

THE EAGER BEAVERS

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. ADMIRALTY ISLANDS - DAY (SUNRISE)

SUPER: "JUNE 2, 1943."

Using stock footage from *Dogfights: Season 1*, the B-17E Flying Fortress, nicknamed "'Old 666'", lumbers at sunrise to complete the mapping mission starting at Admiralty Islands at 20,000 ft.

INT. B-17E "'OLD 666'" - DAY (SUNRISE)

JAY ZEAMER JR. [V.O.]

(on radio)

PILOT to NAVIGATOR, any sign of enemy fighters?

BUD THUES

(on radio)

Negative. No enemy fighter presence, but we've completed the mapping mission at Admiralty Island.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

(on radio)

Excellent, we'll proceed eastward to Buka Passage.

EXT. BUKA PASSAGE - DAY

The "Old 666" sets course to Buka Passage at 11,000 ft. 2ND LIEUTENANT JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI photographs at Buka Passage with his bombsight.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Buka Passage looks clear, Zeamer.

JAY ZEAMER JR. [V.O.]

(on radio)

Any sign of Yamamoto's crash site?

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

(on radio)

Negative. I don't see smoke on the crash site.

HANK DYMINSKI

Zeamer, how can we find the crash site if there's no smoke?

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Perhaps one of the pilots who claimed two victories and one of the Jap bombers crashed on Bougainville Island two months ago.

GEORGE KENDRICK [V.O.]

(on radio)

Zeamer, we've completed the mapping mission. No sign of enemy presence.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

(on radio)

Excellent, let's head back to base for our mapping mission report.

The "Old 666" heads back to 7-Mile Airstrip at Port Moresby.

DISSOLVE TO:

TITLE: WORLD WAR II: THE ANIMATED SERIES

CUT TO:

EPISODE TITLE: THE EAGER BEAVERS

EXT. 7-MILE AIRSTRIP, PORT MORESBY — DAY

TWO MORE BOMBER CREW AND THE MECHANIC NAMED MACK watch as the B-17E land at 7-Mile Airstrip at Port Moresby where other B-17Es of 43rd Bomb Group were already landed. Captain Jay Zeamer Jr. and HIS BOMBER CREW exit from the bomber after completing for their mapping mission in the Pacific.

JOHN BRITTON

Hey, Zeamer! How's your mapping mission?

JAY ZEAMER JR.

No sign of Yamamoto's crash site.

RUBY JOHNSTON

No sign of Yamamoto's crash site?
I thought you saw a thick black smoke coming from the jungle!

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

What he means is we couldn't see the crash site of Yamamoto's plane.

MACK

You mean the Betty Bomber serial number 323?

JOHN J. ABLE

Exactly. Rex Barber is the only American pilot who shot down Yamamoto and the second Betty.

JOHN BRITTON

That's what Mack told you about Admiral Yamamoto's death two months ago.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Really? How do you know that Admiral Yamamoto had a serial number on the Betty Bomber?

RUBY JOHNSTON

One is 323 and the other Betty has a serial number, 326.

FORREST DILLMAN

Two Betties at once at Bougainville Island?

GEORGE KENDRICK

Wow! Not a signal Jap fighter shot down at Bougainville Island, but it's a good thing Yamamoto what he deserved.

HERBERT PUGH

Yeah! And this is what he gets for attacking Pearl Harbor.

JOHN BRITTON

Just as what President Roosevelt wanted to see in two years.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

I thought the Jap carriers were responsible for attacking Pearl Harbor.

MACK

They're not. Admiral Yamamoto commanded the Carrier Strike Force at Pearl Harbor.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Yeah, except we have no idea where the last two Jap carriers are.

JOHN BRITTON

You mean the carriers that bombed Pearl Harbor two years ago?

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

Exactly. Bombing on the Jap carriers won't be easy for our bomber.

RUBY JOHNSTON

Especially for low and high-altitude performances, but targeting the enemy ships in the Pacific with multiple bombs? This isn't going to be easy.

JOHN J. ABLE

Easy? (laughs)

Heck! There's no way we can bomb
the Jap fleet for level bombing.

MACK

At least you got a photo of the
crash site.

