

The Japanese today reported another raid by Admiral Halsey's planes, on Formosa. Later this evening, Admiral Nimitz confirmed this. In fact airmen from Halsey's fleet also attacked Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong. In all this air action our planes flew across the Philippine seas, and the China Sea. Halsey and Nimitz give us no details, but the Japs say the attack on Formosa was the fifth in thirteen days, with no fewer than two hundred ~~of~~ American planes taking part - a raid that lasted some fifteen hours; the Formosa attack being only one part of it.

All this followed two days after the spectacular attack of January eleventh when Halsey's men sank forty-one Nipponese ships - some one hundred and twenty-seven thousand tons - almost completely wiping out two entire Jap convoys moving along the Indo-China Coast. In addition to sinking the forty-one ships, they also

damaged twenty-eight other vessels of a total of about seventy thousand tons and destroyed one hundred and twelve enemy aircraft. Our total loss being sixteen planes.

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MacArthur announces that his land-based planes helped Halsey's fliers in the attack on Formosa.

LUZON

Uncle Sam's men are now almost one-third of the way to Manila from Lingayen Gulf. The Sixth Army has gone that distance with but little opposition. One correspondent out there predicts that the Japs may not even defend Manila. But, there also is a chance that they are trying to trap our forces.

A bulletin that came in a few minutes ago brought word that one part of General Krueger's army is now at the highway town of Urdaneta, with his reconnaissance columns way past the Agno River, ~~and at Camiling, another big highway town. In other words,~~  
*In fact*  
they are more than thirty miles deep into Luzon, and within about seventy-seven miles of Manila.

Correspondents say the speed of MacArthur's advance has confused the Japanese. They say this is the word from the guerrilla chieftains, whom they consider reliable. They say the Japs are evacuating the whole Manila area and withdrawing into the mountains of northern Luzon. Apparently to make a stand somewhat like our <sup>own</sup> ~~own~~ troops made at Bataan, because if they stayed, and tried to



defend Manila, they'd risk being wiped out on the open plains between Manila and Lingayen. One guerrilla officer reports that only a small part of the Japanese army now remains between the Americans and Manila.

According to a later story, Krueger's men have driven two miles inland from <sup>Dahmortis</sup> Damortis and are fighting the Japanese between that place and the <sup>Apangah</sup> Apangat River. The Yanks are marching along a highway to the big Jap air base at Rosario. Another column is on its way toward <sup>Baguio</sup> Baguio, the "hill station" for Manila -- where people go to escape the ~~hot~~ heat.

Within a week the Lingayen beachhead has become a huge American base. For once the Americans have had the breaks. Aside from the lack of opposition, they have had perfect weather. The spot for the landing was particularly well chosen ~~xxx~~ because, around there is a veritable network of good roads, which make it easy for both men and supplies to roll along swiftly.

The inhabitants of the Philippine towns ~~near~~ <sup>near</sup>



Lingayen are by no means as excited as were the folks of Leyte when the Americans landed there. They seem to be taking the return of the Americans as the only natural thing that could happen -- as though they had expected it all along.

BURMA

The new Ledo-Burma road is all set for traffic. The Thirtieth Chinese Division, after an eighteen day campaign, has captured a place called Namkam, where strategic roads meet; the last town in Burma held by the Japs, where they could block the Ledo Road.

The first convoys of supplies from India to China actually arrived at Myitkyina today, using the new Ledo Road, for a distance of two hundred and sixty-five miles. It was a convoy of nearly a hundred supply trucks and jeeps; loaded with ammunition and medical supplies, bound for China.

The Ledo ~~Road~~ will be an all-year round road, useable in all weather - and a two-lane road.

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Also, units of the British Fourteenth Army are reported advancing southward from Shwebo, and now within twenty-six miles of Mandalay, meeting little opposition.

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Further south, General Chennault's Fourteenth Air Force carried out a heavy attack on the Jap airdrome at Hankow, the third blow hurled at Hankow since the beginning of the year. More than a hundred of Chennault's fighters and bombers destroyed at least twenty-four enemy planes, and damaged thirty-three others. They probably destroyed four more.

