

Direction

We understand that our mission is both focused and flexible. We jointly accept that we go where our results may take us and we determine the size, expertise, scope and all other factors based upon the direction we decide to pursue. Such direction determines in turn the size and scope of our individual and overall missions. *Semper Gumby!*

P-MAN XIV MISSION REPORT:

I. P-MAN XIV TEAM MEMBERS:

Patrick Scannon, MD, PhD: Team Leader, Medical Officer Dishwasher (California, USA),

Joe Maldangesang: Master Guide, Translator, Boat Captain (Palau)

Flip Colmer, LCDR, USN (Ret): Mission Leader (Michigan, USA), Photography

Derek Abbey, Major, USMC: Tactical Mission Planning, Safety Officer (North Carolina, USA)

Daniel T. O'Brien: Navigation, Videography, Chef (California, USA)

Jolie Liston, PhD (part time with team): Archeology (Hawaii, USA)

Flip, Pat, Joe, Dan and Derek

II. INTRODUCTION TO FINDINGS AND EVENTS

P-MAN XIV was another unique mission for at least two reasons, as we entered the mission, and at least two more as we completed it.

Before starting, our Mission Leader, Flip Colmer, had spent the prior pre-mission year, discussing and ultimately coordinating our team's collaboration with the Stockbridge High School Advanced Underwater Robotics Team in their independently testing and using their class-built tethered underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) in Palau. The goal was to determine if their chaperoned team using their ROV would be able to assist in visualizing underwater sites previously detected by the BentProp Side Scan Sonar teams – this could ultimately save a lot of dive time in the future if successful. The second pre-mission interaction was created between our Team Leader, Pat Scannon, and History Flight's Mark Noah to assess feasibility of collecting soil samples in suspected burial areas of POWs and MIAs (at crash sites) for human decomposition products. History Flight has created collaborations with academic laboratories developing methodologies using gas chromatography/mass spectroscopy to detect long-lived molecules within soil in the immediate area of human burials. In addition, since some human remains, namely those of the POWs, were reported to have been cremated, it may also be possible to use similar methodologies to detect hydrocarbon by-products retained in soil (akin to soil contamination) from the

fuel used in the cremation process. These methods could greatly assist in final localization of burial sites. However, both collection methodologies and assessment of sensitivity and specificity need development to determine the degree to which confidence can be placed on labeling sites associated with such soil samples as true positives or negatives. Accordingly, part of this mission was dedicated to documenting appropriate soil collection methods at four suspected burial sites (one POW area and three crash site areas where Japanese military reported burying aviator remains in the immediate crash site).

During the mission, two additional events occurred which extended the mission's value. First, Mandy Shallum reported to us early in the mission that a group of Palauan fishermen had just located what appeared to be a crashed airplane; after Mandy dove and documented that indeed it was an airplane, she contacted us for our assessment. As seen in the attached report below, this proved to be both a historically meaningful find and an educational test bed. Finally, the P-MAN XIV team met three research teams (from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, California Polytechnic State University and University of Hawaii) working with Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs) to study Palau's varied ocean floor in collaboration with Pat and Lori Colin's Coral Reef Research Foundation. As described below in the attachments, these teams became interested in the potential for utilizing these AUVs to assist in locating and identifying underwater aviation-related debris as part of their mission. As a result, the BentProp Project working with these researchers, particularly from Scripps, was able to collect preliminary data indicating the value of rapidly identifying on the ocean floor debris of interest for possible diving exploration. Just before the start of P-MAN XIV, Palauan Bureau of Arts and Culture also brought on Suzanne Finney, PhD as Head Archeologist of the Historical Preservation Office (HPO). We began working with her on these and other projects in her new capacity. Dr. Finney's arrival worked well for the P-MAN XIV team because in addition to all of our activities mentioned above, we became aware of two other new sites, one in Peleliu State (through Dr. Finney) and one in Airai State. Thus the P-MAN XIV team worked closely with Dr. Finney and HPO throughout the mission.

As always for our missions, the BentProp Project recognizes that we are working within the independent and sovereign boundaries of the Republic of Palau. We are diligent in completing all required correspondence and attaining authorization and permits for all of the activities we pursue, from the President and his staff, government offices, state and local officials, landowners, and tribal authorities. This preparation was done prior and during the P-MAN XIV mission. Follow-up courtesy visits to key individuals and offices were made for verification and updates concerning permits both upon arrival and during P-MAN XIV. It is with our gratitude that the BentProp Project continues to work with and share the information from our missions with the people and leadership of Palau.

The primary goal of the BentProp Project is to locate Americans missing in and around Palau since World War II [NOTE: specifically designated as Missing-in-Action (MIA), Body Not Recovered (BNR), including Prisoners-of-War (POW)] so that they will ultimately be identified and repatriated back to the United States. Because of this we report our findings and coordinate our activities within Palau to the Bureau of Arts and Culture and the Office of the President. We also report our findings with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), the U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC), and the Embassy of the United States of America in Palau. Each of the above Palauan and American offices receives a full report of our findings. These official reports are available upon request for other appropriate agencies. The BentProp Project makes every effort to share information in support of our mission of locating these long lost Americans, but we also understand the sensitivity of much of the information gathered and maintain that information in a confidential/for official use manner. Any public material appearing on the www.bentprop.org web site has been redacted of such confidential information.

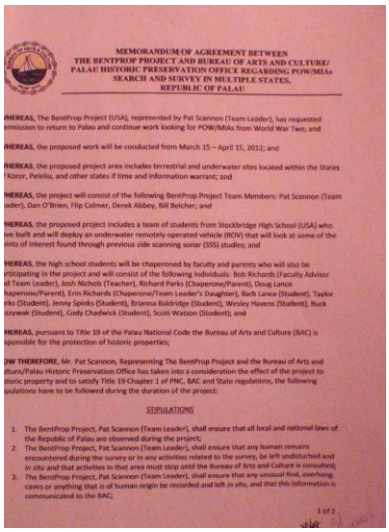
III. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS (Attachments with details for each event follow below):

A. PERMITTING PROCESS:

1. Permits were obtained for P-MAN XIV through Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC), the individual States and the Office of the President. In addition to the usual permitting process, we requested and received permission to collect soil samples from four previously discovered suspected burial sites in the States of Airai, Aimeliik, Ngatpang and Ngaremlengui for potential analysis by Oak Ridge National Laboratory for decomposition products.

2. The team made courtesy calls with the President, Dr. Suzanne Finney, BAC, the governors and officials in the target areas that BentProp would be working at the beginning of P-MAN XIV.

3. Kelly Marsh, BAC, provided the P-MAN XIV team with interview permission forms for interviewing elders.



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE BENTPROP PROJECT AND BUREAU OF ARTS AND CULTURE/
PALAU HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE REGARDING POW/MIAs
SEARCH AND SURVEY IN MULTIPLE STATES,
REPUBLIC OF PALAU

WHEREAS, The BentProp Project (USA), represented by Pat Scannon (Team Leader), has requested permission to return to Palau and continue work looking for POW/MIAs from World War Two; and

WHEREAS, the proposed work will be conducted from March 15 – April 15, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project area includes terrestrial and underwater sites located within the States of Koror, Peleliu, and other states if time and information warrant; and

WHEREAS, the project will consist of the following BentProp Project Team Members: Pat Scannon (Team Leader), Dan O'Brien, Flip Colmer, Derek Abbey, Bill Belcher; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project includes a team of students from Stockbridge High School (USA) who will live built and will deploy an underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV) that will look at some of the points of interest found through previous side scanning sonar (SSS) studies; and

WHEREAS, the high school students will be chaperoned by faculty and parents who will also be participating in the project and will consist of the following individuals: Bob Richards (Faculty Advisor and Team Leader), Josh Nichols (Teacher), Richard Parks (Chaperone/Parent), Doug Lance (Chaperone/Parent), Erin Richards (Chaperone/Team Leader's Daughter), Barb Lance (Student), Taylor Parks (Student), Jenny Spinks (Student), Brianna Baldridge (Student), Wesley Havens (Student), Buck Posywak (Student), Cody Chadwick (Student), Scott Watson (Student); and

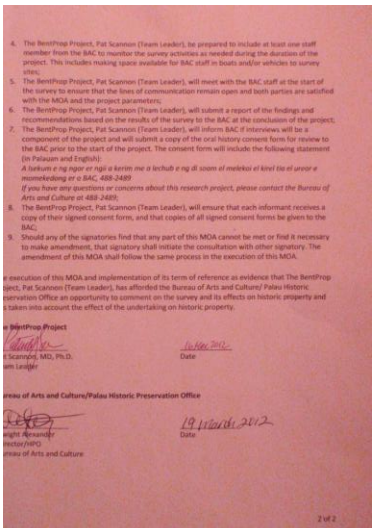
WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 39 of the Palau National Code the Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC) is responsible for the protection of historic properties;

NOW THEREFORE, Mr. Pat Scannon, Representing The BentProp Project and the Bureau of Arts and Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Office has taken into a consideration the effect of the project to historic property and to satisfy Title 19 Chapter 1 of PNC, BAC and State regulations, the following stipulations have to be followed during the duration of the project;

