

The 7 of April

By

Joel P. LaFlamme

Registered through WGA
Registration number: 1408509

In care of
John Iwasin
iwasinproductions@gmail.com
647 240 7146
416 752 4008

EXT. - OKINAWA JAPAN - DAWN

FADE IN:

It is late in the evening and a crimson sunset provides a beautiful backdrop to the tropical Pacific paradise. Waves slowly curl onto the island's white sandy shores.

A HORSEMAN steps into frame, he is silhouetted by the red rising sun. He looks outward to the pacific as several smoke trails appear on the distant horizon.

The Allied Naval Task Force steams forward.

Black Title Screen.

EXT. OKINAWAN RIVER - EARLY MORNING

Fade in on a calm and glassy river.

The sound of a boat motor getting closer is the only sound.

It is revealed as a simple fishing boat with an old smoky motor traveling downriver.

Three brothers are aboard and sitting in order of age. FUMIO the youngest sits at the bow, KENJI in the middle and the eldest YUICHI at the stern.

Kenji reads a small black book.

Fumio innocently dangles his fingers in the water while YUICHI's eyes stay glued on the river bend.

Yuichi reacts suddenly to a large plume of black smoke that can be seen over the tree line.

A gunshot rings out over the valley as birds suddenly take to the air.

The 2 younger brothers turn to each other with confused looks on their faces.

YUICHI realizes the situation instantly.

The war has reached their village.

Subtitles:

YUICHI
The Japanese army is here and
they've already heard the motor. I
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

YUICHI (cont'd)
will stay with the boat, but you
two must go!

The boys hesitate.

YUICHI
Go, Now!!!

KENJI bites his book and dives into the water.

FUMIO runs up and grabs YUICHI.

FUMIO
I won't leave you!

YUICHI
I'll come back, I promise. Now go
with your brother.

YUICHI tosses FUMIO into the water and watches as his 2
brothers swim toward the riverbank.

As his boat rounds the final bend YUICHI sees his village,
many fires are burning and the town is covered by a thick
cloud of smoke.

YUICHI is instantly spotted by a group of Japanese soldiers
standing on a dock.

JAPANESE SOLDIER
Hey you, Come here! Now!

YUICHI docks his boat. The soldiers grab him and throw him
to his knees.

YUICHI looks up to see a proud officer approach him on a
white horse. The officer's eyes are trained on the water.

He is Captain SHIMIZU, second in command of the occupying
force. His attention slowly turns to YUICHI

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
Are you alone boy?

YUICHI nods.

SHIMIZU's eyes move back to the ripples in the water. He
notices a second path of water ripples leading to shore.

FUMIO has made it to shore, and is watching from behind some
tall grass.

KENJI is further up river.

(CONTINUED)

SHIMIZU begins to move toward the river bank as he continues to speak to YUICHI.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

Your boat is now in possession of the Imperial navy. You will be conscripted into the 32nd infantry. Should you deny this honor, you will be shot. If you try to escape you will be shot.

As SHIMIZU speaks, he moves towards FUMIO's hiding place.

FUMIO is frozen and racked with fear as the Captain bears down on him.

Shimizu looks down to see the trembling young boy.

The stern officer hops off his horse, kneels and helps FUMIO to his feet.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

Have no fear boy, for you will be given the greatest honor a man can receive. You will be a great hero to your land and your people.

Shimizu turns to Yuichi with a look of disdain across his face.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

That goes for you as well, liar.

The 2 boys are escorted through their village and forced to witness the atrocities being committed by the Northern Army.

Families are torn apart as all able bodied men of the village are conscripted into the ranks of their oppressors.

The old, weak and disabled are the only ones discarded.

The 2 boys are brought before SHIMIZU's commanding officer, COLONEL TOSHIO SAKOMOTO. The COLONEL is in his mid 60's, he is a smaller man with bald head and a stern disposition. He sits atop a large black horse.

SAKOMOTO is speaking with one of the villagers. He is an old man named TETSUO OKAMOTO,. He's in his early 70's and stands with a small walking cane.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

I can't tell you what a pleasure it is to see a village like this.

TETSUO OKAMOTO

If you care so much for our
village, how can you take our
children to fight your war?

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

Tetsuo, you still see Japanese as
the enemy, it's been nearly 70
years since Okinawa was liberated.
You were only a child when we took
over. Why do you hate us so?

OKAMOTO remains silent.

SAKAMOTO turns his head to a sky filled with black smoke.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU uses this moment to be heard.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

Sir, we have intercepted another
fishing boat. The older one tried
to hide the small one, yet he will
make a great soldier.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

and the boy?

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

One boat, one warship.

The COLONEL nods and FUMIO is taken away by a Japanese
soldier.

Farmers in the village watch as their sons are taken away.
Unwilling to just standby, 3 farmers grab pitch forks and
charge the 2 commanding officers.

MANZO TAMURA

Murderer!!!!

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU quickly draws his pistol and guns down 2 of
the farmers.

The COLONEL unsheathes his cavalry saber and lunges it to
the chest of his would be assassin. Two farmers lie dead
while the third, MANZO TAMURA is spared.

MANZO runs to hold the body of his dead friend.

MANZO TAMURA

No, no what have I done?!

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO
Stupid, stupid

TETSUO looks to the CAPTAIN then to the COLONEL.

TETSUO OKAMOTO
Damn you.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO:
What if you had to carry my load,
to provide food like a father, to
fill the mouths of his hungry men.
The days of good hunting are over
my friend... Captain!

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
Sir!

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO
Ready all available troops.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
Yes Sir. Attention Men! Prepare to
move out!

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU rides off. The Japanese soldiers and
village conscripts follow.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO
We shall have another discussion
very soon. It's always a pleasure
to hear the views of my good friend
Tsuoshi.

FUMIO is brought back to the fishing boat. A young Japanese
soldier orders him aboard at gunpoint, then boards the boat
as well.

Meanwhile KENJI, still hiding in the bushes, watches from
the riverbank as FUMIO steers the boat up river.

The YOUNG SOLDIER moves to the bow and begins placing large
explosive charges on the front of the boat.

The boat rounds the final bend in the river, revealing the
great American war fleet on the horizon, the largest fleet
assembled in history.

For a moment the world stands still as KENJI gazes at the
hundreds of warships peppering the horizon. As the camera
pulls back, 30 other small Japanese boats are revealed.

The small Kamikaze force begin to converge on the
Americans.

(CONTINUED)

The Japanese soldiers scream as the American destroyers open fire.

Instantly the Kamikaze force is cut in half by the massive barrage.

Some of the boats spread out as the villagers try to turn back. The retreating villagers are quickly shot by the remaining Japanese soldiers.

FUMIO, now in tears, is only 300 feet away from an American transport ship.

A volley of rifle fire sprays across FUMIO's boat tagging him in the chest and shoulder. FUMIO slumps to the side and lets go of the wheel. His boat veers towards a smaller landing boat hanging off the side of the transport.

The young boy's eyes close for the final time as the explosives detonate on impact.

A tremendous fireball climbs up the side of the transport ship.

Two American soldiers rush to the edge of and peer.

PARKS

Well I'm not taking that one!

April 1st

AMERICAN NAVAL TASK FORCE - USS POTOMAC

The camera continues to rise above the ship revealing a battalion of men on the bow, it rises higher still to show dozens of similar boats in the background.

DECK LEVEL

The ear shattering sound of artillery sweeps across the deck causing a young private to flinch.

PFC OWENS grabs him by the shoulder.

PFC OWENS

Don't worry kid, that's just the Navy clearing her throat.

The camera continues to another group of soldiers waiting to board one of the landing boats. SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX is checking over his men as they get ready.

(CONTINUED)

VIN notices that one has his helmet strap done up. He looks to the young private and motions to undo the strap. The boy looks around and sees everyone's strap is undone, he quickly undoes his.

VIN turns to address the men.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Believe in yourself and in the man
beside you.

PFC LOUDMOUTH
I keep my trust in god, sir.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
God's not here to be trusted, he's
here to kill Japs, like the rest of
us.

The men smile.

The camera moves further down the boat to a young brawny Corporal who's giving words of encouragement to his men.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Stay behind me boys, I'll lead you
to the Promised Land.

Next to him a few young soldiers are talking.

PFC RYAN
For the last 3 days I thought this
was an April fools joke! The
biggest invasion ever, on the 1st
of April?!? Fuck.

EXT. STERN OF THE TRANSPORT - ABOVE THE LAST LANDING BOAT

Lt. COLONEL CONWAY is 60. He stands before his squad in silence as they await the order to board the landing boats.

A loud siren rings out as the commanding officers give the order to board the Navy landing boats.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY
All right boys saddle up.

Like a well oiled machine, the Marines begin to load into their landing boats.

The cool water from the Pacific sprays across the soldiers faces as their boats rip threw the waves towards the beach.

(CONTINUED)

To the American's surprise, the landing boats get to shore almost untouched and only a few bunkers seem to be in use.

The 6th marine division hits the northern end of the beach and come across some steady opposition.

CONWAY - Commanding officer of the 6th - stays in his landing boat and communicates strategy over the radio.

CONWAY'S superior officer, COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS monitors the attack from the safety of the transport ship's bridge.

Standing next to the veteran officer is a young Japanese man. His name is Allen Katsushiro and he's wearing the uniform of an American Lieutenant. His focus turns to CONWAY and his men as they come under sudden fire.

As CONWAY'S men move up the beach, opposing gun placements take aim solely at the higher ranked officers and medics. With no commanding officers, the soldiers begin to panic under fire.

CONWAY attempts to rally his troops over the radio

LT COL GEORGE CONWAY
Listen Corporal I want you to
calm...

On the beach CONWAY's radio man is suddenly hit from a savage mortar attack.

CONWAY motions to grab his rifle, suddenly COLONEL BRIGGS'S voice can be heard over the radio.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
If you go out there, George by God
I'll bust you down to Major so
fast.....George!!!!

The new MAJOR is off, dodging gunfire and quickly cutting to the heart of the battle.

Back on the bridge of the transport ship COLONEL BRIGGS throws down his hat in anger.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
God Damn it George!

ALLEN KATSUSHIRO can barely believe his eyes as he watches CONWAY tear through the chaos.

CONWAY closes in on his first squad and takes cover behind an embankment. SGT VIN DEVEREAUX is to his left, pinned down by opposing gunfire.

(CONTINUED)

CONWAY quickly sheds all signs of leadership by dropping his coat, helmet and pistol. He grabs a fallen soldier's helmet to replace his.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
[To Devereaux]

What do we got Vin?

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Well Private (Conway and Devereaux smile), if you haven't noticed, we're pinned from the north. (points towards an old structure approx 30 yards north)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Any ideas what that is?

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
According to the map, it's an old Graveyard sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
A Graveyard? (Takes a moment)

The MAJOR begins to plan his assault.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
I want you to take your squad up the left side of this bunker! I'll take 2nd squad and flank them from the right.

VIN appears to doubt the MAJOR's plan.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Don't worry Vin, we'll get up there.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX
It ain't gettin' up there I'm worried about sir, it's staying up there I mind.

THE MAJOR tosses a smoke grenade before splitting the men.

CONWAY takes his men right into the line of fire hoping the Japanese will see him.

The Japanese see CONWAY moving up the right side and quickly focus their fire on him and his squad.

(CONTINUED)

CONWAY is able to take cover with his men behind a large rock.

The Japanese are unaware of the other squad.

DEVEREAUX is able to come up from the right and flank the graveyard, shooting the Japanese soldiers in the back.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX
We're clear!

TRANSPORT SHIP - BRIDGE

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS and ALLEN KATSUSHIRO can see the MAJOR and his squad.

ALLEN cheers as he see's the Old MAJOR emerge victorious.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
That senile, suicidal son of a
bitch

SOUTH END OF THE BEACH - 1/4 MILE SOUTH OF CONWAY

CORPORAL CLARENCE "Buck" WALSH; A tall slim man in his early 30's.

His squad has met some serious resistance and a sudden massive explosion sends many men flying.

As he takes cover and surveys the situation other soldiers start to lose it.

WALSH looks in disgust as one of his men carelessly fires his flamethrower in the direction of a bunker

PFC COBB:
Die you Savages, you fucking
cocksuckers!

As his men hesitate under fire, BUCK springs into action.

The CORPORAL is a fast moving killing machine, he moves without hesitation and is a dead accurate shot.

Opposing gun fire is trained on him as he quickly covers 80 feet of beach between him and the bunker.

WALSH takes cover at the base of the massive structure and picks up a second rifle belonging to a fallen soldier. He then quickly moves to the rear of the machine gun nest. As he reaches the rear entrance he throws a grenade inside the bunker.

(CONTINUED)

BUCK rushes in immediately after the grenade detonates. 3 soldiers lay dead, another lies injured. WALSH aims his rifle at the injured soldier, then holsters his weapon.

They stare at each other for a moment, then BUCK calls back to his men.

CORPORAL BUCK WALSH:
All Clear!!

Other soldiers have followed his lead and entered the bunker.

The Americans have now secured the entire beach.

The injured Japanese soldier has been removed from the bunker and some young Americans are harassing him.

PFC COBB:
Fucking nip bastard, not so brave
when the fish gets out of the
barrel. (Butt ends the Japanese
soldier in the face)

BUCK quickly moves on the young private, with one motion he disarms the surprised soldier and throws the boy to his back.

BUCK then removes the magazine from the boy's gun, and tosses the rifle to the ground.

PFC COBB:
What's your problem Buck?! Who's
side are you on anyway!?!?

BUCK starts to walk away.

PFC COBB:
Why don't you try that karate shit
on me face to face... I'm talking
to you Buck!!!

COBB pulls out his side arm and aims it at BUCK, firing twice at his feet. BUCK smoothly slides his bayonet to his hand.

PFC COBB:
Come on Buck let's do this for
real!

COBB hesitates for just a moment as his fellow soldiers try to calm him down. In that moment BUCK turns, and hurls his bayonet through COBB'S chest.

BUCK is quickly restrained by 3 nearby soldiers and taken away.

