

FOREIGN MINISTERS

C.I. - Sunoco. Tuesday, Sept. 11, 1945.

The Council of Foreign Ministers of the Big Five gathered for their first session in London today. This is of number one importance, the Council of Foreign Ministers being the official mechanism for establishing the final conditions of peace in Europe.

This first meeting was preceded by a news conference held by Secretary of State Byrnes, ^{who} ~~he~~ stated that the first task of the Council would be to establish a peace treaty with Italy -- this to be followed by the drafting of peace treaties with other former enemy countries in Eastern Europe, like Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary.

Secretary Byrnes ~~said~~ ^{said} that the question concerning the control of the Atomic Bomb will not be brought up in the negotiations of the Foreign Ministers -- nor will be the problem of Palestine.

PEARL HARBOR

The House of Representatives cast its vote this afternoon for ^{a full} ~~an~~ investigation of Pearl Harbor. The Senate had previously voted for a joint congressional inquiry. So now it ^{'s} unanimous.

The Congressmen did a bit of wrangling about the way the joint congressional investigating Committee is to be constituted. The Senate proposal was for a committee of ten -- six Democrats and four Republicans.

Today the Republicans in the lower house demanded a **B**i-partisan committee -- five Democrats and five Republicans. There was some lively debate, with charges and counter charges of playing politics. The Republicans, being in the minority, lost out. Then, seeing that they couldn't have the kind of investigating committee they wanted, they joined the Democrats in a unanimous vote - rather than have no investigation at all.

TOJO

There are evidences of dark personal drama in the case of Tojo, the Jap War Lord who launched the Pearl Harbor attack and who shot himself today. Its a kind of drama difficult for us to understand, with motives and reactions that lie deep in the background of Japanese mind and custom;-- that, plus some ordinary human nature, perhaps.

The whole world expected that, with the surrender of Japan, Tojo would commit Hara Kari -- the ceremonial death with the sword. Other Japanese war leaders did, ^{so,} the Chiefs of Staff of Army and Navy. ~~And~~ General ~~Hideki~~ Tojo, the Tokyo Premier at the time of Pearl Harbor, was the most prominent of all in starting the ^{—the war} war that turned out to be so ill-fated for his country.

Today's news dispatch states that Tojo had been advised by friends, advised four times in solemn style, that the only honorable thing he could do was -- Hara Kiri, The story adds that Tojo himself agreed, and made elaborate preparation to take the

old samurai way out. But he delayed -- he didn't do anything about it. He lived on ~~ix~~ in his comfortable country home ^{where he even} ~~He~~ gave interviews to American news men. Did he shrink from Hara Kiri? Did his nerve fail? Hari-Kiri is a pretty awful thing -- self disembowelment with the sword? I suppose one would have to know Japanese tradition and psychology pretty well to explain this drama of Tojo.

Today United Press Correspondent Frank Bartholomew went to Tojo's house. The one time war lord greeted him cheerily. But this time the American reporter was there ^{for} ~~for~~ no mere interview. He was accompanying an American military officer, commissioned to arrest Tojo as a war criminal. When Tojo learned that this was the case, he closed his house to them -- and shot himself.

Yet he must have known all along that he would be marked down as a war criminal -- at the head of the list. He must have known that ~~ix~~ his arrest would be ordered. Well, he waited until that last

moment -- and then the way out that he selected was not the one prescribed by Japanese tradition. He chose the pistol instead of the sword.

They found him in the Japanese ceremonial position for Hara Kiri -- seated on a low chair, ~~with~~ with his legs crossed. He had shot himself in the traditional posture for Hari-Kiri.

And, he gasped out a statement, *in which* ~~and in this~~ he apologized.

I assume responsibility for the war," said Tojo. "I now realize it was bad for our people. I am happy to die." And he added: "I wanted to die by the sword, but the pistol had to do." And he murmured: "Banzai!"

He was afraid that if, in the hasty moment, he had tried Hari Kiri, the injury might have been quickly mended. The revolver was quicker and more certain.

He shot himself in the stomach; *but* ~~and~~ the wound was not immediately fatal. Bartholomew of the

United Press turned to his Japanese interpreter and asked: "If he wanted to be sure of killing himself, why didn't he shoot himself through the heart?" To which the Japanese ~~interpreter~~ interpreter pointed out that Tojo had shot himself in exactly the place that Japanese tradition prescribes for the thrust of the Hari Kiri knife.

On the table beside the chair, on which Tojo sat in ceremonial position, they found a short sword in a wooden scabbard. Nearby was a case with two other swords, and still another samurai blade lay on a chair -- mute evidence of the statement that Tojo had made elaborate preparations for Hara Kiri, which gruesome ritual he failed to carry out.

