

OKINAWA

*C.J. - Sunoco Tuesday, May 22, 1945.
(Given by Dr. R.C. Andrews. L.J. in New Can.)*

In the battle of Okinawa, fresh American

troops were thrown into the savage conflict today.

New units of the United States Tenth Army joined in the drive to encircle the stronghold of Shuri, the keystone of Japanese defense. I remember that Shuri palace and the castle are on the very edge of a sheer rock wall that drops away twohundred feet, and then gradually slopes outward to the skirts of the village. American troops are closing in around Shuri - the capture of which would crack the powerful enemy battlefront. This is described as sagging badly under incessant bombardment and assault.

Today Vice Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner, commander of American amphibious forces, stated that victory on Okinawa ~~was~~ was at hand. He said he believed that the Japs have sent their last reserves into action, and that enemy resistance will be crushed in what the Admiral calls "the comparatively near future".

PROGNOSTICATION

A prognostication about the Pacific War was made today by Congressman Mike Mansfield of Montana - who recently, at the request of the late President Roosevelt, made a trip to China, to study the situation there. Congressman Mansfield predicts that Soviet Russia will enter the war against Japan - and, doing so, will support the Chinese communists. At the same time, the United States and Great Britain will continue to back the government of Chiang Kai-Shek.

That will produce a complicated state of affairs in the Far East, and may effect military strategy. One result may be that American military leaders will decide not to push into China and fight the Japs there. They may find it better to launch their attack against Japan proper, the enemy home islands. And that would be what Congressman Mansfield calls, "a costlier operation".

In other words, military plans might be affected adversely by Soviet Russia joining up with

the Chinese Communists in war against Japan, while the Americans and British continue to support Chiang-Kai-Shek. The Japs for the past several months have

engaged in a most surprising and successful campaign against the Army and Navy of the United States.

It is reported that the Japanese have been successful in capturing the passenger bags have been released from the submarines. The Army and Navy indicate that the balloons have been drifting all the way from Japan to the West Coast of the United States. The Japs claim that they are taking advantage of the prevailing winds which blow from the west. And the balloons are drifting all the way across the widest of oceans to the Hawaiian Islands.

A number have been reported in this country, in the western states. The official statement is "no property damage has resulted". The apparent purpose of the Japs is to set forest fires with their balloon bombs, but no fires have been started. A gas bag drifting across the Pacific Ocean is seen

JAPANESE BALLOONS

will, The Army and Navy give us a report on Japanese balloons-with-bombs that landed in this country. The Japs for the past several months have engaged in a bomb-carrying-paper-balloon campaign, which the Army and Navy aptly call - fantastic.

Hitherto there have been surmises that the paper gas bags have been released from Jap submarines, but the Army and Navy indicate that the balloons have been drifting all the way from Japan. The Japs turn them loose on the far side of the Pacific, taking advantage of the prevailing winds - which blow from the West. And the balloons ~~are blown~~ *drift* all the way across the widest of oceans to the American mainland.

A number have landed in this country, in the western states, but the official statement is -
49 "no property damage has resulted". The apparent purpose of the Japs is to set forest fires with their balloon bombs, but no fires have been started. A gas bag drifting across the Pacific Ocean is too

aimless to accomplish anything of military consequence.

There has been a wave of rumors, and to ~~the~~ squelch these the Army and Navy issue their official statement today. This includes a description, as follows: "These balloons ~~are of gray, white or greenish-blue paper, and are about thirty-three feet in diameter. They carry a few small bombs. These are suspended beneath the balloon~~". The description concludes with a warning that the balloon bombs are dangerous when picked up.

JUGOSLAVIA

We have a delicate problem in Jugoslavia.

American and British troops moved today into the Province of Istria - which is in dispute between the Western Allies and Marshal Tito's Jugoslav regime. The situation is explosive, with New Zealand troops holding part of the great port of Trieste, while Tito's Jugoslavs occupy the remainder of the city.

Today's push was made with discreet caution - to avoid a clash with Tito's people. American and British troops seized places in Istria, which the Jugoslavs had not occupied. This was strategic, as well as cautious. The Americans and British took possession of hills and mountains, high points dominating the lines of communication. Tito's Jugoslavs have taken over the towns mostly, inhabited places in the lowlands.

No incidents are reported - as the Western Allies move in to press their demand that Tito's partisans must get out of the disputed province.

~~This~~ This - on the ground that the fate of Istria is to be decided at a peace conference.

HITLER

Here's a new name for Hitler - "a unique natural catastrophe". This term is applied to Der Fuehrer by his personal physician, Dr. Theodore Morell, who has been discussing the Hitler mentality with United Press correspondent Jack Fleischer.

The Doctor states that Hitler was so strangely unbalanced that his type of abnormality did not fit into any of the usual psychological patterns.

He denies a lot of legends. For example that Hitler was a rug ~~chewer~~ chewer who flew into uncontrollable rages and bit the carpet. On the contrary, the Nazi dictator was most dangerous and made his most important decisions when he was in a cold and silent rage.

~~Now~~ ^{He} was the Nazi tyrant a misoginist who hated women. The personal physician states that Hitler spent every possible moment with his sweetheart, Eva Braun - devoted to her for twelve years. But this was a closely guarded secret - Hitler not

wanting to seem to have ordinary human weaknesses and emotions.