SUPERIMPOSITION - APRIL 3RD

6TH MARINE BASE CAMP - SEVERAL MILES NORTH EAST OF THE BEACH
- EARLY MORNING

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER and MAJOR CONWAY have just met outside the MAJOR's tent.

PULVER is in his mid thirties, he sports a well trimmed mustache as well a pompous attitude. He is second in command to MAJOR CONWAY.

A young private pulls up to the tent in a jeep to pick up CONWAY.

Before CONWAY enters the jeep, PULVER speaks up.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Sir, we've met limited resistance over the past few days, The 6th have covered 8 miles in 48 hours and well...

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Well what captain?!?

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Permission to speak freely sir?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Don't sugar coat your bullshit kid, if you got something to say, say it.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
I believe military command and intelligence have vastly overrated our opposition here.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
This is your first island right?

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Yes sir but I...

Conway cuts him off.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

If you were with us at Iwo Jima you'd understand how much the first week of battle means when taking these islands. It's those hills you've got to worry about.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:

Yes sir

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Captain, I'm on my way to Command HQ to see some new reconnaissance shots of the island. In the mean time, hold your position here.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:

Sir?

The MAJOR hops into the passenger side of his jeep.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Do not advance the men.

The young private and CONWAY drive off.

On their way to Battalion head quarters, they pass by numerous villages that appear to have been burned to the ground. It is clear what fate all civilians will suffer under the desperate Japanese.

DRIVER:

Sir we didn't do this did we?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

No son, we've seen this before. The Japs cut and burn anything that might give us an advantage, or these people a chance.

Conway looks to an old woman lying dead on the side of the road.

On the road ahead three villagers are moving a cart on the road, as the jeep passes them one of the villagers makes eye contact with the MAJOR.

CONWAY takes a second then looks in his rear view mirror. He see's the three men removing a rocket launcher from the cart.

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Incoming!!!!

The Japanese soldiers fire, and the rocket sweeps over the jeep as the MAJOR grabs the wheel and veers into a ditch.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Are you hurt?

Conway looks to the young driver, a piece of shrapnel is buried in the back of his head.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Jesus!

The MAJOR grabs the PRIVATE's rifle and returns fire, killing one of the soldiers and wounding another.

CONWAY takes off for cover under some nearby trees.

As the MAJOR moves into the woods he comes across young KENJI hiding in the trees.

KENJI tries to run away as a Japanese soldier steps out in front of him.

CONWAY reacts pushing KENJI to the ground.

The Japanese soldier fires twice hitting conway in the leg and the shoulder.

As the MAJOR falls he quickly aims his colt .45 and drops the Japanese soldier in his tracks.

CONWAY collapses to the ground from his wounds as KENJI approaches him.

KENJI helps the MAJOR to his feet, and gets him back to the jeep.

With little understanding of how to drive a 3speed, KENJI is prompted by the MAJOR to push the clutch.

Succumbing to his blood loss, the MAJOR slams the shifter into gear and passes out.

KENJI drives off towards his village.

EXT. QUIET FARMING VILLAGE - DAY

As KENJI enters the village, the jeep catches the attention of the local farmers. He is over revving in first gear, and smoke is pouring out from under the hood.

Manzo recognizes KENJI and tries to get his attention.

MANZO TAMURA
Kenji, what are you doing?

KENJI MURAKAMI
How do I stop?!

MANZO TAMURA
Hit the Brake!

KENJI MURAKAMI
What's a Brake?

MANZO quickly jumps aboard and hits the brake, bringing the jeep to a stop.

MANZO looks to KENJI with a look of concern.

TSUSHIO TANAKA
Where did you find this truck?

KENJI points to the Major who's laying unconscious in the back seat.

KENJI MURAKAMI
He saved my life.

CONWAY is quickly grabbed by several villagers and brought before the village patriarch TETSUO OKAMOTO.

He wears a very curious look as the American soldier is placed at his feet.

Many of the villagers have gathered out of curiosity.

MANZO TAMURA
Master Okamoto, Kenji has found a
wounded American soldier!

His pistol is handed over to the old man as the villagers watch intently.

MASTER OKAMOTO slowly inspects it with the curiosity of a child and holds the gun as if it's purpose was unknown.

With a quick motion he takes a firm grip and ejects the magazine.

(CONTINUED)

A large jovial man, TADAO YOSHIDA, turns to his friend Manzo TAMURA.

TADAO YOSHIDA:
Without that piece it's not
dangerous anymore.

The old man hears this, he aims the pistol towards a tree branch and fires the last chambered round.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:
Still dangerous.

OKAMOTO then places the pistol on a table and moves to the MAJOR who lies wounded on the floor.

OKAMOTO checks his wounds as the MAJOR starts to regain consciousness. CONWAY realizes where he is, and tries to get up.

TETSUO holds him down as he struggles for a moment.

TETSUO OKAMOTO
So Liberator of Europe, have you
come to liberate us as well?

Upon hearing this the MAJOR once again passes out.

TETSUO OKAMOTO looks to the farmers gathered around him.

MANZO TANAKA:
So what shall we do with him?

KENJI
He's hurt, we should try to help
him.

MANZO TAMURA
But he's an American, if Colonel
Sakamoto were to learn of his
presence here surely he would have
us all executed.

KENJI
The Americans have pushed the
Japanese into the trees. We will
never have to see the Colonel
again, we have no reason to fear
him anymore.

The villagers seem terrified by the MAJOR's presence, the old man turns to young KENJI who's been silent the whole time.

TETSUO OKAMOTO
What happened boy?

MANZO TAMURA
He saved KENJI'S life.

TSUSHIO TANAKA
Is this true?

KENJI nods and TETSUO SMILES.

TETSUO looks to a young girl in the crowd, her name is CHIYO. She is 17, very attractive and the daughter of MANZO TAMURA.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:
Chiyo quickly get me my tools, and some fresh water.

CHIYO nods and runs off

INT. VILLAGE HUT - DAY

Hours pass as the MAJOR remains unconscious, his wounds have been mended and his survival is now certain.

Sunlight begins streaming through the holes in the walls of MAJOR CONWAY'S room.

The MAJOR wakes up and takes a second to regain his bearings. He rubs his head and looks around the room.

CONWAY notices KENJI sitting in the corner watching him.

KENJI has been taught to speak English, but his English isn't perfect.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
So you're my body guard huh?

KENJI MURAKAMI:
And you're mine.

The MAJOR looks at him with surprise

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Well it seems that you have me at a disadvantage, where are we by the way?

(CONTINUED)

KENJI MURAKAMI:

This is my village, I brought you here after you saved me. Why did you do it?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I wasn't trying to save you, I was trying to kill them.

The MAJOR stands up, KENJI moves in and helps him. They step out of the wooden hut just in time to see the sunset and the tremendous view.

The MAJOR's eyes open to the beauty before him, but his attention turns suddenly to his jeep.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Where's my jeep?

KENJI MURAKAMI:

Jeep?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

My truck, where is it?

Kenji points outside.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

I think I may have broken your jeep.

KENJI runs back into the hut as The MAJOR looks to see his broken down Jeep parked in the middle of town.

The villagers have tied a tired old horse to it and are attempting to move it out of the way.

The MAJOR takes a seat as KENJI returns with some food.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

Have you ever eaten Okinawan food before?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I've stepped in it a few times but never eaten it.

MONTAGE

Over the next few day's the MAJOR tries to gain enough strength to return back to Battalion command.

He fashions a cane to help himself walk while he waits for his leg to heal.

(CONTINUED)

INT. VILLAGE HUT - DAY

CONWAY wakes at sunrise and notices MASTER OKAMOTO watching over him.

They both walk out the back entrance of the hut and look out to the sugarcane fields.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I want to thank you again for everything your people have done for me. The last few days have been the only peace I've experienced in the last 3 years.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

You changed the opinions of many in this village. Most of us were worried the Americans might be worse than the Japanese.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I'm glad I've been such an olive branch, but all I've done is eat your food and enjoy your hospitality. You shouldn't let this one encounter mask the real reason my country is here.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

You showed this village your humanity, now the people can relate to something in you, as you seem to relate to something in them.

The 2 men are suddenly interrupted as a soldier appears in the sugarcane fields.

For a moment a look of concern comes across the MAJOR's face, he reaches for his pistol as the soldier comes into view, it's an American.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Hawkins! Is that you?

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

Yes, it's me, but who are you?

PFC HAWKINS steps through the sugarcane field and see's the MAJOR.

(CONTINUED)

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

I'm glad to see you sir, rumors were swarming around the division that you'd been taken prisoner by the Nips. If this is prison, well you can lock me up and throw away the key sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I took some fire on my way to Battalion head quarters two nights back, my driver was killed and I was hurt pretty bad. If not for these villagers I'd probably be dead, or worse.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

I wonder if they'll give me a medal for finding you, ha ha.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

By the way Hawkins what are you doing with the 6th marines? I thought you and your squad were sent to find some guerrilla units down south.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

I found them.

HAWKINS proceeds into the village as CONWAY waits behind.

CONWAY, with a look of distrust on his face, watches as HAWKINS walks away.

6TH MARINE HEADQUARTERS - MID AFTER NOON

Later in the day

MAJOR CONWAY has been transported to a military hospital and his wounds are being looked at by a field surgeon.

A personal friend of the MAJOR's; COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS is standing to the MAJOR's side.

The doctor looks at the stitching done to the MAJORS leg.

DOCTOR:

I must say this stitching isn't half bad, for savages.

The 2 soldiers smile.

(CONTINUED)

The DOCTOR breaks out his sewing kit and begins to sew shut the MAJOR's wounds.

COLONEL BRIGGS turns to CONWAY and hands him a small black case.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
What the hell is this?

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
It's better to be 60 then dead.

The MAJOR opens the black case to find a small pair of reading glasses.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Sometimes I wonder,

Conway looks to the doctor.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
I suppose your to blame for these.

The doctor shrugs and turns his attention back to the wound.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
Glad to have you back George.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Glad to be back Jim.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
The men thought you'd been
kidnapped by the enemy, they
covered 7 miles over the 24 hours
you were gone. They were looking
for you.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Well that's what they're trained to
do.

DOCTOR
I recommend you take it easy over
the next few weeks Major and try to
keep weight off that leg.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Well the 6th division's pushing
into the northern hills so I might
not be able to heed your warnings
there doc.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
That's why I'm here George, Command
wants you stateside. They need
somebody to help put together an
invasion plan for Tokyo.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Plan, I'm not a planner Jim, I lead
men!

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
Captain Pulver has proven himself
in your absence and Headquarters
doesn't believe that in your
current physical condition you
should be left to command the 6th.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Pulver's a West Point candy ass, he
doesn't know the enemy like I do.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
Godamnit George

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
He wants to sweep through the North
so he can get some of that glory in
the south. That's where this island
is going to be won, just like Iwo.
It's a 2 pronged attack, but
there's something in the north Jim,
and I don't want it to come back
and bite us in the ass.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
I'm sorry George, they're not your
men. They belong to the corps.

The COLONEL stands up and leaves as The MAJOR runs his hands
over his face in disbelief.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
I'm sorry.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Jim, Damn you if my men get killed.

BRIGGS exits the medical tent and heads towards his jeep.
ALLEN KATSUSHIRO is behind the wheel as THE COLONEL gets in.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
How is the MAJOR, SIR?

(CONTINUED)

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
They shot him twice and he still
wants to go out fight.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Does this mean he will return as
6th Marine CO?

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
I'm sorry son, but I'm sending
Conway back to the states, you
might want to reconsider that
transfer to the 6th.

ALLEN puts his head down for a moment before slowly pulling
away.

April 6

INT. MAJOR CONWAY'S TENT

The scene opens in the MAJOR'S personal tent, the sunshine
from outside is coming through the various shrapnel and
bullet holes that litter the walls of the tent.

CONWAY is smoking a large cigar and the room is filling with
dense smoke. He is packing his personal things and preparing
to leave.

A large green duffel bag is sitting on a table in the middle
of the tent. As the MAJOR walks by he gently nudges the
table causing the bag to fall to the floor. As it hits the
ground dozens of dogs tags spill out on the ground.

CONWAY can barely bring himself to kneel, he grits his teeth
and braces himself as he begins to clean up the mess.

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS - EARLY MORNING EXT.

Before departing, the MAJOR heads to battalion headquarters.

He's wearing his glasses now and is forced to use a cane for
his leg injury. The bullet wound to his shoulder has also
severely affected his posture.

CONWAY seeks out COLONEL BRIGGS in the command tent. From
outside CONWAY can hear the voice of CAPTAIN PULVER as he
speaks to COLONEL BRIGGS over the radio.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER

Sir we have met with little resistance, we are roughly 2 miles north out of Atsuta and moving steadily.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS

Very good Captain keep pushing, by this rate you'll take the north in 2 days, A U-2 Recon plane picked up the Yamato about 300 miles to the north. We are sending the fleet to intercept, so you will be without Naval artillery support for roughly 72 hours.

A staff member marks their position on a map as the MAJOR watch's from a crack in the tent's doorway.

The map shows the coasts of the island are covered but the middle of the island is left unchecked.

The sight of this instantly upsets CONWAY.

CONWAY pauses before entering, he removes his glasses and places the cane against the tent. He slowly straightens himself out, grimacing in pain.

He takes a deep breath then enters the tent.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Jim their not on the coast, their in the damn hills, their fortifying their positions.

CONWAY points to the middle of the map.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

These are your trouble spots.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS

George, you're out of line. Pulver is proving himself quite capable.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Goddamn it Jim this isn't about Pulver. If I'm right and there's a concentrated force in these hills it's either going to hit the 6th division from the rear, in force or sweep through the villages we've occupied and kill everyone along the way. You've seen it before,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY (cont'd)
Jim, haven't we seen enough
collateral damage.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
I'm not giving you command of 6th
Division George, it's out of the
question.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Just give me 2 squads,
we'll position ourselves in the
hills to the south and cover your
back

The COLONEL looks the Major in the eye's.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Look if I'm wrong, 2 squads get
some time off the line, and if I'm
right I save your ass! You know
that!