STIPULATIONS

1. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), shall ensure that all local and national laws of the Republic of Palau are observed during the project;
2. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), shall ensure that any human remains encountered during the survey or in any activities related to the survey, be left undisturbed and *in situ* and that activities in that area must stop until the Bureau of Arts and Culture is consulted;
3. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), shall ensure that any unusual find, overhang, caves or anything that is of human origin be recorded and left *in situ*, and that this information is communicated to the BAC;

1 of 2

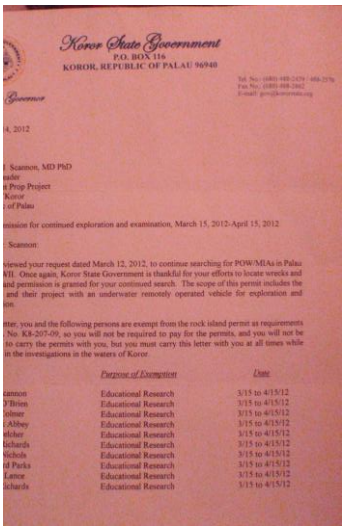


4. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), be prepared to include at least one staff member from the BAC to monitor the survey activities as needed during the duration of the project. This includes making space available for BAC staff in boats and/or vehicles to survey sites;
5. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), will meet with the BAC staff at the start of the survey to ensure that the lines of communication remain open and both parties are satisfied with the MOA and the project parameters;
6. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), will submit a report of the findings and recommendations based on the results of the survey to the BAC at the conclusion of the project;
7. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), will inform BAC if interviews will be a component of the project and will submit a copy of the oral history consent form for review to the BAC prior to the start of the project. The consent form will include the following statement (in Palauan and English):
A luekum e ng ngar er ngii a kerim me a lechub e ng di soans el melekoi el kirel tia el ureor e momekeabng er a BAC, 488-2489
If you have any questions or concerns about this research project, please contact the Bureau of Arts and Culture at 488-2489;
8. The BentProp Project, Pat Scannon (Team Leader), will ensure that each informant receives a copy of their signed consent form, and that copies of all signed consent forms be given to the BAC;
9. Should any of the signatories find that any part of this MOA cannot be met or find it necessary to make amendment, that signatory shall initiate the consultation with other signatory. The amendment of this MOA shall follow the same process in the execution of this MOA.

e execution of this MOA and implementation of its term of reference as evidence that The BentProp ject; Pat Scannon (Team Leader), has afforded the Bureau of Arts and Culture/ Palau Historic servation Office an opportunity to comment on the survey and its effects on historic property and taken into account the effect of the undertaking on historic property.

BentProp Project
Date
reau of Arts and Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Office
Date

2 of 2



Koror State Government
P.O. BOX 158
KOROR, REPUBLIC OF PALAU 96940

Governor

4, 2012

Scannon, MD PhD
ader
Prop Project
Koror
of Palau

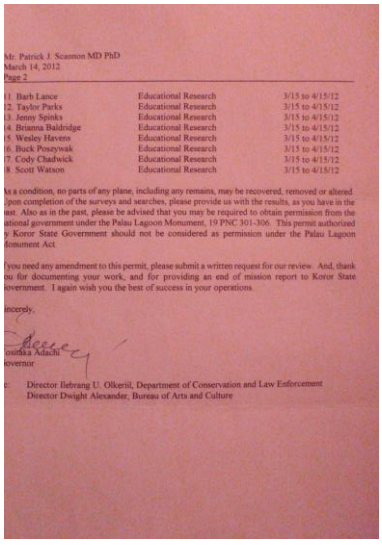
ission for continued exploration and examination, March 15, 2012-April 15, 2012

Scannon:

viewed your request dated March 12, 2012, to continue searching for POW/MIAs in Palau WII. Once again, Koror State Government is thankful for your efforts to locate wrecks and and permission is granted for your continued search. The scope of this permit includes the and their project with an underwater remotely operated vehicle for exploration and ion.

tter, you and the following persons are exempt from the rock island permit as requirements No. KS-207-09, so you will not be required to pay for the permits, and you will not be to carry the permits with you, but you must carry this letter with you at all times while in the investigations in the waters of Koror.

	Purpose of Exemption	Date
annon	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
O'Brien	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
olmer	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
Abbey	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
elcher	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
Richards	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
Nichols	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
d Parks	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
Lance	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
Richards	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12



Mr. Patrick J. Scannon MD PhD
March 14, 2012
Page 2

11. Barb Lance	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
12. Taylor Parks	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
13. Jenny Spinks	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
14. Brianna Baldridge	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
15. Wesley Havens	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
16. Buck Posywak	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
17. Cody Chadwick	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12
18. Scott Watson	Educational Research	3/15 to 4/15/12

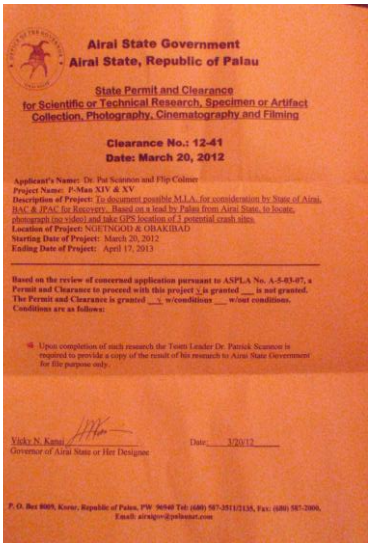
As a condition, no parts of any plane, including any remains, may be recovered, removed or altered upon completion of the surveys and searches, please provide us with the results, as you have in the past. Also as in the past, please be advised that you may be required to obtain permission from the national government under the Palau Lagoon Monument, 19 PNC 301-306. This permit authorized Koror State Government should not be considered as permission under the Palau Lagoon Monument Act.

If you need any amendment to this permit, please submit a written request for our review. And, thank you for documenting your work, and for providing an end of mission report to Koror State Government. I again wish you the best of success in your operations.

Sincerely,

Yositaka Adachi
Governor

c: Director Ilebrang U. Olkeriil, Department of Conservation and Law Enforcement
Director Dwight Alexander, Bureau of Arts and Culture



Airai State Government
Airai State, Republic of Palau

State Permit and Clearance
for Scientific or Technical Research, Specimen or Artifact
Collection, Photography, Cinematography and Filming

Clearance No.: 12-41
Date: March 20, 2012

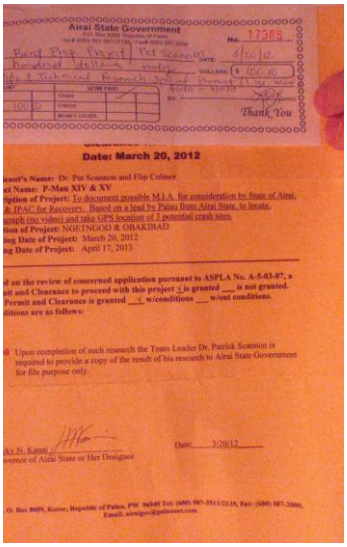
Applicant's Name: Dr. Pat Scannon and Flip Colmer
Project Name: P-Man XIV & XV
Description of Project: To document possible M.I.A. for consideration by State of Airai, BAC & JPAC for Recovery. Based on a lead by Palau from Airai State, to locate, photograph (no video) and take GPS location of 3 potential crash sites.
Location of Project: NGETNGOD & OBAKIBAD
Starting Date of Project: March 20, 2012
Ending Date of Project: April 17, 2013

Based on the review of concerned application pursuant to ASPLA No. A-5-03-07, a Permit and Clearance to proceed with this project _x_ is granted ___ is not granted. The Permit and Clearance is granted _x_ w/conditions ___ w/out conditions. Conditions are as follows:

1. Upon completion of such research the Team Leader Dr. Patrick Scannon is required to provide a copy of the result of his research to Airai State Government for file purpose only.

