

JAPAN

C.I. - Sunoco. Monday, Aug. 13, 1945.

No days are so long as those ~~xxx~~ you spend in waiting, and the hours now, for many, seem long indeed - the longest they ever experienced. More than two days have elapsed since that Allied reply was sent on its way to Japan. And so far - no indication that a response is on its way.

Washington believes that Japsn may be stalling.

The reason for their belief is that Tokyo said it had not received the message until Monday morning. The Swiss say that's not so. That Tokyo sent a message to Berne acknowledging that the Allied note had been received at nine thirty-five A.M. yesterday, meaning four thirty-five Sunday morning Eastern War Time.

Well, it's now almost eight o'clock in the morning, of Tuesday, in Tokyo. So the Mikado's government ^{has} ~~had~~ had more than fifty-six hours in which

to reply. Hence the belief in both Berne and Washington that they may be using delaying tactics.

Of course all sources acknowledge the possibility that Tokyo may be in turmoil. Which might complicate things. Are the war leaders balking against surrender? If so we might have to fight the war out, to the end - to the end of Japan!

A story from Washington reports that there are signs of impatience on the part of the Allies over this prolonged silence from Tokyo. Newspapermen asked White House Secretary Charlie Ross whether our high command planned to use more atomic bombs if a reply doesn't come, soon. Ross' answer was non-committal.

The Chinese Ambassador to Washington is ~~quite~~
however
sanguine. He told reporters that good news would come
at any moment. "What makes you think so?" they asked ~~him~~.
Mr. Wei, smiling *by* ~~smoothly~~, answered: "Oh many things;
but, I'd better not say."

What we do know definitely is that Emperor
Hirohito received the Japanese Foreign Minister at
the palace early this morning. Soon after that, a
Tokyo radio station called a station in Switzerland,
asking it to stand by for an expected message. Eight
o'clock this morning, Domei, the Japanese news agency,
sent word to its editors that it was cancelling some
of its regular programs for the next twelve hours.

TP Some broadcasts have been overheard which indicate a
possibility that Emperor Hirohito may abdicate to
prevent loss of face. Another fact is that the
Japanese broadcasts are talking about the heir apparent.

the eleven year old Crown Prince Akihito. If Hirohito were to abdicate in favor of his son, ^{*then*} his brother, Prince Takamatsu, would be regent. The idea of Hirohito's abdication emanates principally from Chungking, which is a fertile source of rumors ~~in~~ throughout the Orient.

~~So apparently~~ all we can do is to go on waiting.

ADD JAPAN

Here's a late flash from Paris, but we must not set too much stock by it, because the Paris radio is not the most dependable for accuracy. It claims to have overheard a Tokyo broadcast advising listeners to tune in at midnight Greenwich time, which means eight o'clock in the evening Eastern Wartime. Meantime, the usual programs on the Tokyo radio are suspended.

On top of that, the French radio at Brazzaville^a in Africa put out a similar broadcast, but placing the time at nine o'clock.

PACIFIC

2 The air war in the Pacific ~~was~~ raging ~~once more~~ with full fury. The Japanese brought out a powerful air force against Vice-Admiral McCain's task force off Tokyo. ~~The U.P. correspondent describes it as either~~ a death spasm or an attempt at trickery. Early this morning, they started attempts to crash through onto our ships. But they had no luck. Although they came in low over the water, Admiral McCain's protective screen of fighter planes turned them all back, and shot down several of them.

And then we attacked in even greater force. The carrier planes of the Third Fleet attacked ^{ing} in strength over Honshu. They could ^{so} not get through to Tokyo ~~xx~~ because of bad weather, ~~but~~ they bombed several other places, particularly one large war plant which the Japs must continue to operate if they decide to continue the war. ~~Evidently, it was a chemical plant, because~~

~~planes from the British carrier task force were reported~~
~~as having bombed one such establishment.~~ More than
fifteen hundred carrier planes, British and American,
were in action over Japan throughout the day. Radio
Tokyo admitted that they had done ^{heavy} damage.

MANCHURIA

The triumphal advance of the Soviet forces in Manchuria is almost enough to make us wonder whether the strength of the redoubtable Japanese defenses there had not been exaggerated. Of course, it is too early to make a fair estimate yet. But the armies under Marshal Vasilevsky are plowing ahead at the rate of twelve miles a day, ~~at~~ some points, and fifty miles at other points. The Japanese themselves admit that the civilian population is getting out of Hsingking, the capital of Manchuria, as fast as they can, ahead of the swift Soviet advance. And the official Russian radio at Khabarovsk is broadcasting messages urging those armies to hurry up even more.

