

Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet has destroyed twenty Japanese vessels, damaged twenty-five more, shot down or damaged one hundred and nineteen planes.

This is the latest count as Admiral Nimitz tells us tonight. Among the Jap men of war sunk were one heavy cruiser, three destroyers, ^{and} a destroyer escort.

Others were cargo ships, oilers, and so forth.

Adm. Nimitz does not tell us how many planes were engaged, but there were probably more than ^a~~one~~ thousand.

TOKYO

The War Department reported today that the second raid on Tokyo was also a success. The principal target of the B-29s this time being ^{the} waterfront of the Mikado's capital. The giant bombers were virtually unopposed by the fighters or flak. General Arnold says this raid also caught the Japs by surprise. Evidently they didn't expect one so soon after the other one.

Superfortresses of the Twentieth Bomber Command also got excellent results in a raid on Bangkok where they hit the railroad freight yards, and repair shops and warehouses, plus ~~some~~ fifteen locomotives, and two hundred odd freight cars of which the Japs are already short.

The men of the Twentieth Bomber Command are reported to have shot down or damaged eleven Jap interceptors.

Both from Siam and Japan, the Superfortress formations returned without combat loss. So General Arnold reports.

EXPLOSION

In England a terrific explosion late this afternoon wiped out a complete depot of the Royal Air Force. It killed at least fifty people, and many more are missing. Sixty persons ~~are~~ trapped underground, and the damage ^{is reported as} ~~was~~ tremendous. The disaster destroyed part of an entire village and spread devastation for a distance of sixty miles. One whole farm sank beneath the earth with all its outbuildings. A cement factory was levelled to the ground. Masses of earth weighing half a ton were thrown high in the air and fell to earth miles away. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

WESTERN FRONT

On the Western Front, the Allied offensive has definitely slowed down. The Germans have been counter-attacking savagely all along the line, both in the north and in the south.

Nevertheless, General Patton's Third Army captured another big fort of the Maginot Line, twenty-five miles east of Metz, taking nine more towns in its pathway. General Patch's Seventh Army has occupied the last three forts in the Strasbourg chain. They also took the Strasbourg commanding officer prisoner, Lieutenant General Vattoret, and another general officer. The Eleventh German Panzer Division is retreating west of Strasbourg, and the Second French armored division under General LeClerc has driven south from Strasbourg and taken twelve strong forts in Alsace. ~~Simultaneously, General Tassigny's First French Army is driving north along the line from Belfort. The Nazi~~

Army still holds a bridgehead on the west side of the river between Basle and Muhlhaus.

Further north, the fiercest fighting is going on in the streets of Langerwehe, ^(Langerwey) thirteen miles northeast of Aix-la-Chapelle. The German paratroopers which were landed there have been reinforced and are desperately trying to hold on at all costs. The doughboys of General Hodges have only half of Langerwehe, which the Germans are so anxious to hold because it guards the approaches to their defense line on the Roer River.

Although the Yanks have control of Strasbourg, the place is full of snipers. One sergeant said his squad could find a dozen within two blocks, if they started smashing into houses. The snipers are in civilian clothes but they have their uniforms hanging in the closets. He added that the Yanks could take plenty of prisoners if they wanted, but they wouldn't know what

to do with them. In fact, prisoners are just a nuisance because they cannot be evacuated without slowing down the attack.

Swiss newspapers carried the report that Allied paratroopers had been landed behind the Siegfried Line on the east bank of the Rhine. But that is unofficial and our own people say nothing about it. According to the Swiss, they were only small groups of parachute soldiers.

Our fighter planes in Europe had quite a good ~~in~~ bag today, at least ninety-seven Nazi aircraft. Making a total two hundred and thirty eight in two days, two days' in succession. Captain Leonard Carson of Denver, reported. "We methodically mowed 'em down". Captain Carson himself got five for himself, in one day.

