



Guam, March 24, 1945: The 52nd Marine Defense Battalion was one of two USMC combat units comprised of African Americans. The USMC, like the U.S. Army, was segregated throughout the course of WWII. Black Marines, like their Army counterparts, were led by white officers, and were frequently used as work units. However, the line between Black Marines and White Marines was not quite as pronounced as in the Army, and while the 52nd was never offered an opportunity to distinguish itself, to the White commanders and base co-habitants, in the Marshalls and on Guam, the 52nd proved to be as proud and effective as any in the USMC. During its stay on Guam, the 52nd was called on not only to provide air defense, but to round up Japanese stragglers from the actions the previous July and August.

Board Configuration	34
A	
N	

### VICTORY CONDITIONS

The US player wins by accumulating 10 CVP or accumulating at least 5 CVP while sustaining no CVP themselves.

Balance:

- ☆ Delete Hero from US OB and exchange the 8-0 with a 8-1
- All American squads are 558's.

(Only Hexrows R - GG are Playable.)

### Turn Chart

American Setups first.	1	2	3	4	5	6	End
American Moves first.							



### Detachment A, 52nd Marine Defense Battalion

Set up first, HIP in concealment terrain in any one hex in a hex numbered  $\geq 8$ .

Enter on turn 1 from East edge:

[ELR:5]  
{SAN:5}

4-5-8	8-0	1-4-9	5-3 6-12
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4-5-8	8-1	8-0	2 4-10	30-1
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6



### Remnants, Guam Garrison:

Set up in hexes numbered 3-7.

[ELR:2]  
{SAN:6}

1 4-4-7	2 3-4-7	9-0	8-1	1 2-8	2 50*[1-10]*	?	13 OVL. OGA: +4 Other: +2
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5

x3

SSR:  
1) EC are wet, with mild breeze blowing from the east at start.

2) Japanese units suffer from ammunition shortage and Japanese half squads are not exempt from surrender. Japanese units may not set up HIP.

Aftermath: During it's time on Guam, the 52nd developed a skill at setting up ambushes and rounding up the Japanese that remained on the island. Sargeant (later Platoon Sargeant) Ezra Kelly led many patrols and was described by one of his senior (white) officers as: "really gung ho. Absolutely fearless." The 52nd was to participate in the invasion of Okinawa, but the order was called off. The action on Guam was to be the last of the war for the fact that wore on their morale like a millstone around their neck. The feeling was that they were being used as a work battalion, rather than a combat formation. Despite proving themselves in landings in the Marshalls and numerous combat patrols on Guam, the 52nd couldn't shed it's second-line status to USMC top brass.