

**INDEPENDENT MINDS: AT WAR IN THE PACIFIC**  
**THE MODULES**

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This 4-part series tells the often overlooked story of the marines who fought the critical battles against the Japanese in the Pacific during World War Two. We hear about the brutality of the Pacific campaign, the ultimate victory and – for the survivors – the difficult adjustment to life back home. This compelling radio series features interviews with the marines, historians, filmmakers and archival tape of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the fighting on Guadalcanal, Okinawa and Iwo Jima and the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Hosted by award-winning reporter David D’Arcy, each module is a compact 6:59.

***Generic Intro:***

The story of U.S. involvement in World War Two is well-documented, but most of the focus – historical and otherwise -- has been on the fighting in Europe. Another side of the story, sometimes called “the forgotten war,” is the conflict in the Pacific. Months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, young U.S. marines confronted brutal conditions and a determined enemy on islands like Guadalcanal, Tarawa and Iwo Jima. Reporter David D’Arcy has more in our series “Independent Minds: At War in the Pacific.”

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**Module 1: “From Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal” (Audio: pac1final.wav)**

Months after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, marines launch their first amphibious attack on Japanese forces holding the island of Guadalcanal. The riveting story is told by marines Sydney Phillips and Robert Leckie, and historians Richard Frank and Donald Miller.

**Module 2: “Tarawa and Peleliu” (Audio: pac2final.wav)**

In fierce island fighting on Tarawa and Peleliu, the marines secure vital airfields and confront Japanese soldiers committed to “no surrender.” Marine Eugene Sledge and historian Donald Miller detail the jungle warfare, sacrifice and survival.

**Module 3: “The Propaganda War at Home” (Audio: pac3final.wav)**

The horrors of the “forgotten war” in the Pacific are sanitized by Hollywood, the U.S. government and tours of returning war heroes like John Basilone. But the American public faces reality from photojournalists on the scene, and Basilone’s return to duty – and death – at Iwo Jima.

**Module 4: “The Marines Come Home” (Audio: pac4final.wav)**

The Pacific fighting escalates with kamikaze attacks at Okinawa, and in August of 1945, the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As we learn from marines Robert Leckie, R.V. Burgin and historian Donald Miller, the men who came of age in the brutal battles of the Pacific discover a longer and perhaps more difficult challenge ahead: adjustment to life back home.