DeGAULLE

General ~~Charles~~ DeGaulle arrived at *Tehran* today, on his way to Moscow, for a conference with Stalin. A story from the Soviet capital indicates that the head of the French government is going to find himself in a suspicious atmosphere. ^{TP} The Russians are not pleased over the prospect of the security bloc of Western European nations. They remember the days of Nineteen Eighteen, when the same Western nations put up what they called a sanitary ring ^{*— a cordon sanitaire —*} around the Soviet Union. If the Atlantic bloc is to be just a defensive ring league to protect the Western nations against German aggression, well and good. But if it becomes a customs union, directed against Eastern Europe, it will be treated as distinctly hostile to the Soviets.

Furthermore, Moscow is not pleased because DeGaulle recognized the Spanish government of General Francisco Franco. The Soviets want to get even with

Franco, treat him in the same category as Hitler or any other war criminal. But that they cannot accomplish without the cooperation of France.

All in all, DeGaulle will have his work cut out making friends in Russia, according to ^{what we hear} ~~that story~~ from Moscow.

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Hugh — tell us about Stan. of Calif. while I check the news.

November 27, 1944

About the most important news on the home front is our new Secretary of State. Four hours after President Roosevelt reluctantly accepted the resignation of Cordell Hull he sent to Congress the name of Edward R. Stettinius, Junior, *who* has been Acting Secretary for the last six weeks and prior to that, from time to time, whenever Mr. Hull has been away. Such experience will give him some advantage in the exceedingly difficult task of following the much beloved Elder Statesman from Tennessee. In his eleven and a half years of service, Cordell Hull achieved what you might think was the impossible by winning the good will of practically everybody. Republicans are as enthusiastic about him as Democrats. Governor Dewey even said, during his ~~run~~ campaign, that if he were elected he would like ^{*Cordell*} Hull to remain at his post in the State Department.

Before Stettinius went to Washington in Nineteen Forty his career had been entirely with big business. Holding important jobs in the large industrial

