

SUPERFORTRESS

L.I. - Standard. Wed., Dec. 13, 1944  
Sunoco.

Today's new bombing of Japan was bold and defiant. The B-29s, probably as many as a hundred of them flew from their distant Saipan base and smashed one of Japan's great industrial centers - Nagoya, a hundred and sixty-five miles from Tokyo. Nagoya is Japan's third largest city, and is the site of the great Mitsubishi aircraft works, one of Japan's most important centers for the building of air power.

The Superfortresses, to get a better aim, flew lower than usual - this time at a mere altitude of from three to five thousand feet. And that was defying anti-aircraft fire and Japanese fighter planes. Moreover, ~~thuxgix~~ a gale was blowing, a wind up to a hundred miles an hour, and the B-29s flew into it - which slowed their speed. In the case of previous bombings of Japan, we were told that the accuracy of bombing was decreased because B-29s flew with the wind - a strong ~~g~~ gale

that ~~to~~ flew them along and ran their speeds up to four and five hundred miles an hour. Going that fast, the bombardiers had less time to take aim at the targets. Today, by going into the wind, there was more leisure for accuracy. At the same time, the slower speed during the bombing runs, made the Fortresses better targets for anti-aircraft guns and rendered them more liable to fighter attack.

They flew lower and slower, and the day was clear which enabled the bombardiers to do the sharpest kind of aiming. And the war plants ~~of~~ Nagoya were shattered by explosions and ravaged by great fires. The B-29 Command calls it "the most successful mission over Japan thus far."

~~What about the hazards of flying <sup>lower</sup> and slower in a clear sky? The word is that the B-29s encountered only moderate anti-aircraft fire and comparatively little fighter opposition. The reports have not yet come through of~~

## FOLLOW SUPERFORTRESSES

The latest is a dispatch from Saipan stating that the Mitsubishi airplane plant at Nagoya was extensively damaged. The target area was large, forty-two hundred feet long and two thousand feet wide, a solid ~~mass~~<sup>mass</sup> of factory buildings. Square hits were made, and great fires were left behind— After ~~it~~ what is described as the most successful bombing mission over Japan thus far.

What about the hazards of flying low and slow in a clear sky? The latest ~~word~~ word is that the anti-aircraft fire was intense but ineffective, and the fighter opposition comparatively light. What about our losses? Here is a statement by Brigadier General Hansell, commander of the B-29s at Saipan: "To the best of my knowledge" says he, "no B-29s were lost over the target".

The ~~impr~~ importance of Nagoya as an objective is illustrated by a bit of history earlier in the war. In the Doolittle bombing of Japan the

→ warplanes concentrated on Tokyo. But they also delivered a blow at Nagoya. That Doolittle raid was in the nature of a desperate adventure, and ~~ixix~~ its purpose was to show that we could hit Tokyo -- but the industrial center of Nagoya was important enough to deserve some explosive attention, ~~and~~ **I**t got ~~xxx~~ some more explosive attention today -- a lot more from the B-29s.

## PHILIPPINES

The ground push is on in the Philippines, with the Seventy-Seventh Division driving northward from Ormoc. Another American force is advancing ~~xxx~~ from another direction, the two ~~are~~ converging -- in a drive to crush Japanese resistance ~~in~~ at the northern tip of Leyte. ~~island~~ They are smashing at the Yamishita line which is in a peculiar position now, after the Seventy-Seventh Division landed and captured Ormoc, at the rear of the line.

The fighting is violent and General MacArthur calls the Japanese losses : "extraordinarily heavy."

~~MacArthur announces that on the other side of Ormoc, the south east, a force of Japs trapped in the mountains is being mopped up.~~

Today's news dispatches from Leyte pictures an incident to illustrate how much the Japs were taken by surprise by the landing that seized Ormoc. Three small enemy vessels loaded with troops slipped into

Ormoc harbor at night, unaware that the port was in American hands. They ran into ~~point~~ point blank fire by shore batteries, and all three were sunk.

WgP General Kenney explained that our planes are

sturdier, stronger, and take much more punishment than

the Japanese planes. (The enemy aircraft are mostly

light fighters and bombers and are not as well

equipped as our planes. Our planes are also

more maneuverable and are better equipped for

night operations. In fact, the Japanese planes are

inferior to our planes in every respect.

