

A detailed oil painting of Ferdinand Magellan, showing him from the chest up. He has a thick, dark beard and mustache, and is wearing a black cap. His expression is serious and determined. The background is dark and textured.

Ferdinand Magellan*

& the First Circumnavigation of the World

The Age of Exploration

“During the 16th century, Spain and Portugal explored the world's seas and opened worldwide oceanic trade routes. Large parts of the New World became Spanish and Portuguese colonies, and while the Portuguese became the masters of Asia's and Africa's Indian Ocean trade, the Spanish opened trade across the Pacific Ocean, linking the Americas with Asia.”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/16th_century

Related Work



Bartolomeu Dias



Christopher Columbus



Amerigo Vespucci

Motivation (1)

The Spice Islands!

nutmeg, mace, cloves

Silk and other goods from
China, and India

things not found in Europe

alternative trade route to
silk road; go by sea!



Silk Road: ~100 BC - 1450s

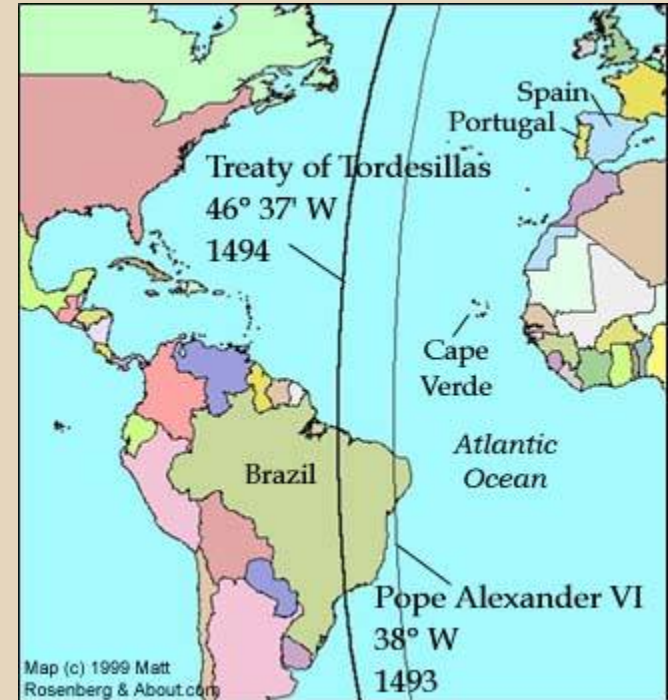
Motivation (2)

1494 Treaty of Tordesillas

divide Portugal and Spain

Spain: westward sea route to the
Spice Islands

-> purpose of Magellan's voyage



Armada de Molucca

Trinidad (110 ton, 55 crew)

San Antonio (120 ton, 60 crew)

Concepcion (90 ton, 45 crew)

Victoria (85 ton, 42 crew)

Santiago (75 ton, 32 crew)

total crew: 270/234



Important People

Captains

- Fernão de Magalhães (Portuguese), Captain General of *Trinidad*
- Juan de Cartageña (Spanish), Captain of *San Antonio*
- Gaspar de Quesada (Spanish), Captain of *Concepcion*
- Luiz Mendoza (Spanish), Captain of *Victoria*
- João Serrão (Portuguese), Captain of *Santiago*

Others

- Juan Sebastián Elcano (Spanish), Master
- Francisco Albo (Italian), Pilot
- Antonio Pigafetta (Italian), Scholar
- Crew: Portugal, Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Greece, England, France

Aug-Sept 1519; Departing Spain

Departure from Seville, enough food for two years provision; mostly wine and hardtack (biscuit/bread thing) with some salted meat



Oct-Nov 1519; Atlantic Crossing

Decent weather (mostly)