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
Dammit George. One squad, patch
together a mixed unit out of the
the 100th army.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Bullshit JIM, If I only get 6 men I
get to pick em, and you can be damn
sure every last one will be
marines. One more thing, I'll need
a translator.

COLONEL JAMES BRIGGS
What about a damn fighter escort
while your at it?

Briggs looks out to ALLEN sitting at the wheel of his Jeep.

COLONEL JACKSON BRIGGS
Alright George I'll see what I can
do.

INT. MAJORS PERSONAL TENT - DAY

The MAJOR is looking through a list of wrap sheets for
potential candidates.

CONWAY pulls out his glasses to get a better look.

EXT. 6TH MARINE FRONT LINE - DAY

The MAJOR appears up the road driving his own Jeep. As he approaches the camp of the 6th marine division, CAPTAIN PULVER steps out of his tent to greet him.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
I'm very happy to see you sir, we feared the worst when we heard your Jeep was attacked.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Don't worry about me Captain I'm a big boy, I can take care of myself.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
I also want to personally apologize about the way I was given command of the 6th. I never meant to steal your Men, sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Ha, no need kid, this thing ain't about ego's. You just keep em alive... Look... I uh... I'm sorry to keep you out of the loop Captain, but the reason I'm here is I need 5 of your boys.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
May I ask what for sir?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Well Captain, I'm leading a patrol through the mountains. We're going to try and cover your rear in case the enemy has slipped through the line, in force.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
I can give you a few reserves sir, but I hope you didn't have any men already picked out.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
I wouldn't be up here if I didn't.

The scene follows the 2 officers as they search for the MAJOR'S 5 selections.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
First on my list is Sergeant Vin Devereaux, he's practically led
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY: (cont'd)
every mission I've ever sent out.
Best soldier I ever met and one
hell of a leader.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
I know who he is, he's my best man.
I can't let you take my best man,
sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Don't worry Captain I'll have him
back in time for the wedding.

The 2 men walk up to SERGEANT DEVEREAUX.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Vin, you son of a bitch.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Ha you old bastard I hoped I'd
never see you again.

The 2 friends shake hands.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
I heard 2ND squad took some big
losses in Atsuta, How'd you
survive?

This scene is told in a partial flashback.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
The ranks to our left and right
folded under heavy machine gun and
mortar fire. 2ND squad was
pinned down by a couple mounted
88's. Me and first squad took
shelter in a ditch under some
cherry trees. All of a sudden the
trees exploded and fell on top us,
I thought it was over.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Were you scared?

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Not particularly

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Are you tired of fighting?

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Not Particularly, so what is it
this time?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Remember Guadalcanal? Something
like that.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
You couldn't come to me with some
cushy recruiting assignment.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Maybe we die this time.

The SERGEANT looks the MAJOR in the eyes and slowly grins.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
How many you got?

The MAJOR doesn't answer, instead he raises a single finger.

VIN pauses for a moment then slowly raises 2 fingers.

As the men walk away, CONWAY pulls out a file folder and
hands it to VIN.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Vin I want you to find a PFC Owens.
See what his plans are for the next
week.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Yes sir.

The SERGEANT takes off in search of the PRIVATE as PULVER
and CONWAY continue through the ranks.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Sir, I'm not familiar with Pfc
Owens.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Not a baseball fan Sergeant?

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Football Sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Well 2 years ago in AAA Syracuse
this kid led the league in out
field assists.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
I don't know what that means sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
It means he has one hell of an arm.

Conway looks down to his files.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
I understand that Corporal Buck
Walsh is currently awaiting trial
for killing a fellow officer. Well
here's your verdict.

Conway hands over a piece of paper.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
He's guilty. Here's his
punishment.

Conway hands over another piece of paper.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
He's in my unit now.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Sir, these are not the type of men
you should be recruiting, Walsh is
accused of killing a fellow
soldier.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Frank, these are exactly the type
of men I need. Besides I read the
report. It's not important who he
killed, it's who he saved that I
admire.

The soldiers head towards an old Japanese mental assylum.
Americans now occupy the structure and are using it as a
stockade.

The officers walk down a corridor with rooms on each side.

As they pass by each door, American soldiers can be seen
inside the cells.

They approach the final room and a soldier on watch stands
at attention.

CONWAY opens the door and walks in.

CORPORAL WALSH is sitting in the corner of the room, his
face is hidden from view.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Buck, good to see you.

WALSH leans into the light

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH
You to sir.

MEANWHILE -

EXT. MARINE OF BASE CAMP - DAY

VIN DEVEREAUX is still trying to track down PRIVATE OWENS.
He walks up to a young boy assembling his rifle.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Hey son, where can I find private
Owens?

YOUNG SOLDIER:
Probably hitting rocks into the
pacific, I'd check over there sir.

The boy points towards a large sandy beach.

As DEVEREAUX walks across the camp to the beach front he can
see a young man in the distance hitting rocks into the ocean
with large stick.

DEVEREAUX slowly approaches him and watches the purity of
his swing.

OWENS turns to see the SERGEANT watching him, he picks up
his rifle and moves it to his side.

PFC OWENS
Never seen a guy hitting rocks
before?

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX
You seem to like it,

Owens crushes another one

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Wow!

PFC OWENS:
I guess it's my nature. Only thing
I do better is killing Japs.

Owens hits another towering shot.

(CONTINUED)

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Is that so? Killed many?

PFC OWENS:
Impossible to kill them all, so I
usually just run away.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Smart too

PFC OWENS
So besides homeruns, what do you
want?

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
You wouldn't be interested in
taking a squad up against an
opposition say, battalion strength?

The young PRIVATE finally swings and misses, his
concentration suddenly coming off hitting the ball.

PFC OWENS
(turns to the Sergeant for the
first time) I admire your idea of
fair odds Sir.

OWENS turns his back on OWENS and starts blasting rocks into
the ocean again.

The SERGEANT takes a second, nods and takes off.

OWENS hits a few more stones then turns back to the
SERGEANT.

PFC OWENS
Battalion strength eh?

Vin turns around.

PFC OWENS
Let's play ball.

OWENS crushes a final stone into the ocean.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX
Where can I find you?

PFC OWENS
Right here.

INT. MENTAL WARD - DAY

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR CONWAY leaves the room BUCK WALSH is being held in. The guard on duty closes the door and locks it.

The two officers walk out as VIN meets up with them outside.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
Owens is in sir, did you have any luck?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Found a man, would have been perfect. Gun or knife, you won't find any better. Just wasn't interested.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER
The danger, too much for the guy?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
It wasn't the danger. Just said no.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER
A soldier who doesn't care about dying?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Not all soldiers are the same, some worry nonstop, night and day. Others, for reasons of their own, enjoy only the danger.

SERGEANT VIN DEVEREAUX:
And the competition.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER
If he's the best with a gun and a knife, who does he compete with?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Himself.

As the soldiers walk through the camp the voice of CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE can be heard boasting to some comrades in the distance.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
I swear to Christ boys, me and Carla here

MACINTYRE points to his machine gun.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE

Well we are the source of quite a few nightmares on the other side, I can't tell you how many friendships I've ended or wives I've turned to widows. I tell you boys, war is my way of reaching the people.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Mac, still up to your eye's in bullshit I see.

MAC turns around to see his favorite commanding officer

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

Sir they told me you were dead, but I knew deep down inside that you'd never let no Jap make a legacy out of you. I heard you were looking to take some men into the hills, for some Guerrilla warfare.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Just looking to defend a small farm.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

You green blooded fool, that's what's on top, but what's underneath?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Only what I told you.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

Sir you can't fool me, you're not going to go from commanding the Striking 6th to leading some useless recon team.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Don't understand me so fast kid.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

Never mind, tell me what you can, either way I'm in.

The MAJOR smiles as the young corporal takes off.

CONWAY looks to his final page.

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
One left. Where is private
Wilkins?

CAPTAIN FRANCIS PULVER:
Pfc Wilkins was killed during a
midnight raid 2 days ago sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Damn, 4 won't do.

The 4 men return to the jeep, when they arrive they find PFC
HAWKINS waiting for them.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
I heard you were looking for men
sir?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
That's right.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
For how long?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
A week at the most.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
That ought to do it, if you don't
mind I'd like to volunteer.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Alright kid, alright.

CORPORAL HAWKINS salutes and walks away. The MAJOR holds up
four fingers.

DEVEREAUX looks to him and makes a gesture as if to be
concerned over PRIVATE HAWKINS joining the team.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
He's a good gun, and we're not
going to a church social.

INT. OKINAWAN BAR - MID DAY

The soldiers gather for a briefing in an abandoned Japanese/
Okinawan Bar. The bar seems to be long abandoned. The
interior is a mess with chairs strewn about the place.

CONWAY and SERGEANT MAJOR are already waiting as Jeep pulls
up.

(CONTINUED)

The Japanese LIEUTENANT leaps off the jeep and heads towards the bar.

The YOUNG man heads inside, stopping to salute the MAJOR when he see's him.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Lieut Allen Katsushiro reporting
for duty.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Briggs right.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
The assignment came from Colonel
Briggs that's correct.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:
So he's our tranlstor?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Sure looks the part.

The other 3 NCO's arrive and head inside the old bar.

OWEN'S and HAWKINS make themselves comfortable, while CORPORAL MACINTYRE moves to the bar and pours himself a drink.

He slams back a shot but quickly spits it out as soon as it hits his tongue.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Can't deal with this warm SAKE
bullshit!

MAC looks inside his big duffel bag and pulls out a large clear bottle. He grabs a glass and pours another drink.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Feel like a drink boy's? The moon
never shined so bright.

PFC OWENS:
What is that shit Mac?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
When pansies come up to me asking
for a ticket home, I tell them to
drink a canteen of this. You may
go blind for a few weeks but your
worries are over.

Mac holds up his glass.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Here's to you and here's to me, And
here's to all the girls that lick
us where we pee!

As he downs his shot CORPORAL BUCK WALSH enters the Bar.

Everyone's attention turns to the Corporal.

CORPORAL BUCK WALSH:
I changed my mind.

CONWAY and DEVEREAUX look at each other and smile, the MAJOR
nods and the SERGEANT takes the floor.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:
Ladies, our mission is to sweep the
hills from our position here.

Points to a map.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Then we move four miles south to a
small mountain village in the
middle of the island. Once we've
reached the village we will secure
the area and cover the 1st marine,
and 96th infantry from any northern
opposition....

Meanwhile as DEVEREAUX briefs the men, MAJOR CONWAY makes
eye contact with CORPORAL MACINTYRE, signalling him to test
the metal of LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUHIRO.

MAC returns the nod and turns back to VIN.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:
....any questions?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Ya.

MAC raises his hand.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
If we're going on a nip hunt, do
you mind if I plug that Zipper head
right now?

MAC points to ALLEN.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
I don't know if your blind or just
stupid but this uniform means I out
rank you. Those words are court
Marshall worthy. Major, what's
your opinion on this matter?

CONWAY leans back in his chair.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Hey, you want to command men some
day, well command!

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
And you?

ALLEN turns DEVEREAUX.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
I suppose you're not going to say
anything either?

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Don't come crying to me you little
piss ant!

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
I'm your superior officer you'll
address me as Sir.

DEVEREUX stands at attention.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:
Sir! Don't come crying to me you
little piss ant! Sir!

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Hey Jap, your fight's right here!

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
God Damn it Soldier I'm a
lieutenant in the United States
Marine Corp, what's your problem?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
My problem is because of fuckers
like you, I've got 2 purple hearts
and a knee that don't work so good.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Well it's because of pasty faced
cock suckers like you I've eaten
shit my whole life.

(CONTINUED)

MAC turns to CONWAY.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Sir, I'm just worried one night I'm
walking through the forest, and I
run into our Lieut. here, but I
don't see the green of his uniform.
All I see is the yellow in his
eyes, and then me and Carla paint
the town red.

The LIEUT has had enough so he unloads on the CORPORAL with
a huge right hook, knocking MAC to his knees.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Here we go!

The 2 soldiers break into an all out brawl.

MACINTYRE is a former boxer with very fancy foot work and
lightning hands. While ALLEN thinks defense first, he is a
black belt in karate and his very capable of defending
himself.

CHARLIE draws first blood as he lands a vicious punch to the
young LIEUTENANT'S nose.

ALLEN quickly responds with a savage kick to the CORPORAL's
mid section.

As the 2 young soldiers lay into each other, CONWAY and
DEVEREAUX watch intently.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
What do you think?

MACINTYRE lands a massive punch to the LIEUTENANTS jaw.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Well he's got a chin that's
foresure.

The fight finally ends with ALLEN putting MACINTYRE in a
vicious choke hold. MAC nearly passes out before the MAJOR
steps in.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
That'll do Lieutenant.

As ALLEN gets up and starts to walk away MACINTYRE starts
laughing.

(CONTINUED)

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Ha ha ha, shit son, that was one
hell of an ass kicking.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
What?

ALLEN spits blood.

MAC pulls out a loose tooth.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Fuck, I'm sorry to rag on you so
hard, truth is I don't mind the
Japs at all, I'll kill whoever
uncle Sam asks me to, Krauts, Japs,
Canadians, all the same to me.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Why the hell would you do that for
no reason at all? Are you crazy?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
I think the Major wanted to see
what you were made of. Hey, my
dad's German you Jap bastard, so
what kind of fucking hypocrite
would I be If I gave you a hard
time? Niggers on the other hand.

The 2 soldiers start laughing, they shake hands as the MAJOR
and SERGEANT watch in the back ground.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Now we're 7.

The newly formed squad heads into the hills under the heat
of the mid day sun.

EXT. SMALL DIRT ROAD - DAY

After travelling a fair distance they stumble upon the
MAJOR'S crash site.

The young American private who died during the earlier
Japanese attack is still lying on the ground.

CORPORAL MACINTYRE approaches one of the dead Japanese
soldiers.

(CONTINUED)

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Shit, this is nice work sir. Very
nice grouping, I bet this poor
fucker didn't feel a thing.

The MAJOR pays no attention to MAC. Instead, he has knelt down beside the dead American private that was driving his jeep. CONWAY leans in and takes off the young Private's dog tags.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
We can't bring him back to HQ,
We'll have to bury him right here.

