

TOKIO

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Sunoco.

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Today's account of Super Fortresses over Tokio comes entirely from the Japs -- with no confirmation from our side. But probably the story is true, an answer to the dream of American airmen. ^{For it would} ~~it will~~ be the first time Tokio has had a look at American air power since that memorable day when Jimmy Doolittle's bombers assailed the Japanese capitol,, -- in April of nineteen forty two. That, as we know, was a kind of surprise blow that was not intended to be repeated -- nothing to do over and over again. But B-29's over Tokio. ^{That's} ~~it's~~ another story. They represent the beginning of ^{major} assaults on the Japanese capitol by American bombers flying from and to land bases. ^{IF} Japanese accounts today were confused ---suggesting a panic, such as garbled the excited accounts of the Japs two and a half years ago when Doolittle struck.)

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The enemy radio ^{today} flashed a series of stories, tangled and contradictory about super-fortresses over Tokio. ^{IF} The latest, which is the most consistent, tells

of dramatic^a air battle at great heights over Tokio, with an incessant roar of Japanese anti-aircraft guns. Apparently there was ~~no little~~ panic, ~~which~~ as indicated by a quaint phrase on a Tokio broadcast. "Some factories," declared the Jap radio, "lost their calmness." ^R Just how many B-29's there were is not made clear. But they were over both Tokio and Yokohama at the great height of nineteen thousand feet. The ~~Japs~~ Jap accounts, in addition to ^{other} ~~their~~ deficiencies, ^{do} ~~not~~ state^{ed} whether or not ^{our} Super-Fortresses dropped any bombs on Tokio.

Japanese officialdom is not unaware of ~~the~~ what the appearance of B-29s over ^{their capital} ~~Tokio~~ must mean. ~~The~~ Tokio radio ^{ed} issuing warnings about the probable future appearance of the giant bombers, and ^{made the} ~~warning~~ inhabitants of the city to be ready with all precautions, reminding them how susceptible the cities of Japan are to great fires. They are just giant fire traps.

PELELIU

Today's Japanese report about Peleliu Island is puzzling. Tokio claims that its forces made a landing on that bit of Pacific ~~land~~^{earth} which was fully conquered by the Americans weeks ago. On October 12th Admiral Nimitz announced that all organized resistance had ceased on Peleliu and other islands in the southern part of the Palau group -- although some few isolated parties of Japs still remain^{ed} at large.

If today's Japanese report be true, it would mean that the enemy has launched some kind of surprise landing, probably from islands in the northern part of the Palau ~~groups~~^{islands}, which the Japs still control. What success such a dash onto the shore of Peleliu could have in the face of American sea and air supremacy is none too clear - but Tokio states that violent fighting is going on. From the American side, ~~there~~ was no confirmation whatever of the Tokio claim.

SUBSTITUTE LEAD PHILIPPINES

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In the Philippine invasion American infantry forces are meeting with increased resistance as they drive through ^{the main} Leyte valley. The going is tough because of natural obstacles as well as the Japs --- among the obstacles being four thousand feet of jungle-covered mountains, across which the infantry had to slash a way. The Japs are fighting harder as the Americans approach their goal in the drive through the valley -- the port of Carigara on the northern coast. The enemy has been counter-attacking, and the American troops had to beat off one particularly heavy assault. In the drive against Carigara there is a second American column -- units of the United States First Cavalry Division which are moving along the coast and are within three miles of the port itself.

All of this threatens to cut the Japs off from their main base which is on the West coast of Leyte -- the port of Ormoc. And, in fact, our troops have cut all the possible enemy escape routes, except one.

General MacArthur reports that the Japanese have

SUBSTITUTE LEAD PHILIPPINES -2-

been able to land some troops ~~at~~ at Ormoc in spite of the destruction of a lot of enemy barges and boats as reported yesterday. American ships and planes are now clamping on a close blockade to stop Jap reinforcements or a possible attempt to escape from the island.