At last reports the Pearl Harbor Premier of Japan ~~is~~ was in a critical condition. American Army doctors were doing their best to save him, and they say he has a chance to live -- a chance to face trial as a war criminal.

With Tojo's name at the head of the list,

General MacArthur today ordered the arrest of all of the members of the Tojo Cabinet that launched the war in the

Pacific. And, various other Japs immediately responsible for atrocities are on the list of war criminals.

Also -- some radio propagandists who did broadcast work for Tokyo. And among the enemy propagandists named are one Netherlander and two Australians.

OKINAWA COST

The Navy today disclosed what the capture of Okinawa cost in terms of sunk and damaged warships -- thirty-three sunk and two hundred and twenty-three damaged.

No warships larger than destroyers were sunk, but among the vessels damaged were ten battleships, eight large aircraft carriers, a number of smaller carriers, three heavy cruisers, two light cruisers and sixty-seven destroyers. *That's the kind of air and sea fighting the Japs put up for Okinawa.* Most of this injury ^{to our Navy} was done by the Jap Kamikazes. Of the thirty warships that were sent to the bottom, twenty-two were sunk by suicide planes. And of the two hundred and twenty-three that were damaged, two-thirds were hit by the Kamikazes.

One rather startling disclosure is that to twelve of the warships the damage was done by American gunfire. American shells hit the battleships New Mexico and ~~the~~ North Carolina, the aircraft carrier Bataan, the heavy cruiser Wichita, and a couple of smaller craft.

This list of vessels damaged by American gunfire is an indication of how wild and ~~xxx~~ confused the fighting at sea must have been.

The casualties incurred by the Navy during the Okinawa campaign are now numbered officially at twenty-four thousand, nine-hundred-and-seventy-two, of which more than seven-thousand, -five-hundred were

This no doubt includes Marines, although killed. *x* The army casualties were more than seventeen-

thousand, with four-thousand killed. (In other words, the loss of life for the army, in all that bitter land fighting, was much less than the loss of life suffered by the Navy, which is still another indication of the desperate character of the war at sea during the

climax of the suicide campaign of the Kamikazes, the *secret weapon on which the Jap war lords had counted so heavily.*

the story doesn't say so

YAMAMOTO

About The story of the death of Japanese Admiral Yamamoto, ~~has been coming to light - disclosed by recent stories in the news.~~ Today we have it officially and in full - with facts that could not be disclosed hitherto.

We have, for example, the identity of the American fighter pilot who shot down Yamamoto. His name had to be kept secret - for a reason that is one of the dramatic turns of the story.

American Naval Intelligence broke the Japanese naval cipher. That is now confirmed, Navy cryptographers were able to read the secret communications of the Japanese Navy. And one of these stated that Admiral Yamamoto and his naval staff on an inspection tour, would fly to Bougainville in the southwestern Pacific. The exact route was given, together with the date - April Eighteenth, Nineteen Forty-three.

This knowledge was immediately communicated to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, who in turn relayed it on to the American command in the southwest

Pacific. So a rendezvous was arranged, a meeting - an aerial ambush - a force of American fighters to intercept the Yamamoto ^{plane;} all the Jap planes heading for Bougainville.

The task was assigned to a fighter group, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John W. Mitchell of Enid, Oklahoma, one squadron ~~was~~ assigned to knock out the Jap fighters, escorting Yamamoto, another squadron ~~was~~ ordered to get Yamamoto. The Commander of the latter was Lieutenant Colonel Thomas G. Lanphier, of

Washington, D.C., ^{son of Col. Tom Lanphier,} so well known as a pursuit pilot in

old Air TP They took off from Guadalcanal in the morning, and flew hundreds of miles over enemy controlled territory to get to the point where they would meet Yamamoto - over Bougainville. They arrived on schedule, punctual. - Yamamoto too was punctual.

At exactly the time given by the cryptographers in Washington, Japanese planes appeared - two bombers escorted by Zeros. And Lieutenant Colonel Lanphier led his fighters against the bombers, ⁱⁿ which ~~the~~ ^{were} the Japanese naval staff - and Yamamoto.

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The bombers were speeding at two hundred miles an hour, when the American fighters dived on them. One was shot down by Lanphier's wing man, Major Red Barber of Culver, Oregon. And Lanphier himself got the bomber in which Yamamoto was riding. The plane was shot down in ~~fx~~ flames at so low an altitude that escape by parachute would have been impossible.

Soon afterward the Japanese radio announced that the Admiral, who had bragged about dictating peace in Washington, had been killed in air battle.

