



1. Japanese-held Wake, March 11, 1944. Wilkes Island in foreground with unfinished channel for an American submarine base. Wake Island upper right with two runways completed. Peale Island to left. Japanese landings were on the beaches of Wake and Wilkes on the right of the photograph.

Courtesy, Defense Audiovisual Agency



2. Entrance to an American igloo-type magazine. In December 1941, two of these magazines served as hospitals, one was the Marines' command post, and only the fourth continued to store aerial bombs. Only three remain.

Photo by E.N. Thompson

October 1983



3. Steel-protected observation posts on the roof of Admiral Sakaibara's command post, Wake Island. This strong, three-level structure stands near the bridge to Peale. Only one level is accessible.



4. Largest Japanese blockhouse on Wake. This six-sided structure, containing both gun embrasures and rifle slits, stands between the admiral's command post and the ocean, northwest corner of Wake Island.



5. One of five Japanese semicircular blockhouses, each with three embrasures, on Wake. They are modified versions of the circular, four-embrasure blockhouses found on Roi and Saipan Islands.

Photo by E.N. Thompson

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6. Western tip of Wilkes Island. Domed Japanese pillboxes are not common. One wonders if American prisoners had a hand in constructing this one. Evidently, the embrasure was too wide; half of it was filled in. Barbed-wire stake in foreground.



7. Rock-walled Japanese trench on Wilkes. A number of these trenches have survived as well as rifle pits and earthen personnel shelters.



8. Ruins of the Pan-American hotel on Peale Island.

Photo by E.N. Thompson

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9. Peale Island. Concrete ruins of a large building at the American naval air station which was still under construction when Japan attacked.

Photo by E.N. Thompson

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10. Inside a Japanese underground structure on Peale Island. Although it was stoutly constructed with heavy plank and steel beams, its interior lining is fast caving in.



11. Frame structure inside an earthen revetment on Peale. If Japanese, it is a rare survivor of this type of construction.



12. Japanese 8-inch coastal gun on Peale overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Japan purchased this type of weapon from Great Britain.



13. Roof of a Japanese blockhouse on Peale. By October 4, 1942, all American prisoners had been evacuated from Wake except 98 civilians, who were shot in 1943.

Photo by E.N. Thompson

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