

LANDING

C.T. - Standard Monday, April 24, 1944
Summit.

swoop down upon

~~General~~ MacArthur's ~~attack on the~~

the Japs

~~Japanese~~ in Northern New Guinea seems to ~~become more~~ ^{grow in}

^{importance by the hour,}
~~successful every hour~~

The General himself is on the spot. Walking ankle deep in mud he inspected the air ~~field~~ strip outside Aitape. He directed operations while American and Australian engineer troops prepared the field for the use of Allied fighter planes with bulldozers, graders, and levelers.

TP

American shock troops overwhelmed all Japanese opposition and captured the three airplane runways near Aitape yesterday. An American reporter went ashore with ~~General~~ MacArthur and ~~xxx~~ obtained plenty of evidence that the attack was a complete surprise, the Japs had not expected it.

And at late

~~MacArthur arrived to find his invasion~~

^{reports it's moving}
~~kicking~~ along ahead of schedule.

The units that landed at Tanahmerah Bay

west of Hollandia faced a formidable job, ^{even if} ~~although~~

they ^{were} ~~made~~ almost ^{unopposed by} ~~no resistance from~~ the Japs, ^{For} they

found themselves on a beach head surrounded by deep

marshes, and a seven hundred foot sheer cliff, ~~of~~
~~palisades~~. The first few thousand troops who landed
there were mostly engineers, and they got to work
with bulldozers trying to build roads to the nearest
air-field eleven and a half miles ~~xxx~~ away. ^{A late}
~~first dispatches xxx reported the task almost~~
~~prohibitive. But late this afternoon,~~ ^{The} a dispatch
from Allied headquarters reports that ~~those units~~ ^{already they}
have driven inland from Tanahmerah Bay ~~and in~~
~~reached~~ ^{to} a point within five miles of Hollandia air
field. ~~The other forces were advancing toward the~~
~~same field from the Humboldt Bay.~~

Meanwhile, Australian troops, far ~~distant~~
~~below the new theater of battle,~~ ^{from all this,} were advancing
closer to the Jap base at Madang. ~~on Astrolabe~~ ^{And now some}
~~Bay between one force and another no fewer than~~
sixty thousand ~~Jap~~ ^{enemy} soldiers are ~~nipped~~ ^{caught} between
Madang and Aitape. ^{TP} According to ~~the latest xxx~~ ^{word} accounts
it will not be long before Australian and U. S.
planes will be using all three air fields near

Hollandia for land based ^{Allied} operations.

The Seventh Army Air Force ~~covered~~ ^{played} a part in all this by a series of ~~MacArthur's latest operations in New Guinea with a~~ covering series of raids on ~~the~~ Jap ~~island~~ bases in the Carolines. ~~Over~~ land-based heavy and medium bombers attacked ~~the~~ on a front nine hundred miles long. At the same time, the Air Arm of ~~Admiral~~ Nimitz' Pacific fleet raided Truk, Ponape, and other islands still held by the Japs.

From Pearl Harbor we learn that the warships and Air Arm of Uncle Sam's Pacific fleet under Admiral ~~Chester~~ Nimitz cooperated in ^{MacArthur's} ~~the~~ attack on Dutch New Guinea. ^{itself. That is the} The invasion was prefaced ^{by} ~~prepared with~~ a bombardment ^{from} ~~by~~ swarms of Navy aircraft ~~as~~ based on carriers. Nimitz' warships also collaborated ^{by} softening up the Jap defenses. The landings then were covered by the guns and aircraft of the fleet. They shot down thirteen Jap planes ^{that took off in an attempt} ~~which contrived to take off and try~~ to head off the invasion. ^{TP} At Hollandia, Nimitz' air ~~wing~~ ^{may}

destroyed sixty-seven planes on the ground, and, twenty more at points west of Hollandia. The ~~fleet~~ ~~air arm~~ also bombed fuel and storage depots, ammunition dumps, supply areas and other ~~military buildings.~~

BURMA

More
~~There is~~ drama in the news from Burma. ~~tonight~~
Mountbatten has sent out *another* a contingent of air borne
troops in ^a leap-frog operation, and they ~~are~~ have landed in
force behind the Japanese lines. ~~This is~~ The second
operation of the sort in Burma, ^{the} first being the
parachute landing by Wingate's Commandos.