FOLLOW PHILIPPINES

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Today the Americans on Leyte ~~Island~~ saw a military force marching to join them -- and a fantastic outfit it was ^{---yet} ~~was~~ _^ swaggering with an air of victory. Ten men, ten Filipinos, some of whom wore straw hats, and all of whom trudged along on bare feet. Their military garb was tattered and dilapidated, but they were armed to the proverbial teeth -- with all sorts of knives and bolos, clusters of hand-grenades, the latest in carbines, and murderous looking tommy-guns. They were commanded by a warrior named Captain Jesus Olmedo, an old timer of American military service. Captain Jesus Olmedo had ^{for} ~~nine~~ _^ fifteen years been an officer in the Philippine Scouts. And one of his Sergeants ^{today} _^ was a veteran of Bataan.

They told a story that was a thriller -- something typical of the Philippine resistance movement,

which has turned out to be so large and brave.

When the Japs swept the islands, ^{this} Captain ~~Jesus Olmedo~~ of the Philippine Scouts, gathered a band of guerrilla fighters -- one hundred and ten of them. For weapons they had five rifles and sixty-eight hand-made shotguns. With this armament they started a campaign against the Japs, establishing their headquarters in the mountains of Leyte. ~~islands~~

Then, finally, they had their big break --

several months ago, when ^{an} ~~a~~ big American submarine - a

^{big one -} came to the surface off the coast, and started

unloading a ponderous cargo of armament for the

guerrillas. ^{This} was part of what General MacArthur

told us about the other night, how, during recent

months, he was able to run supplies of weapons and

munitions to the Philippine patriots by submarine.

So now Captain Jesus Olmedo and his guerrilla band had all the armament they could use -- and use it they did, sallying out from their mountain fastness and assailing the Jap.

Then came the MacArthur invasion, and the Captain devised his biggest exploit. In a ~~xxxxx~~ valley down-the-line, the Japs had a large garrison post, and this he planned to surprise. He picked ten of his toughest fighters, and loaded them down with armament, until they were walking arsenals. They stole to the hills overlooking the enemy camp, and struck suddenly. The Japs were eating a midday meal when the ~~Phi~~ Filipinos opened fire. ^{There} was a panic. Some Japs fought back, but they were trapped. Seventy-two were killed, and the rest of ~~the Japs~~ ran away.

Whereupon ~~Phi~~ Captain Jesus Olmedo and his band of ten went ~~on~~ marching ^{on,} and today joined the

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Americans, strutting in like a ragamuffin army of
victory.

Navy Battle.

Here's a report on damage incurred by American warships in the great victory off the Philippines. Admiral Nimitz has informed us previously that six ships ^{were} ~~had been~~ sunk, including ^{the} ~~an~~ aircraft carrier, Princeton, and tonight he adds that several warships were damaged. ~~Admiral~~ Nimitz doesn't specify the exact number, merely saying "several". And he doesn't disclose what kind of ships and the extent of the damage, explaining that such information would ~~ex~~ aid the enemy.

The damage of several warships which is revealed tonight, was sustained by our squadrons that smashed up two naval forces that came through the channels north and south of Leyte. The slugging was heavy and at close range at the entrance of the south channel, particularly, battleship against battleship, ~~in~~ salvo against salvo. And the Japs lost two battleships there. In the third sector of the fight, the clash off to the north, Halsey's fleet sustained no damage at all.

MOUNTBATTEN

London flashes a report that Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten may be removed from his post as commander in ~~the~~ South East Asia, -- this following the withdrawal of American General Stilwell from China. London relates Stilwell's removal ~~with~~^{to} the possible supplanting of Mountbatten, speaks of a general shuffling of commands in the India-Burma-China theatre.

Stilwell was recalled, as we know, at the insistence of Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek. In the case of Mountbatten, there is no indication about how he has been getting along with the Chinese war leader. But

~~they say that~~ Lord Louis did not get along with Stilwell,

not at all ^{they say.} Vinegar Joe and the cousin of King George were of clashing temperaments, and the London story is that ~~xx~~ in recent times ~~there~~ they were not on speaking terms. They disagreed emphatically as to methods of warfare, Mountbatten being an advocate of careful planning. They say he wanted full equipment and all details worked out, before starting anything -- while Stilwell was more of

the rough-and-ready sort. Vinegar Joe is said to have been emphatic in declaring that the Japs were being given too much time and should be hit right away and every day with all force that might be on hand.

