

CONFERENCE

Good evening
L. L. - Linnac - Std., June 20, 1945

A late story this afternoon announces that the final dispute at ~~the~~ the San Francisco conference has been settled. The disagreement concerned the power to be granted to the General Assembly of the World Security Organization. Australia, on ~~the~~ one side, wanted the assembly to be given a greater scope. Soviet Russia wanted - less power for the assembly. It was the last important point of contention in the formation of the security organization. And it was settled today as has just been announced, by Secretary of State Stettinius.

TRUMAN FOLLOW CONFERENCE

President Truman is said to be pressing for a ~~■~~ prompt conclusion of the Conference. The Truman idea, we hear, is to have the charter of the United Nations approved by the Senate before it goes to the meeting of the Big Three next month. The President is represented as believing that a Senate okay on the charter would be a big help in his dealings with Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill.

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It takes time to get a thing like that through the Senate. So the sooner they get the charter fixed up, the better. And Presidential pressure is being applied to the delegates at San Francisco, urging them to hurry up.

The Moscow trial is not going to terminate grimly with death sentences and executions - as was the case in the sensational purge trials a few years ago. Today, under klieg lights, and with cameras grinding away, the Soviet prosecutor declared that he would not ask for death ~~the~~ sentences.

He stated that the Polish leaders charged with acts of terrorism against the Red Army are no longer dangerous -- because, said the prosecutor, they were mere puppets of the Polish government-in-exile.

He called for the acquittal of three of the ~~the~~ sixteen, and demanded prison terms for others -- including the leader of the Polish underground, General Okulicki, and Vice Premier of the exiled government, Janowsky.

The prosecutor, in his address to the court, concentrated on placing a maximum of blame on the exiled government -- the major purpose of the courtroom drama being, obviously, to discredit the London Poles.

end

Another story about the end of Hitler.

It comes from the personal chauffeur of the Nazi Fuehrer. At Berchtesgaden today Hitler's automobile driver ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{stated} that both the Fuehrer and his sweetheart, Eva Braun, committed suicide. This, he says, was on April Thirtieth -- and they had been married two days before. They shot themselves, he declares, in the underground shelter of the Chancellery in Berlin.

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What happened to the bodies? They were burned, says the Chauffeur. This had been ordered by Hitler -- to keep the bodies of himself and his ^{newly} ~~XXXXXX~~ married wife from falling into the hands of the Russians. The chauffeur states that he himself helped to carry the bodies.

This story is confirmed by a member of the Nazi police, who is quoted in a late dispatch. He states that he saw the bodies of Hitler and his newly married wife, while they were being burned. This account varies from the previous one, however, in that the Hitler guard states that he thinks Der Fuehrer died by poison.

Signs of another big American invasion blow against Japan. This is reported by Tokyo and states that a huge convoy is assembling off the Kerama Islands near Okinawa. The Japs tell of more than a hundred troop transports protected by a powerful force of battleships and aircraft carriers.

Tokyo is unable to make any guess about the destination of this new invasion armada -- the size of which indicates ~~and~~ an objective of number one importance. It gives the Japs a new case of invasion jitters -- an upsurge of the fear of American landings on their own home islands.

Tokyo reasons, with considerable sense, that the Americans are determined to follow up the conquest of Okinawa without delay, With ~~the~~ fighting on that bitterly contested island just about over, American power musters promptly for another blow.

Tokyo concedes the fall of Okinawa, confirming the news ~~and~~ flashes from that realm of terror and desolation. The latest word is that the Japs

are meeting their end with outbreaks of panic and savagery - scores of enemy troops leaping from the high cliffs into the China Sea, others making suicide dashes into the American lines.

That is a familiar picture of the doom of a Japanese garrison, but on Okinawa there is one element of the unusual. More Japs are surrendering than in other island campaigns.

6/20/45
GOOD MORNING EVERYBODY:

A brief report on a hurried trip to the Philippines. I have come away from there with two rather contradictory impressions: first, that the islands have been liberated from the Japs, just as has been announced by General MacArthur and by President Osmena; second, that our armies may be fighting the Japanese, in the Philippines for another year or so. Will all the Japs in the islands surrender when their homeland falls, when the Japanese warlords and the Mikado surrender? No one seems to have the answer to that, and it's a number one topic of conversation in the Philippines.

As you fly into the entrance to Manila Bay, past Corregidor, and on towards any one of the many airfields on the outskirts of the Philippine capital, the first thing that strikes you is: what

a lot of wrecked ships there are! Here one with its stern high in the air, and the rest of it out of sight. Over here several that are keeled over. And dotted all round the harbor ships resting on the bottom, with only their masts showing. I have seen a lot of harbors in the past few months, with wrecked ships in them: Antwerp, Bolougne, Calais, Le Havre, Marseilles, ports in Italy, North African cities like Oran, Tunis, Bengazi, and Tripoli. But none with as many wrecked ships strewn about as at Manila.