Vicky N. Kanai
Governor of Airai State or Her Designee
Date: 3/20/12

P. O. Box 8009, Koror, Republic of Palau, PW 96940 Tel: (680) 587-3511/2135, Fax: (680) 587-2000,
Email: airaigov@palaunet.com



Airai State Government
No. 17385
Date: 3/20/12
Thank You

Date: March 20, 2012

Applicant's Name: Dr. Pat Scannon and Flip Colmer
Project Name: P-Man XIV & XV
Description of Project: To document possible M.I.A. for consideration by State of Airai, BAC & JPAC for Recovery. Based on a lead by Palau from Airai State, to locate, photograph (no video) and take GPS location of 3 potential crash sites.
Location of Project: NGETNGOD & OBAKIBAD
Starting Date of Project: March 20, 2012
Ending Date of Project: April 17, 2013

Based on the review of concerned application pursuant to ASPLA No. A-5-03-07, a Permit and Clearance to proceed with this project _x_ is granted ___ is not granted. The Permit and Clearance is granted _x_ w/conditions ___ w/out conditions. Conditions are as follows:

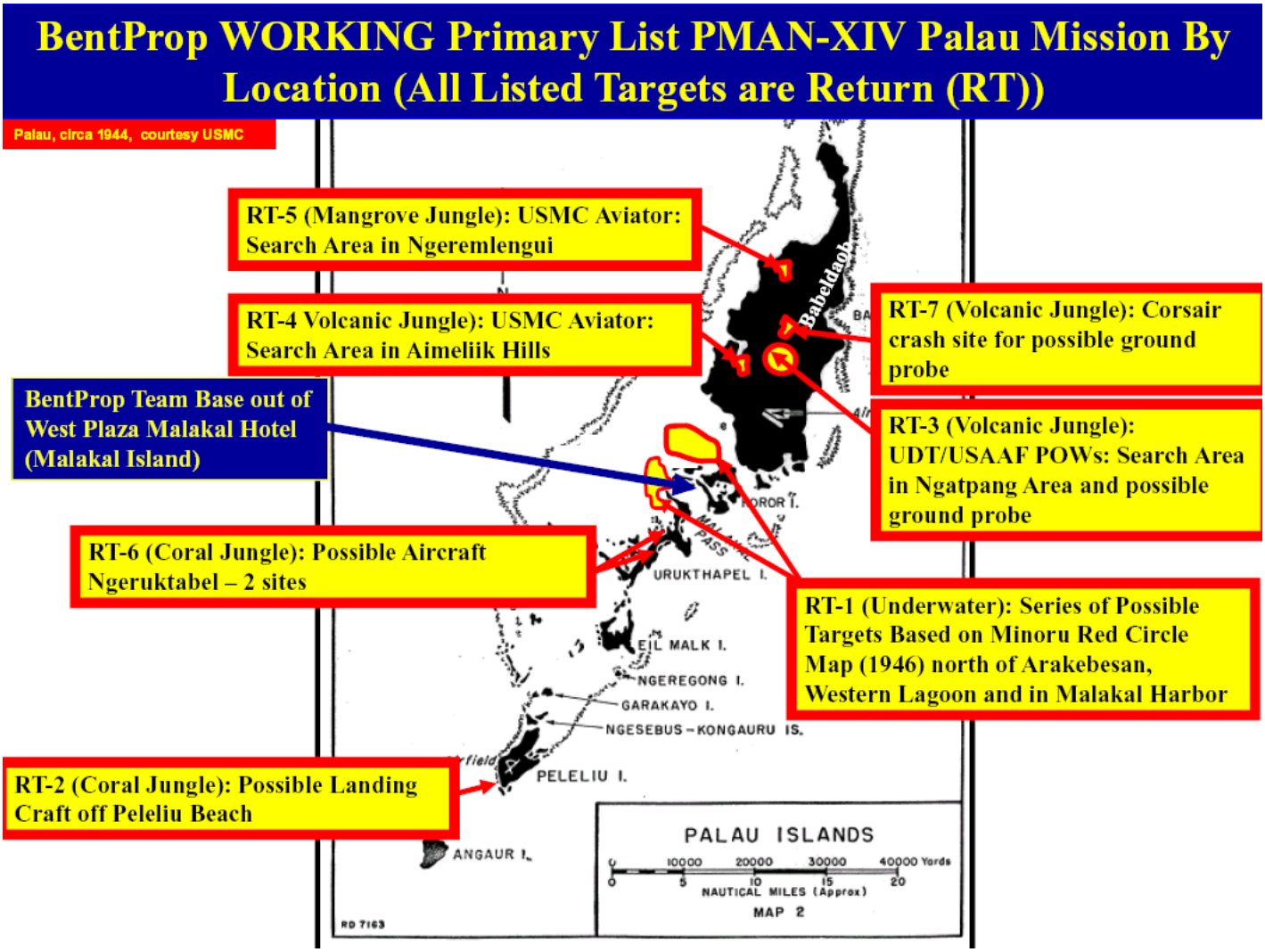
1. Upon completion of such research the Team Leader Dr. Patrick Scannon is required to provide a copy of the result of his research to Airai State Government for file purpose only.

Vicky N. Kanai
Governor of Airai State or Her Designee
Date: 3/20/12

P. O. Box 8009, Koror, Republic of Palau, PW 96940 Tel: (680) 587-3511/2135, Fax: (680) 587-2000,
Email: airaigov@palaunet.com

BentProp Project Permits from upper left clockwise: Palauan Bureau of Arts and Culture, Koror State, Airai State. Other offices gave verbal permissions once the BAC permit was in place.

B. OBJECTIVES: This year's mission proposal was submitted prior to arrival to Palauan and JPAC authorities and covered 7 areas.



Return Target 1. Underwater area north of Arakebesan and Western Lagoon for possible targeting by Stockbridge Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Team

Return Target 2. Sunken American landing craft possibly associated with MIAs off the shore for possible searches for additional sunken American landing craft

Return Target 3.Returning to a previously known American POW execution area in Ngatpang to gather more information for presentation to JPAC for follow on recovery missions.

Return Target 4. Returning to a previously known American aircraft crash site in Aimeliik for possible soil sample probe

Return Target 5. Returning to a previously known American crash site in Ngaremlengui for continuation of debris field documentation for JPAC.

Return Target 6. Information provided by Palauans points to possible aircraft crash sites on Ngeruktabel. This is a return visit to expand search areas.

Return Target 7. Returning to a previously known American crash site in Ngaremlengui for possible soil sample probe

C. P-MAN XIV INDIVIDUAL KEY EVENTS:

1. Target RT-1 (Return Target-1). Search for possible underwater targets around Western Lagoon, 15 March through 6 April, WITH Stockbridge ROV Team and AUV teams from three academic centers. See Attachment 1

2. Target RT-2. Search for additional landing craft off White and Orange Beaches, Peleliu. The P-MAN XIV original plan called for diving off these beaches in follow-up to a landing craft found off Orange Beach in ~100 feet of water and reported in P-MAN XIIIb summary. However, the AUV team from Scripps made an offer to return in 2013 and work with us (during P-MAN XV mission) to scan the entire area outside the reef off White and Orange Beaches down to ~ 200 foot depth. Since using the AUV is a far more efficient survey device (we have estimated it would take up to three missions to search this area via scuba diving search patterns, assuming currents would permit), we decided to defer this portion of the mission till next year.

3. Target RT-3. Returning to a previously determined POW/MIA burial site in Aimeliik/Ngatpang for soil sample collection. See RT-7 and ATTACHMENT 3 below.

4. Target RT-4. Returning to a known Corsair crash site in Aimeliik for soil sample collection. See RT-7 and ATTACHMENT 3 below.

5. Target RT-5. Returning to a previous Corsair crash site in a mangrove swamp in Ngaremlengui, 18, 19, 21 March. See ATTACHMENT 2 below.

6. Target RT-6. Possible Aircraft Ngeruktabel. See Target NT-1 and ATTACHMENT 4 below.

7. Target RT-7. Returning to crash/burial sites for soil sample collections. See ATTACHMENT 3.

RT-7A. Corsair crash site in Aimeliik, 3 April:
RT-7B. POW/MIA site in Aimeliik/Ngatpang, 31 March:
RT-7C. FM-2 Wildcat crash site in Airai, 3 April:
RT-7D: Corsair crash site in Ngaremlengui10 April:

8. Target NT-1(New Target-1). Documenting a Japanese crash site on Ngeruktabel, 17 April. See ATTACHMENT 4 below.

D. FURTHER FINDINGS.

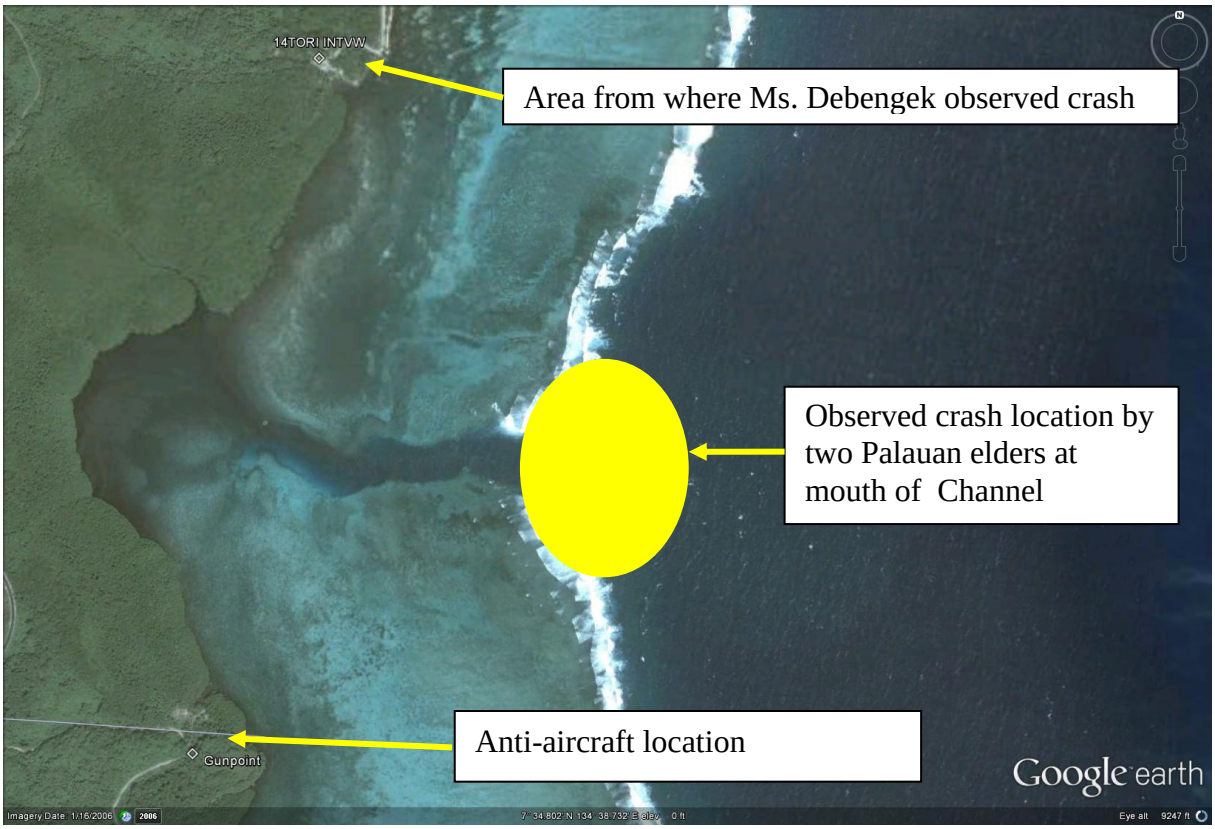
1. Interviews: In each interview in coordination with the Palauan BAC, permission was requested to record via both video and interview request form with the purpose of discussing experiences from WWII.

a. Ngarchelong Chief, 24 March, primarily interviewed by Pat Scannon for ~40 minutes. This Chief has an excellent general recollection of WWII times in Palau but has no specific recollections of seeing airplanes shot down or MIAs.

Ngarchelong Chief
© Flip Colmer, 2012

b. A Palauan elder, primarily interviewed by Flip Colmer on 24 March for ~ 45 minutes. 17 year old at that time, she has a specific recollection of seeing two American "black" aircraft (probably Corsairs or Hellcats), with star-and-bar insignias, come from the south over the outer edge of the eastern reef. She cannot fix a date however. One of the two aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire from Ngiwal (likely the "GUNPOINT" waypoint in the map below) at the edge of a nearby channel and crashed in the area at the junction of this channel with open water. The other turned and escaped. This sighting confirms the sighting made by a Palauan elder we interviewed in the past in Ngiwal who has since passed away. We attempted to conduct SSS in this area but weather and winds did not permit evaluation during this mission.

Flip interviews Palauan elder at her home © Pat Scannon, 2012



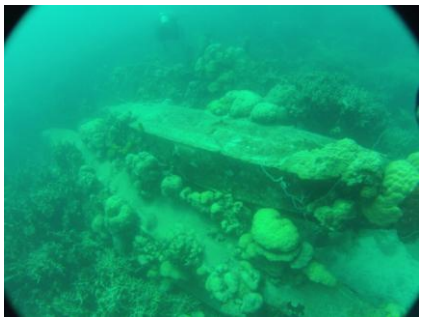
c. Palauan Elder, 21 March, primarily interviewed by Pat Scannon for ~ 35 minutes. She has an excellent general recollection of WWII times in Palau but has no specific recollections of seeing or hearing about airplanes shot down or MIAs.

Palauan Elder
© Flip Colmer, 2012

2. Documenting of Corsair BuNo14053, VMF-122 with Aviator Surviving, Western Reef, 4 April 2012. See ATTACHMENT 5 for full report.

3. Documenting a Report of Possible Aircraft Debris Directly Off of the Sea Plane (aka Hospital) Ramp near the National Hospital on Arakebesan, 8-9 April 2012 and 13 April 2012. Joe received word from a Palauan that there was airplane debris off the Hospital Ramp, near where the fixed buoys float. Our initial dives (8 April) were near the Hospital Ramp with the divers fanning generally north from the ramp. We found in about 20 feet of water a small piece of what appeared to be burned aluminum (~ 18 inches long) and a small pile of 20 mm shell casings (with no markings on base) about 50-75 meters due north from the eastern edge of the Hospital Ramp (not far from a fixed buoy); however, based on our overall observations from the dive, it is probable that maritime debris in the area was interpreted by locals as aviation-related debris. The next day (9 April), we conducted a concentrated SSS search in a generally east-west pattern in the area adjacent to and to the west of the Hospital Ramp and made several scuba dives: no aircraft debris was found (although at least one US Navy Hellcat was known to be shot down in this general area). In a related matter, on 13 April a team of Palauans practicing in a traditional outrigger canoe near T-Dock, led by a local Samoan (Tino), recognized us and insisted on taking us to an area near the Hospital Ramp off Arakebesan of a possible new aircraft that they saw from the boat. It turned out to be the two Japanese sunken biplanes we had located on a previous mission.





From left: Pile of 20 mm shell casings off the Hospital Ramp. Pat and Derek on either side of Tino who showed us the area he saw an airplane from the ocean surface. Pontoon from a Japanese observation biplane (previously observed by BentProp teams). Left and right photos: Derek Abbey © 2012; Center Flip Colmer © 2012

4. Documenting a report of an aircraft engine along the eastern side of south eastern reef between Carlson Island and "Snake Island (so named for all the coral snakes on the island)", 13 April 2012. In a prior mission a Palauan spear fisherman took us in this general area (north east of Peleliu) to relocate an aircraft he had found underwater; we had no success. Before the P-MAN XIV mission the fisherman called Joe to tell him he had found an engine further south from our original dives but did not find time to show us. The area he described to Joe was characterized by 4 parallel 60-100 foot fingers of sand heading due east from the eastern reef between Carlson and Snake islands. He said the "motor" and some pieces were at about 40 foot depth 50-100 feet from reef and not too close to Snake Island. We knew it was a low probability chance we would find anything without Cut and we were right. No aircraft debris was found. It was a beautiful dive and we were perhaps some of the last divers to see this area before Typhoon Bopha hit and destroyed the area.

NOTE: Each of the members of the BentProp Project, and specifically the P-MAN XIV team, wishes to recognize the excellent assistance of and cooperation with Mr. Ngirai Tmetuchl, Office of the President, Mr. Dwight Alexander, BAC, Dr. Suzanne Finney, BAC, Ms. Kelly Marsh, BAC, Mr. and Mrs. Shallum Etpison, Neco Marine, and all Palauan authorities we interacted with, including then-President Toribiong and the Governor of Peleliu State

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT 1

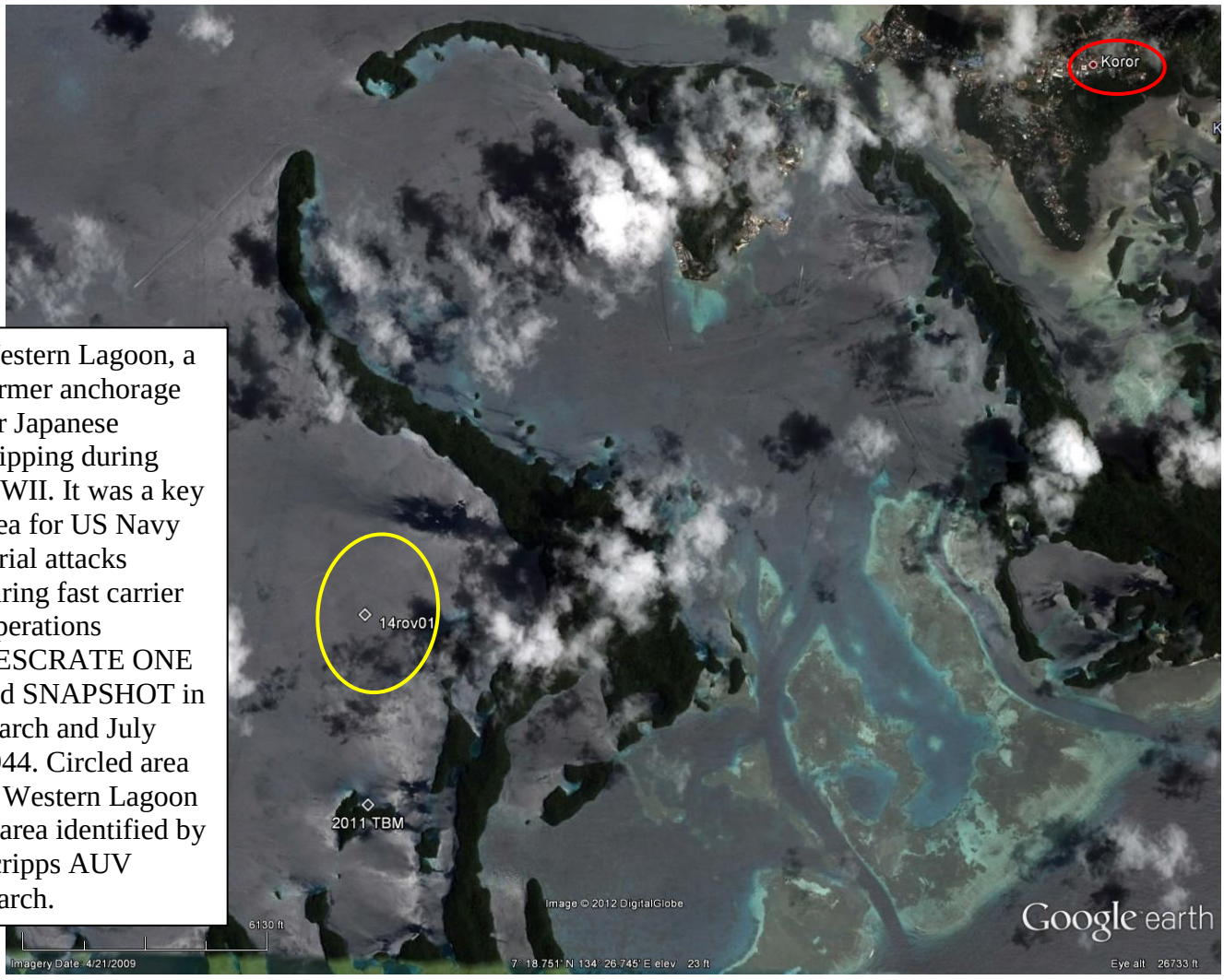
Target RT-1 (Return Target-1). Search for possible underwater targets around Western Lagoon, 15 March through 6 April, WITH Stockbridge ROV Team and AUV teams from three academic centers.