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London thinks that the successor to Mountbatten will soon be appointed and that Lord Louis will be transferred to the command of amphibious operations exclusively, to be given the direction of Commando forces in South East Asia --- he having distinguished himself in Commando work in Europe.

Hugh, your Stan. & Calif.
message, and news from Europe -
and here at home.

The principal item of news from Europe is a thriller which requires a bit of background -- to illustrate its importance. ~~The overwhelming Allied~~ ^{the} problem in the battle for Germany is a matter of supplies -- how to bring in the stupendous flood of war materials that are needed. And supply routes are, first of all, a matter of seaports. ^R The greatest of these, from an Allied point of view, is Antwerp -- one of the world's historic harbors. Antwerp is not only a great port, but it's in exactly the right place -- just behind the fighting front in the battle of Germany. Antwerp ~~was~~ was captured by the Allies weeks ago -- but that wasn't enough. The city is on the Schelde, which is at the same time a river and a great arm of the sea, reaching inland. So shipping from Antwerp must pass through a channel long and ~~convenient~~ ^{Antwerp} And ~~this~~ is dominated by an island on the North Sea -- the island of Walcheren, which is on the northern end of the Antwerp shipping channel.

R The Germans held Walcheren, and thereby had the port of Antwerp closed as tight as a drum. ~~For days Canadian troops have been fighting bitterly to clear the Germans out of that island, — which, for days has been probably the most strategic point in the ~~the~~ whole European war theatre. The Canadians have had a bitter, tough job.~~

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Walcheren is connected with adjacent land by a narrow causeway. Along this the Canadians have been fighting for days -- inching forward in the face of savage fire, sustaining heavy losses. The situation seemed almost a stalemate, in the task of opening the port of Antwerp -- until the event that occurred today.

An amphibious force struck at Walcheren from the side of the sea. ~~British troops attached to the Canadian army made a dash for the island shore ~~having moving in~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ the swift assault craft so familiar in American amphibious operations. Preceded by a violent bombing attack, ~~they~~ ^{British commandos} got ashore -- hitting the German garrison ^{from} the rear, on ~~the~~ side of the~~

island opposite to the causeway along which the Canadians were fighting so hard.

And the whole thing was a ~~huge~~ complete success. The Germans were caught by surprise, and ~~(we are told that the enemy garrison, after days of bitter conflict with the Canadians, was too weary and worn out to offer effective opposition.)~~ The amphibious force promptly drove inland, and in a brief time ~~drove~~^{pushed} into the main city on the island -- the harbor of Flushing.

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Simultaneously the Canadians on the causeway thrust forward once again, ~~and this time, and aided by the amphibious landing, they drove from the narrow strip~~ onto the island proper. The latest news indicates that all of Walcheren will soon be in Allied hands -- the remnants of a garrison of four thousand Germans being enfeebled and encircled. ~~R~~ Allied troops have already seized the batteries of big guns which, on the island shore, dominated the shipping channel of Antwerp. So now the Allies are about to make full use of the harbor that is ^{the} most important ~~for them.~~

RUSSIA

Soviet forces are plunging on through Hungary.

After the capture of ^{Kech'ē-may} Kecskemet, Hungary's fourth largest city, they are now within thirty-three miles of the capital -- Budapest.

In the Far North -- Moscow announces the complete occupation of the Petsamo district in Finland, ~~that~~ the great nickel mining area along the Arctic shore.

NAVY - POLITICS

It was denied in Washington today that a Navy war ballot officer was removed because of political pressure. The officer in question is Lieutenant Commander Edward McGuinness of Chicago, and the charge was that he was taken off the sailor vote job at the demand of Democratic Mayor Kelley of Chicago and Senator Scott Lucas of Illinois.