Canary Islands

Cape Verde Islands

2 Months to reach Brazil



Dec 1519 - Jan 1520; Rio, South

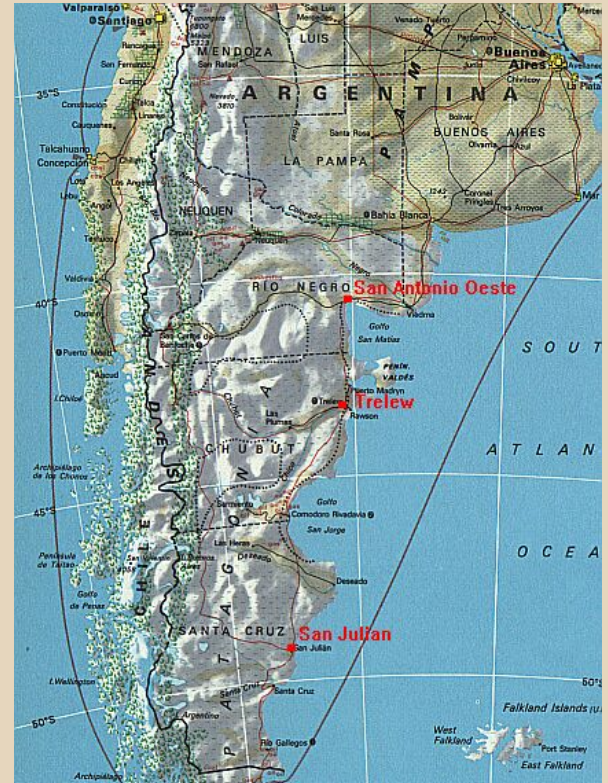
Arrived in December
repaired ships

some encounters with
natives; traded trinkets
for gold



Feb-Aug 1520; Winter in San Julian

Brutal winter storms slow progress
keen for any inlet that might allow passage around the continent
Santiago wrecked on coast



April 1520; Easter Mutiny



Causes: Spanish paranoia of Magellan; jealousy

Mutineers: Juan de Cartagena, Gaspar de Quesada, Luiz Mendoza (executed, marooned)

Magellan Addressing Mutineers

"Juan de Cartagena, you have been guilty of an unpardonable crime. You have never had any provocation from me, to seek my life. My chief fault in your eyes is that I am a Portuguese, and not a Spaniard; but you well know that the sovereign of Spain hath entrusted me with the command of this fleet, and hath given me all power to direct its course. You have defied and rebelled against the king, in assuming to declare yourself its commander; and you have sought to gain this by bloodshed and murder. Cartagena, you deserve no pity. Prepare to die. You are to be shot and quartered, and your body shall be fixed to a stake, set up on this strange shore."

<http://www.heritage-history.com/?c=read&author=towle&book=magellan&story=mutiny>

July 1520; Patagonian Giants

native encounters
started friendly... turned
south after Magellan
kidnaps two.
Patagonians disappear into
the interior



October 1520; Strait of Magellan



October 1520; Strait of Magellan

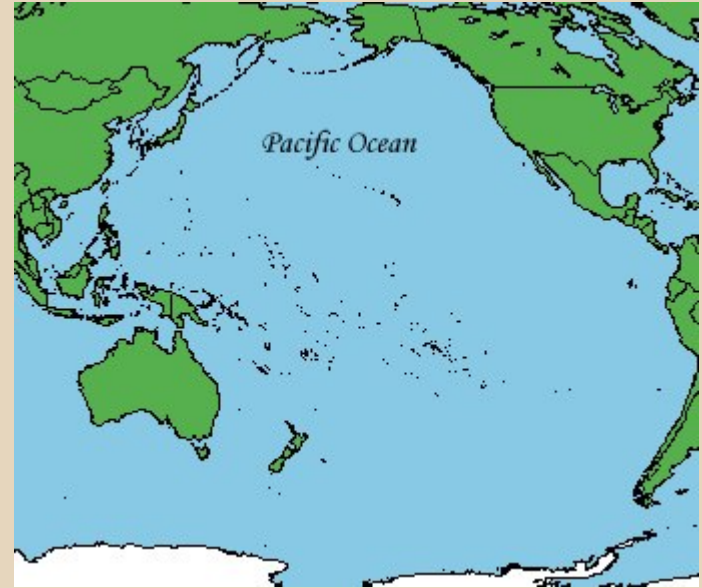
"My comrades, at last we have triumphed! Our perils have been great, our trials and hardships sore and many. But the reward of all has come. The passage that conducts from the Atlantic to the further ocean, that affords the nearest way from Spain to the precious isles of the Moluccas, is found! It is just before us; we shall pass through it, if God pleases to still protect us, and shall sail into the ocean beyond. We shall make other discoveries; find wealth and fame for ourselves, and dominion for our monarch! Captains, repair to your ships; assemble your crews, and tell them the good tidings; let your cannon awake deafening echoes among these crags; float the royal standard and ensigns of Spain from your mastheads; array your decks with streamers and ribbons; let wine and meat in plenty be set forth; and render thanks to God for conducting us to this great discovery!"