OWENS and WALSH pull out there shovels and start digging, while the rest of the group takes a seat.

LIEUT KATSUSHIRO heads over to the abandoned cart that was being used by the Japanese soldiers. He lifts the cover to find a large amount of enemy ordinance.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
High explosives Sir. Looks like
enough enemy tank mines and
grenades here to cut this island in
half.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Well take what you can carry and
we'll destroy the rest.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO begins to rummage through the cart and pass out explosives.

OWENS and WALSH shovel the last piles of dirt onto the young Americans makeshift grave.

The group take cover behind a small mound about 300 feet away from the ammo cart.

WALSH attaches a grenade to his rifle and takes aim with the crude grenade launcher.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Holster your weapon soldier.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH:
Sir?

CONWAY turns his back to WALSH and faces PFC OWENS.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Owens!

PFC OWENS:

Yes sir!

CONWAY grabs a grenade from his jacket, pulls the pin then lobs it to OWENS. The young private takes grip and heaves the grenade as hard as he can. The grenade lands a few feet shy of the ammo cart and roles right underneath it .

The explosion launches the flaming cart 30 feet into the air. A massive shock wave tears through the country side.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

Holy shit kid, you have a cannon for an arm. When we get back to the states I'm gonna be your manager. We're going to take this arm of yours right to Yankee Stadium.

PFC OWENS:

I'm from Boston.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH

Fenway park it is then.

The squad watches the flaming wreckage for a few more moments then head off towards the village.

EXT. OKINAWAN FARMING VILLAGE - DAY

The sun is barely visible as the soldiers reach their destination.

Upon first glance the village seems abandoned as the soldiers walk down main street.

PFC OWENS:

Maybe they smelt Mac coming?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

No that's bullshit, I just showered last week.

From behind an old calming voice is heard.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

Come in, you must be thirsty.

CONWAY signals to his men to wait outside while he and DEVEREAUX head into the small home of TETSUO OKAMOTO.

(CONTINUED)

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

You must excuse the villagers, they are simple farmers. They are afraid of rain, and no rain. The summer is too hot, the winter too cold.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

There's no need to apologize we didn't expect parades or speeches.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

I must say it is a surprise to see you back so soon Major.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I wish my return was under better circumstances.

As the MAJOR sits down to explain the reason for his return, outside the other soldiers start to scope out the town.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

So did the Major tell you guys anything else about this mission?

PFC OWENS:

I think I've got the general idea.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

What, baby sitting this little village?

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

The Major doesn't want any Japanese force to move on our boys in the south.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:

This guy was in charge of the whole division, why would they send him on a grunt's errand? You boys don't know the Major like I do. He's been at every major point on every major island during this whole fucking fight. He knows why he's here alright, and I plan on having a chest full of hardware when this things said and done.

CONWAY, DEVEREAUX exit from TETSUO OKAMOTO's house and signal CORPORAL WALSH to follow them.

(CONTINUED)

The three soldiers saddle some horses and take a ride around the village. Finally coming to a stop on a high ridge overlooking the village.

EXT. OVERLOOKING RIDGE - NIGHT

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Brings me back to my cavalry days

The MAJOR takes a moment to look at the land he's defending.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Walsh.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH
Yes sir.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
How would you attack this city?

WALSH looks out at the small village.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH
From the mountains.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Yes, with men advancing on this road from the west. We have much work to do, we must prepare.

The 3 soldiers ride around the perimeter of the village. Finally coming to the village's large field of sugarcane.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
This will have to be flooded, tomorrow this field must be harvested. We'll have to build a trench to flood all this land.

EXT. VILLAGE PORCH - NIGHT

During their first night in the village some of the soldiers are having a hard time sleeping. SERGEANT DEVEREAUX strikes up a conversation with CORPORAL MACINTYRE while the rest of the village sleeps.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
You know, I've been in some towns where the girls aren't very pretty. As a matter of fact, I've been in some towns where the girls were downright ugly, but this is the first time I've been in a town
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX (cont'd)
where there's no girls at all,
except little one's.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
**It's not so bad (yawns) I fell in
with a fast crowd over by the
river, we got to feeding the fish
and it didn't break up till dinner.**

The squad is sleeping in an old run down barn on the far side of town.

INT. MAJOR CONWAY'S HUT - DAWN

MAJOR CONWAY is the first to awake in the morning. As he washes, he checks his various injuries, blood is seeping through the bandages and his wounds don't seem to be healing properly.

CONWAY goes to his bag and pulls out a half empty bottle of whiskey. He takes a big drink then applies it to his shoulder wound.

CONWAY finishes what's left of the Whiskey then steps outside the hut. He finds a small fence post and places the empty bottle on top of it. CONWAY steps back and takes aim with his Colt. 1911. He fires one shot, missing to the right.

He fires again multiple times, each shot missing. CONWAY then takes aim with both hands, he takes a deep breath and fires, still nothing. The MAJOR throws his pistol to the ground, and grabs his shoulder in agony. He looks around to see if anyone has noticed.

CONWAY collects himself and heads back into the barn, emerging a few seconds later with something in his hand. He steps up to the bottle from a few feet away, aims his trench shotgun and blows the bottle into a million pieces.

EXT. TETSUO OKAMOTO'S HOME - DAWN

The MAJOR approaches the old man, they head out the back of the house to watch the sunrise. The MAJOR begins to explain his plan.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Our 6th marine division is sweeping
cross the coastline, but I believe
a superior force may be lying in
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY (cont'd)
 the hills. A force that could
 overrun this village in a matter of
 moments. They will show these
 people no mercy, no quarter. They
 will kill you were you stand and
 not think twice.

TETSUO OKAMOTO
 We have seen so many taken at the
 hands of the Japanese, many farmers
 would welcome death with open arms.
 Yet you wish to stay and defend us
 against such a force. It's funny
 Major, I see in you the same joy I
 felt when I first set eyes on this
 village. A quiet place to hang my
 sword.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
 I always taught myself, never fall
 in love with your battle field, war
 is about real estate, it's not what
 you've got, it's how much you got.

Conway looks to some farmers as they head towards the
 fields.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
 We'll have to arm them , if we're
 to stand a chance.

TETSUO OKAMOTO
 Arming them is one thing, teaching
 them to use their new arm, is
 another.

TOWN CENTER - DAY

The village is gathered together and the MAJOR explains what
 he plans to do.

While he does so he is holding a small child in his arms.

The "7" surround the area while SERGEANT DEVEREAUX is on
 watch, sitting on one of the rooftops in the background.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
 Many of you wonder why I have
 returned.

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Our military is sweeping along the
coastline, I fear they may be
overlooking a larger force in the
hills.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
The main Japanese force lies in the
south, this is where Okinawa will
be won or lost.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
If there is a large force in the
northern hills they will surely try
and make their way south to engage
the American force from the rear.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
We stand between these 2 forces,
and when the Japanese get here,
they will take who and what they
need, and slaughter the rest.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

MANZO TANAKA
We are in danger because of you,
Sakamoto only takes what he needs,
he always leaves us enough to go
on.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
American interpretation

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Yet we will ask for nothing and
leave you with everything, we fight
for you and your well being alone.

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese Interpretation

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Now to defend this city, you all
must be ready for killing and more
killing, until the need for it is
gone.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

The villagers all react with fear.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Your fields must be harvested, we
will flood the land to the north
and defend the land to the south,
Those capable of fighting will
fight and those who can't will help
those who can.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Japanese interpretation

The farmers move toward their fields to begin the harvest.

EXT - VILLAGE HORSE BARN - DAY

Private OWENS and PRIVATE HAWKINS head to the stable. OWENS
approaches an old horse and throws a make shift harness
around its neck.

PFC BILL HAWKINS
Watch yourself kid.

PFC OWENS
Don't worry this isn't my first
rodeo

Owens hops on.

The old horse almost gives way under the weight. OWENS pulls
the reins tight, causing the horse to take off like a bolt
of lightning.

OWENS hold's on as the horse takes off behind a bunch of
houses. When the horse reappears OWENS is no longer riding
him.

The young private appears a few seconds later holding his
back while chasing the horse.

The villagers all laugh as OWENS tries to catch the wild bronco.

EXT - VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Meanwhile a young boy emerges from the forest running at top speed. He approaches LIEUT KATSUSHIRO and the MAJOR who are in the middle of eating lunch.

YOUNG BOY

I saw five soldiers in the valley

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO

The boy says he saw five soldiers in the valley.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Tell the others.

The information travels through the group one at a time, from ear to ear.

CORPORAL OWENS finding out last, and quickly climbs to the top of the villages highest building to spot the enemy squad.

CONWAY walks over to PFC WALSH who is sleeping under a tree.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Walsh, One of the children saw five men in the valley.

WALSH quickly stands, CONWAY points him in the right direction.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Get one alive.

WALSH nods.

WALSH heads out with KATSUSHIRO and HAWKINS close behind.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Allen, you stay out of sight!

The three soldiers head out quickly through the trees in an attempt to ambush the enemy force.

At the edge of the forest KATSUSHIRO and WALSH come up to five Japanese horses.

WALSH runs his hand over one of the horses then takes a seat under a tree and waits for the enemy soldiers to return.

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT KATSUSHIRO takes cover while PFC HAWKINS is nowhere to be seen.

A few minutes pass when all of a sudden the Japanese soldiers appear behind the young LIEUT, he turns and takes one down with his machine gun.

WALSH turns and guns down three more, while the remaining soldier quickly mounts a horse and takes off.

LIEUT KATSUSHIRO then moves to CORPORAL WALSH'S side.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
I'm sorry I didn't mean to....

WALSH interrupts him and takes aim with his colt 45. He takes a moment before firing a single round, killing the soldier and tossing him from the reins.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
That was the greatest shot I've
ever seen.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH
It was the worst, I was aiming for
the horse.

PFC HAWKINS steps out from behind a bush with his rifle slung over his arm

PFC BILL HAWKINS
So much for the element of
surprise.

FARMING VILLAGE - TALL BUILDING

PFC OWENS is still sitting on the top of the building looking out to the forest. He sees HAWKINS, KATSUSHIRO and WALSH emerge. WALSH signals to OWENS, five soldiers down.

MAJOR CONWAY is in the center of town speaking to TETSUO and another farmer.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Sakamoto sent soldiers to spy, it's
almost certain they saw us.

OWENS turns to look at the MAJOR, and signals five downed soldiers.

Whatever they learned will be
buried with them.

(CONTINUED)

FARMER

If they come now, my god?

TETSUO OKAMOTO

The villagers fear Sakamoto is
close

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

He'd never send men ahead if he was
close enough to see for himself. So
we have time to prepare, and we
have something else, surprise.

EXT. HOMEMADE SHOOTING RANGE - DAY

SARGENT MAJOR DEVEREAUX and PFC OWENS are teaching KENJI and
a few other villagers to shoot. They have set up some rocks
and the villagers are taking turns learning how to fire
their new rifles.

PFC OWENS

Aim.....fire!....load,.....aim
fire.

KENJI isn't taking his time, his shots are missing the
target, and he's getting impatient.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Settle down Ken, if you miss your
first shot you may not get a
second. Now get that butt tight
into your shoulder, if you don't, 2
things will happen. One you will
waste a bullet, two, you'll break
your arm. Now aim from here to
here, to your target.

KENJI

At what, that rock?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

No at that man you're going to
kill.

KENJI fires, hitting the rock he was aiming at.

He smiles.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Very good, again!

(CONTINUED)

KENJI

If we only had more guns, think of
what we could do.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

You'll get more

KENJI

How?

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO

The same way you got these,
Sakamoto's men.

EXT. HIGH DISTANT RIDGE - DAY

PFC MACINTYRE and SARGENT MAJOR DEVEREAUX are taking watch.
"Mac" is getting a little antsy due to the lack of action.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE

If I don't get to kill somebody
soon I'm gonna go crazy.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX

Funny

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE

What'd you say sir?

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX

Imagine all your hopes and dreams,
everything you could hope to
achieve taken away by an accident
like a bullet.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE

Shit sir, that was deep, but I
sleep rather well at night pumping
assholes full of accidents. I'm
gonna go take a leak.

CORPORAL MACINTYRE heads into the woods. After finding a
good spot he starts peeing into a bush. The sound of pee on
metal stops him. He finishes up then moves the bushes out
the way, in front of him is a 20 pound Parrot Civil War
style cannon.

MACINTYRE's eye's open with shock and happiness.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE

Ahhhhh! Ha ha wow!

SERGEANT MAJOR DEVEREAUX comes running through the trees.

(CONTINUED)

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
What the fuck's the matter?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Looks at this shit Sarge, it's a 20
pound fuze action canon. Jesus
Christ My Grand papi manned one of
these in the Civil war. Killed
quite a few yanks with this little
baby.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Obviously not enough.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
This things got balls and
everything, shit I bet you I could
get this thing operational.

INT. VILLAGE HORSE BARN - DAY

ALLEN is saddling up a horse and preparing to go out on
patrol.

The young LIEUT takes to the countryside and follows the
river up stream.

As he leans down to grab some water he hears a noise in the
trees.

He looks up to see a person standing in a field picking
flowers, they make eye contact.

The young figure before him is CHIYO, MANZO'S 17 year old
daughter. Her hair has been tied up to make her look like a
boy.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Hey, you! Are you a Boy?

CHIYO
(Nods yes)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Then what the hell are you doing
picking flowers at a time like
this?

CHIYO slowly begins to walk away as LIEUT KATSUSHIRO quickly
mounts his horse and takes off after her. CHIYO is terrified
and tries to run from the charging lieutenant. When he gets
close enough to the young girl, ALLEN dives off his horse
tackling CHIYO to the ground.

(CONTINUED)

CHIYO struggles as she is forced down. ALLEN's hand moves over CHIYO's chest and is shocked by the fact that the young guy he tackled is actually a young girl.

CHIYO

If you do anything to me I'll kill you while you're doing it.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO

You almost took my eye out.

CHIYO

Let me go, Let me go! (tries to bite Allen)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO

You bite me I'll bite you back. I've got a good mind to throw you in the water.

