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《时代》周刊
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读《时代》周刊

学英文

战场·商场

War Zones and
All Business

85

at Writing

[美国] 克里

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Death of an American Illusion

Roy Alexander

April 20, 1942



Bataan^① finally fell. In a military sense the big news meant that 150,000-200,000 Jap fighters were now **released**, to be used on other fronts. But that was not the fact that struck home to the U.S. Not until the last burned-out man put down his rifle on the soil of a Bataan that was now Japanese did Americans learn their lesson.

Bataan taught the U.S. a thing it had forgotten: pride of arms, pride in what the young men could do when tested.

Bataan taught America a humiliating thing, too: that U.S. soldiers could be beaten, could be taught the fullest **ignominy** of unconditional surrender. And they could be given this lesson by the funny, myopic, bucktoothed, bandylegged, pint-sized Jap—who, it suddenly appeared, was taut-muscled, courageous, vastly menacing.

The Jap had not changed. He was the same fellow who ran the **curio** shop in Rockefeller Center^②, or fished off California's coast. What had changed was a U.S. state of mind almost as old as the Republic. Before Pearl Harbor^③ there was only one world to U.S. citizens. The world, the only world that Americans believed in or cared about, was the U.S. The rest of mankind was, in an American sense, unreal. The American might—and did—**throng** the tourist spots like London and Paris, “discover” Bali or the Dalmatian Coast^④, but he could never quite believe that these **outlandish** foreign parts could have a real connection with his world.

The Jap lived in the U.S. and worked against it, but his image was even mistier than the forms of the white men of Europe. Even after he had smashed at Pearl Harbor, his true form did not emerge. Americans did not yet believe what Pearl Harbor and Wake^⑤ and Guam^⑥ told them. They did not believe it because these first **reverses** of the war had a newsreel quality of unreality.

Bataan's end was different. Here was no blow that could be repaired in a navy yard. With Bataan went 36,000 or more courageous U.S. soldiers—

release /rɪˈliːs/ v. 释放

ignominy /ˈɪɡnəmɪni/ n. 耻辱

curio /ˈkjʊəriə/ n. 古董

throng /brɒŋ/ v. 挤满

美国错觉的幻灭

巴丹终于陷落了。从军事意义上说,这个重大消息意味着15万至20万日军现在得以抽身,可以开赴其他战线。但对于美国来说,最惨痛的事实并不在此。直到最后一个筋疲力尽的美军士兵将手中的武器放在现已成为日本人地盘的巴丹半岛地上,美国人才得到了教训。

巴丹教给了美国一件它早已忘记的事:军人的荣耀,年轻人面临考验时的作为所体现的荣耀。

巴丹也让美国尝到了羞辱的滋味:美国大兵也会打败仗,也会饱受无条件投降之耻。给他们这个教训的竟然是长得奇形怪状、眼神不济、龅牙、罗圈腿、小个子的日本人——而这帮人突然之间变得孔武有力,胆识过人,气势汹汹。

日本人其实并没有变。他们跟在洛克菲勒中心开古玩店和在加州海岸钓鱼的日本人并无不同。改变的只是美国人自建国以来几乎从未变过的精神状态。在珍珠港事件之前,美国民众心目中只有一个世界。他们唯一信仰并关心的世界就是美国。其他国家的人在美国人看来都如同虚幻。美国人或许会——也确实会——涌入伦敦和巴黎之类的旅游热点,“发现”巴厘岛或是达尔马提亚海岸,但他们从来没想到,这些外国地方会跟自己的世界有什么切实联系。

日本人在美国生活,也是美国的对头,但日本人给美国人留下的印象比欧洲那些白人还要模糊。即便在偷袭珍珠港之后,日本人的真面目依然没有显露出来。美国人还不相信珍珠港、威克岛和关岛事件所揭示的东西。他们觉得难以置信,因为首次在战争中遭遇的这些挫折有种新闻短片般不真实的感觉。