October 1520; To Continue...?

Sailors weary of travel, unsure of whether to continue on or return to Spain (only 3 months provisions remain)

San Antonio mutiny, returns to Spain

November 1520; The Pacific



Early 1521; The Pacific

Weeks, months pass with no islands found
famine and thirst overcome many as provisions
run low

March 1521; the Philippines, Cebu

150 crew remaining when they arrive in Cebu

Trade for gold with natives as Fleet navigates Philippines searching for Moccus -- Cebu



April 1521; Battle of Mactan

Magellan becomes involved in local native affairs, believes he needs to spread Christianity

Battle involving rival/rebelling native Lapu-Lapu tribes of Mactan Islands



April 1521; Death of Magellan



On Magellan, in Life and Death

“Magellan was not wantonly cruel. He was never known to deal harshly with the innocent. To suppress the mutiny of St. Julian, to execute its ring-leaders, were acts of sheer necessity and self-preservation; but the mutiny subdued and its chiefs executed, he was mild and lenient with their misguided followers. Towards his sailors he was indulgent, generous, and considerate. He cheerfully shared their hardships. He tenderly cared for the sick. He overlooked their lighter faults; he was loth to punish even their more serious offences. He even gave the savage Cilapulapu a chance to repent, before attacking him. He was kind and generous to all, high and low, alike. No man was more deeply beloved by his friends and his inferiors.”

<http://www.heritage-history.com/index.php?c=read&author=towle&book=magellan&story=treachery>

May 1521; Aftermath and Escape

After Magellan dies, remaining Spaniards flee

- Vast confusion among survivors
- Serrano and Barbosa voted new leaders; killed shortly thereafter by poison, enemies
- Mendez, Espinosa, Elcano new leaders