As for all the rumors about the Nazi Fuehrer having been ill, suffering from a whole string of maladies - nothing to it. The ~~XXXXXX~~ doctor declares that Der Fuehrer had good health, nothing organically wrong.

He did ~~not~~ ^{have} ordinary ailments, like a nervous stomach. But he would never permit X-rays to be taken of his stomach and chest, although his physicians frequently ~~did~~ recommended it. Hitler's objections to X-rays were based on his egotistical desire to build up the illusion that he was above ordinary human illnesses.

He would even lie to the doctors telling them that he had never been sick - although they knew he had. Last September, says the physician, he had yellow jaundice for some time.

This egotism and meglomania was what made him so dangerous, the arch criminal of the world.

But his mental traits were outside of the usual forms of insanity. He was, says the Doctor - "a case in himself". In other words, "a unique natural catastrophe".

53 Today one of the ²sombre and pitiful stories of the war was told by a prisoner released from the Nazi horror camp at Buchenwald. He is an Italian physician, jailed by the Nazis for political reasons. He states that one of the thousands of victims who perished at Buchenwald was ~~Rix~~ Princess Mafalda of Italy, daughter of King Victor Emanuel. She, he continues, knew the secret of the death of King Boris of Bulgaria - who was her brother-in-law.

King Boris died two years ago under circumstances of mystery. Nazi radios at first said - natural causes. Then they changed the story, declaring that Boris had been killed by one of his bodyguards. Also - that he had died in an air accident. But, according to the story today, Princess Mafalda knew the truth - that Boris of Bulgaria was murdered by the Nazis - poisoned, at the order of Hitler.

54 This, explains the Italian physician, she learned from her husband, Prince Phillippe of Hesse, ⁸ who was a high Nazi. Some years ago, it was an event of high international romance when Princess Mafalda

of Italy married the Prince of Hesse - who would indeed know about Nazi affairs.

The story continues that the Princess went to the Vatican, and was thought to have confided to Pope Pius the Twelfth the secret of the death of King Boris. She was arrested by the Nazis, taken to Germany, and kept a prisoner. After the surrender of Italy, which Hitler called "Italian Treason", the Princess of Italy was submitted to what the Nazis considered the ultimate disgrace. At the Buchenwald atrocity camp, she was kept secluded in the company of an imprisoned woman of low and scandalous character - a member of the oldest profession. Thus Mafalda passed the remainder of her life, dying at Buchenwald.

The Italian physician states that he and a Czech priest stole her body, which the Nazis intended to cremate, and in secret they interred Princess Mafalda in a pauper's grave - where thousands who were victims of the Buchenwald atrocity were buried. They set up a small cross, inconspicuous among the many crosses, and on it inscribed her name.

The story told by the Italian physician sounds like a fantasy. But today he took United Press correspondent John McDermott to the Buchenwald graveyard, and there, among thousands of crosses, he went unhesitatingly to one. The newspaperman looked and saw the scrawled name - Mafalda.

BRITISH POLITICS

Word from London gives us the platform on which the British Labor Party intends to wage its election campaign. Britain is going to have a general election some time in July. Prime Minister Churchill is expected to dissolve parliament soon, in preparation for a major test of political strength. His coalition government has virtually broken up already - the labor ministers expected to resign.

So what's the Labor Party platform for the general election in July? It will be a ~~call~~ call for a socialist government as a means of improving relations with Soviet Russia.

Today Labor Party Hugh Dalton referred to suspicions and misunderstandings between Great Britain and the Soviets, He stated: "I most emphatically hold that a British socialist government is far more likely to remove those suspicions than a British Tory Government."

LEND-LEASE

President Truman today gave Congress plans for Lend-Lease, as it is to be continued following the end of the European war. There will be reductions, said the President.

He told Congress that lend-lease had aided immeasurably in the victory over Nazi Germany, and said that the program should go on until the defeat of Japan. But not so much lend-lease. With the end of the European war, help to our Allies is being scaled down. For example, plans have been made for a forty-five percent cut in lend-lease to Great Britain. *end*

Congress was informed today, that during four years, the United States has shipped out thirty-nine billion dollars' worth of lend-lease. Of this the British got more than twelve and a half billions. Russia comes next, with nearly eight and a half billions.

The President, in his statement on lend-lease plans following the defeat of Germany, does not mention the Soviets. However, it has been stated that

HERO

Yesterday in Washington, President Truman at the White House presented the Congressional Medal of Honor to Sergeant Jake Lindsey - but Beverley Hargraves wasn't there. Yet she was invited. Sergeant Lindsey had met Beverley on a blind date before he went to war, and since then they have been writing to ~~each~~ each other. Getting the Congressional Medal of Honor, Sergeant Lindsey would naturally want Beverley to attend the White House ceremony, and he sent her a wire - which, however, only puzzled her.

The trick in the matter is that Jake Lindsey is always called - Bill. Why, I don't know. His name is Jake, but they call him Bill. His telegram to Beverley was signed Bill, and that got her confused because she has a cousin named Bill. She thought the wire was from her cousin, and couldn't imagine what it meant. What would cousin Bill be doing at the White House? Maybe it was some kind of a joke.

Today she found out, and explained the mix-up. At Centerville, Massachusetts, she said: "I certainly would have liked to see him get the medal, and I'll be waiting to see him as soon as he gets out of the Army".

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