CLOSE UP SHOT: ON THE PHOTOGRAPH OF CRASH SITE.

GEORGE KENDRICK

I can't believe it! It's the tail
number, 323!

MACK

Yes, that's Yamamoto's plane.

HERBERT PUGH

So that's why the bastard bombed
Pearl Harbor two years ago.

JOHN BRITTON

With Admiral Yamamoto gone, we
have a chance to find the enemy
targets for mapping missions.

FORREST DILLMAN

If we had more firepower against
the Japs.

RUBY JOHNSTON

Firepower? That's it! We need more
firepower!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Ruby, we're the bomber crew, not a
dogfighter!

JOHN J. ABLE

I agree with Zeamer. You're
putting our lives in danger!

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

We're no match against the Jap fighters.

JOHN BRITTON

Guys! Ruby is got a point! We may not be a dogfighter, but we can out-maneuver with the Japs. Mack, it's time to get to work.

MACK

Alright, then. Let's do it.

INT. 7-MILE AIRSTRIP, PORT MORESBY - HANGAR - CONTINUOUS

It takes a long time for "Old 666" to be refitted, rearmed, and refueled.

EXT. 7-MILE AIRSTRIP, PORT MORESBY - HANGAR - DAY

SUPER: "JUNE 15, 1943."

Finally, the "Old 666" is completed. The "Old 666" is now equipped with twin .50 caliber guns on waist gunner positions on both sides and other twin .50 caliber guns fitted in the chin for bombardier position and a fixed gun is installed in the nose to operate for Jay Zeamer Jr. He and his bomber crew looked at the "Old 666". The Flying Fortress is completely different than any other standard B-17s in the Pacific.

RUBY JOHNSTON

So, guys, what do you think?

JAY ZEAMER JR.

It looks completely different than when we flew two weeks ago.

MACK

Yeah, it took a long time for us to upgrade to the B-17.

Joe Sarnoski hurried to Jay Zeamer Jr. and his bomber crew. He was worried about two bomber crew.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Jay, we've got a problem!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

What's wrong, Joe?

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Hank and Bud suffered from
malaria!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Mack, get a medic.

MACK

Zeamer, I'm a mechanic, not a
doctor!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Just do it!

Mack gets help from the medic.

HERBERT PUGH

Who is going to be our co-pilot
and man our guns to deal with the
Jap fighters?

JOHN BRITTON

I'll do it.

RUBY JOHNSTON

Me too!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Alright, you two. Let's test out
our guns.

Jay Zeamer Jr. and his crew board the "Old 666".

INT. B-17E "OLD 666" - DAY

The B-17E lumbers in the sky of the Pacific. Britton is a new
co-pilot, and Johnston is a new flight engineer of "Old 666".

JOHN BRITTON

Are we doing a mapping mission
again?

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Not this time, Britton. We're going to test our new armament.

(on radio) George and Forrest, test out the twin .50 caliber waist gun.

Dillman and Kendrick fire with twin .50 caliber waist guns on both sides.

GEORGE KENDRICK

(on radio)

We're good!

JAY ZEAMER JR. [V.O.]

(on radio)

Sarnoski, let's test out with .50 caliber guns on the nose.

EXT. B-17E "OLD 666" - CONTINUOUS

Both Zeamer and Sarnoski fired with .50 caliber nose mounted machine guns.

INT. B-17E "OLD 666" - CONTINUOUS

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

(on radio)

Front side is good, Zeamer.

JAY ZEAMER JR. [V.O.]

(on radio)

Willy, test out your twin .50 calibers without shooting the tail off.

Vaughan fires with .50 calibers without cutting its tail off.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

(on radio)

All clear, Zeamer. No hits on the tail section and still no enemy presence in our sector.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

(on radio)

Excellent, Willy. Let's head back
to Port Moresby.

The "Old 666" returns to Port Moresby, New Guinea.

EXT. PORT MORESBY, NEW GUINEA - 7-MILE AIRSTRIP - DAY

The Old 666 lands on the runway. Mack is waiting for them at the airstrip, but this time, the 43rd Bomb Group haven't returned to 7-Mile Airstrip yet. Zeamer Jr. and his crew exit from Old 666.