巴丹的陷落则不一样。这里遭受的打击无法在海军船坞里修复。随巴丹半岛一道损失了36,000余名英勇的美军士兵,其中四分之三都

heroes, three out of four of whom were sons of the Philippines. They had been worn to hollow shadows of men by 15 days of smashing by the finest troops of the Son of Heaven^⑦. Because the U.S. had been well satisfied with the world it lived in, had **pinched** its boundless flood of pennies and sat alone, those U.S. soldiers had **stumbled** ragged, sleepless and half-starved through the last days of the most humiliating defeat in U.S. history. In no previous battle had so many U.S. fighting men gone down before a foreign enemy, and seldom had any beaten U.S. soldiers been in such pitiable condition—believing until the last hour of destruction that their country could and surely would send them aid.

The end was slow and agonizing and struck home the harder because Lieut. General Jonathan M. Wainwright's[®] communiqués were **terse** and professional. For 15 days the Jap struck at Bataan with everything he had. **Dive-bombers** blew great craters in forward positions. **Artillery** roared endlessly day & night; the nervous chatter of Jap machine guns rattled until it rasped men's nerves like a **file**. The Jap even struck again at the hospital, scattered the wounded like straws.

Jonathan Wainwright's soldier's eye saw that the end was near. From the shores of the Bay he withdrew his naval forces to the island of Corregidor[®]. He tried to strike one last blow. Against a Jap breakthrough on the Manila Bay side of the peninsula he threw a **corps** in desperate counter-attack. It was too much. The **glassy-eyed** soldiers went forward like men in a dream, so exhausted that many of them could hardly lift their feet, and the Jap mowed them down. The **flank** folded up.

The men on Corregidor saw only a little of the ghastly end. The last, pitifully small **ammunition dump** on Bataan went up in smoke and flame; the three ships at the water's edge were **dynamited**. Finally, from one of the heights on Bataan, a white flag went up. How many of the 36,000 died fighting, only the Japs knew.

Men still swam the shark-infested stretch from Bataan to Corregidor, and in the last few hours boats got across with nurses and a few survivors. But the biggest part of the battle-trained Philippine Army was gone. From the heights the Jap, with artillery already **emplaced**, began slamming away at Corregi-

pinch /pɪnʃ/ v. 攫取 **stumble** /ˈstʌmbəl/ v. 绊倒, 出岔子 **terse** /tɜːs/ a. 简洁的 **dive-bomber** /ˈdaɪvbɒmə/ n. 俯冲轰炸机 **artillery** /ɑːˈtɪləri/ n. 大炮 **file** /faɪl/ n. 锉刀 **corps** /kɔː/ n. 军团

是菲律宾裔士兵。美军士兵遭受了日军精锐部队整整15天的攻击，都已经完全不成人形。美国一直以来都对自己所处的境地非常满意，在战争中置身事外，攫取了无以计数的财富，而在这场美国有史以来最丢脸的失败战役最后的那段日子里，这些美国大兵饱受折磨，他们衣衫褴褛、彻夜无眠、饥饿难耐。在此之前，美国还没有在哪场对外战争中损失过这么多兵力，而打了败仗的美国士兵也极少陷入这样可悲的境地——直到最后一刻，他们还相信自己的国家能够，也必将提供支援。

结局来得很慢很痛苦，因为温赖特中将简洁而专业的公报，打击更加沉重。在15天的时间里，日军全力进攻巴丹。俯冲轰炸机将美军前沿阵地炸得千疮百孔。日军的大炮日以继夜地轰鸣，机关枪嗒嗒地响个不停，像锉刀一样锉着人的神经。日军甚至再次袭击了医院，伤兵的残躯如稻草般飞散。

温赖特手下的士兵眼见毁灭一步步逼近。温赖特将自己的海军从马尼拉湾的海岸线撤到科雷吉多岛，试图发起最后一击。为了抵抗日军在巴丹半岛马尼拉湾一侧发起的攻击，温赖特投入了一个军团拼死反击。情况太糟了。目光呆滞的士兵像梦游一样往前冲，他们筋疲力尽，许多人连抬脚的力气都没有，日军将他们统统撂倒。这一侧的防线彻底崩溃。