Returning to this area in which we have previously conducted Side Scan Sonar (SSS) searches during P-MAN XIIIa, we worked with two separate groups. The first was a group of Autonomous Underwater Vehicle teams from three academic centers: Scripps Institution of Oceanography/UCSD (Eric Terrill, PhD); California Polytechnic State University (Mark Moline, PhD) and University of Hawaii (Geno Pawlak, PhD), all working out of Pat and Lori Colin's Coral Reef Research Foundation in Malakal, Palau. The Scripps team, under the direction of Eric Terrill, PhD, provided the P-MAN XIV team with a day of use with their Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) to search in Western Lagoon. Using data from our prior SSS runs, we defined a "high density" search area for the Scripps AUV, which was programmed to run 4-5 meters off the ocean floor in a predefined pattern.

The Scripps SSS data revealed much greater detail, as might be expected from running so much closer to the ocean floor than our towed SSS. In one AUV run, two previously undiscovered vessels were located: a Daihatsu barge and an upended 150 foot ship. In addition from this run, we received a refined view of one point of our special interest which resolved into a 1-2 meter spherical object, confirmed by the AUV's video. This spheroid which appears manmade with a banded pattern could simply be a sunken anchorage buoy but also is consistent with a gun turret of either the top turret of a TBM Avenger (USN) or the bottom turret of a B-24 (USAAF). A third possibility also is that this is the remnant of a sea mine. Since examples of both types of American aircraft are suspected to have been lost in this area, this finding is of substantial interest for the BentProp Project and one that would have taken us years to generate an analogous data set. In particular, we have accumulated most information concerning the crash of a B24 of the 5th Bombardment Group which may have crashed in this area. This site containing the spheroid object became a reference point for intense study during the remainder of this part of the mission.

The second team was the Stockbridge High School Advanced Underwater Robotics Team who brought a Remotely Operated underwater Vehicle (ROV) which, after testing on two known crash sites (the newly discovered Corsair (see D.2. above) and the Jake off Arakebesan, was used in an attempt to visualize the target located by the Scripps AUV team. The team goal in Western Lagoon was to attempt to visualize the spheroid, confirm its properties and then, as appropriate, for the P-MAN XIV team to dive on the site. Although the ROV was able to visualize the ocean floor at the 120 foot depth in this area, thrust problems followed by compartment flooding did not permit full exploration of this target. The P-MAN XIV team made one dive into a very low

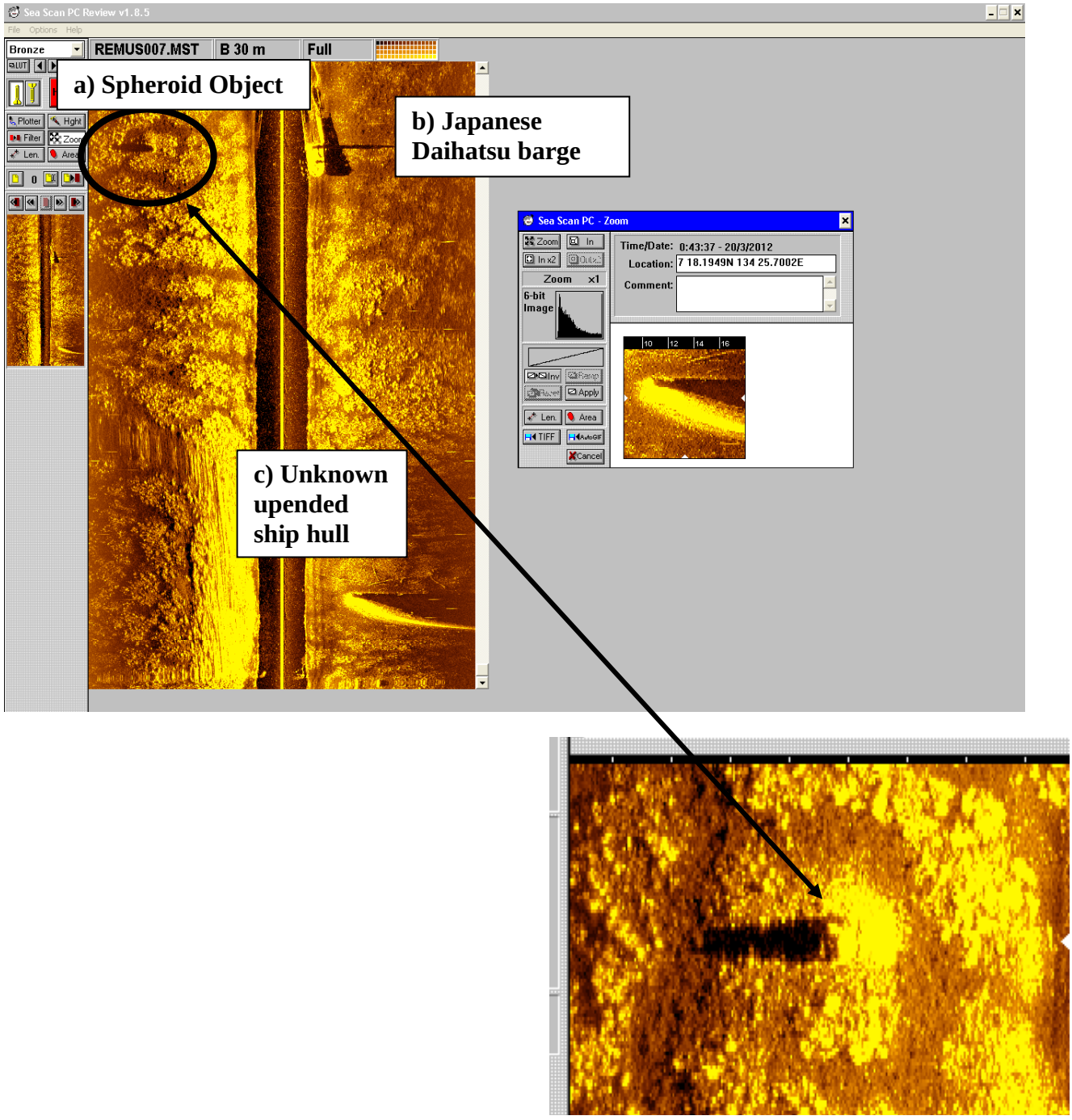
visibility setting (entering a nepheloid layer) in the immediate vicinity and was not able to visualize this target. In this part of Palau it is not uncommon that the ocean can have otherwise excellent visibility (50 feet or greater) for divers until ~10 meters off the floor, where a dense milky layer forms with less than a meter visibility. In this low visibility zone, diver disorientation and vertigo are possible and thus it is unproductive to continue such dives without special planning. Because of the late stage of P-MAN XIV by the time of this dive, we decided that this area will be the subject of a later mission.



Western Lagoon, a former anchorage for Japanese shipping during WWII. It was a key area for US Navy aerial attacks during fast carrier Operations DESCRATE ONE and SNAPSHOT in March and July 1944. Circled area in Western Lagoon is area identified by Scripps AUV search.