JOHN BRITTON

Mack, how's it going?

MACK

I talked to the MEDICS, and they
said they're getting some
treatments to cure malaria.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Oh, thank God!

MACK

The rest of the B-17s are in a
bombing mission against the Jap
oil refineries, airfields, and
shipyards.

RUBY JOHNSTON

But no bombing raid on the Jap
factories unlike last year.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

Last year, the Doolittle Raid
bombed Tokyo and destroyed
factories unlike Pearl Harbor.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

The Japs attack civilians,
destroying ships, and airfield,
but at least Admiral Yamamoto is
dead by a squadron of P-38s.

GEORGE KENDRICK

Except Lieutenant Raymond K. Hine
was declared missing in action at
Bougainville.

FORREST DILLMAN

Too bad Lieutenant Joe Moore
bugged out and never got a chance
to shoot down Admiral Yamamoto.

HERBERT PUGH

And he deserved it, but the
problem is there are two Jap
carriers left in the Pacific.

JOHN J. ABLE

There were six Jap carriers that
attack Pearl Harbor, but four of
them were sunk at Midway last
year.

JOHN BRITTON

Are bombs loaded?

MACK

I'm sorry, Britton. We're out of
bombs. They already used up to
bomb the Japanese occupied
islands.

RUBY JOHNSTON

What?! No bombs? How can we deal
with the Japs without using bombs?

MACK

You must do some reconnaissance
mission again by tomorrow.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Mack, you son of a-!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Save it, Sarnoski.

HERBERT PUGH

Yeah, and besides, we don't need bombs for tomorrow's mission.

GEORGE KENDRICK

I'm the only photographer of "Old 666", we do some dangerous missions at the Pacific.

JOHN J. ABLE

You're the photographer, George?

GEORGE KENDRICK

That's right, Able. I'm the only one who took some photos at the crash site at Bougainville.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

What about the other Betty Bomber?

GEORGE KENDRICK

The other Betty splashed in the ocean.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

So, is this true? Have you found the second Betty at Bougainville?

GEORGE KENDRICK

No Zeamer Jr., we didn't find the second Betty in the ocean.

JOHN BRITTON

Or perhaps the Jap staff officers escape from the doomed Betty while the other Betty crashed into the jungle.

RUBY JOHNSTON

That's what I thought. There was smoke in the jungle and the ocean, but Yamamoto's staff officers escaped from the wreckage.

MACK

How did the Jap staff officers
escaped from the wreckage?

HERBERT PUGH

They were rescued by the Jap
floatplane.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

If Admiral Yamamoto is dead, then
who is the other Jap staff
officers?

JOHN J. ABLE

ADMIRAL MATOME UGAKI.

GEORGE KENDRICK

What? No way!

JAY ZEAMER JR.

You're insane!

JOHN J. ABLE

No, I'm not. He's in the hospital
and same thing goes to our bomber
crew.

FORREST DILLMAN

But still, we're going to do some
mapping missions for tomorrow at
Bougainville.

HERBERT PUGH

Let's hope the Japs won't find us
tomorrow.

JOESPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

And speaking of Japs, here comes
the 43rd Bomb Group now.

The B-17Es of 43rd Bomb Group land at 7-Mile Airstrip, but some
of the bombers were damaged during the bombing raid at the
Pacific Islands. The ambulance rushed at the damaged bomber.

Only few bomber crew members are wounded and were taken to the hospital to treat for wounded bomber crew. Zeamer Jr. and his bomber crew investigate the situation.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

What happened to the bomber crew?

MEDIC

The Japs intercept the bombers at Bougainville without fighter escorts.

JOHN BRITTON

How could let the Japs shoot down the 43rd Bomb Group?

MEDIC

It's hard to explain. The Japs send a squadron of fighters to prevent the bombers from reaching their target, but some of the bombers got through.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

At least our bomber is untouched.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

Untouched you say?

RUBY JOHNSTON

Yes, we've tested out our new guns, but we're lucky enough to land at Port Moresby first.

HERBERT PUGH

How did the Japs find the 43rd Bomb Group in a first place?

FORREST DILLMAN

They're coming from Bougainville Airfield. We must coordinate the enemy airfield before the Japs finds us.

