



Merrill's Marauders were "the most beat upon, most misunderstood, most mishandled, most written about, most heroic and yet most unrewarded regimental sized unit that participated in WW II,"

Col. Charles N. Hunter
Longest serving Merrill's Marauder commander



created by Jonnie Melillo Clasen



Col. Hunter was the unit's first commander ... and also became the last Merrill's Marauder commander when he took over after Brig. Gen. Merrill suffered a heart attack. He's seen (Top R - center) planning battle strategies for both the Myitkyina airfield and town of Myitkyina. He confers with Lt. Gen. Stilwell (Top L - right.) He and Stilwell talk with Merrill at the airfield. (L-center.) By that time, a reporter had given the unit a new name, "Merrill's Marauders," – after its commander. Those poorly equipped, underfed and disease-ridden Marauders defeated the much larger Japanese 18th Division in five major battles and 30 minor engagements. They made military history by walking almost 1,000 miles with only what they could carry on their backs or pack on mules. They battled the Japanese, monsoons, dysentery, isolation, jungles and the Himalayan Mountains -- but they continued to keep moving by putting one foot in front of the other.