The Japanese also acknowledge two successful amphibious landing operations by Red units on the southern half of Sakhalin. The land attack has already advanced twenty miles inland and near the main highway which bisects the island.

The great Jap base of Harbin is now threatened
from ^{the} east, north and west. Three powerful Soviet
columns are driving swiftly along the main railway
arteries.

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And, Hsingking isn't the only place being evacuated.

2 Along the northern frontier of Korea, civilians are
moving out, after the two amphibious operations in which
Soviet marines and infantry took the ports of Rashin and
Yuki. Those operations took the Japs completely by
surprise. The Khabarovsk radio reports that they threw
the enemy into wild confusion, since the landings were
achieved out of a stormy sea. The Japs ran away in
panic, left arms behind them, ammunition and food
supplies. And, more valuable still, vital military maps
and documents. The Soviet units landed at dawn, and
that, in addition to the storm that was raging at sea,
made the surprise complete. Normally, the Russians

would have had a hard time fighting their way, but the sea was illuminated by huge fires, which had been started by the planes of the Soviet fleet.

The fighting in that part of the world is now raging along a front almost as long as that in Europe, when Red armies were fighting all the way from the Arctic to the Black Sea.

Evidently, the Japanese high command is saving its famous Kwantung army for a Sunday punch. There is no indication that any part of it has come out to resist the Russian advance. Although Vasilevsky's front is extended for thirteen hundred miles, the eastern and western wings are less than four hundred miles apart, since it appears that the Japanese were taken by surprise at almost every point of the compass. One of Vasilevsky's armies appeared quite suddenly from the wastelands of Mongolia and it has already covered a hundred and twenty miles in five days. Late this afternoon, word came that

it had captured a big railroad center, Wangyehmiao, two hundred and twenty miles west of Harbin, took it by surprise and frontal assault.

Observers point out that the Japs must now put up a strong stand on the central plains of Manchuria, excellent terrain for Vasilevsky's tanks to operate in. The only alternative would be coming up the great base of Harbin, and if the Japs lose that, they've lost what amounts to half Manchuria.

ATOMIC BOMB

More about the atomic bomb. Now that the atomic era is under way I suppose we'll have atoms in nearly every broadcast!

Well, three different processing methods are used in making materials for it, in several plants, so we hear. In one of these uranium two thirty-five is produced by electro-magnetic power. In still another plant, uranium is concentrated by a gaseous diffusion process. In a third, by what is described as the thermal diffusion method.

One of the plants at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, occupied two hundred and seventy rather massive buildings, and spread out over five hundred acres. The ~~xx~~ engineers in building this one encountered problems of construction and design that were unprecedented. And they had to do it at great speed. Nor was there any time for making pilot plants, as a test; and, for ~~xx~~ preliminary experiments.

The electro-magnetic process I mentioned was developed by Professor E. O. Lawrence of the University of California. In mid-summer of nineteen forty-two, Professor Lawrence demonstrated how the electro-magnetic method might be used for splitting the atom. Then he and his associates made plans to construct a pilot plant. But it was decided to abandon all that and plunge right into operation as soon as the great plant at Oak Ridge could be rushed to completion.

Another processing plant with some seventy buildings, covers six hundred acres, and, there's a ~~gix~~ third plant with twenty buildings.

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From Canada we learn also that Uncle Sam is at present the sole custodian of the secrets of how to manufacture the atomic bomb. C. D. Howe, Dominion

Munitions Minister, says that although Great Britain and Canada share with the United States the theoretical scientific knowledge, it was the United States that developed the atom bomb. But, that Canada has the right to ask for all details concerning its manufacture. Canada so far has not done so. The reason being that the Canadian government doesn't think it wise to let the information be shared at this juncture. Better prevent any leakage. Also the British government has taken the same attitude. The role of Canada so far has been the supplying of essential raw materials; such as pitch blend, from which uranium is derived.

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Communists are shouting how terrible it is that Atomic power should ~~be~~ at present be in the hands of the capitalists. Party leader William Z. Foster has issued an appeal that military control of the atomic

bomb be entrusted to the Security Council of the United Nations. He urges further that all plants concerned with its manufacture be nationalized. He even says that if reactionary capitalists have control of atomic power, ~~then~~ they'll use it to impress the people.

EISENHOWER

The armies of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France will have to occupy Germany for a long long while. So says a man whose opinion we all respect -- General Eisenhower. The General is still in Moscow. In fact he has been hobnobbing with Stalin, and his Marshals - Zhukov and all the others. His visit has had many highlights including that parade of forty thousand Soviet athletes, with Stalin and Eisenhower reviewing them from atop Lenin's tomb against the Kremlin wall -- the first time any foreigner has been so honored. General Eisenhower standing there - above Lenin - and between Stalin and Zhukov.