This latest outfit has already succeeded in setting
near the Lonkin Jade mines,
up a base. What is more, ~~these~~ paratroopers have made
contact with units of the Indian Army ~~that~~ drove across
the upper Chindwin River last month.

If this operation continues as successfully as it
has begun, the Allies will have a solid front across the
lifeline of the Jap forces invading Manipur.

~~The latest contingent of paratroopers are called~~
~~the Chindit units. They drifted to earth near the famous~~
~~Lonkin jade mines, ~~to be~~ ~~recently~~ ~~taken~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~Allies,~~~~
~~have those ~~Jap~~ ~~mines.~~~~

~~Actually,~~ This second leap frog operation was carried out some time ago; ^{but} ~~but it is~~ only today that we hear about it. They have already built two airfields, one for transports and bombers, and one for fighter planes, under the direction of ~~United States~~ Lieutenant Colonel Gaty of La Jolla, California.

Mountbatten's headquarters also announced that the road from Kohima to Dimapur is open all the way, ~~xxx~~ although the Japs are threatening it in spots. The Kohima garrison has been completely and successfully relieved now. ^{From the new Ceylon hdq's we hear} ~~Ceylon declares that~~ the British and

Indians are driving the Jap invaders back through the hills northeast of the Manipur plain ^{in.} ~~Allied units are~~ ~~in action on the road thirty nine miles above Imphal.~~

~~However, southeast of Imphal the enemy has won~~
~~two small hills. A hot battle has been going on there~~
~~for three days and apparently is still raging.~~

ALEUTIANS

The U. S. High Command tonight gave out information about a military move that was completed successfully ten months ago in the Aleutians. All that time it has been a military secret, cleverly kept dark. Our forces ~~xx~~ in those northern waters have occupied and fortified an island called Shemya. It is only a small spot in the Semichi group of the western Aleutians. But it is of great importance in our forthcoming operations against Japan.

Our doughboys occupied Shemya at the same time that their buddies were waging the bloody battle for Attu. Brigadier General John E. Copeland from Hollywood California led the attack commanding a unit of specially trained shock troops of the Fourth Infantry. Though they met with no resistance from the Japs, the landing was the most difficult of all landings in the Aleutians.

INVASION

London ~~today~~ reported^s another step ~~which~~ indicates¹ ^{that} invasion is not far off. The British Government forbade^{ing} all travel to points abroad. Nobody may leave Britain except on business of urgent national importance which cannot be postponed.

The home office made the announcement and added that these restrictions will remain in force until further notice. However, the home office also said that they are temporary and will be relaxed as soon as military considerations permit. In other words, the Allied high command is establishing a solid wall around "the tight little island." Nazi observers on the continental ~~shores~~^{side} of the Channel are on the alert twenty-four hours a day. German radios ~~are~~^{with} broadcasting the warning that ~~the continent is on the eve of an~~^{the invasion is about to start} invasion.

The American air fleets that attacked Europe today are described as numbering upwards of three thousand. One fleet of Flying Fortresses and Liberators based on Britain, struck at Hitler's aircraft factories on the shore of Lake Constance, and at airdromes near Munich. As they turned for home, the pilots saw ^{the usual} huge columns of smoke, rising five thousand feet into the air. This force is estimated as numbering two thousand ~~altogether~~, ~~including~~ heavy bombers and fighters. According to the Swiss, ten Fortresses and Liberators had to make forced landings in Switzerland, ~~and~~ three of ^{which} ~~them~~ crashed. ~~These were from Lieutenant General~~ Doolittle's Eighth Air Force.