科雷吉多岛上的士兵只看到这场可怕毁灭的一小部分。巴丹半岛上最后一座小得可怜的军火供应站化为浓烟烈焰，水滨的三艘船也被炸毁。最后，巴丹一处高地挂起了白旗。只有日本人才知道36,000名美军士兵战死了多少。

还有人游过从巴丹到科雷吉多岛那条鲨鱼出没的水道，在最后的几个小时中，有小船载着看护和少数幸存者撤到科雷吉多岛。但历经战火洗礼的菲律宾军队已经损失了绝大部分兵力。在巴丹半岛的高地上，日军凭借美军安置好的大炮开始袭击科雷吉多岛。科雷吉多岛

glassy-eyed /ˈglɑːsiˈaɪd/ *a.* 目光呆滞的，面无表情的 **flank** /flæŋk/ *n.* 侧翼防线 **ammunition dump** 军火供应站 **dynamite** /ˈdaɪnəmaɪt/ *v.* 炸毁 **emplace** /ɪmˈpleɪs/ *v.* 安放，布置

dor. The soldiers there and the few civilians who had fled from Bataan knew it could not be long before they were finished too. No gunners had ever been in finer positions than the Jap. From Bataan's heights he could pour fire night & day across two miles of water into Corregidor and see where every **shell** fell.

In the Islands, as in the U.S., hundreds of cities and villages mourned their men. The survivors of the 9,000 American troops and 27,000 Filipinos fell into the hands of the Jap—all of them U.S. soldiers and U.S. losses. Alongside troops from the mainland, Tagalog[®] and Moro[®] and Igorot[®] had fought just as bravely, died just as **tight-lipped** and with just as little **fuss** as their white comrades. It took that fighting and those deaths to make the U.S. know that the men from the Islands were their brothers and their equals.

They were all Americans on Bataan.

上的士兵和从巴丹半岛逃过来的少数平民知道，自己这边也撑不了多久了。日军占据了最好的炮手位置。日军炮手可以日夜不停地从巴丹高地轰击两英里宽的水面之外的科雷吉多岛，连每发炮弹落在哪里都看得清清楚楚。

与美国一样，菲律宾群岛也有成百上千的城市和村庄痛失子弟。由9,000名美国士兵和27,000名菲律宾士兵组成的美军中的幸存者全都落入日军之手——他们都是美国的战士，他们的牺牲和被俘都是美国的损失。除了来自美国本土的军队，他加禄人、摩洛人和伊哥洛人也跟从美国来的白人战友一样英勇战斗、默默捐躯，也同样从无怨言。经历了这场战斗，损失了这么多人之后，美国人才认识到菲律宾裔士兵是跟他们平等的兄弟。

在巴丹半岛上，他们都是美国人。

导读

巴丹半岛战役是二战时期菲律宾战役的重要阶段。珍珠港事件之后,日本向作为美军重要防线的巴丹半岛发起猛烈攻势,美军经过顽强抵抗仍遭遇惨败,不得不向日军投降,36,000名守军几乎全部被俘或阵亡。这是美国军事史上最大的投降事件。

本文分析了巴丹半岛战役对美国心理和观念的影响。在此之前,美国人只关注自己所处的世界,对外界所知甚少,也漠不关心,美国与外国的战争也是胜多败少,而巴丹半岛战役的失败可以说是给了美国当头一棒,让美国重新认识自身以及世界其他地方的人,美国人的一些固有观念有所改变。