~~These air operations are an attempt to interfere with the Japanese offensive in southern Hunan, which has been growing as a menace.~~



JAPAN

So no wonder we are hearing today

~~A story from Tokyo indicates~~ that something

is happening in the Japanese Parliament; members of the Diet asking for a change in the political structure of the Mikado's empire.

And, there was an emergency meeting of the Japanese Cabinet today, following a visit by Premier ~~ex~~ Koiso to the palace, to report to Hirohito.

~~But the~~ <sup>The</sup> change, <sup>if any comes,</sup> ~~if any comes,~~ will not be

in the direction of a more democratic system. In fact, the demand for a change comes from the totalitarian party, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

Here's a rumor that sounds rather wild: ~~that~~ that the Mikado's war lords are thinking of moving the government from Tokyo to Korea -- to escape ~~from~~ our bombing raids.

## HONEYMOON

When the main body of our forces had to surrender at Bataan early in 'Forty-two, some of them, as you know, got away. Among these was a Captain Truman Hemingway, ~~xxx~~ who had just married the daughter of a Manila business man. With several other officers Captain Hemingway made his getaway to the hills of Leyte -- taking his bride with him.

For more than two years the Captain was a leader of guerrilla resistance on Leyte. Also, he ~~xxxx~~ operated a secret radio station that helped American ships and war planes in raids against the islands. Through all this guerrilla warfare, Captain Hemingway lived happily with his bride, who gave birth to a daughter while they were in hiding in the Leyte hills.

Well, the latest is that the Captain and his family arrived today at Sherburne, Vermont, on a long postponed honeymoon. Oh yes, and on the way over, Mrs. Hemingway presented him with another daughter.

Now H - let's hear from Stan. Acol

The soldiers of our First Army have captured Houffalize, the town in the heart of the Ardennes bulge that von Rundstedt carved out for himself in December. They have joined forces with Patton's men of the Third Army near the town, and achieved what correspondents describe as a victorious climax to the hard, costly fight to mend the damage that von Rundstedt inflicted.

Thus the men of the First and the Third have cut off the road toward St. Vith, by which the Nazis might have escaped. Tanks of the First Army cut it earlier in the day.

In the process, the Second ~~army~~ armored division of Major General Harmon, the division nicknamed "Hell-on-Wheels," captured two other towns north of Houffalize. Patton's tanks also recaptured several places south of there. In the Siegfried Line Patton has held on to all his forward positions and has captured two towns in fresh territory. So the situation on that part of the Western



Front appears to be <sup>somewhat more en</sup> ~~less~~ <sup>encouraging</sup>. But, further south, ~~conditions do not look any too good.~~ Nothing ~~decisive~~ has happened there, but the Germans have reinforced their foothold in northeastern Alsace, ~~They~~ are pouring a heavy rain of shells on the Allied forces in Haguenau.

~~Also~~ observers have spotted heavy enemy movements behind the lines in that part of Alsace. All signs point to a fresh heavy attack in that part of the Rhineland.

~~And~~ The Nazis are <sup>reported to be</sup> ~~also~~ preparing a heavy blow in the north. Allied airmen have seen large concentrations of barges and troops in the estuary of the Rhine ~~and the~~ <sup>All of which</sup> ~~base~~ in Holland. ~~That~~ looks like another offensive aimed at Antwerp.

PLANE FOLLOW WESTERN FRONT

The Nazis have come to bat with still another new weapon: - ~~It is~~ a jet propelled plane of a new type, with two engines and a speed of more than four hundred miles an hour. That makes at least four types of <sup>German</sup> jet or rocket aircraft now in action, while we have none.

## CASUALTIES

Tonight we have the facts about American casualties from von Rundstedt's big attack in December. War Secretary Stimson reports that our losses were fifty-two thousand, five hundred and ninety-four on the entire Western Front. But, forty thousand of those casualties were in the Ardennes. Enemy losses for the same period, ~~on the other hand,~~ were about ninety thousand. <sup>TP</sup> This covers the period from December Fifteenth to January Seventh. So our losses were not quite so serious as the Germans had claimed, though they were bad enough.