The American pilots are better - better trained,

and they are better equipped with the latest type of

## PHILIPPINE AIR WAR

In the air war over the Philippines, the Japs are losing planes at a ratio of about thirty-three to one. This was stated today by Lieutenant General Kenney, chief of the American Far Eastern Air Force. ~~(Telling of the fierce aerial combats in the sky, he reveals the magnitude of the Japanese air losses as compared with ours thirty-three to one.~~

~~Why?~~ General Kenney explains that our planes are sturdier, stronger, and take much more punishment than the Japanese planes. ~~(The enemy aircraft are good, but they are more lightly built and simply can't stand the pounding as well as ours can. And American fire power is greater, our planes can hit harder. As a result, the Japanese plane in a jam is shot down when one of ours would be able to get away.)~~

The American pilots are better - better trained, and they use better tactics. Today's dispatch from

headquarters at Leyte states, "American airmen have great respect for the fanatical courage of the individual Japanese. But," it goes on, "the Japanese are relatively lacking in training and experience, and cannot react quickly in a jam."

This is illustrated by an experience of the Number One American air ace, Major Richard Bong. In a swirl of sky-fighting, he came upon a Japanese bomber by surprise. The Jap, astonished and startled, reacted with a disastrous blunder. He did two things at the same time - pulled his plane up suddenly and simultaneously dropped his bombs, to get rid of them.

The result of the double action was that the bombs hit the tail of his plane, exploded, and blew him to

*So Bong got credit for one smithereens. by startling him out of his wits.*

The strategy of the American squadrons is to operate together, and thro<sup>w</sup> a coordinated mass of planes