CHIYO

I'll Kill you.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO

Shut up, Where are the others?

CHIYO

I'll never tell you.

ALLEN throws her onto his horse and takes off back to the village.

EXT. VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - DAY

As ALLEN enters the town he can see a great trench being dug. Most of the farmers and soldiers are still digging as ALLEN approaches the MAJOR.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO

Look what I found.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Who is she?

TSUSHIO TANAKA

From our village.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

So that's where they were, you hid them.

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Sure they hid them, but she won't
tell me where. They're afraid,
she's afraid, of me, you, him, all
of us. They were told that we would
rape them.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX turns to TSUSHIO.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Well we might... though you might
have given us the benefit of the
doubt. (turns back to ALLEN) Tell
the farmers to bring them in.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
For what? Leave them out there, let
Sakamoto find them, he'll take good
care of them.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Bring them in.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Come on little Angel

Katsushiro takes off as Chiyo is forced to grab hold.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Gently boy, gently.

EXT. TOWN HALL - DAY

For dinner the women of the village have fixed a lovely
feast for the seven soldiers.

CHIYO comes in to serve the men, her attention seems to be
focused entirely on the young Lieut. She tends to him, yet
his attention is elsewhere.

DEVEREAUX notices the lovely young lady as well as the LIEUT
who's oblivious to her charms.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Hey Kats,

ALLEN stops eating and looks to DEVEREAUX.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
You said you were half Jap. That I
can live with, you can't pick your
parents. But don't tell me your
half queer too?

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
What are you talking about Sir?!

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Well you see that lovely girl
behind me, she hasn't been able to
keep her eyes off you all night.

ALLEN quickly looks at Chiyo then back to Devereaux

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
Ya, whats your point.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
I'm not trying to make a point kid,
this is war, tomorrow you might
wake up with a bullet in your head.

LIEUTENANT KATSUSHIRO looks at CHIYO who is already
looking back at him. They stare at each other for a second
and CHIYO smiles.

DEVEREAUX see's this and smiles too.

PFC OWENS ENTERS through the back of the building and looks
at the food in front of the soldiers.

PFC OWENS
How's the food?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Great.

PFC OWENS
Fresh fish, roast pork, and chicken
too, looks good.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
These bastards really now how to
cook. Dig in there's tons of it.

PFC OWENS
Do you know what these people have
been eating since we got here?
Millet and some rice, that's all.

The camera cuts away and the soldiers are handing out hot
food to the villagers. OWEN's is smiling as the others don't
find it so amusing.

Some young children walk up to CORPORAL MACINTYRE who's
pouring soup.

(CONTINUED)

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
 You don't happen to have an older
 grateful sister do you?

CHILDREN
 Domo, Domo

EXT. HOMEMADE SHOOTING RANGE - DAY

SERGEANT MAJOR DEVEREAUX and the young LIEUTENANT are teaching two of the villagers how to fire bolt action rifles.

The LIEUTENANT has it down to a 4 count process, each count is a move in loading the rifle, up,back,forward and down.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
 One, two, three, four
 One, two, three, four
 One, two, three, four
 One, two, three, four

As the LIEUTENANT instructs, DEVEREAUX's attention moves to the lovely women of the village. Many of them are washing clothes in the river below. His attention fades for a few seconds then he gets back to the job at hand.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
 One, two, three, four
 One, two, three, four

In the background PFC OWENS and CORPORAL WALSH are teaching some of the villagers to fire the Japanese weapons. OWENS is teaching a very large man how to fire a rifle. The large man; MIKIO TAKAKI gets anxious when he shoots and this is making OWEN's a little angry. The two don't understand each other, TETSUO OKAMOTO is watching and trying to translate.

PFC OWENS
 OK, squeeze

MIKIO fires a round way off target.

PFC OWENS
 Didn't I tell you to squeeze Mikio?

TETSUO OKAMOTO:
 Translates

(CONTINUED)

MIKIO TAKAKI

It's just that I get excited.

TETSUO OKAMOTO

Translates

PFC OWENS

Squeeze Mikio, just like when your milking a goat.

TETSUO OKAMOTO

Translates

PFC OWENS

Now this time slowly and gently

Owens watches yet another arrant shot.

PFC OWENS

Gently!...Gently!!! I'll tell you what, don't shoot the gun, you take the gun like this and use it like a club. (Tetsuo laughs)

TETSUO OKAMOTO

Translates

Mikio smiles and bows

MIKIO TAKAKI

Yes, yes.

EXT. CENTER OF TOWN - DAY

MAJOR CONWAY and VIN DEVEREUX are walking through the middle of town to the old horse barn on the edge of town.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

So what is this big surprise Mac has for me.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX

It's an old American Civil war cannon, and to tell you the truth I have no idea why it's in the middle of a Japanese village.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Well if I remember my history correctly the Japanese army purchased weapons from us to eliminate the Samurai forces that occupied the hills.

(CONTINUED)

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Jesus, a bunch of trained soldiers
with all the weapons they could ask
for, against a savages with sticks.
You can count me in on that
slaughter.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
I thought I already did.

DEVEREAUX pauses for a minute, he looks around and see's a bunch of kid swinging wooden sticks. He shakes his head and catches up with the MAJOR.

Just ahead CORPORAL MACINTYRE is working on his cannon.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Alright Mac, why am I out here
wasting my time, you don't actually
expect this old relic to work.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Oh Sir yes Sir, I'm a kill me a
bushel of Japs with this bastard.
May I direct your attention to
yonder ridge.

MAC points to a large rock on a ridge roughly 300 yards away

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Sianora you son of a bitch.

MAC lights the fuse on the rusty old cannon. It burns down slowly and explodes with tremendous force. The canon isn't secured and it shoots back into the MAJOR's damaged truck. Upon impact the muzzle of the canon drops to the ground causing the canon ball to roll out.

The echo rings out through the valley, finally reaching the ears of COLONEL SAKAMOTO and CAPTAIN SHIMIZU.

EXT - DISTANT HILLTOP

SAKAMOTO AND SHIMIZU are looking down on the 6th marine division.

When they hear the explosion their attention is turned away from the marine force, and back towards the village.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO
That explosion came from Tetsuo's
village.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

The 5 men I sent have yet to return. The Americans may have stumbled upon it.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

For Tetsuo's sake I pray they're all dead.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

We have slipped past the American Marines, we can now move to reinforce our troops in the south.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

We are the last remaining force in the North, and the Americans have finally stopped their advance, why?

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

We believe they are suffering from supply issues, heavy rain has also slowed the advance of their tanks and artillery.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

Maybe it is because we are retreating faster than they can advance.

The COLONEL takes a second, he looks to his men who sit behind him.

They are prepared and ready for battle.

SAKAMOTO looks to the marines, who on the other hand are looking comfortable and very vulnerable.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU

Your orders sir?

The COLONEL tightly grips his binoculars then drops them to his side.

COLONEL TOSHIO SAKAMOTO

Take a company of men on horse back to the village, we will move the army south.

EXT. CENTER OF TOWN - DAY

PFC. OWEN'S is watching some young children as they hit rocks with wooden samurai swords. OWEN'S gets up and walks over to the boys.

The boys are scared of him at first.

He puts his arms up and politely asks.

PFC OWENS

May I?

The boy's hesitate for a second but one boy hands over his stick anyways. OWEN'S grabs a stone, tosses it in the air and belts it into the woods. The boys turn and look at him like a hero.

EXT. DISTANT RIDGE OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE - DAY

The MAJOR and SERGEANT are watching on horseback. From their perspective OWEN'S can be seen below hitting rocks as the two veteran soldiers discuss the situation at hand.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX

Well, first thing they'll see is that ditch.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

Irrigation for the fields

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX

Which have been completely flooded to the north.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY

A new watering hole for the animals.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX

Awful lot of new walls.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Civic Improvements.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX

George, what about those death pits?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Well if he's not looking...

(CONTINUED)

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
If, brother.....if!

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Yeah

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX
Yeah!

As the two soldiers look over the town the sudden sound of the village bell rings out through the valley.

CONWAY and DEVEREAUX quickly race into town stopping along side the bell.

LIEUT KATSUSHIRO runs up to brief them.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
TEN men on horseback sir with another twenty infantry in the rear, they'll be here in a matter of minutes.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Alright, get everyone ready and tell Mac to stop fucking around with that goddamn death trap.

ALLEN runs off to the barn to get Mac as the rest of the soldiers prepare their men.

INT. HORSE BARN - DAY

As ALLEN enters the barn MAC is still in working on his cannon.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
What the hells the matter with you asshole, can't you hear the bell?

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Ya I hear it.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO
We got some serious company coming in.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Oh that's what that means, why didn't you say so.

MAC starts to put on his equipment, as he does so he lets out a whistle.

(CONTINUED)

A few little boy's bring him his machine gun.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
Time to go to work.

The American soldiers and their 8 man squads take defensive positions in the village.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU appears over the hills, he slowly descends into the city with his ten men on horseback.

He is forced to take his men around the village to enter it, this annoys him, as he looks around he can notice many differences in the village.

The twenty infantry approach the village from the ridge as the Cavalry move on ahead. SHIMIZU moves into the center of town and watches as TETSUO OKAMOTO and the MAJOR approach him.

A look of pure rage covers SHIMIZU's face, he draws his side arm as the other Japanese soldiers take aim at the MAJOR.

JAPANESE

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
I should have guessed when my men
didn't come back, I should have
guessed!

ENGLISH

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
How many are you?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
Enough

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
A flooded field, some new walls,
they won't keep us out.

SERGEANT DEVEREAUX and CORPORAL WALSH step out

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY
They were meant to keep you in

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
Did you hear that? We're trapped,
all thirty of us, by these three or
is it four? That's all they could
afford to send.

MAC steps out into view, ALLEN is next to him.

(CONTINUED)

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE
We come tougher by the bunch.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
Five, even five wouldn't give us
too much trouble

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
They're won't be any trouble.

Owens and Hawkins step out.

PFC OWENS:
If you surrender.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
7, somehow I don't think you've
solved my problem.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Solving your problem isn't my line

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
We deal in lead friend

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
So do I. Right now I have thirty
men ready to give their lives to
take yours. You won't talk so big
when I put your head on a pike. Yet
I will be merciful to you and your
brave men. If you surrender no harm
will come to you, you have my word
as an officer.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
And what about the people?

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
What about them? Can men like us
worry about such things? It may
even be sacrilegious. If God did
not want them sheared he would have
not made them sheep.

SHIMIZU looks to his infantry as they take position on the
opposite side of the field.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU
Generosity, that was my first
mistake, I show these people a
little kindness and with it they
stab you in the back. Sooner or

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU (cont'd)
later you answer for every good
deed.

As SHIMIZU finishes his sentence he gives the order to attack. The Japanese Soldiers take aim and fire, while the Americans dive for cover.

The villagers with guns take aim at the Japanese soldiers, they hesitate until the MAJOR orders them to start firing.

TSUOSHI fires first as the others follow suit.

This volley of gunfire tears through the men on horseback throwing many to the ground.

The Americans take aim at the Infantry in the fields, they are exposed and easy targets for the trained soldiers.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU is forced to withdraw from the city as farmers emerge with pitchforks to attack the downed Japanese soldiers.

The Japanese CAPTAIN tears out of the city on horseback leaping over a four foot wall to escape.

Other soldiers are like sheep led to the slaughter. The villagers are very savage when given the opportunity to inflict pain on their oppressors, many enemy soldiers are killed very brutally.

The once large Japanese force has been cut in half. Only a handful of Japanese soldiers remain on horse back with a dozen more left in the field. Unable to counter attack they quickly regroup and head for cover behind the hills.

During the battle PFC HAWKINS can be seen taking cover, unable to fire at the Japanese soldiers, he is gripped with fear. None of the others notice HAWKINS as he hides.

The American soldiers group together as the villagers go to help the casualties.

MAJOR CONWAY looks to SERGEANT DEVEREAUX, they nod in agreement.

EXT. CENTER OF TOWN - DAY

Later that day the villagers have gathered in the middle of town. Most are talking about their experiences.

(CONTINUED)

TADAO YOSHIDA

You were safe, I was face to face
with them as they rode toward me.
Ten of them screaming.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

The last time you told it, it was
five. You have them multiplying
like locust.

MIKIO TAKAKI:

The point is, they got a good kick
in the ass and if they try again
they'll get another.

TADAO YOSHIDA

We'll bury them all, Shimizu too,
right?

LIEUTENANT KATSUSHIRO turns his head and replies with a look
of uncertainty.

ALLEN looks over and see's a few of his fellow soldiers
gathering on the other side of the room.

He walks over to them and approaches the MAJOR.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

We sure showed them

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

You think it was worth it?

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

Don't you?

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:

It's only a matter of knowing how
to shoot a gun, nothing big about
that.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

How can you say that? Your gun has
got you everything you have.

Nobody answers

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

Well hasn't it?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Ya, sure all of it...After awhile
you loose track of the all men

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY: (cont'd)
you've lost under your command,
maybe a thousand of em.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Forget what it's like to sleep in a
bed, or the sound of a woman. Home,
none, wife, none, kids none...
Prospects zero. Suppose I left
anything out.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Yeah, places your tied down to,
none. People with a hold on you,
none. Men you step aside for, none.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
Insults swallowed, none, people you
turn your back on, none. Enemies,
none.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
No enemies?

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
Left alive.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Now this is the kind of math I
like.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
So did I at your age.

PRIVATE WALSH and CORPORAL MACINTYRE enter through the
front, the MAJOR turns to WALSH.

PFC WALSH:
No sign of them sir

Lieut Katsushiro gets up and grabs his rifle, the farmers
under his command get up as well and head out to their post.

EXT. OKINAWAN PORCH - NIGHT

The MAJOR brings some food to SERGEANT DEVEREAUX who's
standing outside looking out over the ocean.

The roar of American Torpedo planes echo from above. In the
distance a tremendous Naval battle can be seen.

The Japanese Flagship Yamato has met with the American Task
force.

(CONTINUED)

300 American planes fill the air as Artillery from the massive Japanese ship lights up the sky.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
If people weren't being massacred
this would almost be beautiful.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
They say Yamato's 250 meters long,

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
Big ship

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
That's almost 3 football fields.