GEORGE KENDRICK

And if we don't, then the 43rd Bomb
Group will be doomed.

JOHN J. ABLE

Any ideas?

WILLIAM VAUGHAN

We'll fly alone tomorrow, so
others can live and fight for
another day.

JOHN BRITTON

I'll be the co-pilot and Ruby,
keep an eye on Sarnoski.

RUBY JOHNSTON

Don't worry. I'll keep an eye on
Sarnoski. He and I will work
together as a team.

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

Thank you, Ruby. You can be a
Navigator and Britton will be
Zeamer's co-pilot.

FORREST DILLMAN

Good idea, Joe! That way we don't
have to worry about two original
members of "Old 666."

HERBERT PUGH

And besides, we're a bunch of
misfits.

GEORGE KENDRICK

Misfits? You mean, we're doing a
reconnaissance mission tomorrow?

JOHN J. ABLE

Yes, we don't have any choices. If
we find the Jap airbase, then
we'll be ready for bombing run.

SUPER: "JUNE 16, 1943."

EXT. B-17E "OLD 666" - DAY

The next day, the "Old 666" returns to Buka Island at 25,000 ft, but this time, they're doing a mapping mission to prepare for their upcoming battle against the Japanese defenses by using stock footage of *Dogfights: Season 1*.

INT. B-17E "OLD 666" - DAY

JAY ZEAMER JR.

(on radio)

Pilot to Navigator, do you copy?

RUBY JOHNSTON

(on radio)

Navigator to Pilot, I copy.

JAY ZEAMER JR. [V.O.]

(on radio)

Have you coordinated the Jap's weak point at Bougainville?

RUBY JOHNSTON

(on radio)

Roger. We found the weak the point for the Jap's defenses on the beaches.

JAY ZEAMER JR. [V.O.]

(on radio)

Map it out, Johnston. Kendrick, take a photoshoot on the weak point.

JOHN J. ABLE

(on radio)

Bandits! 6 o'clock! They're climbing on us fast!

17 Japanese Zeros appear at Buka Island determine to shoot down the American bomber out of the sky.

GEORGE KENDRICK

(on radio)

The Japs are splitting up to
attack us!

The bomber crew are in a gunning position. The gunners open fire at the Japanese Zeros with every round they can get. Zeamer Jr. and Sarnoski open fire at the Zero in head-on pass. One Zero goes down in flame. Then another Zero was claimed by the bomber crew, until the third Zero shatters the B-17's windshield with 20 mm cannons but managed to shoot down the third Zero. Blood stains are all over the cockpit and the nose.

RUBY JOHNSTON

Joe, are you OK?

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

(breathing)

The Jap...shot me!

RUBY JOHNSTON

Shot where? Tell me!

JOSEPH RAYMOND SARNOSKI

(breathing)

My abdomen...it's bleeding...bad,
but...I must...keep...fighting.

RUBY JOHNSTON

It's going to be OK, Joe. I'll
deal with the Jap.

Another Japanese plane is coming towards the B-17. This time it was a twin-engine Ki-46 Dinah reconnaissance aircraft. With Sarnoski's final breath, he fires at Dinah with his twin .50 caliber guns before he collapses on the gun.

RUBY JOHNSTON [CONT'D]

Joe? Joe! (shouting on radio)

We have a man down! I repeat, we
have a man down! Joe Sarnoski is
hit bad! Very bad!

JOHN BRITTON

(on radio)

Jay Zeamer got hit by cannon shells and the Japs are attacking everywhere!

The rudders are disabled, the hydraulics are shot up, the forward guns are out of commission, and worst of all, the oxygen system is gone, but ironically, Zeamer's arms and legs are lacerated, but manages to stay conscious to steer away from attacking Zeros. All the bomber crew took off their oxygen masks off and Zeamer Jr. drops his nose to 8,000 ft to get away from the Japanese attackers. 14 Zeros are buzzing around the B-17 like bees. With all Zeamer's strengths, he grips the controls to maneuver the bomber away from attacking Zeros. The Japanese have done enough damage the B-17 for one day, so they bug out leaving the battered B-17 to return to base at Port Moresby.