*Our lads*  
at the Japs. ~~They~~ are trained to take no unnecessary  
chance<sup>s</sup>, and not to be ashamed to run away, when ~~they are~~  
outnumbered. ~~Dick~~ Bong himself, one of the boldest of  
sky-fighters, told recently what happened when he ~~ran~~<sup>stumbled</sup>  
into three Zeros and they got on his tail. He says he  
scoted away so low over the water that the blast of his  
propellor left a long wake on the sea.

~~~~~  
Here's Roger Krupp to  
give us tonight's message  
from Stan. of Calif., and then  
I'll be along with a lot more  
news.

## RUSSIA

Moscow announces the capture of two more forts guarding Budapest, one six miles north, and the other eight miles east of the Hungarian capital. And eight other places have been seized, towns, villages and rail stations, in a drive that has carried Red Army forces through deep lines of fortifications. Moscow officially announces an advance to within four miles of the northern industrial suburb of Budapest. <sup>And</sup> There are unconfirmed reports that the Russians are already engaged in street fighting in the industrial suburb.

GREECE

The classic and unhappy city of Athens was engulfed today in a worse storm of civil war than ever. ~~The forces of the Left Wing Elās launched an all-out offensive to break the resistance of the Greek government forces and their British allies before British reinforcements could arrive.~~ <sup>R</sup> The principal action occurred at the Greek government barracks in the center of Athens, which was stormed at dawn today by Elās forces. In the dim light, a band of Left Wing partisans climbed over a ten foot stone wall and went charging through the buildings on the grounds of the barracks - shooting with all types of automatic weapons and hurling hand-grenades. They had almost captured the place, when British troops drove forward and hurled the Elās back into the northeast corner of the compound. There the Left Wingers held out in a bitter struggle, and at last reports fierce fighting was raging.

All day long Athens reverberated with shootings and explosions. ~~so the~~ ~~Elas~~ ~~attached~~ ~~many~~ ~~buildings~~ ~~held~~ by Greek government forces and British soldiers. From the sky came the roar of the motors of Spitfires, as these fighter planes strafed the Left Wingers on the ground. And there was a crash of cannon fire, as British tanks hurled shells into buildings occupied by the ~~Elas~~. The city was covered with a pall of smoke, from burning buildings and blazing gasoline supplies.

London reports that ~~Elas~~ forces have apparently seized the Athens radio station, because that station today was blasting with Left Wing propaganda. ~~Elas~~ broadcasts accused the British of atrocities - of shooting Left Wing prisoners and of torturing others. And the charge was made that the British are as bad as the Nazi Storm Troopers who staged a reign of terror and oppression in Athens for so long.

It does sound odd indeed to have atrocity charges made, not against the Nazis now, but against the British in Greece, which is highly unlikely.

FOLLOW GREECE

The latest is a report that the leaders of the ELAS have drawn up proposals for a ~~xxxxx~~ settlement -- these in answer to a set of terms handed them previously by the British. General Scobie, the British Commander, renewed the demand that the ELAS forces lay down their arms and evacuate the area near Athens. We hear that Socialist elements of the ELAS were willing to accept, but the Communists stood pat. As a result, a series of counter proposals were drawn up and will be transmitted to the British command.

## ALLIED POLICY

There are prompt repercussions in Washington to the outright statement made in England - that the British policy of controlling Greece was agreed to by Stalin and okayed by President Roosevelt. (In Congress, Senator Brooks of Illinois today denounced the whole thing as a matter of Americans fighting, while Great Britain and Soviet Russia are dividing Europe up between them in a competition of power politics. And there are similar denunciations in Britain - with London newspaper<sup>s</sup> excoriating the British war against the Left Wing Efas in Greece.)

*Official declaration*

The ~~statement~~ in England was made by Ernest

Bevin, Labor Party leader and member of the Churchill Cabinet. He stated that Churchill and Stalin came to an agreement whereby the British would run things in Greece, while Soviet Russia would handle matters in Rumania. Bevin made the statement to a conference of

~~the British Labor Party, which has been angered by  
British intervention in the Greek civil war. Bevin took  
the stand that the British Empire could not be indifferent  
to the way things went in the Mediterranean - and Greece  
occupies a dominant position in Mediterranean strategies.~~

~~So~~ <sup>That</sup> Churchill, in conference with Stalin, made an  
agreement whereby the British would have Greece in their  
sphere of influence, while the rest of the Balkans would  
be given to the domination of the Soviets. ~~It is pointed  
out~~ that when the Russians occupied Bulgaria, they  
stopped at the border of Greece - and that country was  
taken over by British amphibious forces.

Bevin added that President Roosevelt, in his Quebec  
Conference with Churchill, initialled the Churchill-Stalin  
agreement, and that the Labor members of the British  
Cabinet supported the policy. The result of the statement  
was that the Labor Party Conference <sup>Today</sup> expressed its

~~virtual approval by passing a mild resolution calling  
for an end of the Greek civil war.~~

In Washington, it was pointed out that, whatever Churchill-Stalin agreement President Roosevelt might have approved, it could not be foreseen at the time that civil war would break out in Greece. ~~So therefore the battle between British troops and the Greek ELAS can hardly be said to have American approval.~~

## WESTERN FRONT

At the southern end of the American <sup>Forest</sup> Army line, there is another one of those forests, which are found all along the war front in the Battle of Germany.

Monschau Forest, ~~which is to the south of the key city~~  
~~of Duren - for which town~~ <sup>for which</sup> ~~so stubborn a battle has been~~  
~~raging. For days, First Army troops in the center of the~~  
~~line have been battering their way toward Duren, but in~~  
~~Monschau Forest all has been quiet.~~ At that point the  
First American <sup>rush</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ across the German border,  
made only a slight dent in the Siegfried Line. The  
Americans were stopped, and just stayed put for weeks -  
while winter descended on the Monschau Forest.