Notes

- ① Bataan巴丹半岛,位于菲律宾吕宋岛西部,在马尼拉湾和南中国海之间。1942年4月,驻守巴丹半岛的美军和菲律宾军队向日军投降。1945年2月,美军收复了巴丹半岛。
- ② Rockefeller Center 洛克菲勒中心,纽约著名商业中心。
- ③ Pearl Harbor 珍珠港,太平洋上夏威夷瓦胡岛南海岸边的一个海湾,位于檀香山西面,是美国海军基地。1941年12月7日,星期天,日本飞机偷袭了珍珠港,摧毁、重创了美军各型战舰40余艘,击毁飞机265架。12月7日当天下午,美国政府对日宣战。
- ④ Bali 巴厘岛,位于印度尼西亚南部。Dalmatian Coast 达尔马提亚海岸,位于克罗地亚西南部,亚得里亚海边。二者均为旅游胜地。
- ⑤ Wake 威克岛,位于北太平洋,为美国海军航空及潜艇基地,珍珠港事件后被日军占领,1945年由美国收回。
- ⑥ Guam 关岛,位于西太平洋,是马里亚纳群岛中的最大岛屿,为美国在西太平洋的重要海、空军基地。二战期间,日军袭击珍珠港后连续空袭关岛,并占领该岛,1944年美军夺回关岛。
- ⑦ Son of Heaven 指日本天皇。
- ⑧ Jonathan M. Wainwright 温赖特(1883—1953),美国将军,第二次世界大战时

在菲律宾指挥美军抵抗日军进攻,在巴丹半岛和科雷吉多岛失守后被迫投降,本人被俘,日本投降后回国。

⑨ Corregidor 科雷吉多岛,位于菲律宾西北部,在马尼拉湾入口处。

⑩ Tagalog 他加禄人,菲律宾民族之一。

⑪ Moro 摩洛人,居住在菲律宾南部,多为伊斯兰教徒。

⑫ Igorot 伊哥洛人,居住在菲律宾吕宋岛西北山区。

The Hills of Nicosia^①

John Hersey

August 9, 1943



A shell hit captain Edward Wozenski's^② hill. It was a big shell, and it put all the men down in their holes. Gradually heads began popping up. Captain Wozenski, who had not **taken cover**, said sadly: "This hill's a little too crowded for my liking."

A telephone bell rang. It was such an absurd sound out there some men jumped. An **enlisted man** answered: "Hello... wait a minute," and he shouted: "Hey, where's that wireman, anyone seen that wireman?"

Wozenski said: "Every time a shell lands on this hill, everybody calls up from the other hills to see if their **buddies** are okay."

A shell hit the top of the hill. A dark lump flew up with the smoke and blasted dust and went higher and fell in a gentle arc. A man screamed: "Help! help! help! help!"

Wozenski said: "Damn," and walked wearily up the hill.

A mumbled message was passed down the hill: "Send up some litter bearers... they say they need some **litter** bearers...."

Captain Wozenski came down the slope. Here & there the men gathered to talk over who had been killed and who had been wounded up there. Captain Wozenski shouted in a clear, deep voice: "All right. Let's not have these great goddam gatherings. Spread out."

The wounded men and their helpers began **trickling** down from the crest. A man with most of his shoulder shot away was guiding a blinded man. One limped along. The litter team carried a sergeant whose leg was bad and whose face was cut. Captain Wozenski had to **detail** some whole men^③ to help. I took the arm of the blinded man.

The man with the shot-out shoulder said: "Let's go back there and get those bastards." The blind man was apologetic. He hoped he was causing me no trouble. He was sorry to have to be guided when he could walk and all.

The litter bearers stopped to rest. When they put the sergeant down he said: "Say, Doc^④, would you mind straightening my leg out?" What was left

take cover 躲藏, 隐蔽 **enlisted man** 士兵 **buddy** /'bʌdi/ n. 伙伴, 朋友 **litter** /'lɪtə/ n. 担架

尼科西亚的山岗

一发炮弹打在爱德华·沃森斯基上尉所在的山头。这发炮弹分量很足，所有人都卧倒隐蔽。过了一会儿大家又逐渐开始探出头来。沃森斯基没有找地方隐蔽，他黯然地说：“这个山头有点儿太挤了，我不太喜欢。”

