
Comparison Of Pearl Harbor The Movie Vs The Real-life Attack

Introduction

In this paper, I'll be discussing the similarities and differences of "Pearl Harbor" the movie versus Pearl Harbor the real-life attack and the processes as well as the people involved in it in comparison to the movie. The movie "Pearl Harbor" retells the story of the horrendous attack on Pearl Harbor revolving around a love triangle between the main characters of the movie; Rafe McCawley, Daniel (Danny) Walker, and Evelyn Johnson. To begin this paper, I will give a thorough breakdown of the movie and how it compares to the attack that actually occurred on December 7th. In this piece, I'll be analyzing multiple people who either benefited or were a threat to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Some of these people include President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the President following him, being Harry S. Truman who called the attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I will also discuss Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto who is known to be the mastermind behind the attack on the U.S. This piece will explain in great detail the events of Pearl Harbor, the accuracy of the movie in comparison to the real-life events, and other significant features of the attack.

Body

The movie "Pearl Harbor" was written by Randall Wallace in 2001. John Hartnett plays Danny Walker in the film is a USAAC pilot given the title First Lieutenant which by the end of the movie is changed to Captain. Likewise, Rafe McCawley is played by Ben Affleck, who is also a USAAC pilot who was once a First Lieutenant and later became a Captain in combat. Kate Beckinsale takes on the role of Lieutenant Evelyn Johnson who is a field nurse at the Tripler Army Hospital. The plot begins with both Rafe and Danny are seen being drafted into WWII as First Lieutenants under the power of Jimmy Doolittle played by Alec Baldwin. Rafe then meets Evelyn and they are seen to be in love at first sight.. After partying all night long, Rafe informs Evelyn that he has joined another mission squad and must leave to go fight.. During the mission, Rafe is presumed dead after he was shot over the English Channel. Evelyn and Danny then meet and mourn their former lover and bestfriend while falling in love themselves. During this time, the Japanese navy begin to plan their pearl harbor attack shortly after the U.S. cut off their oil supply. One day before the attack, Rafe returns after being held hostage by the French and the Nazis; only to discover that Danny and Evelyn had been in a relationship. Less than twenty-four hours later, on December 7th, the Japanese finally attacked pearl harbor after many long months of continuous planning. Meanwhile the U.S. army's aircrafts were

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destroyed in the attack before they could get to the harbor and defend themselves. Both Rafe and Danny got into P-40 helicopters to help and guard their homeland. After getting off the helicopters, both Walker and McCawley rescued the USS Oklahoma but could not rescue the USS Arizona. Likewise, Evelyn was trying to save the millions of soldiers and casualties coming in and in the process lost Betty, a fellow nurse. The following day, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared that the U.S. was officially in a state of war with Japan. Before leaving for a secret mission, Evelyn told Rafe that she's pregnant with Danny's son and that she loves him endlessly. Upon arrival, Danny and Rafe were both declared Captains for their bravery on the day of the attack and would spend the next few months training alongside each other. They would later be sent to bomb Tokyo and would be successful but crash into Japanese land where Danny would get shot and killed. Rafe returns and tells Evelyn of the news and helps her raise their son who they name Danny after his father.

Conclusion

The attack on Pearl Harbor was one of the most devastating attacks the U.S. has seen to this day. In 1940, WWI was being fought between the allied powers consisting of the U.S., Great Britain, and France. On the opposite side were the axis powers that consisted of Germany, Japan, and Italy which were all mostly occupied by Nazis. Originally, Hitler attacked Poland in Blitzkrieg, triggering both Great Britain and France to declare war on Germany resulting in the start of WWII. Later on, the axis powers all partook in signing the tripartite pact, a mutual defense system stating that if one of the nations involved in the pact got into a war with an opposing nation, that the neighboring nations in the pact would also call a war on the opposing nation. In response to these countries coming together, the U.S. put an embargo on all their trade with Japan. And from that day on, the Japanese led by Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, would start planning their attack on Pearl Harbor. This would continue until the catastrophic day of December 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked the island of Oahu at Pearl Harbor. The Sunday of the attack). At 7:55 on the morning of December 7th "when the sound of planes overhead first reached [the troops] ears, most people thought they were U.S. army planes" as if it were any normal day (Fitzgerald 10). This sneak attack left the U.S. with no choice but to declare war against Japan causing Germany and Italy to declare war on the U.S. due to the tripartite act; leaving the U.S. unprepared to fight in both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

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