Today all that was changed, and among the snow-  
covered trees <sup>the</sup> a violent fury of war broke out. At dawn,  
the guns thundered in a tremendous barrage, American  
artillery blasting the German positions, and then  
American troops drove forward. Their first day of

advance was a success, and at last reports First Army soldiers had driven ahead for two miles and captured three towns.

At the key point of Duren, meanwhile, the Americans were crushing German resistance in the western part of the town, and Berlin says that American First Army troops have reached the Roer River on both sides of Duren - the citadel guarding the road to Cologne.

~~In the Saar Valley, General Patton's Third Army continues its drive into that great industrial area but it is slow going. Patton's troops are said to be meeting the bitterest resistance that they have encountered thus far, and tonight's dispatch describes the conflict as - a yard-by-yard battle.~~

Farther south, the American advance is a little more rapid, with General Patch's Seventh Army driving for another mile on the road to Karlsruhe,

the capital of Baden. Seventh Army soldiers are now only twelve miles from Karlsruhe, <sup>with</sup> ~~and~~ their offensive ~~is~~ developing in power.

The text is used to describe an organization for Nazi activity after the German defeat.

It's been hearing all along that the Hitler gang plans to carry on after the Allied armies have crashed into Germany, and today this word is more

definite and specific than ever. It comes from the headquarters of the American Ninth Army, fighting inside

of Germany. <sup>it</sup> ~~And~~ related the following: The Hitler leaders are making up a great plot to <sup>re-organize</sup> ~~have~~ the

re-organizing Germany and the rest of Europe on a stable and peaceful basis. They are determined to keep

things in order to avoid chaos, so as to give Naziism another chance in the future. To accomplish this, they

have formed a threefold plan, a political-military <sup>master</sup> ~~plan~~ with three heads.

## NAZI PLANS

The news today tells of what it calls - a political-military monster. What kind of animal is that? The term is used to describe an organization for Nazi activity after the German defeat.

(We've been hearing all along that the Hitler gang plans to carry on after the Allied armies have crashed into Germany, and today this word is more definite and specific than ever. It comes from the headquarters of the American Ninth Army, fighting inside of Germany. <sup>it</sup> And relates the following: <sup>JP</sup> The Hitler leaders are building up a giant plot to <sup>prevent</sup> ~~keep~~ the Allies from organizing Germany and the rest of Europe on a stable and peaceful basis. They are determined to keep things in a state of chaos, so as to give Nazism ~~another~~ another chance in the future. To accomplish this, they have formed a threefold plan, a political-military monster with three heads.

One head of the monster is a carefully trained military organization, which will hold out in the Bavarian and Austrian Alps. (~~This fits in with other stories we have had about Nazi plans to hold out in secret mountain strongholds.~~) Today's dispatch states the following: "When the military collapse of Germany appears imminent, all troops of the Nazi Party will be withdrawn from the battlelines. The best of these will be sent into inaccessible mountain areas, to join the outstanding Nazi leaders. It is hoped," the dispatch continues, "that from secure mountain bases, they will be able to conduct a type of hit-and-run warfare for years." (~~Large stores of the newest weapons and great supplies of munitions are said to be hidden in the mountains, for the hit-and-run war, after the official defeat of Germany.~~)

The second head of the political-military

monster is said to be an underground movement all over Germany - (this along the lines of the underground that was so effective against the Nazis in the countries they occupied.) Today's dispatch says that officers are being trained <sup>in</sup> special schools right now, officers to organize underground guerrilla bands. "These bands," says the news story, "will try to create a reign of terror throughout Germany and Austria, assassinating high Allied officers and Germans who collaborate with the Allies."

The third head of the monster is a propaganda organization, which is said to be functioning already. Operating as a far flung conspiracy, this propaganda organization is designed to keep Nazi ideas alive in Germany, spread them all over Europe - and also through South America. (~~The story from Ninth Army headquarters advances the opinion that this propaganda business is potentially the most dangerous of the three heads of the political-military monster.~~)

## CHAPLIN

The Charlie Chaplin paternity suit got going in Hollywood today, with the defense promptly ~~is~~ bringing forward the contention that Joan Barry had made a written agreement not to <sup>press</sup> ~~suing~~ the suit against Chaplin -- if ~~the~~ blood test indicated that Chaplin could not be the father of her child. The blood test, said the defense lawyer, did indicate just that, but Joan Barry has gone back on her promise. - In spite of the written agreement, and the blood test she is suing.

The Chaplin defense also had something to say about an alleged romance which the young woman is supposed to have had at the time she was going around with the one time pathetic clown of the screen, who produced laughs ~~xxxxx~~ for a generation and made millions.

## KINGFISHERS

Seekers of signs and omens may find something in this - a dispatch telling about the birds of Bath. At the English city of that name, remains exist of old Roman baths - dating back to the time when Britain was a Roman colony. There is water in the ancient baths, and in the water are goldfish, and for years a flock of birds, kingfishers, preyed on the goldfish - flashing down and diving at them.

Then, when the present war broke out, the kingfishers of Bath disappeared - for no apparent reason. Nobody could explain why, but the very day war was declared, the kingfishers at the Roman baths flew off, and were not seen again - until now. The word today is, that the birds have come back. Their return is just as mysterious as their departure was. Is it perhaps a sign *and* an omen? The ancient Romans, themselves, found *and auguries* portents in the flight of birds, and in this modern day

over in England, some are saying that the return of the kingfishers is a sign that the war in Europe will soon

end. We hope, we hope —

~~and now a few appropriate words from my sponsor —  
the Sun Oil Co.~~

And now Roger again ~