

## 2D EMERGENCY RESCUE SQUADRON

"Write it Again" by Colonel Bill Helmantoler

Colonel Jack Stirling was my boss on Guadalcanal in early 1944. He was a sophisticated, cultured man of about forty. He told me he had selected me for my writing ability.

"Go up to Bouganville and do a thousand words on the close-support bombing for impact magazine," he ordered brusquely one morning. The fighting was fierce on that godforsaken island. From hands-on research I soon learned that dive-bombing was clearly the most effective technique.

I wrote the article with considerable enthusiasm. Colonel Stirling returned it the next day with the comment, "Overwritten. Cool it down. Write it again."