Nov 1521; Moluccas

Nearly a year of
search, wandering

Concepcion is worm-
infested, burned
down due to lack of
manpower



Late 1521; Tidore



Nov 1521; Departing for Home

Laden with valuable spices, *Trinidad* and *Victoria* leave for Spain

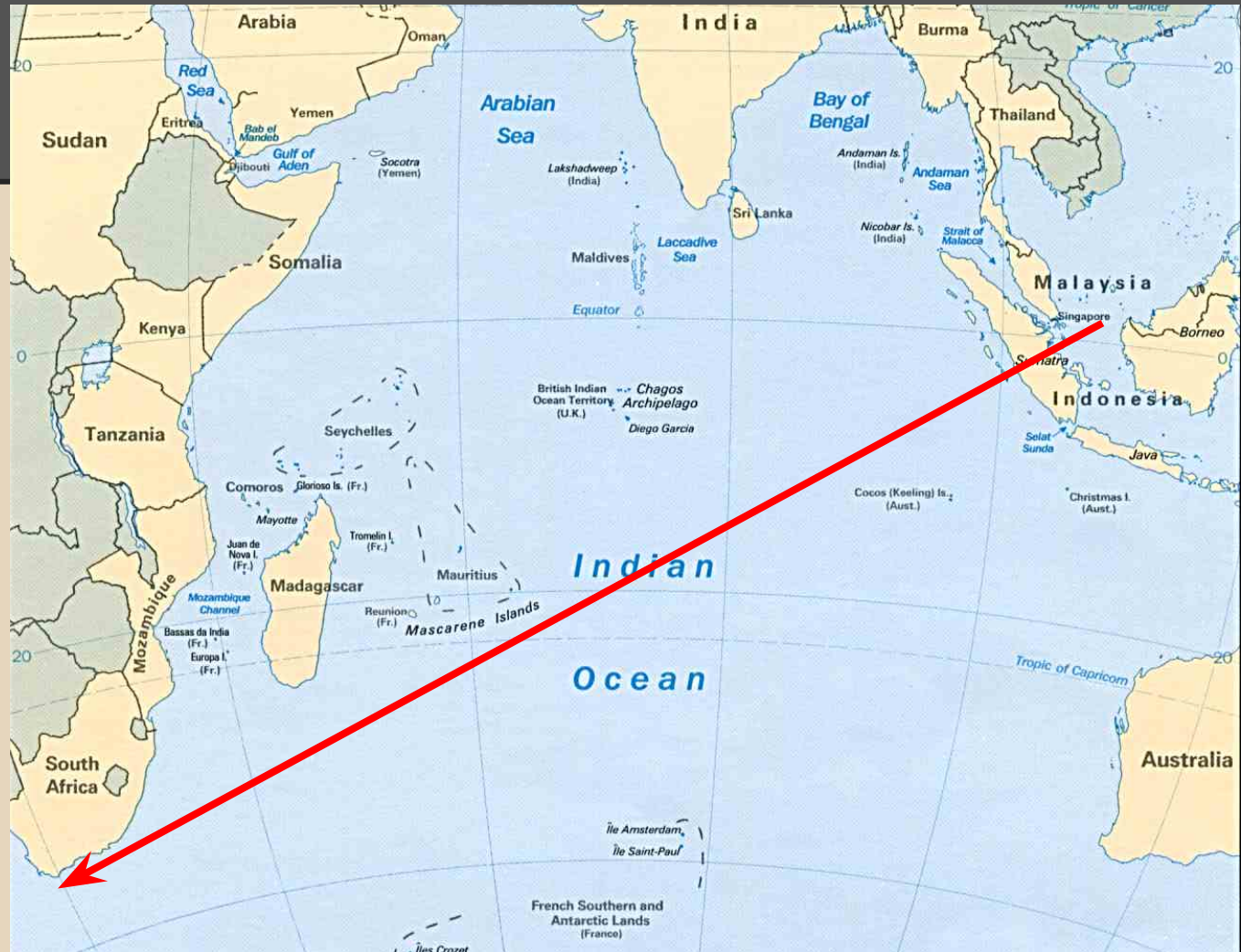
Trinidad damaged; stays behind for repair

Captured by Portuguese and later wrecked in April 1521

Stay out of affairs, concentrate on making it back to Spain
Avoid the Portuguese!

1521-1522 The Indian Ocean

lucky passage
good weather



Dec-May 1522; Journey Home

May 22: *Victoria* passes the Cape of Good Hope and enters the Atlantic Ocean
Stormy weather makes sailing north difficult