The breaking of the Japanese naval code had to be kept a secret. Then something happened that made it utterly necessary to conceal the identity of the

flyer who had shot down Yamamoto. Four months later, ^{Marine Pursuit Pilot Charles} Lt. Col. Tom Lanphier ^{of the Army} a brother of his, ~~a~~ fighter pilot, ~~in the Marine Corps,~~ was shot down in action ⁻⁻⁻ ~~and~~ reported missing.

It was ~~thought~~ that he might have been made a prisoner by the Japs, and if they ~~knew~~ knew ~~that~~ he was a brother of the American flyer who had got Yamamoto - they might take brutal Jap revenge.

So the whole thing was wrapped in deeper secrecy than ever - and is disclosed only now, when prisoners taken by the Japs are safe. It is still not known whether ^{Marine pilot Charles,} the brother of Lieutenant Colonel [^] Tom Lanphier, was made a prisoner. - There is still hope of that.

ATOMIC BOMB

Today in New Mexico a party of newspapermen investigated the crater made by the first explosion of an atomic bomb. The Army for the first time permitted newsmen to visit the site where, ~~on August Sixth,~~ the energy of the atom was tested in a giant blast.

The purpose was to disprove Japanese propaganda claims that the atomic bomb explosions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki had left deadly radio activity in the earth for a long period afterward.

Today was exactly one month and five days since the stupendous atomic fireworks on the Mexican desert. The ~~ns~~ newsmen were dressed in ordinary clothes, and wore no special protection to shield them from any radiation. They went all over the place, and incurred no ill effects. Indeed they found grass growing again where the explosion had hit the earth.

Scientists of the atomic bomb who were with them, stated that the Jap stories of the persistence of

deadly radio activity were mere propaganda. They said that all after effects at Hiroshima and Nagasaki disappeared in eleven days. ~~People whom the Japs described as injured by radio activity were ~~not~~ hurt during the explosion -- and not afterwards. And, said the scientists,~~ Tokyo ^{had inst} used a lot of fancy imagination in describing the weird effect that the radio activity had on the victims. Only ~~a few had died from the radiation - X-rays~~

The newsmen at the site of the test explosion noted one graphic thing, ~~today~~. The ground ~~was~~ covered with ~~what was like~~ a sheet of glaze -- a crust of brittle stuff like glass; ~~This was~~ where the atomic bomb blast had melted the surface of the ~~xxxxxx~~ sand -- so frightful was the flaming blast.

DOOLITTLE FLIER

For more than three years an American airman endured the worst of privations and brutalities of Japanese imprisonment. Of all the tens of thousands of captives taken by the Japs, he was one of the marked men -- one of the Doolittle fliers who had bombed Tokyo the first time.

Staff Sergeant Jacob Deshazer, of Oregon, was a tail gunner in one of the ^{Doolittle} B-25's that, after bombing Tokyo, made forced landings in China -- and he was one of the eight Doolittle fliers whom the Japs captured. ~~Having startled and frightened Japan with the first bombs on Tokyo, they were men whom the Japs hated with a particular venom.~~ Tokyo announced the execution of some -- and others got more than an average share of the barbarity the Japs inflicted on prisoners.

~~So Staff Sergeant Jacob Deshazer had more reason than most to grow embittered during the long months of abuse and ~~inx~~ inhuman treatment,~~ ^{As a result of} ^{Sgt.} ~~he~~ ^{hazer,} more than most, might have been expected to nurse

an abiding hate against the cruel Japs. Did he? Well, the story of what went on in the brooding thoughts of that one American in his bitter ordeal is something that, I suppose, had to happen to at ~~least~~ least one of the tens of thousands of Americans who suffered at the hands of the Japs. The story is exceedingly American - religious, christian.

Today it was disclosed that Jacob Deshazer, ^{writing,} ~~has resolved to become a missionary to Japan.~~ ~~This he writes,~~ to his mother, ~~writes to her~~ from the hospital bed in Washington where he is recuperating after three and a half years of starvation and torment, ~~He tells his mother,~~ ^{her} of the inner experience that he had as he lay in the vile conditions of a Japanese prison, ~~He had always been inclined to religion, and he tells her~~ how his mind reverted to the Bible. He reflected on the words of ^{the Savior,} ~~Jesus,~~ who said: ~~XXXXX~~ "Love your enemies. Bless them that persecute you. Do good unto them that hate you - and pray for them that spitefully use and persecute you."

So ^{the} _^ thought that Jacob Deshazer had
toward the Japs was -- how could he help them? He came
to the conclusion that the only way to change them xx
was -- Christianity. And now he intends to study for
the ministry, and then he'll return to the country that
treated him so badly, -- ^{where he was persecuted} -- as a missionary to Japan.

And s-l-u-t-m.

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MSC strike.

Sept. 127
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