Autonomous Underwater Vehicles from Scripps Institution of Oceanography/UCSD (Eric Terrill, PhD); California Polytechnic State University (Mark Moline, PhD) and University of Hawaii (Geno Pawlak, PhD: AUVs at Pat and Lori Colin's Coral Reef Research Foundation in Palau

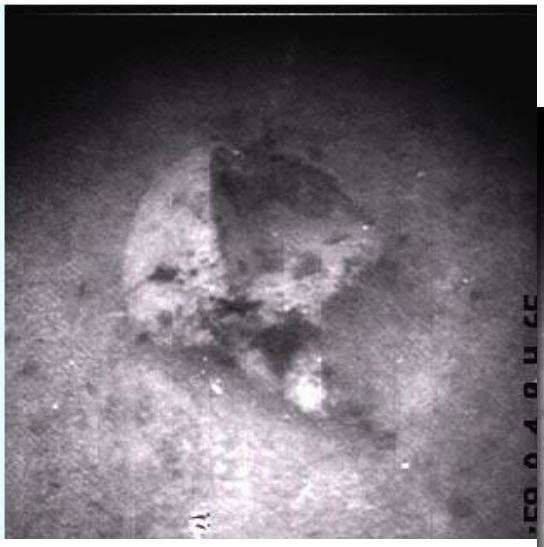
Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle from the Advanced Underwater Robotics Team from Stockbridge High School: in action over a newly discovered USMC Corsair and field team in Western Lagoon. From far left clockwise: (in light orange) Barbara Lance (SHS), Buck Poszywak (SHS), Wesley Havens (SHS), Joe Maldangesang, Dan O'Brien, Josh Nichols (in glasses, Fourth Grade Teacher SHS), Derek Abbey, Scott Watson (SHS), Bob Richards (SHS Head Teacher for the SHSH Advanced Underwater Robotics Team) and Pat Scannon



A single SSS run of the Scripps AUV in Western Lagoon in approximately 110 feet of water revealing a) an approximately1-2 meter spheroid object, b) a Daihatsu barge and c) an upended 150 foot vessel (partial view here).

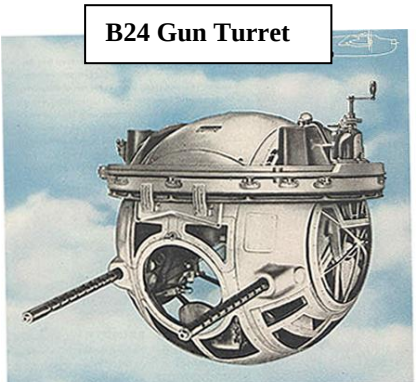
Courtesy of Eric Terrill, PhD, Scripps/USCD

Three different AUV runs over the 2 meter spheroid, each oriented in approximately the same direction.
Courtesy of Eric Terrill, PhD, Scripps/USCD.
Photo enhancement courtesy of Nell Scannon, Punk Horse Marketing Group



Mooring Buoy

B24 Gun Turret



USN Sea Mines, circa

TBM Avenger Gun Turret

Mooring Buoy (close to sunken Daihatsu), Gun Turret or Sea Mine?

ATTACHMENT 2:

Target RT-5. Returning to a previous Corsair crash site in a mangrove swamp in Ngaremlengui, 18, 19, 21 March. We added approximately 50 additional pieces of debris with GPS points to the known crash site area within the mangrove swamp. Although no single piece of debris definitively identifies the cockpit area, the impact area of the debris field appears to be concentrating in the southeast portion of the total debris field. Based on an interview of a Palauan in Ngaremlengui who witnessed the crash, we believe this Corsair impacted nose down (possibly after stalling) into this mangrove area; It is possible some substantial portions of this aircraft remain submerged under the mangrove mud. We have requested input from JPAC as to whether the existent debris pattern is sufficient for a possible recovery or if additional work is requested; we have recommended that JPAC give this site consideration for possible recovery.

ATTACHMENT 3:

Target RT-7. Returning to crash/burial sites for soil sample collections. At each site between 16 and 20 samples of 20 ml (estimated 10 grams) of soil were collected at an average depth of 3 inches below the surface per protocol developed at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. ***[See the separate ATTACHMENT 3: Soil Sampling Protocol.]*** **Specific sampling information includes:**

RT-7A. Corsair crash site in Aimeliik, 3 April: 20 soil samples, including 2 negative controls in general area of presumed impact site. This site appears unchanged from our last visit.

RT-7B. POW/MIA site in Aimeliik/Ngatpang, 31 March: 18 soil samples, including 3 negative controls in general area of possible burial areas. This site appears unchanged from our last visit. President Johnson Toribiong participated in scooping the first soil sample from this site after describing the historical significance to these executions.

RT-7C. FM-2 Wildcat crash site in Airai, 3 April: 16 soil samples, including 2 negative controls in general area of engine impact site. This site appears to have been visited frequently since our last visit; some pieces such as parts of a radio appear to be missing or moved to an unknown location.

RT-7D: Corsair crash site in Ngaremlengui 10 April: 17 soil samples, including 2 controls in the vicinity of possible burial site. In addition, our Palauan guide took us to an additional debris field for this aircraft on top of and just below a ridge facing the primary crash site about 330 meters on a northward heading from the main debris field. We documented the various aircraft parts with GPS and photographs and replaced them in their original positions. We found no markings although they are parts from a Corsair, linking this with the primary site in the valley below. One piece appears to be a wing tip, suggesting that he clipped a wing on that ridge just prior to his final impact in the valley. There is a cliff just to the south of the wingtip area and it is possible that additional debris fell in that area, as the new debris could be found from the hill top to the edge of the cliff. According to our guide, the elders spoke of seeing this plane hit to the north in the area of Ngaraard.

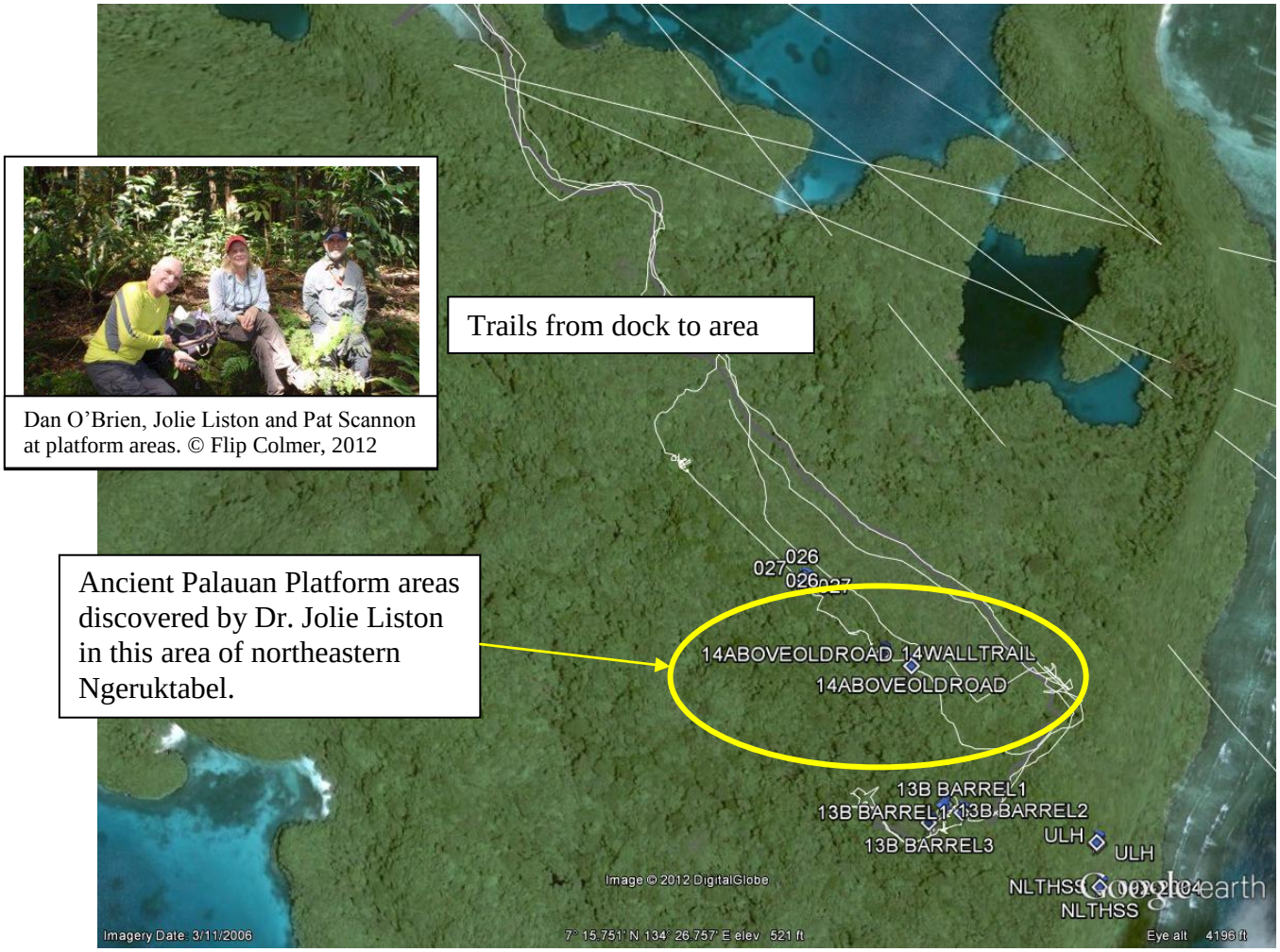
On that same ridge, our guide also showed us a platform or observation area on the very top of the ridge. This appears to be flat with two levels, the higher level, being oblong (`10 x 20 meters) and having the best views of the two platforms both to the north and south; the lower level is also oblong about 4 times larger in area. Patterns or distributions of rocks in different places in this area suggest this may be a traditional Palauan site, possibly used for observation.