电话铃响了起来。此时此地，这声音太奇怪了，有几个人跳了起来。一个士兵接起了电话：“喂……等一下。”随后他大声喊道：“喂，接线员哪儿去了，有人看见那个接线员没有？”

沃森斯基说：“每次有炮弹打过来，其他山头的人都会打电话来问自己的朋友有没有事。”

一发炮弹落在山顶。一大块黑乎乎的东西随着浓烟和四散的尘土飞了起来，飞到高处，划了一道缓和的弧线落下。有人尖叫：“救命！救命啊！救命！救命！”

沃森斯基骂了句“妈的”，步履沉重地往山上走。

山上叽里咕噜地传下口信：“派几个担架员上来……他们说需要几个担架员……”

沃森斯基上尉走下山坡。到处都有人凑在一块儿谈论上面谁送命了，谁又受伤了。沃森斯基用低沉的嗓音一字一句地喊道：“得了，别都他妈凑成一大堆。散开。”

有人扶着伤员开始慢慢从山顶往下走。有个士兵大半个肩膀都炸飞了，带着一个眼睛瞎了的士兵下山。一起走的还有一个一瘸一拐的士兵。担架队抬着一个中士，他的腿断了，脸上也带着伤。沃森斯基只得派了几个没受伤的人去帮忙。我扶住了那个瞎眼士兵的胳膊。

肩膀受了重伤的士兵说：“让我们回去抓住那些狗娘养的。”瞎眼士兵向我表示抱歉，希望他自己没给我添麻烦。他觉得抱歉是因为他其实能走，但却不得不让人领着。

担架员停下来歇了一会儿。他们放下担架时，担架上的中士说：“我说医生，能不能把我的腿伸伸直？”其实他的残腿已经直得不能再

of his leg could be no straighter, for it was **splinted** between two rifles.

The going was very rough. The blind man lifted his feet high and put them down wherever they fell. He had none of the cautious grace of men long blind, but struck out with his legs as if angry at the path. A **mule skinner** came up the path riding a mule and singing a song about Georgia. One of the litter bearers said: “Here you, what you doing on that mule?^⑤ Get off and let one of these fellows ride who need it.” So the skinner got off and we lifted the blind soldier on to the mule’s bare back. After that my job was to balance the blind man up there.

As we started down Wozenski’s hill, our artillery had gone to work on the German hills. Shelling these hills was like shaking **lice** out of old clothes. Each pounding seemed to bring one or two Germans out to surrender. Now another prisoner walked across the lines. One of our men spoke to the prisoner in German and the prisoner answered. He said he had been two days without food or water.

The blind man said: “Is that a **kraut**? The next German I see walking, by God, he won’t be walking any more after that.” It was not then certain that he would ever see a German walking, or any man.

The wounded sergeant said to the man who could speak German: “Say, will you ask the German for a **souvenir**? Tell him I promised an old lady^⑥.” The German did not understand, but finally he gave the sergeant a five-mark^⑦ piece.

The climb grew very steep and we were all quiet. Wounds began to hurt and shock began to set in seriously. The sergeant moaned: “Doc, can’t you keep my leg straight?”

No one had spoken for a long time when the blinded soldier said to me, very softly: “Eyes are very delicate things.”

We turned the wounded men over to a doctor, and I rejoined the **battalion**^⑧ commander, Lieut. Colonel^⑨ John H. Mathews. He said he was going to Wozenski’s hill to launch an attack.

The attack on all the hills went well. The enemy was human. On the second evening, just before dark, our men launched the final attack. All units moved—even the tanks, which punched along the road in the face of well-placed anti-tank guns. The attacks by the tanks and by three **infantry**

splint /splint/ v. 用夹板夹 **mule skinner** 骡夫 **louse** /laus/ n. (复数lice) 虱子 **kraut** /kraut/ n. (俚) (贬) 德国佬, 尤指德国兵 **souvenir** /,su:və'niə/ n. 纪念品 **battalion** /bə'tæljən/ n. 营, 营部 **in-**