At the same time, heavy bombers from the Fifteenth Air Force, based on Italy, crossed the Balkans and bombed Bucharest, ^{the} Ploesti, ^{oil field,} and Belgrade.

ADD AIR WAR

The American bombers and fighters shot down no fewer than one hundred and three enemy planes and lost fifty-five. They also scored other probables destroyed on the ground.

While Munich was still smoking, the Royal Air Force picked up the job in ^{another big scale} a night attack. Their principal target ^{this time being} ~~was~~ Karlsruhe; but ~~that was~~ they also took ^{another} a shot at the damaged and smoking city of Munich.

RUSSIA

The Red armies have renewed their attack on Sevastopol. So we learn, not from Moscow, but from Berlin. The Nazi radio reports that strong Russian tank and infantry forces went into action north and northeast of the ^{city.} ~~fortress~~. The Berlin radio added ^s the information that the Soviet generals had ^{up} been regrouping their forces after that amazingly rapid advance into the Crimea.

as is so often the case,
The Moscow radio was not nearly as communicative as Berlin. ~~The Soviet high command merely reported that for three days in succession there have been no essential changes on the ground fronts.~~ But the Russians do *say* report that their naval planes have sunk ^{nine} ~~seven~~ more German transports crowded with troops ^{trying to} ~~as they tried to~~ run the Russian blockade around Sevastopol.

~~The Nazis also ⁰ ~~tell of~~ that Stalin's generals ~~are~~ moving fresh troops into Rumania. They have the~~

HEROES

A group of Congressmen in Washington had an experience today unique even for Congressmen. They heard a word-for-word account from the lips of Sergeant Charles Commando Kelly ^{his own story of those} ~~of the~~ forty-eight hours fighting in Italy which won him the Congressional Medal of Honor, the fighting in which single-handed he killed forty Germans.

Along with Kelly was another Medal of Honor man, Second Lieutenant Ernest Childers of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; the Creek Indian who accounted for so many ~~Hunt~~ Huns that he forced them to withdraw from two machine gun nests, and, routed out an entire building full of snipers.

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As for Commando Kelly, he told today how he fired three thousand rounds of machine gun ammunition in one hour. And, in less than six hours ~~he~~ used up four cases of the explosive stuff. He was defending a storehouse and ammunition dump that the enemy had been shelling for two days.

When he had fired away all the ammunition on hand, he started ~~to use~~ ^{using} sixty millimeter mortar shells ~~that~~ ^{that} weight three pounds apiece. The Germans, he said, were coming ~~up~~ toward the house, ^{up a sort of staircase.} ~~to a door~~ He took one of the shells and started tapping on the window with it, thinking it might scare them. As he did so, the safety pin fell out, so he threw it and, says he: "It worked ~~okay~~ ^{okay}."

~~With~~ From the third story there was a fifty foot drop into the gully. So he was able ~~to get~~ ^{to haul} the shells out ~~about~~ ^{some} fifty or sixty yards. He used all the shells there were, some ~~if~~ fifteen or twenty.

(As we learned the other day)

Childers, ^{As we learned the other day} won his distinction for action on September Twenty-Second at Oliveto. ~~He had started in the army as a plain doughboy. At the time of his big fight his instep was broken.~~ He was ^{leading} ~~one of~~ a party of eight men ^{against some} ~~the~~ machine gun nests and ^a ~~the~~ building full of snipers were on a hill. The other men in Childers's

party covered that hill with fire from automatic rifles. Childers moved in from the other side with his carbine. It was a light carbine, an excellent arm, said he, for close range work. He started out with seventy-five rounds of ammunition and finished up with only five.

As Childers approached, he saw a German rise up shoulder height and, as he put it, he "took care of him."

The other one shot at him, but Childers didn't mind much.