Packaging of soil samples for 7A, B, C, D under standard protocol for shipping were completed and the samples, with US import soil permit, sent to a laboratory specializing in this methodology. The P-MAN XIV team worked with the President's office and received the appropriate exit permit. At the date of this report, the samples were not yet analyzed.

ATTACHMENT 4: Survey form. D4Y Comet aka "Judy" – [*See the separate ATTACHMENT 4 form]*

<u>Target NT-1(New Target-1). Viewing a Japanese crash site on Ngeruktabel, 7 April.</u> After numerous attempts over several years following reports of aircraft crashes on Ngeruktabel, we hiked to a previously known Japanese crash site to determine if this might be what Palauan hunters might be referring to. This Japanese crash site, most probably a Judy D4Y type observation aircraft, was found several years ago with bones. These Japanese bones have been collected but the site appears to be otherwise undisturbed. Two 7.62 mm machine guns can be seen with three circular magazines of ammunition – no other unexploded ordnance was seen but no effort was made to explore the bomb bay, which Judy types had. This site is approximately 600 feet above sea level and is at least 1-2 miles from other reported crash site areas. Therefore we do not believe this site is what hunters further north on Ngeruktabel may be referring to. Additional searches for other aircraft on Ngeruktabel may be indicated, depending on additional information being gathered by hunters.

SPECIAL NOTE: On 28 March, we hiked with a Palauan guide and Ms. Jolie Liston on Ngeruktabel to search for a potential aircraft - without success. However, during that search, Ms. Liston identified at least one area as a possible traditional flat/platform site in this general area – previously unknown. This was reported to Bureau of Arts and Culture. This is an important finding in Palau for historical reasons and also for the awareness that WWII archeological sites might overlap with ancient sites.



"Platform" site on Ngeruktabel

ATTACHMENT 5. Survey form. Corsair (survived) FG1 (BuNo 14053) - *Attached*

<u>Documenting of Corsair BuNo14053, VMF-122 with aviator surviving</u> (separate report previously filed), Western Reef, dated 4 April 2012

ATTACHMENT 6 – <u>JPAC Summaries for seven key sites under consideration for recovery operations</u>
Eight separate Site Survey Forms for individual sites were summarized and forwarded to JPAC. Due to sensitive data within, these reports are not included in this public report.

NOTES OF APPRECIATION:

As is our ongoing custom, the P-MAN XIV team wishes to acknowledge and express our gratitude for the support of the many people both in Palau and elsewhere who have made our mission successes possible, both from those who help us year-to-year and those whom we met during this mission. We received help everywhere we went within Palau. We were honored to not only pay a courtesy call to President Toribiong but also were thrilled to once again hike with him and his staff into the jungles of Ngatpang to honor POWs lost in Palau during WWII. President Johnson Toribiong has been a public supporter of the BentProp Project during his entire administration; his Special Assistant, Mr. Ngiraibelas Tmetuchl, has taken many calls from the BentProp Project over the past four years. We will never forget the help President Toribiong has provided, nor will we ever forget his paying respects for all Palauans at the Arlington graveside of a B-24 crew shot down over Koror in September 1944.

Official P-MAN XIV team photo with the President of Palau. Palauan Flag is center forward with State Flags in background.

Photo with permission.

Our US Ambassador Helen Reed-Rowe took a great interest in our activities this year, as well as the activities of the Stockbridge kids – for which we are very appreciative. The ROV team was really impressed that the Ambassador spent so much time with them. Amidst her busy schedule, Ambassador Reed-Rowe also spent time with some of our team members to learn about why we do what we do - which has left a lasting impression on all of us.

The President's Dinner for the Stockbridge High School ROV Team. The entire ROV team and the P-MAN XIV team are present (except for Flip who is taking picture). On front row, President Johnson Toribiong is second from the left, Ambassador Helen Reed-Rowe is center and Vice President Kerai Mariur is second from right. Flip Colmer ©2012

Even though this past year was an important political year for the Whipps family, Surangel Whipps and his sons, (now) Senator Mason and Senator Surangel, Jr. Whipps continued to assist the BentProp Projects – once again, permitting us to use one of their vans during our stay. In addition, Senator Elias Chin and then former (and now present) President Tommy Remengesau graciously met with us so that we could update them on our activities.

Senator Elias Chin posing with three members of the ROV team: Scott Watson (left), Cody Chadwick and Wesley Havens. Flip Colmer©2012

We also appreciate the continued support, guidance and numerous introductions from many individuals and offices within the Palau government. We thank Mr. Dwight Alexander, the Director of the Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC) and the entire staff for their patient assistance with our permitting, through our joint Memorandum of Understanding. This year, Dr. Suzanne Finney, PhD joined BAC as the senior archeologist and we worked closely with her on several projects: the McCullah Corsair, remains recovery on Peleliu and others. We appreciate the trust she extended to us, especially as the new person in that organization. We also thank BAC's ethnographer, Ms. Kelly Marsh, for her guidance and continued assistance.

Suzanne Finney, PhD, Head archeologist, Palauan Bureau of Arts and Culture, on the job diving on McCullah Corsair to begin documentation process. Flip Colmer©2012

We thank the governors and their respective staffs from the States of Airai, Koror, Ngatpang, Ngaremlengui, Ngiwal, Ngarchelong, Ngaraard and Peleliu for permitting us to work and interview within their states and hope to continue our cordial and productive relationship with them on future P-MAN trips. We greatly appreciate the help from the chiefs, historians, elders and hunter-guides of Ngaremlengui, Ngatpang, Koror, Ngiwal, Ngaraard, Ngarchelong and Peleliu. We thank property owners for giving us permission to evaluate sites on their land. We are also grateful to Neco Marine and Sam's Dive Tours for leads they have provided, as well as for continuing to provide superb service. Special thanks to Margie and Dave Mendozza for the special T-shirts and the very special margaritas.

We thank Mr. Takao Anzawa, Counselor and Ms. Naoko Hayashi, Economic Researcher both from the Embassy of Japan who kindly hosted a lunch for us at PPR to explain the various activities the government of Japan has in planning regarding environmental issues related in part to WWII, including their pilot program, Japan Maritime Action Service (JMAS).

In particular we acknowledge the special, ongoing guidance that Mandy and Shallum Etpison have provided over the years as we continue to make our way around these beautiful tropical islands – even though with their busy schedules, we rarely see them, their kindnesses are felt by us throughout our mission. That they thought of us when a new Corsair was found speaks volumes for their confidence in us, our goals and our methods. They also saw to our having two great boat captains, Spyce and Logan – they were terrific help for us!

Two great boat captains: Spyce (left) and Logan – always ready and on time!
L: Flip Colmer ©2012
R: Pat Scannon © 2012

We sincerely acknowledge Sam Scott and Dermot Keane of Sam's Tours for their tremendous enthusiasm for our work – on many more than one occasion, Dermot has gotten us a four wheel drive vehicle on almost no notice to help us track down a lead.

Each year, we try to find new ways to thank Joe Maldangesang, Master Guide and dear friend for the past 16 years (how the time has flown!). Once again, he did a terrific job even though he has taken on a new job as Conservation Officer of Ngarchelong State. We also want to give special thanks to Governor Browney Salvador, who permitted Joe to break away from his important job to help us during this mission.

Joe, kayaking in the Rock Islands in Airai. Always cheerful and prepared, Joe will always lead the way into wherever we need to go: on land, on Sea and as here, in mangroves. His smile and constant patience with his other team members are hallmarks of Joe – he truly is our Master Guide in Palau.

Flip Colmer © 2012

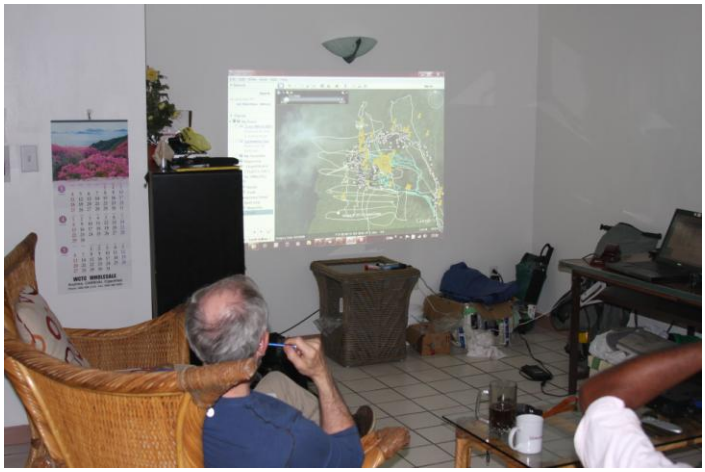
We remain in awe of the people of Palau, as well as of their friendliness, cooperation and graciousness to each and every one of us. We want all the people of Palau to be aware of our deep gratitude to your nation and to each person who has helped us find large clues and small clues (which sometimes become large clues) – each one important to families in the United States and to Palau - to understanding events generated in and around Palau almost 70 years ago. So many of the "WWII" generation have now passed on and yet the family stories passed down to the next generations, as is Palauan tradition, continue to help us in our searches. Once again, each member of the P-MAN XIV team wishes to convey our ongoing and deep respect for your wonderful nation and its people.