DEVEREAUX closes his eyes for a moment.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:
Why'd you have to bring up
football.

The 2 soldiers stare at the massive ship as wave after wave of planes bombard the massive leviathan

INT. OKINAWAN BARN - NIGHT

As the new soldiers come to replace those who are on duty CHARLIE MACINTYRE heads off to get some sleep. He enters the barn and see's PFC HAWKINS.

HAWKINS looks up and watches MAC as he moves to his bed.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
We sure laid into them today,
didn't we Hawkins.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
Bet your ass.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
I bagged at least 6 or 7 of them.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
How many you get?

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
I didn't count, but I didn't miss
either.

MAC pulls out a small bag from his backpack, he reaches inside and pulls out a bunch of medals.

(CONTINUED)

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
I've been fighting this war for 3
years now, I was a boxer for 6
years before the war. You know this
is my first real job.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
You got one hell of a skill set for
the real world.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
This may sound crazy but I think
I'm going to miss the war when it's
all over. I'm a soldier born and
bred. I'm looking forward to peace
as much as the rest of the world
looks forward to war.

MAC looks to his medals

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
I've got a tale of heroism for
everyone of these bad boys.

MAC pulls out a silver cross

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
See this one, I killed 3 Japs with
Carla here and another with a rock.

MAC pulls out a purple heart

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
lost my hearing for a week after a
grenade went off next to my head.
Everyone has an amazing story.

MAC looks over to Walsh who pulls out a battered bag. Walsh
pulls out The Navy cross.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
In Guadalcanal my squad was torn
apart by Japanese Artillery. I knew
all those guys for 2 years and in a
blink of an eye they we're pulp.

WALSH pulls out multiple purple hearts

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
A bullet in the hip

Drops a purple heart in the bag

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
Two more in my shoulder.

WALSH drops 2 more medals back in the bag and pulls out a large blue ribbon. He grips it tightly, stares at it for a moment then suddenly throws it out the open doorway onto the dark street.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
It's amazing what they will reward
a man for these days.

EXT. OKINAWAN BARN - DAY

As the sun rises SERGEANT DEVEREAUX heads to meet with Major CONWAY, as he passes by the front of the barn he comes across the medal discarded by PFC HAWKINS.

DEVEREAUX picks up the medal and cleans off the dirt. In his hands is the congressional medal of honor.

He brings it to the MAJOR, who's speaking to ALLEN.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
Sir, I found this in the middle of
the road.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
(takes a long look) I gave this to
Hawkins 4 months ago. He was a
prisoner of war on Palawan.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:
Jesus Chrit, I had no idea.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Palawan sir?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
It's a small island in the
Philippines, the Japanese were
using it as a P.O.W camp. Hawkins
was caught in Sept 44. He watched
for 5 months as American bombers
moved closer and closer to his
barracks. The Japs made them build
bomb shelters for protection
against American attacks. One day,
2 hellcats were spotted off the
coast and the POW's were rushed to
their bunkers.

(CONTINUED)

The story flashbacks to the island, PFC HAWKINS is being escorted into the bunker. Outside the Japanese soldiers cover the bunkers in gasoline and light them ablaze. Those who try to escape are shot down by small arms fire. HAWKINS and a few others roll down a hill and into the water.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Out of the 150 P.O.W's on the island only 4 escaped.

The Story suddenly turns into the nightmare of PFC HAWKINS, who jumps out of bed sweating and panting.

OKINAWAN BARN - INT. EARLY MORNING

KENJI comes running in, HAWKINS is in the corner of the room and has no idea where he is, he is absolutely terrified.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

It's alright, you're alright, you were just having a bad dream, don't be afraid.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

Don't be afraid, my very words, ten thousand times a day.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

But sir, a man who has fought so many times, you must have great courage.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

Until the day you lose your nerve, and then you wait, wait for the bullet in the gun that's faster than yours.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

Don't punish yourself

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

And the lies you tell yourself, no enemies left alive, I've lost count of the enemies, I've left, alive.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

But your safe, your with friends now.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

The final supreme idiocy, coming here to hide. The coward hiding out in the middle of a battle field.

(CONTINUED)

HAWKINS looks down to the ground in front of him, sitting there are three flies. He glares deeply at them, then with his left hand he quickly swats at them grabbing as many as he can. When he opens his hand only one flies away.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:

One, there was a time when I would have caught all three.

KENJI gets up and walks to the door, when he reaches the exit he turns back to PFC HAWKINS.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

I know what fear is sir, I live with it every day. Only the dead are without fear.

As KENJI leaves the camera moves over to the terrified PRIVATE.

WALSH slowly looks up, his look of fear has been replaced with a look of confidence as if KENJI's words had suddenly put his fear into focus.

OKINAWAN TOWN CENTER - EXT.

KENJI walks to the center of town and notices the MAJOR is watching the sunrise. CONWAY notices him and motions KENJI to come over.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Your village is very beautiful Kenji, It's funny I finally have time to catch up on my reading. To bad I didn't bring anything. How are you holding up?

KENJI MURAKAMI:

I was never so frightened in my life, my knees felt like they were full of water.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I would have never guessed it

Kenji Smiles

KENJI MURAKAMI:

Do you think Sakamoto and his men will leave us alone now?

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Do you think so?

KENJI MURAKAMI:
Of course , he'll go away, why
would he risk his men over such a
meaningless piece of land.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Land holds different value during
times of war.

In the center of the village, the farmers begin to gather,
the soldiers who are not on guard gather as well.

TSUOSHI TANAKA is at the center of the village, he looks
very pleased.

TSUSHIO TANAKA:
Neighbors, I salute our new
friends, they armed us, fought at
our sides and will forever live in
our hearts.

All of a sudden a distant gunshot rings out, followed by a
few shots from the American soldiers posted on guard. Still
more shots ring out and a young girl suddenly falls to the
ground.

The villagers panic as everyone runs for cover, the young
girl is grabbed and pulled to safety. The soldiers gather
quickly and head off towards the gun fire.

FAR SIDE OF THE VILLAGE

Sergeant DEVEREAUX is firing rounds into the hills as the
other five soldiers approach him from the rear.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
So they haven't gone then, see
their muzzle flashes?

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Nope

The MAJOR see's CORPORAL WALSH aiming his rifle on the other
side of the road. The MAJOR puts his head down.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Make some noise for me would ya
fellas?

(CONTINUED)

The American soldiers take aim at the hills and lay down some covering fire. The MAJOR quickly hobbles across the road to where CORPORAL WALSH is located. Over the last few feet bullets pour down on the MAJOR and he's forced to dive for cover.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I make it four of them.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH

Five.

ALLEN wanting to get a better view does a similar stunt, he peaks his head out to take a look at the embankment. As he does, a bullet takes off his helmet.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH

That crazy fool is going to get his head blown off.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:

Goddammit kid, don't make it so easy for them.

ALLEN grabs his helmet, it has a huge hole through the side. He runs his hands over his head looking for blood, he can't find any and laughs at how lucky he just was.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

five.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH

five.

Conway looks over to Pfc Owens who's taking aim with his rifle.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Owens do you see them?

PFC OWENS:

No Sir, they're too far back in the trees.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

OK Walsh, I want you to make a break for those rocks up their, I'll cover you.

The MAJOR takes aim with his Thompson and lights up the ridge with suppressing fire. Meanwhile on the other side, DEVEREAUX is firing while both WALSH and MACINTYRE make their way up the hill.

(CONTINUED)

They both arrive safely behind some rocks.

PFC OWEN's see's a Japanese Soldier as he rises from the ridge in front of him, he fires, taking down the enemy soldier.

As OWEN's kneels down to reload he notices a young village boy sneaking up behind him. OWEN's turns and attempts to shew the young boy away. He doesn't listen and OWEN's is forced to pull the boy down to protect him.

OWENS:

Whats your problem, don't hear so good? You might have been hurt.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

(Translates to the boy)

YOUNG BOY:

(mumbles a few words)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

He says, "you could get hurt too"

OWENS:

It's not the same thing, this is my job.

Owens takes aim and fires a few rounds.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

Translates

YOUNG BOY

(Speaks again)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

(Laughs) he says the young boys of the village got together and he got you.

Aleen see's an enemy soldier running for cover, he throws a perfect grenade killing the soldier as well as 2 others.

OWENS:

You got me? What does he mean he's got me?

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

Translates

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG BOY

Speaks again with pride, but is interrupted.

ALLEN see's 2 soldiers on the ridge, he takes aim and fires, killing one and wounding the other.

YOUNG BOY:

..Continues what he was saying

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

(Laughs again) He says if you get killed he will avenge you and make sure there's always fresh flowers on your grave.

OWENS:

That's a mighty big comfort, but tell him not to be disappointed if his plans don't work out.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

Translates one final time

YOUNG BOY

(Speaks this time thinking while he does so)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

He says if you stay alive he'll be just as happy, maybe even happier

OWEN's takes a look around and see's that its safe to move the young boy, he grabs him by the waist and turns to ALLEN.

OWENS:

Allen you watch this spot, I'm gonna get this kid out of here, cover me.

OWEN's grabs the young boy and dashes him back to the center of town, he passes CHIYO on the way.

The young Okinawan girl slowly sneaks up on ALLEN.

ALLEN starts speaking, expecting OWEN's to have returned.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

I see 2 moving just over that ridge.

CHIYO moves up behind ALLEN. He turns around expecting to see OWEN's but gets a shock when he see's CHIYO, he quickly turns back to the mountain. He speaks to her in Japanese.

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
What are you doing here?

CHIYO:
You mustn't take such foolish
chances.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Alright I won't, but go back.

CHIYO runs her hand under ALLEN's helmet, where the bullet grazed him.

CHIYO:
Does it hurt?

CHIYO's fingers stun ALLEN for a moment as he quickly turns his head.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
What? no.

CHIYO:
I'm sorry I hit you before, but I
thought...you know what I thought.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Yes, yes I know.

CHIYO:
I wasn't afraid of you, it was my
father. He says, "stay away from
those men, their brutes, they are
cruel"

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
He's right you know, He's right!

CHIYO:
He's wrong

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Well go home anyway, before he
finds out you're here.

CHIYO:
He already knows, he said he'd
punish me for being so shameless,
but I don't care.

The young LIEUT is very attracted to the young girl but at this point all he cares about is impressing his fellow soldiers.

(CONTINUED)

INT. OKINAWAN TOWN HALL INT. - MID DAY

After the hill is cleared out the soldiers regroup in the town hall. ALLEN looks down at his broken helmet and WALSH tosses him a Japanese Helmet belonging to a dead soldier.

PFC WALSH:
New hat for ya sonny

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
How do I look?

OWENS:
Big improvement

CORPORAL MACINTYRE walks in the door.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Ya, this way nobody will get on my
ass when I accidentally plug you.
By the way it's your watch Zipper
head, oh and while your out there,
why don't you go ask your
Commanding officer, GENERAL
SAKAMOTTO what he has planned for
tomorrow?

Allen looks down at his new helmet as he heads to the door,
he turns to MAC before leaving.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Hey Mac, make sure to get your
beauty sleep, cause your an ugly
fuck.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Ha ha, I like that kid

EXT. OKINAWAN VILLAGE ROAD - DAY

As ALLEN heads off to his posts he comes across a dead
Japanese soldier lying on the ground. As he approaches the
dead soldier an idea comes into the young LIEUTENANT'S head.
ALLEN and begins to undress the dead soldier.

EXT. TOP OF THE ENEMY OCCUPIED HILL - DAY

On the top of the hill the remaining Japanese soldiers
gather together, they have lost many men and their morale is
low. Some begin to count casualties.

(CONTINUED)

JAPANESE SOLDIER 1:
Juro, Hiroki, Kyo, Michi and Katsuo
never returned.

JAPANESE SOLDIER 2:
That's fivr

JAPANESE SOLDIER 1:
Daisuke and Hisoka in the field

JAPANESE SOLDIER 2:
That's seven

JAPANESE SOLDIER 1:
Kenshin, Hiro and Yutaka in those
damn pits.

JAPANESE SOLDIER 2:
Eight and Nine

JAPANESE SOLDIER 3:
Grata by the fountain

JAPANESE SOLDIER 4:
Kabuki by the fountain

JAPANESE SOLDIER 2:
that's eleven

As they speak ALLEN slowly approaches from the bottom of the hill, he has dressed himself like a Japanese soldier and he is trying to infiltrate the Japanese line. As he gets closer one of the soldiers begins to stare at him.

JAPANESE SOLDIER 3:
Masato in the fields were they
hacked him to pieces.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
That's twelve

The voice of CAPTAIN SHIMIZU can be heard behind ALLEN, as the CAPTAIN walks right next to the undercover American.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:
Go on talk, talk! They are all
dead, forget about them. There are
still enough of us to make them
pay.

SHIMIZU pulls out a cigarette, and ALLEN is quick to light it.

SHIMIZU nods at him.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

Colonel Sakamoto will be hear in 24 hours with 200 men. We will wipe that village from the face of the earth.

INT. OKINAWAN TOWN HALL - DAY

Back in town MANZO gathers with some of the other villagers and begins to discuss his fears. The MAJOR watches the villagers as they gather together.

MANZO TAMURA:

It's clear now, no matter how well we fight, we will always suffer more casualties then we can bare to handle. The more we resist the harder we will be punished. All they ask for is food and supplies for their upcoming battles.

KENJI

But the Americans have defended us like brothers, and they ask for nothing in return. How can we turn away the only soldiers who have been truly kind to us. Besides Shimizu and his men have surely fled, we may never see him again.

LIEUTENANT KATSUSHIRO opens the front door and walks in.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

If that was only true my friend, if that was only true. They have nowhere to go, if they don't rendezvous with their forces in the south they have no chance of survival. Colonel Sakamoto is roughly a day out, He's leading a Battalion of men to the south and we stand in his way. This is their last stand, they will win, or die trying.

MANZO TAMURA:

How do you know this?