~~The story emanates from Senator Ferguson of Michigan, who states that Mayor Kelley, at a dinner in Washington, ~~he~~ complained about the Navy employment of Lieutenant Commander McGuinness in the distribution of war ballots to servicemen in the Pacific. And the Chicago Mayor is quoted as saying that McGuinness, in his words -- "won't get any votes for Roosevelt." ~~Further~~ Kelley is further said to ~~have~~ have threatened to go to the White House and procure the removal of the Lieutenant Commander.~~

According to the story, Senator Lucas, who is up for re-election, replied that an appeal to the White House was not necessary, because he would take the matter up with the Navy -- ^{and} as a result of ~~it~~ ~~all~~ Lieutenant Commander McGuinness was given another

~~assignment.~~ ^{TR} The denial of the story ^{comes} ~~is~~ from Under-Secretary of the Navy Ralph Bard, who today admitted that the Lieutenant Commander had been ~~removed~~ removed from the war ballot job because he had once been, in the Under-Secretary's words -- "an active partisan political worker." That was the reason, says Bard, and not any political pressure by Kelley or Lucas.

None was applied, he contends.

tonight,

In ~~going to~~ Boston, [^] Governor Dewey invades

a territory tossed into political turmoil by a remark

made by Democratic Vice Presidential nominee, Senator

Truman

Truman. In Massachusetts ~~he~~ [^] denounced Isolationists

and characterized Democratic Senator Walsh of

Massachusetts as one. To this Walsh replied in peppery

fashion, and the whole thing may have large political

repercussions.

WILL ROGERS

There are a lot of peculiar turns in this political campaign -- and one is revealed today in the case of Will Rogers, Jr. ~~The~~ Son of America's renowned cowboy humorist and homespun philosopher, ~~is~~ the younger Will, finds himself in a peculiar position -- a dilemma that would have amused his droll and drawling father.

Will Rogers, Jr., former Democratic Congressman, has always been an outspoken supporter of the Roosevelt Administration. But now -- his newspaper has come out for Tom Dewey. Somewhat paradoxical *that!*

And It turns out now that Will Rogers, Jr. was astounded ~~to discover that his paper was supporting the Republican candidate~~ ^{It} He resigned from Congress to join the Army, and ~~now~~ ^{at present} is a Second Lieutenant in Europe. Today his wife made public a letter from

him, in which he says plaintively, "Will you please wire my friend, President Roosevelt, that I have just been astounded to hear that my newspaper back in the States printed an editorial endorsing Dewey."

How did it happen? Well, the editorial endorsing ~~the~~ the Republican candidate was signed by a brother of Will Rogers, Jr. -- Brother James, who is running the paper during the absence of the former Congressman. Which would make it appear that brothers do not always think alike in politics -- a thing which some families may have noticed before. *So the Will Rogers paper is for Dewey.*

QUADRUPLETS

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Medical history was made in Philadelphia, today -
the phenomenon being quadruplets by Caesarian section.

The operation, the first quadruplet Caesarian on
record, was performed by Doctor John C. Ullery at
the Philadelphia Lying In Hospital, and was witnessed
by ix eminent surgeons. The babies ^{- 3 girls & a boy} ~~and the mother~~ are
^{and so is the mother;}
reported to be doing well; and so is the father --

analyst
an ~~analyst~~ for the Securities & Exchange Commission.

He says philosophically: "Our prayers have been
answered -- ^{fourfold."} ~~fourfold~~ ^{From} which we may ^{infer}
that the fourfold answer to a father's prayer is --
quadruplets.

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And now here is the
answer to a maiden's
prayer - Hugh James.

PHILIPPINES

The latest from Leyte Island tells of a violent Jap. counter-attacks beaten off. The

~~On Leyte Island,~~ Americans driving through the ~~river~~ ^{central} valley have cut off all but one escape route for Japanese forces opposing them. ~~The Jap base is~~

~~are now only 6 miles from at~~
~~on the west coast of Leyte, at the port of Ormoc. That's~~

~~West coast.~~

~~the point the retreating Japs are trying to reach, but~~
~~all possible routes have now been cut, except one.~~

So states the bulletin from General MacArthur's headquarters, which adds that American ships and planes have now clamped a close blockade on the west coast of Leyte. After yesterday's destruction of enemy barges and boats, the Japs appear to have no further chance of landing reinforcements on the island -- or of escaping from it, for that matter.

One bit of news is a decree by President ^{Osmena,} ~~Osmeña~~ who, on the invaded island of Leyte, has set up the ^{returned} government of the Philippine Commonwealth. He today issued an order which takes all of the guerrilla fighters of the Philippine resistance movement into the regular Philippine army. And the officers will, in the regular army, retain the same military rank that they have as ^{guerrillas.}