Our appreciation would be incomplete without acknowledging the ongoing support of the several agencies in the United States that are assisting our efforts. We recognize here the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Hawaii, the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, Arlington, VA, the National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD and the U. S. Naval Heritage and Historical Center, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., They have always enthusiastically provided and continue to support us with the technical and historical information we have sought and continue to seek – and much more.

We also wish to acknowledge that we greatly value the recollections (and photos) from veteran aviators, crews, families and friends from VMF-114, VMF-121, VMF-122, VMTB-134, 307th BG(H)/13th AAF, 5th BG(H)/13th AAF and 494th BG(H)/7th AAF as well as other units in the Pacific during WWII – all these veterans risked their lives for our country and the people of Palau. These men, their wives, families (especially now the children) and friends are even now continuing to provide historical and emotional snapshots of that time and place – and over the years, we have gained so many special relationships as a result. As time goes by, we value these friends ever more.

As is the field team's desire and my custom in this report, I want to take a moment to thank each of the volunteers of the BentProp Project who were not in the field with us this year. A growing number of team members provide support at home during the year and particularly during our mission. I call out Katie Rasdorf and Reid Joyce as always ready when they get our emails from Palau, usually making near impossible requests. We know and are gratified that the other team members stand ready to assist, as well.

To the P-MAN XIV team, this is always to me both the easiest and hardest part of this summary. This is because these volunteers simply are the best. Each is dedicated, true in heart, hard working and persevering in our quest to return home these American MIAs within Palau (and elsewhere). Each has his own story, his own personality, his own sense of independence – but in the final analysis, each comes together and together each year we become a unique P-MAN team. No two P-MAN teams have ever been alike in personality but each has always alike in meeting our mission goals. This year we had a small team so we worked harder. I never heard a complaint from any of the team. Flip, as Mission Leader, directed the operation with real leadership. He also acted as the liaison with the SHS team and we had some wonderful times receiving briefs and debriefs on each day's events from the kids. Derek, currently an instructor's instructor for the Marines, also spent time with the kids helping develop methods of prioritizing activities and decisions. Dan O'Brien has become a GPS wizard and remains our core videographer and SSS expert from year to year. Joe continues to be our link with the Palauan people but he is so much more – his powers of observation have saved us so many times! With a team like this, I mainly fill in any holes - but I can assure you, there were not many holes to fill. And then there was the night of 07APR12 – the start of a new tradition of respect for our missing Americans – one we will repeat. It is my distinct honor to work side-by-side with each and every one of my teammates.



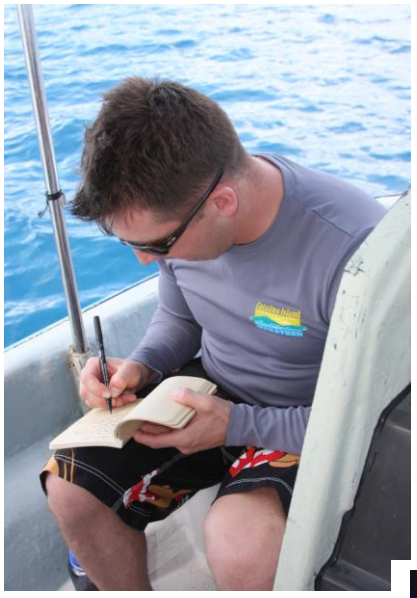
P-MAN XV Team in the Ready Room planning next field trip to the Perry crash site. We study all new data, often obtained after our arrival in-country, before heading out. In this case, we are studying prior search and debris patterns in the mangrove swamp. Flip Colmer©2012

Just out of the jungles of Ngaremlengui after obtaining soil samples at a suspected grave site Of a Corsair aviator. Our Guide Sekarius helped us solve the ten year old puzzle of how this Corsair crashed deep in a valley surrounded by steep hills. See ATTACHMENT 7 B.

Flip Colmer (and auto timer)© 2012

Pat (left) and Flip at decompression stop in Western Lagoon after attempting to locate the "spheroid" object found by the Scripps AUV. Although ~ 100 foot visibility here, we ran into a complete white out about 5 meters off the ocean floor (called a nepheloid layer) which halted the dive. Derek is using one of our new toys, a GoPro camera which proved to be very versatile. Derek Abbey©2012

Coming back from Babeldaob, one of our favorite meals and eating locations: eating Bem Ermii burgers and milkshakes under the K-B Bridge. We are generally too dirty to eat in a restaurant (although we look pretty clean here). The water is crystal clear under our feet and full of sea life. Flip Colmer © 2012



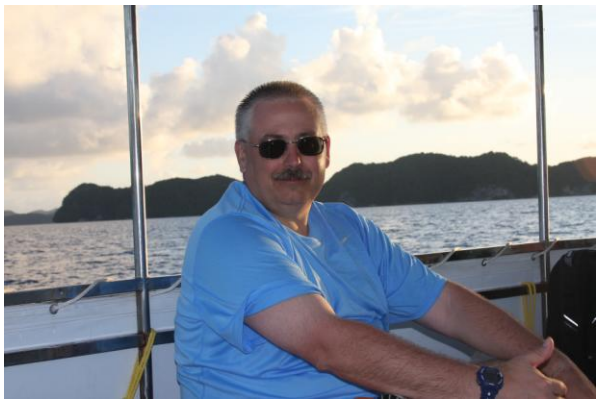
From Left:
Derek generating a new hypothesis for us to ponder; Flip saving Pat's hat from the ocean floor off Arakebesan; Dan testing the SSS equipment in dry dock, Pat at his happiest inside the jungle. Center: A special moment in a certain jungle spot we will not forget.

All photos (even of himself): Flip Colmer ©2012

The BentProp Project continues to expand its technology base, along with finding the dedicated people who are helping us optimize the application of these instruments for our searches. We reiterate our thanks to Marine Sonic for their generous donation of SSS equipment and support, as well as to Chesapeake Software which is extending our abilities to interpret SSS data. We also thank History Flight for their generous unrestricted contribution to support our P-MAN XIV mission, which we used for our boat-based searches – thanks, Mark! We also appreciate Mark Noah's assistance in our attempts at soil sample analysis of key suspected burial sites throughout Palau.

We have no doubts now that our searches are getting more difficult – the easy targets have been found. And somehow in the face of that increasing difficulty, P-MAN XIV was a very special year for new ocean technologies. As mentioned above, we thank Mandy Etpison for introducing us to the individuals running the Autonomous Underwater Vehicle teams from Scripps Institution of Oceanography (headed by Eric Terrill, PhD), California Polytechnic State University (headed by Mark Moline, PhD – now at the University of Delaware) and University of Hawaii (headed by Geno Pawlak, PhD). We also thank Lori and Pat Colin at the Coral Reef Research Foundation for their patience and (to us) their unbounded interest in helping the BentProp Project.

And what can we say about the kids from Stockbridge High School with their ROV? What an inspiration for all of us! Under the exceptional leadership of Mr. Bob Richards with the never-ending help of Mr. Josh Nichols, this team of high school engineers and marketers built their own ROV from scratch and raised the money to come to Palau and test it out. Yes, they had some tough issues to solve but in the end, they got the ROV videoing at 120 feet under some pretty rough conditions. Although this started as a two-way experiment, very rapidly the ROV team and the P-MAN XIV team were working side-by-side. We all wish we could have had Mr. Richards and Mr. Nichols for teachers back in our formative years…



Mr. Bob Richards, SHS ROV Team Leader: One cool guy in everyone's book!

Flip Colmer © 2012

Official P-MAN XIV/SHS ROV Team Shirt designed by Dave Mendozza

Many Specific and Special Thanks to:

HISTORY FLIGHT

Mark, you remain a BentProp team member even as you move on with History Flight – and you prove it all year long. Thanks for everything.

Marine Sonic Technology, Ltd.

Chesapeake Technology Inc.

Coral Reef Research Foundation

Thanks to our friends and colleagues Lori and Pat Colin!

GoPro Be a HERO

We don't know the GoPro Folks personally, but they sure make good stuff!

Once again, many thanks to everyone at Neco Marine for all your help. To the owners, Mandy and Shallum Etpison, and the entire staff, our deep appreciation

Neco marine

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

SAM'S TOURS

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 unfailing 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 know she is tired of this photo but I love it almost as much as I love her: I try to live my love - and with all my love, Pat