(CONTINUED)

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
I've been up their, and his men
aren't thinking about the food they
need for the upcoming battle, they
need food for the last 3 days they
haven't eaten. Their starving, and
this is the closest thing they have
to a friendly village.

As the sun goes down the villagers gather in the center of town. Many villagers have died already and their enemy is not so easily intimidated.

INT. OKINAWAN TOWN HALL - NIGHT

MANZO TAMURA:
We did not choose to fight.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Sir they say they didn't ask for
this fight.

MANZO TAMURA:
It's easy for you to say fight, you
have no sons, no wives. You'll turn
our village into a graveyard. What
can you do?

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
(Translates)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
I'll tell you what I can do, I'll
kill the first man who so much
whispers a word about giving up,
The very first man so help me I'll
kill him where he stands!

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Sir they're scared, they're not
soldiers.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Yes they are.

The villagers move out of the main hall as they all feel intimidated by the MAJOR's threatening attitude.

EXT. SOUTH OF THE OKINAWAN VILLAGE - NIGHT

The 7 American soldiers saddle their horses and ride to the rear of the village.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
I'm not saying we bit off more than we can chew, but we ought to have a serious talk about what we're gonna do.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Let's start acting like we've got a little sense, we can hook up with the 6th and track down these bastards in force.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
We figured we could raise the ante just enough to make Sakamoto play someplace else, we figured wrong.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
We're the only game in town.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
A man can't call them all

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
I didn't say he could.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
All I'm saying is that sometimes you bend with the breeze, or you break.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
You forget, without us these people have no chance.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Look it's not about having a chance, 7 men against 200 veteran soldiers, it's fucking suicide.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
I made a promise to these people.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
It's not the kind the courts enforce.

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
That's just the kind you've got to
keep.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
A noble thought, but the way things
are right now, I just don't know.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
The stakes are too high

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Much too high

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Then we leave?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Yes, take everything you need and
regroup with 7th infantry in the
south. Inform command there's a big
force located in these hills.

PFC OWENS:
Your not coming Sir?

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
This is where I belong.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH
Well nobody throws me my guns and
says run, nobody.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
Right now I belong on a transport
ship sleeping on white sheets, but
I think I'll ride back to that
village.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Your crazy, all of you, think of
the odds.

PFC OWENS:
Mac nobody's asking you to go back.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Get out of here Charlie, it's OK.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Bet your sweet ass I will, come on
Hawkins, they wanna get killed, let
'em.

(CONTINUED)

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Go ahead Bill, you don't owe
anything to anybody.

PFC BILL HAWKINS:
Except myself.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
You've all gone loony.

MAC turns his horse and takes off up the hill as the rest of
the soldiers head back into town.

The MAJOR leads the group in, OWEN's and WALSH take off to
take their posts.

Some happy villagers come to greet the MAJOR as a smile
comes to his weathered old face.

DEVEREAUX notices the MAJOR's reaction and rides up behind
him.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
You know I think it was my second
week of basic, and some fella told
me, " Vin you can't afford to care",
that's your problem.

Conways face hardens up.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
One thing I don't need is somebody
telling me my problem.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
Like I said, that's your problem.
You got involved with this village
and the people in it.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:
Don't you ever get tired of hearing
yourself talk?

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREUX:
The reason I understand your
problem so well, is that I walked
into the same trap myself. The
first day I got here I started
thinking, maybe I could put my gun
away and settle down, get a little
land. The things people know about
me wouldn't work against me. I just
thought you should know your not
the only sucker in town.

OKINAWAN BARN - INT LATE EVENING

ALLEN is tying up his horse as he talks to CHIYO. She is looking at him with utter admiration as he brags about his exploits on the hill.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
...right up into the hills, past the guards on watch, right into their camp. I sat there I smoked a cigarette with them, we discussed a few things. All of a sudden there was Shimizu himself, right beside me. When I brought the news you should have seen the look I got from the Major and Vin, they have seen a thing or 2 in their time, and done them too. They're not men you can easily impress. But when they looked at me at last I knew I was one of them. Well, you'd better look at me too. Am I the kind of man to live in a place like this, hm? Digging my life away in the fields, me a farmer, a peasant? Wherever they go, I go with them, and if their is anything you think you can do to change my mind forget it.

CHIYO moves in slowly and kisses ALLEN, who pauses for a moment then returns the affection. The 2 lovers embrace then retreat in to CHIYO's house.

EXT. VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

The rest of the soldiers take to their posts and dig in.

Off in the distance a storm is moving over the Pacific. The sound of thunder and cannon shells becomes almost indistinguishable.

The remainder of the Japanese fleet is being pummeled by the massive American armada.

EXT. VILLAGE FRONTLINE - NIGHT

SERGEANT DEVEREAUX looks down to the tired towns people who scatter the defensive embankment. He stands up and approaches the MAJOR who is watching the enemy line.

(CONTINUED)

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
George, these people are tired, if
we are going to do something we
should do it now.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Their dug in pretty strong, we step
out there we're all dead in 30
seconds.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Well if I can get behind them, put
some pressure on them from the
rear, we can flush them out, maybe
even the odds a little.

CONWAY looks down to his men and see's the same thing
DEVEREAUX does. The farmers are all exhausted and barely
awake, CONWAY takes another look at the line.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
I'll give you 2 men, I trust you
Vin, when you say you can get the
job done, I believe you.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Thank you sir, Give me Walsh and
Owens on the B.A.R.

CENTER OF TOWN - SUNRISE

The sun begins to rise over the vast hill of the Okinawan
country side.

The soldiers gather in the center of town as SERGEANT
DEVEREAUX explains the plan.

He is almost finished his explanation as LIEUT KATSUSHIRO
appears running around the corner. The young LIEUTENANT is
trying to dress himself as he runs.

The rest of the group laugh as he joins the group.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:
Sorry I'm late Sir

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Well Katsushiro, now that your
finally a man, maybe you'll fight
like one too.

The rest of the men all burst into laughter, even MAJOR
CONWAY even cracks a smile.

(CONTINUED)

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:

You'll take point on the ridge
Katsuhiko, while Owens, Walsh and I
circle around to the rear. Remember
the idea here boy's, we just want
to even the odds a little.

As DEVEREAUX talks the scene slowly transitions into the mission itself. OWEN's, DEVEREAUX and WALSH trying to circle the opposing soldiers.

INT. OKINAWAN HOME - DAWN

Back in the village young KENJI approaches MAJOR CONWAY, who is gazing out at the battlefield with a pair of binoculars. KENJI is holding a large bottle of Sake.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

Sir Conway, I've brought some Sake
for your men.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Thanks Ken, but that might not be
the best idea right now, Mac's
gone so that only leaves 6 of us. I
need my men sharp.

KENJI bows his head, CONWAY sees this, he turns his head to KENJI who is already leaving.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

Ken, I guess one glass won't hurt.

KENJI quickly runs to CONWAY's side and pours him a glass. The MAJOR takes a drink then turns his gaze back to the field.

MAJOR GEORGE CONWAY:

I don't think I could ever get used
to the taste warm booze.

Kenji pours himself and glass and salutes the MAJOR.

KENJI MURAKAMI:

Banzai

The MAJOR quickly grabs KENJI's hand before he can drinking, spilling his drink to the floor.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:

You will do no such thing!! I will
not see any of my men die by their

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY: (cont'd)
own hands! This Kamikaze way of
thinking is not the way of the
soldier. I'm not here to die with
honor, I'm here to keep fighting,
to win the war, and you can't win
anything when your dead!

The MAJOR calms down, he adjusts his coat and turns his attention back to the window. KENJI is cowering in the corner, breathing heavily. CONWAY takes a moment then moves to KENJI in the corner, he bends down and puts an arm on KENJI's shoulder.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
I'm sorry boy, you don't have to be
scared of me, I just want you to
understand that we are here to keep
you alive. That's why were here,
now go see if the others are
thirsty.

KENJI nods, he grabs the Bottle of Sake and heads outside. CONWAY still kneeling on the floor, tries to stand, his bones ache and he loses his balance. His hand slides over the dark wooden floor as he regains his bearings.

CONWAY's hand bumps into something on the floor, KENJI's book. He picks it up to examine it. It's a dark black book with no title on the exterior. The MAJOR brings it into the light and opens the first page. Unable to read the fine print he removes his pair of glasses. CONWAY smiles but the title is not revealed.

Outside HAWKINS can be heard complaining.

PFC BILL HAWKINS
Dammit Ken what the hell is this
shit!

CONWAY smiles realizing HAWKINS had never tried Sake before. His gaze turns back to the window, the happiness fades from his face as he picks up his binoculars.

EXT. HILLTOP RIDGE - DAY

DEVEREAUX and his team move to a small embankment.

Walsh takes a look over the ridge in an attempt to gain a visual of the enemy.

Owens looks up to a Crimson red sunrise.

(CONTINUED)

OWENS

Red sky in the morning, sailors
warning.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX

Well we aren't Sailors Owens, we're
Marines. Now we should be able to
take them by surprise but we are
heavily out numbered. Walsh you and
me are going to take point to the
left and right of those trees.
Owens you stay in the rear with the
grenades, your my human mortar.
When this is over I don't want to
see a tree standing. Now when we
get overrun, which we will, this is
our fall back position. We're not
trying to win the whole game here
boys, were just trying to take a
few pieces off the board.

OWEN's cracks open a box of grenades, he lays a few in front
of him and starts loosening his arm.

DEVEREAUX and WALSH take a handful of grenades, check the
actions on their weapons, then quickly take their positions
on the ridge.

They look to each other then back to OWEN's. OWEN's is still
stretching, he takes a second to finish then nods.

DEVEREAUX and WALSH take off and quickly cover the 70 feet
to the tree line.

OWEN's grabs the pin of his grenade and waits patiently for
the first shot to be fired.

DEVEREAUX cuts through the dense forest and takes cover
behind a large uprooted tree. He pulls his Thompson to his
side and wraps the shoulder strap around his arm. Slowly he
moves to the side of the tree and takes aim around the
corner. He see's nobody, VIN takes a moment to listen and
look around. He quickly moves in another 20 feet, still
nothing.

Finally he runs directly into a enemy foxhole, in it he
finds a Japanese soldier who has died from his wounds.

Behind he can hear foot steps, he quickly turns to see WALSH
with a confused look on his face.

(CONTINUED)

PFC WALSH:

I guess they must have pulled out
in the night sir. I must admit, I
expected more.

As soon as WALSH finishes his sentence a low rumble becomes audible from over the hills.

The 2 soldiers turn their attention to the ridge as the heat from Diesel engines can be seen rippling through the air.

Walsh and DEVEREAUX's expression change from confusion to terror.

Meanwhile OWEN's is getting concerned, he expects to be in the middle of a battle but no shots have yet been fired. He looks to his grenade and slides the pin back in.

DEVEREAUX and WALSH suddenly appear from the trees running at top speed.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:

Fall back, Fall back!

The 2 men leap over the ridge as OWEN's quickly starts to pack his things.

PFC OWENS:

What's wrong, what happened?

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:

They brought an entire fucking
armored division that's what
happened.

OWEN's can see the heat from the engines now as 4 tanks take their position on the ridge. The 3 soldiers quickly pack up and head back to the village.

Upon arriving, ALLEN can be seen burying mines in the back ground.

DEVEREAUX quickly seeks out CONWAY to inform him about the situation.

OKINAWAN TOWN HALL - INT.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:

Sir they must have hooked up with a
scattered armored division. There
running on us with 4 tanks and
about 150 infantry. There is no way
in hell we can defend against that.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX: (cont'd)
There going to wipe this town from
the face of the earth without even
setting foot in it.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Understood

CONWAY's attention turns back to the battlefield.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
Sir we are going to die here, we
have to get these people out.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Vin if you want to go, go! Truth is
I thought we already had this
conversation. I knew this was
coming, I knew this is how it would
end. Nobody is standing in your way
soldier, there's the door.

DEVEREAUX takes a minute, grabs his rifle and heads for the
door.

Conway bows his head acknowledging DEVEREAUX's retreat.

DEVEREAUX stops at the door, cocks his rifle and turns back
to the SERGEANT.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:
If I get killed I'm going to be
very pissed off.

EXT - VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Down by the road KENJI is loading his rifle as CORPORAL
WALSH walks up next to him.

BUCK scans the horizon with his binoculars while KENJI does
the same using the sight on his rifle.

KENJI MURAKAMI:
Do your hands sweat before a fight?

CORPORAL BUCK WALSH:
(smiles and looks down) Every time

KENJI MURAKAMI:
Mine are sweating now. Funny, my
hands are sweaty and my mouth is
dry. You'd think it would be the
other way around.

(CONTINUED)

KENI pauses and looks to WALSH.

CORPORAL BUCK WALSH:
Does my talking annoy you? It's
because I'm nervous.

CORPORAL BUCK WALSH:
Yeah I guess you kinda wish us
Americans would have never came
between you and Sakamoto.

KENJI MURAKAMI:
Yes, and no. Both at the same time,
yes, when I think about what he
might do. No when I remember the
feeling in my chest yesterday, as I
saw them run away, from us. That's
a feeling worth dying for. Have you
ever felt something like that?

CORPORAL BUCK WALSH:
Not for a long time kid, I envy
you.

As the remaining soldiers move to their positions the
Northern Japanese army appears through the tree line.

Leading the charge are the 4 massive tanks, they tear
through the trees followed by hundreds of Japanese soldiers.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU and COLONEL SAKAMOTO can be seen in the
background riding on horse back.

The villagers are shocked by the force that lies in front of
them.

The first victims are the sugarcane fields scattered along
the mountain side.

The tanks take aim and spew blasts of napalm across the
fields. The harvest goes up in flames as thick smoke fills
the sky.

Many of the villagers leave their posts to watch their hard
work go up in flames. As a crowd begins to gather MANZO
push's his way to the front of the crowd.

MANZO TAMURA:
The fields mean nothing, we do not
defend what lies outside these
walls, we defend the people inside
them. Back to your positions all of
you.

(CONTINUED)

The villagers regain their composure and quickly run back to their posts. In the distance the tanks turn their attention to the village as they begin to open fire. The sound of artillery tears through the air as buildings crumble to pieces under the barrage.