## RUSSIA

Tonight the Armies of the Soviet Union are less than twenty <sup>two</sup> ~~five~~ miles away from the old Polish city of Krakow. They pushed ahead eight miles in one day. One Soviet writer wrote triumphantly in the newspaper Pravda; "The Red Army is heading for Berlin -- in Berlin we shall be", *said he.*

The Nazis radio admits the force of the shock. Broadcasts from Berlin report that it's the greatest battle of massed forces in the war so far, the battle raging all the way from East Prussia <sup>for</sup> six hundred miles ~~is all the way~~ <sup>to</sup> the Carpathian <sup>5</sup> Mountains. Berlin and Moscow are agreed on one fact, that at least three and a half million men are joined in battle.

This is the fourth day of Stalin's big winter offensive; <sup>and</sup> The German High Command admits that fighting has begun in still another district north of Warsaw.

*π* The Red Armies are attacking in ~~xxxx~~ six parts of Poland, with another advancing in East Prussia and ~~xxxx~~ still another in Czechoslovakia. All this aside from

the Red Divisions continuing the siege of Budapest, where they have taken another 160 city blocks.  
More than three hundred Polish troops are

fighting on the side of the Russians and one of their generals declared that if the battle goes on as it has begun, Warsaw will be completely cleaned out of Germans within a month.

While all this is good news to the Allies, nevertheless a story from Paris declares that the Russian attack was begun without any coordination among the United Nations as a whole. In spite of whatever agreements Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt may have made at Teheran, the offensives on the respective fronts have been conducted independently. So says a story from Paris.

The Allies naturally welcome the Russian advance in Poland and Prussia, <sup>which should</sup> ~~They will~~ prevent any ~~new~~ <sup>new</sup> German push on the Western Front. At the same time, Germany is not being made to fight a real two front war, but is fighting one war at a time. The Russians are on the offensive at the time the Western

~~We are turning out a lot of B-29's~~  
~~considering the giant size and complex machinery~~  
~~of those monsters of the air.~~ A vast amount of work goes  
into the production of a superfortress, but we are  
manufacturing them at the rate of more than a hundred  
and thirty-five a month.

Hitherto, the B-29 production figure has  
been kept a secret, but today it was disclosed by  
J.A. Krug, Chairman of the War Production Board.  
He stated that one plant alone ~~was~~ building a hundred  
a month, and another plant thirty-five, and two other  
plants had ~~gone~~ gone into ~~the~~ B-29 production, with figures  
for them not given.

~~So the minimum is a hundred and thirty-five  
B-29's a month, which comes to sixteen hundred and  
twenty a year. We may recall that the Pilgrim  
Fathers landed on Plymouth Rock in year of sixteen  
hundred and twenty, which makes it a significant  
coincidence - or don't you believe in numerology?~~



MANPOWER

Today brought a lot of pressure against one feature of the work-or-fight law now before Congress. The bill, as drawn up by Congressman May of Kentucky, provides that men who refuse to take war jobs, or stay on war jobs, shall be drafted into the Army for labor service. This is opposed by the Army, with Lieutenant General Knudsen, Army Production Director, making the following statement to the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives. Speaking of men who refuse war jobs, he said "It would be bad to put them into the Army."

Then what should be done with them? <sup>well,</sup> General Knudsen speaking for the Army, proposes that penalties be provided -- heavy fines and imprisonment. ~~Under the work or fight laws, slackers who stay out of war jobs, should be fined or sent to prison.~~

He stated that such penalties in a work-or-fight law would help to cure absenteeism, of which ~~he~~ <sup>much too much, Gen.</sup> said ~~there is~~ <sup>^</sup> ~~no~~ <sup>^</sup> Knudsen declared that

# RETAKE

Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill have set a date and a place for their new meeting. The time will be near the end of this month, according to a story from London, and the place somewhere in the Middle East. It sounds like another Teheran Conference.

There was a rumor that Harry Hopkins would go to London soon to discuss the subjects to be considered at the meeting. And, it's definitely known that a group of high officials of the French Government is already preparing to leave on their notice. To pave the way for preliminary discussions.

