

FEATURE

See No Evil, Hear No Evil

By Ignatius Y. Ding

"Those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it."

— Harvard philosopher
George Santayan

As his wife Barbara, sons and grandchildren watched intensely from the airfield with their hearts in their throats, the 85-year-old man jumped out a plane to celebrate his birthday. He repeated what he did twice before - once on his 75th birthday and the other on his 80th.

That was a reenactment of his WWII jump from a burning torpedo bomber hit by enemy fires when he was a 19-year-old naval pilot, the youngest in US naval aviator to that date. He landed in the middle of the Pacific, waited in an inflated raft for hours. He was miraculously rescued by submarine USS Finback (SS-230) to return to base.

More than 50 years later, he went back to pay tribute to his fellow crew members. Eight of them died on the remote island of Chichi Jima. He was the lone survivor. The other eight were all captured by the Japanese, killed and cannibalized before and after their death by their captors with the same fate as many other Allied soldiers falling victims in the jungle.

This real horrific story was meticulously documented in the bestseller *Flyboys: A True Story of Courage* by James Bradley. The lone survivor in this remarkable saga later became a

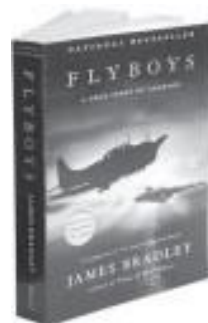


US congressman, the CIA Director, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, the US Ambassador to China, the Vice President and then the 41st president of the United States. George H.W. Bush knows what are war crimes, atrocities, and genocide. Most importantly, he knows the importance of peace.

According a NBC Dateline documentary and the archived records in the US Navy Department Library, Greg Rodriques, Sr. an enlisted Cherokee Indian survived the notorious Death March of Bataan in the Philippines in which 25,000 POWs (about 50%) died in the brutal march over 60 miles to Camp O'Donnell in April 1942, including many bayoneted to death or beheaded when they fell to their feet due to

exhaustion. He then was stuffed in the cargo hull of one of the unmarked ships, in standing room condition, to Manchuria, China and again survived the torpedo attacks by Allied submarines unaware of the US POWs on board of

the "Hell Ships." Rodriques and other Allied prisoners of war were used as guinea pigs by the Japanese biochemical warfare researchers in labs. Less than 20% survived the agonizing needling, poking, sub-zero imprisonment and "medical examinations" by the end of WWII.





Unbeknown to Rodriques and others who began their unfortunate fate in living hell, a group of US airmen led by Lt. Colonel Jimmy Doolittle took off from aircraft carrier USS Hornet on April 18, 1942 to carry out the first air raid of Tokyo. Their surprise bombing did little physical damage, but it deeply shook the confidence of the Japanese. The Militarists in Tokyo had thought that the American air and naval forces were totally crippled by their Pearl Harbor Sneak Attack only five months ago.

The Doolittle Raiders, as they are known to the world since then, actually soon ran out fuel after their daredevil mission. They glided their bombers towards China coastline. All sixteen planes crash-landed along the railway from Zhejiang province to Fujian. The Japanese

<http://losaltos.patch.com/groups/neighbor-nextdoor-u-dont-know/p/see-no-evil-hear-no-evil>

troops found the aircraft wreckages scattered across several hundred miles, but none of the 64 American crew members.

The US airmen were rescued by the local villagers and escorted out of danger to Zongqing, China's wartime capital. They got back to San Francisco in two weeks. Jimmy Doolittle received a Congressional Medal of Honor for his action and leadership.

What did the Japanese do then? They started the massive revenge-killings against Chinese civilians. The methodical slaughtering evidently did not satisfy the Japanese high command. They ordered the dropping of ceramic bombs containing mice and fleas, and plane loads of cotton and grain laced with bubonic plague, anthrax and all kinds of deadly germs into cities, villages, rivers and rice paddies. In the summer of 1942 alone, the germ warfare attacks killed more than 250,000 civilians, according to a 2002 war crimes study. Most survivors were school-age children. The Japanese biological warfare was deployed in 22 of the 25 Chinese provinces and Inner Mongolia, also at least in Singapore and Burma. The chemical weapons were used against combatants and civilians 2,701 times with 2 million poison gas shells and canisters still left in China to this date.