The farmers take to their positions as the enemy infantry begins to move in.

EXT - VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Attention turns to corporal WALSH as he eye's the barrel of one of the tanks. He turns to a house with a small family inside. The barrel of the tank begins to turn in the direction of the small house.

In an attempt to distract the tank WALSH heaves a grenade directly in it's path. The tank remains unaffected, the barrel slowly coming to a stop with the small house in it's sights.

BUCK see's this and instantly stands up, with no regard for his own life he begins screaming at the tank.

CORPORAL CLARENCE "BUCK" WALSH
I'm right here you, I'm the one you
want!

With bullets nearly missing him WALSH is forced to watch as the tank decimates the families small home.

Without a moments hesitation WALSH runs over to Pfc. OWEN's. OWEN's is in the middle of throwing grenades into the hundreds of infantry that scatter the hillside.

PFC OWENS
Walsh I've got infantry moving on
my right flank.

Without acknowledging OWEN's WALSH grabs one of the squads loaded rocket launcher and jumps out from under cover. Still thinking WALSH is behind him, OWEN's starts talking again.

PFC OWENS
Walsh pass me a clip for my
Thompson... .Walsh?

Owens turns to see WALSH running across the field.

PFC OWENS
Walsh!

(CONTINUED)

The crazy young CORPORAL evades countless explosions and stray bullets before finally taking position by a lone tree.

WALSH takes aim and fires upon the first tank, the tank bursts into flames but is still operational.

OWEN's leans over the wall to yell at WALSH.

PFC OWENS:

Walsh get out of there!

WALSH reaches into his bag and pulls out another War-head, he loads it as bullets rip into the tree. WALSH takes aim and fires another round into the flaming tank, which explodes across the enemy lines. WALSH pulls the pin of a grenade and places it under his rocket launcher then heads back for cover.

OWEN's provides covering fire for WALSH as he leaps for cover right in front of KENJI.

KENJI:

That....That was the most amazing thing I've ever seen.

WALSH puts his head down, takes a few deep breath's, then pulls out his rifle and takes aim.

A few JAPANESE soldiers move to the discredited rocket launcher. One grabs it, sending the arming pin of the grade flying. One dives for cover while the others are decimated by the blast.

EXT - VILLAGE - DAY

In the middle of town MAJOR CONWAY is taking cover from the tanks bombardment. He turns to see enemy soldiers breaking through the defenses. As he takes aim some villagers move in to over-throw the Japanese.

The endless barrage continues as the three remaining tanks begin to move in.

DEVEREAUX comes to CONWAY's side, as the MAJOR takes aim with his pistol.

SERGEANT MAJOR VIN DEVEREAUX:

If we don't take these tanks out their isn't going to be much of a town left to defend!

EXT. HORSEBARN - DAY

CONWAY see's the barrel of the cannon emerge from the stables. The firing cord is pulled as a single cannon ball tears into the lead tank.

The tank instantly burst's into flames. A heavy machine gun can be heard as CORPORAL MACINTYRE steps into view, he's firing from the hip as his rounds tear into the enemy.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Charlie you son of a bitch.

MAC moves to take cover with the rest of the soldiers.

The Japanese take aim on the young CORPORAL as he moves out from cover.

A volley of rifle fire hits him in the back knocking him off his feet. As he hits the ground CONWAY grabs him and pulls him to safety.

MACINTYRE is mortally wounded as CONWAY holds him.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Goddamn it, what are you trying to do kid redeem yourself.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
Shit sir you think they'll give me a silver star for this one?

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Shit son I'll make sure you get the big one for this.

CORPORAL CHARLIE MACINTYRE:
You mean it sir, well I'll be damned.

Mac dies in Conway's arms.

LT COL. GEORGE CONWAY:
Maybe not, maybe not.

EXT - VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - DAY

A group of Japanese soldiers have moved into a small house on the far side of the village.

Inside they are assaulting the women and children as PFC. HAWKINS takes cover near the window.

(CONTINUED)

The screams of terror echo through the head of HAWKINS as he looks inside. He checks his rifle then takes position at the rear of the house.

Hawkins takes a deep breath then kicks down the door, with deadly accuracy he guns down 3 of the 4 soldiers, finally killing the final soldier with his bayonet.

The family runs for cover out the back door.

HAWKINS smiles checks his rifle and exits the front of the house.

Down the road OWEN's is screaming as HAWKINS steps outside.

PFC OWENS:
Hawkins get out!!!!

Before HAWKINS can realize what OWEN's is trying to say one of the remaining tank fires a round into his path, killing him instantly.

KENJI watches from down the road as the explosion envelopes HAWKINS.

The young boy finds himself alone as the Japanese begin to surround his position. KENJI turns to find a small cart on the side of the road, he quickly dives underneath it to take cover.

From his vantage point KENJI watches as the Japanese soldiers move forward through his home.

In the corner of his eye Kenji can see CORPORAL WALSH as he fights for his life.

CORPORAL WALSH is almost out of ammunition as his position is now being overrun, One of the remaining tanks bursts into flames in the background as it rolls over ALLEN's mine trap.

WALSH turns to witness the explosion, suddenly a bullet tears into his side. He falls to his knees holding his rifle tight, WALSH takes a look at his wound in almost disbelief.

As blood begins to pour out of his side, the young CORPORAL takes a deep breath then resumes firing. He fires twice killing 2 more soldiers, but his rifle is now empty.

As WALSH pulls out his lucky knife he's hit by a final fatal round. As the defeated CORPORAL falls he throws down his knife. His body falling next to it almost as if were his grave stone.

KENJI is heart broken to see WALSH fall.

Suddenly 3 soldiers stop and take cover right next to the cart that KENJI is hiding under. As they sit and discuss what to do next KENJI crawls out behind them.

He aims his M-1 rifle at the back of the first soldiers head. Kenji waits a moment as his hands begin to shake. One of the other soldier begins to slowly turn around, KENJI see's this and quickly turns his rifle to aim at the turning soldier.

As the soldiers head turns KENJI closes his eyes and fires.

Before the other 2 soldiers can react KENJI turns and shoots them both. Kenji misses several times but still manages to kill the three soldiers.

Still in shock KENJI drops his rifle and runs into a nearby house.

OWEN'S takes cover while in the background the building collapses down around the dead body of PFC. HAWKINS. While he collects himself Japanese soldiers quickly close on his position. The young private is nearly out of grenades and being overrun.

As OWENS takes cover to reload his rifle he notices one of the young village boys is approaching his position.

PFC OWENS:
Get back, get back!

The young boy doesn't stop.

OWEN's dashes towards the young boy, he draws his side arm and fires at 2 soldiers who appear around the corner.

OWEN's grabs the young boy and dives into damaged building. He sets the boys on the ground and begins to assess the situation. His pistol is nearly out of ammunition and besides his knife he is nearly defenseless.

As Japanese soldiers surround the small house OWEN's knows their is no way out for him or the little boy. The determined PRIVATE takes a moment, then realizes what he must do.

OWEN'S unsheathes his knife and puts it in the hand of the young boy. The boy is crying as OWEN's puts his hand on his shoulder.

PFC OWENS:
It's going to be OK, I promise you.

(CONTINUED)

OWEN's holds the young boys hand as soldiers break through the door. Without hesitation OWEN's plunges the knife into his own chest in full view of the enemy.

The Japanese soldiers holster their weapons as OWEN's falls off the knife.

The young boy still holding the knife looks to the Japanese soldiers with tears in his eyes. One of the soldiers nods to him as they move on.

With many of his fellow soldiers now dead Lieutenant KATSUSHIRO finds himself almost all alone as the enemy closes in on him.

MANZO is next to him, he is gripping a wooden spear, ALLEN turns to him.

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

Manzo, I need you to go find your daughter. You 2 have to get out of here.

MANZO TAMURA:

No, no

LIEUT. ALLEN KATSUSHIRO:

She'll die if you don't get her out of here. Take this and find her.

ALLEN hands over his pistol as MANZO heads off in search of CHIYO.

KENJI is still hiding in the small house as he hears the front door open. He looks around the corner to see three pairs of boots walk in. KENJI is terrified, he hides under some baskets as the soldiers begin tearing through the small house.

The FIRST SOLDIER finds KENJI easily, he grabs the young boy and throws him to the ground. The other 2 soldiers aim their rifles and prepare to fire. KENJI closes his eyes as bullets fill the room.

Two of the Japanese soldiers fall to the ground dead as KENJI turns to the third.

The remaining soldier removes his helmet, it's YUICHI. KENJI smiles as the 2 brothers run to embrace each other.

YUICHI:

I told you I'd return.

(CONTINUED)

In the middle of town MANZO has reached his home, as he walks inside he can see that the door has been forced open.

Inside he can hear the scream of his young daughter.

MANZO takes a firm grip of the pistol and moves inside. There he finds a soldier holding CHIYO against the floor.

MANZO closes his eyes and fires, missing the target by a few feet.

The young Japanese soldier turns to see MANZO, he grabs his rifle as MANZO fires again, killing the soldier instantly.

MANZO is panting heavily, as he looks at the dead soldier on the floor. Before he can react another Japanese soldier comes around behind him.

JAPANESE SOLDIER:

Drop your weapon.

MANZO lifts his hands, and looks over to the pistol. He presses the magazine release, dropping the clip to the floor. The soldier's attention turns to the magazine on the floor as MANZO turns and fires the last chambered round. The soldier falls to the ground dead.

MANZO TAMURA:

Still Dangerous.

KENJI AND YUICHI emerge from the back of the house, as they take cover the sound of a horse galloping can be heard around the corner.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU appears suddenly around the corner, his white horse rearing up as he stops.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

Don't stop, don't stop until this village has been stricken from the earth.

SHIMIZU turns to see YUICHI AND KENJI. The CAPTAIN descends from his noble horse and draws his pistol on the brothers.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

Here we are again, and once again you defy me.

SHIMIZU shoots YUICHI in the stomach.

KENJI:

No!!

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

I gave you a chance to redeem
yourself.

SHIMIZU shoots YUICHI again, YUICHI falls to one knee. KENJI runs in front of his brother.

SHIMIZU grabs KENJI by the shoulder and stares him in the eyes.

SHIMIZU turns to YUICHI

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

Another of your bastard brothers. I
can see the same cowardice in his
eyes.

SHIMIZU throws KENJI to the ground. He aims his pistol at KENJI and turns to YUICHI.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

Now failing your brother will be
the last thing you ever see.

YUICHI falls on his face as SHIMIZU begins to laugh, suddenly without warning a bullet tears through the shoulder of SHIMIZU.

The JAPANESE CAPTAINS pistol falls to the ground as he looks for his shooter.

MAJOR CONWAY steps out from behind cover with his pistol drawn.

CAPTAIN SHIMIZU:

You? You stayed, for a place like
this, why? A Man like you, why?

MAJOR CONWAY aims his pistol to finish SHIMIZU, but before he can pull the trigger a sudden barrage of bullets put the JAPANESE CAPTAIN down.

CONWAY turns to see KENJI with SHIMIZU's gun, the gun is empty but KENJI is still pulling the trigger.

The MAJOR waits a moment then turns back to the fight.

The final tank has now been seriously damaged. Suddenly it fires another deadly round through the center of town, throwing the MAJOR to his knees.

(CONTINUED)

The village has been completely overrun and defeat is certain.

CONWAY looks across the battle field in complete shell shock. Everything is in complete slow motion.

DEVEREAUX is still fighting and ALLEN has taken cover. KENJI is holding YUICHI in his arms and crying out loud.

CONWAY's hand moves into his coat, he removes his pair of glasses. They have been crushed, and both lenses are shattered.

CONWAY looks at them for a moment then lets them fall to the ground. As the enemy close in on his position he closes his eyes, awaiting the fatal bullet.

Suddenly the sound of artillery can be heard in the distance.

Explosions tear through the village almost cutting it in half. Dozens are killed instantly while the remaining soldiers are frozen in their foot steps.

CONWAY looks to the sea, the American Navy has moved into range and are covering the country side with devastation.

The enemy force is cut to ribbons as the massive artillery explosions push the them back.

The final tank bursts into flames as CONWAY watches from his knees.

From a high over top ridge COLONEL SAKAMOTTO looks down on the village as the Navy continues their bombardment. His men run for cover as he locks eyes with MAJOR CONWAY. The old COLONEL removes his Samurai sword and lay's it on a branch of a near by tree.

Slowly SAKAMOTTO rides off into the tree line.

APRIL 8TH - EARLY MORNING

CONWAY moves to the now abandoned ridge, he removes the sword from the tree and stares off into the massive hills of the island.

As he heads back to the village a massive graveyard has been erected for the fallen warriors.

The dead American soldiers can be easily located as their rifles and helmets have been used for their grave stones.

(CONTINUED)

The village has gathered to bury their dead and are in the midst of burying young YUICHI.

KENJI moves over his freshly dug grave and lays the black book on the newly laid soil. As KENJI walks away the wind blows open the book and the title can be seen, the book KENJI was reading was Hamlet.

OKINAWAN STABLE - MID DAY

The 3 remaining soldiers; MAJOR CONWAY, LIEUT. KATSUSHIRO and SERGEANT MAJOR DEVEREAUX gather their gear and begin to head out.

They are greeted by the TETSUO OKAMOTO before they leave.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

Your work is done. If there were a season for gratitude, they'd show it more.

SARGENT VIN DEVEREUX:

We didn't get any more than we expected, old man.

TETSUO OKAMOTO:

Only the farmers have won. They are like the land itself. You helped to rid them of Japaneses, the way a strong wind helps rid them of locusts. You are like the wind, blowing over the land and passing on. Sianora.

The three soldiers head off on horse back, they ride to an overlooking ridge and stop for a moment.

DEVEREAUX and CONWAY take one last look at the village, then turn their attention to ALLEN.

ALLEN looks to the 2 veteran soldiers, smiles and begins to head back to the town. He rides up to CHIYO who is in the Sugarcane field. ALLEN pulls up his sleeves and begins planting seeds next to her.

LT. COL GEORGE CONWAY:

The old man was right. Only the farmers won. We lost. We always lose.