In an interview, at Malahan Palace, with the successor to Manuel Quezon, President Osmena told me that some seven hundred Japanese vessels had been sunk in Manila Bay, and that of these salvage crews already have hauled up three hundred.

And then we spoke about the immense task of rebuilding the city of Manila. You have all seen the motion pictures taken at the time, and you

know how Manila was first bombed, and then how MacArthur was compelled to blast the stubborn Japs out of the city with heavy artillery, with mortars, bazookas, flame throwers; everything he had. But until you see Manila with your own eyes, you can't realize what a jumble of ruins it is - the ancient walled city, the historic Spanish churches, the tall modern business buildings, and the handsome government buildings that caused travellers to call Manila the "Pearl of the Orient."

Some say it will take ten years to rebuild Manila. Others say twenty. President Osmena told me that he and his colleagues are already working on the problem. He said that one able planner had drawings all ready the day MacArthur, and Osmena, entered the city; the day our fighting men handed Manila, and the Philippines, back to the Filipinos. He was an American who had planned some of our Pacific Coast park systems. The Japs had him imprisoned in Santo

Tomas, and all through the seige of Manila he was busy working on plans for a new and greater city.

While looking over the huge war maps at MacArthur's headquarters, I was surprised to discover that one third of the Philippine Islands still remain to be explored -- a huge territory into which many expeditions will have to be led. President Osmena told me they are working on a scheme now, for transferring some of the people, from the more densely populated islands, to the great southern island of Mindinao, much of which remains to be opened up and developed.

I asked him, how about great rubber plantations? Why let the British and Dutch have a virtual monopoly on raw rubber, in Maylaya and the Dutch East Indies? His answer was that he was afraid synthetic rubber would make it too hazardous to plant rubber in the islands.

As to the military situation in the Philippines General MacArthur was away, on a trip to the south. So

I got in touch with his Chief-of-Staff, General Sutherland, who brought me up to the minute on the campaigns still in progress to rid all of the islands of all of the Japs. And then I flew north, to visit the Sixth Army, which is engaged in cleaning up Luzon. That remarkable American military figure, General Walter Krueger, is in command of this big operation. Krueger has been MacArthur's rock of dependability in the field, all through the fighting, right up from Milne Bay at the farthest tip of New Guinea, through ^{the} long and brilliant campaign which should bring undying fame to all who took part in it. We sat for a couple of hours in the first building that he has used as a headquarters since our people left Australia, and he went over the whole Southwest Pacific war with me, explaining the strategy and the way the Japs were fooled time and again.

The most remarkable part of the whole story is, that never once, from the time MacArthur started

north from Australia, did the Japs win a victory. In the end, although they fought like demons, and it was tough going for our men, the Japs lost every battle.

General Krueger, in looking back over it, says he thinks New Guinea is the most difficult place in the world to fight a war. Said he: "It has the worst climate, the deepest mud, the densest jungle, the biggest bugs, the biggest mosquitoes, and the biggest spiders."

As for the Japs remaining here and there in the Philippines, there are between sixty and a hundred thousand of them left to kill, and our boys are proceeding methodically about that. They have the largest single Jap force cornered and completely cut off, in Northern Luzon.

The Japs captured some 20,000 of our people on Bataan and Corregidor. Bataan already has been avenged over and over again. The Jap losses have been colossal. Their crack First Division is still on Leyte for example. All dead. Right now more

than thirty thousand of them have no chance of escaping from Luzon. Among these General Krueger told me that he thinks the Mikado's number one military leader is still on Luzon, the notorious and cruel Yamashita. General Krueger said that Yamashita now weighs 340 pounds! And that the only way he can get around is on the back of a caribao. If he is still on Luzon, he'll commit hara kiri, if he isn't killed. There is a chance he has gotten away by submarine. The Japs have a way of pulling out their top men and leaving the rest to perish.

How long do our leaders out here think it will take to complete the subjugation of the Japs? Well, there are any number of guesses about that. But our boys out here are worried more about whether the folks at home are slowing down on the war effort. And they all ask: "What sort of a celebration was there at home on V-E Day? Do the folks back there realize how tough the Jap is, how desperate, and how

resourceful?" I tell them, there was almost no V-E Day celebration, and that you do know how vast is the task facing our fighting men in the Far Pacific. I hope I am telling them correctly.

And now, all the way back to America, to the N.E.C. in New York.

EISENHOWER

24 Dec

General Eisenhower was at his old Alma Mater today - West Point. A member of the class of Nineteen Fifteen, he returned to the ~~xxx~~ military academy much as any old grad does to his college. General Eisenhower is, of course, much more than an average old grad. The Commander of the Victory in Europe was given a spectacular welcome at West Point today.

ELEPHANT

At Kokomo a man protested today that he didn't mind losing his wife, but he insisted on keeping his elephant. The wife is suing for divorce, and, by way of a property settlement, she demands the elephant.

And now -- Goodnight.