## WHEELER

On the floor of the Senate, Senator Bert Wheeler today tore into the foreign policy of our country -- as well as of Britain and Russia. The fiery Senator from Montana declared that we are ~~now~~ becoming involved in power politics to force all Europe into the embrace of Russia; and he used such phrases as these: "We would have to start annexing territories, changing boundaries, deporting or liquidating populations." And, "We would have to go in for bigger and more horrible concentration camps, distorting truth and our sacred honor."

~~The~~ Senator Wheeler talked for four hours, until his voice cracked. At one point he was interrupted by ~~by~~ Senator Pepper of Florida, the Administration spokesman, who <sup>accused</sup> ~~accused~~ Senator Wheeler of helping promote dissension among the Allies. Pepper exclaimed that the speech of his Montana colleague was "grist for the mill of Nazi Propagandist Joe Goebbels."



To which Senator Wheeler replied: "There isn't anybody who can stop me by saying that I am playing into the hands of Goebbels."

## REUNION

An unexpected visitor appeared today at the house of Mrs. Nora Davis of Compton, California. It was Lieutenant Colonel Emmett S. Davis of the Army Air Forces, her twenty-six year old son. It was the first time he had been home on leave after three and a half years in the South Pacific. That of itself is hardly news: many mothers don't see their sons for three and a half years when they are on South Pacific service.

But a few minutes after the arrival of Colonel Davis, in walked Technical Sergeant L.S. Davis, a radio operator on a B-Seventeen. He came home on furlough, having served eleven months in the European theatre.

While Mrs. Davis was recovering from her surprise, there was another knock at the door, and there stood Private Reed Davis, a surgical aide at Camp Beale, California, with Ensign Conley S. Davis, who has been in the Navy for ten years. It was the first time in five years that the lady had seen her four sons together, all at one time. *And now some good news from you all.*

BASEBALL

Taken from Jan. 15/45 Re.

The wartime future of baseball looks more  
dubious than ever tonight. President Roosevelt today  
said the national pastime might go on - if. And that was a might big "if". ~~The~~

<sup>The</sup> President made the comment that he didn't think it right  
for healthy young men to be playing baseball in this  
crisis of the war, and added that, while he thought  
baseball was useful as a ~~■~~ morale builder, the game  
should be allowed to continue only if it is ~~■~~ not  
impeding the war effort.



MANPOWER →

~~and the chiefs of the Army and Navy, General Marshall and Admiral King. Both the General and the Admiral spoke strongly in favor of a work-or-fight law, and when the conference was over the word was that the President had decided to send a special message to Congress, urging legislation for national service. The message will be forwarded to the lawmakers, in a day or two the White House pushing the drive for work or fight.~~

Here's the latest --- the President <sup>has just</sup> stated ~~late~~ <sup>Q Manpower</sup> ~~today~~ that he <sup>would</sup> probably send <sup>a</sup> special message to Congress tomorrow -- ~~a message~~ <sup>a</sup> urging "Work or Fight" <sup>law.</sup>

## PHILIPPINES

Tonight's late story from the Philippines, tells of a new four-mile advance by MacArthur's troops. They have now driven thirty-two miles inland -- on the road to Manila, and are ~~now~~ within seventy-five miles of the Philippine capital.

The advance on Luzon is still encountering no real enemy resistance, but the Japs have made an attempt at the flank ~~of the drive~~. The MacArthur bulletin tells us of a repulse of an enemy counterattack - the first real blow the Japs have tried to strike. ~~They~~ They surged forward against the eastern flank of the advance, but were beaten off.

that the Charter was still valid - although all of its objectives were not likely to be attained immediately.

Churchill said he agreed with that, and took the

attitude that the Atlantic Charter was more an expression

of high principle than a definite plan. <sup>TP</sup> It is worth

noting

~~repeating~~ exactly the words he used: "The Atlantic Charter,"

said he, "has been very well described by the President

as a standard of aims - an indication of the direction

in which we are proceeding. It is not a law," said the

British Prime Minister.