He and Marshal Zhukov also watched a Red football game. From time to time, General "Ike" put his arm around Zhukov's shoulder in a friendly way - whereupon the Ruskies went wild - so the reporters tell us.

The late word from Moscow is that General Eisenhower has won the confidence of all Soviet officials who are to be his colleagues in the occupation of Germany -- that they like his open mind and his extreme frankness.

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General Eisenhower today went on to say that an easy peace for the former subjects of Hitler is out of the question. That the defeated Reich has to be rebuilt from the ground up -- so far as the government is concerned. This to begin with the children. Prepare them for democracy. Remove, once and for all the totalitarian complex that has long been a part of German psychology.

In his conversation with correspondents at Moscow, General Eisenhower dispelled one error that has been widely believed, the mistaken notion that he had received orders to stop the advance of his armies at

the River Elbe. That was not so, said he. First of all, he knew the Red armies were advancing into the area just east of the Elbe with great speed, and if our forces had entered that area from the west, there would have been confusion. Furthermore, and more

important, ~~He~~ he said his immediate problem was to check the plans that the Nazis had made to withdraw into the Bavarian redoubt. He said he needed all the armor he had to prevent that. Which he did, -- one of his greatest triumphs.

MEDAL

There was an unusual ceremony today in the Rose Garden at the White House. With only a small group of high military officers and officials of the Government, President Truman pinned on the lapel of State Secretary Jimmy Byrnes the Distinguished Service Medal for his three years' service as Director of War Mobilization.

TP The citation set forth that ^{*Jimmy*}~~Mr.~~ Byrnes as Director of War Mobilization had discharged duties of great responsibility with outstanding success. It said further that Mr. Byrnes accomplished his task with exceptional zeal. *That he had shown* ~~He showed~~ sympathetic consideration of both military and civilian needs, and ~~so~~ struck a delicate balance which insured sufficient manpower and materiel to the armed forces, ~~while~~ at the same time keeping ~~up~~ civilian economy at the highest level of any belligerent in the second World War. *Also, that* ^{*^*} Whenever it was necessary, he did not hesitate to uphold unpopular measures when they were essential for the successful prosecution of the war.

Among the arrivals in Washington today was a Second Lieutenant of the Infantry who next week will receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. ^{Here's} ~~and~~ the tale of how he earned it; ~~is a real thrill~~

On the Eleventh day of last February, Second Lieutenant Edward C. Dahlgren of Caribou, Maine, was leader of a platoon of the Hundred and Forty-Sixth Regiment, Thirty-Sixth Infantry Division, near Oberhoffen, in France. He was in the vanguard of a counter-attack against the Germans. The Nazis had placed snipers in the doorways of one particular house. Without considering their numbers, Dahlgren rushed the door and jumped inside the house, firing his tommy gun to clear the place. ~~out~~ Then he went back to the front door and snatched a grenade launcher from one of his men. With a hand grenade he silenced a machine gun that was being fired from a house down the street.

Having done that, he went to the back door of the house and rushed a barn twenty yards away, where another machine gun was located. When he was near the door of that barn, he threw a hand grenade and wounded or captured the entire crew manning that machinegun. In the first house, Dahlgren captured eight Germans. In the barn he killed six more, wounded others, and five more surrendered.

this rampaging 2nd Looney from Caribou, Me,
Then, ~~Dahlgren~~ [^] went into a still a th'rd house
and with his rifle grenade drove the Germans ^{there} ~~in it down~~
to the cellar. ^{Whereupon,} ~~Then he went in,~~ ^{Le} alone, [^] kicked open the
cellar door and, firing his ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
sub-machinegun, warned them to surrender. The upshot of
^{it all} ~~that~~ was that sixteen Germans came out with their hands
[^] behind their necks.

For that, Second Lieutenant Edward C. Dahlgren,
.....
who was a machinist working in Worcester, Massachusetts

before the war, joins the fine small band of men who
~~wear~~^{TP} ~~carried~~ the Congressional Medal of Honor. Before going
to France, he was wounded in action in Italy. ^{TP} He ~~will~~^{ill}
receive his medal on August Twenty-Third.

1/2 ~~All in all,~~ He killed eight Germans, captured
thirty-nine, wounded many others, and stormed ~~no fewer~~
than four buildings, alone! No wonder
they are decorating him.