Said
he was used to it. Then he saw a fellow peek out of a window, but he didn't ~~peek~~ peek out again because by that time he was dead. Still a third tried to escape from the house, but he ~~didn't escape alive~~ *"took care of him."*

Childers located one of the machine gun nests by seeing the barrel of the gun ~~stick~~ *sticking* out. But the Germans in the nest wouldn't stand up. However, a sniper arose with his field glasses, and Childers took care of him. *That is his pet phrase "I took care of him."*

The Indian from Oklahoma then crawled up closer to the machine gun nest and, having no hand grenades, heaved in a couple of rocks. The Germans thought they were grenades and jumped out, whereupon Childers took care of one, but as he said, "one of my men beat me to the other one."

Lt. Childers left Washington for Tulsa, Oklahoma this afternoon.

The big celebration was at Pittsburgh, the home town of Sargeant Charles "Commando" Kelly. Congressman Scanlon of Pennsylvania had warned him there ~~was~~ ^{would be} a roaring welcome waiting. ~~for him~~ Everybody in Pittsburgh was ~~singing~~ singing Nora Bayes' old song "Has Anybody here seen Kelly". When he arrived by plane he found that a committee had engaged a large suite in a swank hotel for him. Said Kelly, "Thank you very much but I am going home with Mom". He preferred the apartment on the second floor of the plain frame ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ house, the home of his mother and his six brothers, on Shawano Street, Pittsburgh.

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ All good. American hats ~~xx~~ should be off to Kelly tonight, not only as a superb fighting man, but as a real American. He was polite about it, but he refused to turn down his folks and his ~~xxxx~~ neighbors to park himself in a ~~xxxxxx~~ ^{bridal} suite.

in a swagger hotel.

An official car carried him to Shawano Street and he found it crowded with five thousand men, women and children who had been waiting for him ~~for~~ ^{for} hours. Some of their names were Irish, and some were Italian, and some were Schmidt and ~~Sch~~ Schultz. Banners were stretched across the street and ^(every house) ~~xxxxxxx~~ sported the Star Spangled Banner. As Kelly rode in the car he pulled a plug of tobacco out of his pocket, bit off a chunk and said, while his brothers laughed at him "That's the first chance I've had for a good chew since I got back. *Then he asked how they were fixed for money and gave each brother ten bucks.* When the car reached his Mother's home,

Kelly climbed out, helped his Mother to the Street and up the stairs to their small apartment. He found the living room jammed with kinfolk and friends. In the other rooms, which were immaculately clean, ~~pi~~ police, city officials, reporters and cameramen crowded and milled around. The huge crowd still filled Shawano Street, shouting for ~~km~~

Kelly to appear. Finally the cops begged Kelly to stick his head out of the window so the people might go home. So he shoved his ~~xxx~~ tousled head through the clean lace ~~xx~~ curtains ~~and~~ of the living room, just waved his hand and grinned. There was a roar of ~~admiration~~ ^{friendship} from the crowd. Kelly ducked back and everybody went home.

And now Roger, after you speak your piece we'll go home.

Even though the skipper is an Annapolis man, he takes it with a grin when one of his young officers forgets himself and calls the deck of the carrier the floor; and describes a bulkhead as a wall. (A plebe who did that at Annapolis would find himself sitting on infinity for endless hours. But Captain Bowman remembers that he himself used to scramble his nautical terms once upon a time.) And, as he says of one of his young officers, "He doesn't always do it the Navy way, but he gets the job done, and that is what counts."

CHINA FOLLOW BURMA

The Japs are pressing hard in China. For some time they have been carrying on an attack in the central part of the province of Honan. ~~There~~^{They} are already more than sixty thousand strong there, and the Mikado's war lords are pouring in fresh reinforcements all the time.

Evidently things are in a bad way in that part of China, for the bulletin from Chungking indicates that the Chinese have lost Chengchow, an important railway junction.

At the same time, we hear that American fliers of the Fourteenth ~~U.S.~~^{U.S.} ~~XX~~^{XI} Air Force, ~~Liberator~~^{Liberator} ~~bombers~~^{bombers} ~~from~~ airfields in China, have sunk six more Japanese ships. Three of them ~~were~~ tankers. They were moored in the waters off southern Indo-China.