corporations such as Assistant to the President of General Motors, Vice President in charge of Public Relations of General Motors, winding up as Chairman of the Board of U. S. Steel. That formidable position he resigned when he became a member of the Advisory Committee for the Council of National Defense in Nineteen Forty. Since then he has held a variety of jobs in ~~the New Deal government~~ *Washington.*

~~~~~ today
Senator Happy Chandler of Kentucky offered a resolution asking the President to decorate Mr. Hull with a Medal of Honor. It should be given, said the resolution, "in recognition of his outstanding work in the promotion of peace and his years of magnificent service."

It is ~~indeed~~ *probably* true that no man in the history of the United States ever served as Secretary of State ~~not~~ *only* for so long ~~or~~ *but* with such popularity.

The President accepted Mr. Hull's resignation after a long conversation with Hull at the Naval Hospital near Bethesda, Maryland. Mr. Roosevelt spent four hours at the aged Secretary's bedside.

And today we learn that another prominent New Dealer is also at Bethesda. Senator Alben Barkeley, Majority Leader, has been under treatment there for an infection of the left eye. His friends report that he will be there for three or four days before returning to Washington to lead the Democrats in the Senate.

HURLEY - FOLLOW SECRETARY

Virtually at the same time as the Stettinius nomination the President sent in the name of Major General Patrick J. Hurley to be United States Ambassador to China, ^{as prophesied a week or} ~~This is no surprise. As you will recall,~~ ^{so ago,} ~~it was openly discussed more than a week ago.~~

INTRO TO MR. COURTENAY

A British war correspondent came in to see me today, so I asked him to come along to the studio and tell you about some of the places where he has been. He is on his way home now from the South Pacific, where he has been for three and a half years. He hasn't seen his wife and babies since then. During that time he has made some eight or nine landings with the American forces in the South Pacific.

But first let me tell a little more about him. His name is William Courtenay. He was a flier in World War One, in the days when we were both with Allenby and Lawrence, chasing the Turks, in the Near East. So I have known him for some twenty-five years.

As a war correspondent he has been representing Lord Kemsly's group of papers, the largest single group of newspapers in the British Empire.

As I mentioned, he has just flown in from the South Pacific, and in this country has been invited to address the Army-Navy Staff College, West Point, and Annapolis, and also to appear at the White House,

tomorrow.

Bill, in addition to marching over those terrific Owen Stanley Mountains in New Guinea with the Australians and Americans, and in addition to flying to the Markham Valley in New Guinea with the American paratroopers, crisscrossing back and forth over the Equator thirteen times and traveling some eighty thousand miles, most of the time with MacArthur's forces -- well, what have you been doing in your spare time?

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MR. COURTENAY

To an Englishman it has been a great education, Lowell, to be with your boys all these years in the far-off Pacific, with them while they have been rewinning lost territories.

Some had wondered how your American youth would fight, after so many years of life as you lead it here in your land of abundance, where the standard of material comforts are highest in the world. The enemies of America decided you people would not and could not fight. Few outsiders have had the opportunities of observing them at close quarters as I have.

The tests set before your boys in the Pacific campaigns were stiffer than any they were called upon to face in Africa or Europe, against an uncivilized crafty foe who showed neither quarter nor mercy. They have fought in the twilight of rain-forests and over the precipitous slopes of forbidding razorback ranges; through the perils of malarial swamps -- through jungles of mystery that

were unexplored.

And your airmen have been required to accept the hazards of vast ocean crossings as their daily portion. Yet all these things your boys have done without dismay. They have "taken it in their stride," as you say.

These are some of the things that have appealed to me as I have landed on the beaches with your boys in the Halmaharas, at Guam, and only a few days ago, at Leyte in the Philippines; and elsewhere. I was with your famed Texas cavalry division at Leyte, and what a job they did!

At Port Moresby, at Buna, at Gona, at Lae, and Salamau and many other places I saw them fight. They may be thousands upon thousands of miles away from home, but they fight magnificently.

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L.T.: Where were you when some of your journalist colleagues were killed at Leyte the other day, Bill Courtenay?

COURTENAY:- I was just around the corner from them, not many yards away. At Leyte alone, four correspondents were killed, and one wounded.

These journalists, most of them Americans, have gone into action so many times that I feel they deserve decorations.

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LT:- You might tell that to the President when you are at the White House tomorrow, Bill. I am sure he will be interested.

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PEARL HARBOR

The court martial of the Pearl Harbor commanders will be postponed again. The Senate today voted unanimously to extend the statute of limitations for the trial of Admiral Kimmel and General Short. The resolution was adopted without any debate and sent over to the House. The postponement is for six months, which brings it up to June Seventh next year.

just as the soldiers do. They may not be combat troops, but they go right into ~~xxxx~~combat and share all the dangers. Furthermore, they don't get a rest in between time. They go and join another outfit and go into action again.

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L.T.: - I believe you were out there with MacArthur right at the start. Three and a half years is a long stretch. Will you be going back again?

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COURTENAY: - Yes, I hope so. I intend to. I am flying home for a brief visit, and then I hope to fly back across the world to be with MacArthur when he gets to Manila. I wouldn't miss that. It will be one of the great moments of history. And by the way, I have an extremely high regard for General MacArthur. He is an inspiring and great leader.

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TELEVISION

From London some information about television; from the Right Honorable Herbert Morrison, His Majesty's Home Secretary. In making an address to recruits about to take a course of training to become policemen, he told them a bobby's job will be considerably easier in the future, thanks to wartime progress in radio science. And most frightening of all because of television. Why, he even said it is now possible to see through brick walls and hear voices at remote distances!

And, he added that it will not be long before we will be able to find out what people are doing when they do not want us to see. Also, there will be still a further stage at which ~~xxxxxx~~ we'll be able to know what you are thinking when you haven't uttered a word!

Well, we hope the eminent British Home Secretary is wrong about some of that!

*Eh Bill?
And what do you think Hugh?*