EXT. 7-MILE AIRSTRIP, PORT MORESBY - DAY

As the "Old 666" lands at 7-Mile Airstrip, the ambulance rushes in towards the battered B-17. The medics grab two wounded bomber crew, but Sarnoski is the only bomber crew died during the mapping mission.

RUBY JOHNSTON

Zeamer, the medics are going to take care of you.

JAY ZEAMER JR.

I'll be fine, Ruby. Tell Bud and Hank to take over from me and Joe.

JOHN BRITTON

Guys, I found one on the nose!

RUBY JOHNSTON

Oh my god! Sarnoski, no! (sobbing)
Not another crew member!

JOHN BRITTON

It's going to be alright, Ruby.
We're here for you.

Britton hugs Johnston for comfort for the loss of the "Old 666" bombardier, Joe Sarnoski.

INT. THOMPSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

At home, Ben Thompson is reading a newspaper and one of the news articles is about Yamamoto's death at Bougainville Island.

BEN THOMPSON

Hey, John! Come look at this!

JOHN THOMPSON

What is it, Ben?

BEN THOMPSON

Admiral Yamamoto is shot down by 339th Fighter Squadron.

JOHN THOMPSON

That's great, Ben! Admiral Yamamoto got what he deserved for hitting us at Pearl Harbor two years ago. Could this get any better?

BEN THOMPSON

We've sank four Jap carriers at Midway, but the last two carriers are still out there somewhere.

JOHN THOMPSON

Are there any better planes that we need to fight back against the Jap squadron?

BEN THOMPSON

They're bringing F6F Hellcat fighters.

JOHN THOMPSON

Is it better than the Wildcats?

BEN THOMPSON

Better than Zeros.

JOHN THOMPSON

So, this means-?

BEN THOMPSON

More speed, faster rate of climb,
better diving speed, and absorbs
the punishment.

JOHN THOMPSON

Exactly. We'll test out a new
fighter when we get there.

SRX: PHONE RINGING

BEN THOMPSON

I'll get it. (on phone)

Hello?

JACK [V.O.]

(into phone)

Hello Ben, this is Jack. We have a
surprise for you and your brother.

BEN THOMPSON

(on phone)

What is it?

JACK [V.O.]

(into phone)

USS Enterprise is refitted and
brought new fighters to deal with
the Jap squadron.

BEN THOMPSON

(on phone)

Really? What kind of new fighter?

JACK [V.O.]

(into phone)

The F6F Hellcats have arrived.

INT. PEARL HARBOR HQ - DAY

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

Hellcats? We've never tried them before!

JACK

(on phone)

Then you better try them out, son. We'll leave Pearl Harbor in five months.

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

Five months? Well, we've got plenty of time before the deadline.

JACK

(on phone)

Good, I'll let you know when the time is right.

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

When should I meet you at Pearl Harbor?

JACK

(on phone)

Meet me on October 31. *USS Enterprise* will set sail to Makin Island on November 2.

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

Makin Island? How were Noah and Caden doing after our attack on the Tokyo Express at Guadalcanal?

JACK

(on phone)

They're doing fine. How's your mother?

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

She's doing alright. We've spent a lot of time with her daily.

JACK

(on phone)

That's great, but don't spend too much time because the Jap carriers are still out there.

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

Alright, Jack. We'll see you there in no time.

JACK

(on phone)

Goodbye.

BEN THOMPSON [V.O.]

(into phone)

Goodbye.

Jack hangs up the phone.

CADEN

Jack! Good news!

JACK

What news?

NOAH

Yamamoto is dead! He's the Admiral who hit us at Pearl Harbor.

JACK

(gasps)

Admiral Yamamoto's dead? Are you sure that he's responsible for attacking us at Pearl Harbor two years ago?

CADEN

Rex T. Barber shot him down for you.

JACK

Thanks for telling me, Caden. I'll notify the Thompson Brothers about Admiral Yamamoto.

NOAH

What about the carriers that hit us at Pearl Harbor?

JACK

We'll work on the carriers and teach those Japs a lesson.

CADEN

Alright, Jack. I'm with you.

NOAH

Me too. You can count me in.

JACK

Let's do this for my fallen friends at Pearl Harbor.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END