July 9: Reaches Santiago, Cape Verde

September 6, 1522; Return to Seville

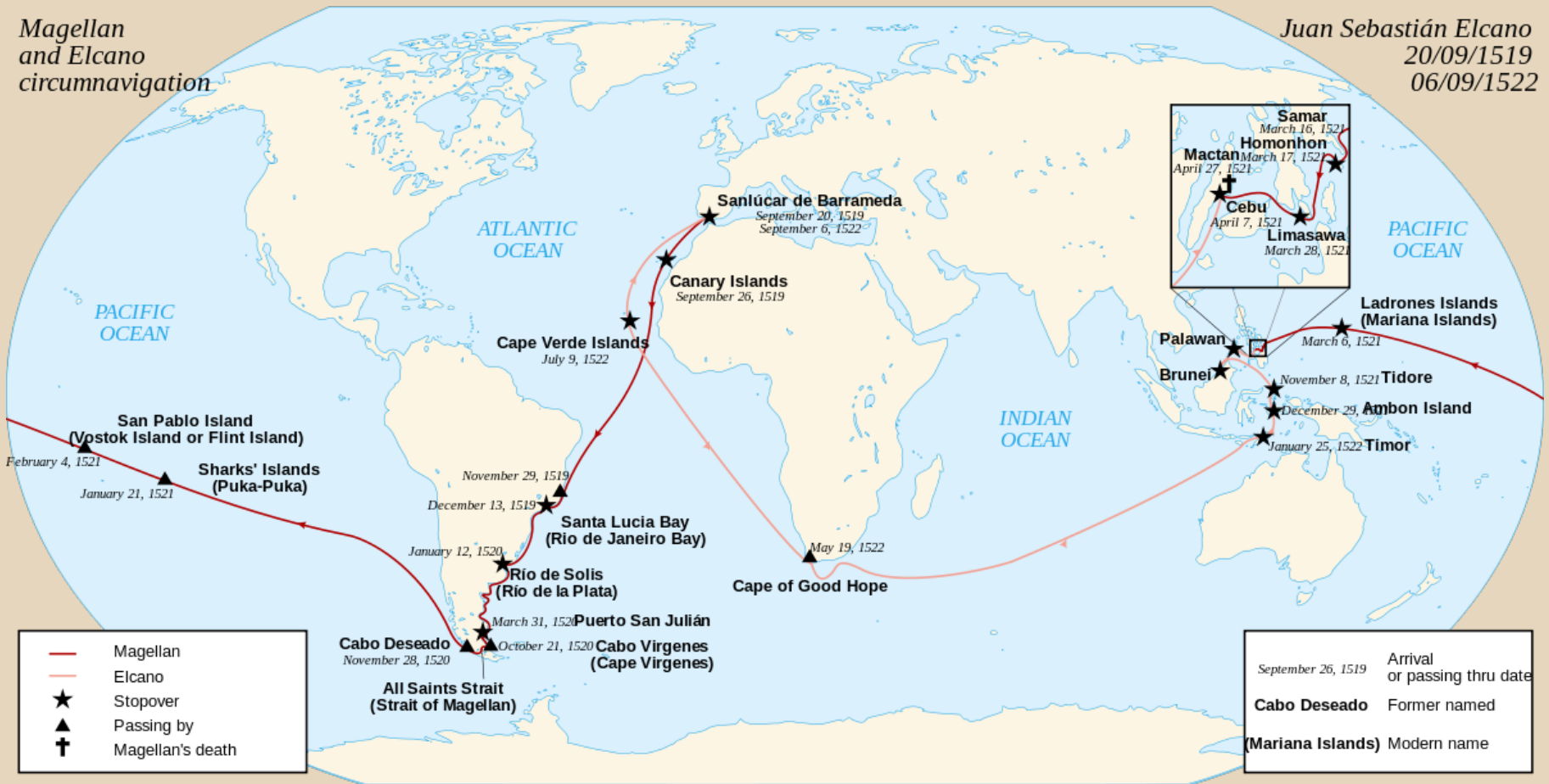
Almost 3 years to the day after starting, 19 survivors and 1 ship return to Spain after circumnavigating the world



replica of the *Victoria*

Magellan and Elcano circumnavigation

Juan Sebastián Elcano
20/09/1519
06/09/1522



The Voyage: 1519 - 1522

Immediate Reactions

All 19 survivors pray at church for the miracle of surviving

news of the arrival of the *Victoria* and her successful voyage round the world, spread rapidly, and caused a great commotion

Reception with Emperor Charles V of HRE

Each survivor given handsome pension

Elcano Recognition

Elcano given a coat-of-arms, which displayed on its shield some gold nutmegs and cloves, and an image of the globe, with the motto upon it, "You were the first to circumnavigate me."



Lasting Impact

Discovery of the International Date Line

Follow-up trips: did not go very well at first

Vast knowledge of the world gained; more valuable than the goods returned

Sources / References

Over the Edge of the World: Magellan's Terrifying Circumnavigation of the Globe

- Laurence Bergreen (2004)
- Available on [Amazon](#)

[Heritage History ebook](#)

