

PACIFIC

L. I. - ~~Sunday~~ - Tuesday, July 31, 1945

Another string of Jap cities is on the death list. Today American B-29s dropped three-quarters of a million pamphlets on twelve more Japanese war centers, notifying them that they are marked for destruction. They ~~are~~^{are} to be blasted and burned out, and the people had better leave.

This is the second time that Jap cities have been warned that they are on the bombing schedule. Eleven were on the first list, when last Friday B-29s dropped leaflets. Of the eleven, six were fire-bombed the next day, and the other five were soon to get it.

And now another twelve, running up the schedule to twenty ~~three~~^{three} cities marked for destruction and warned in advance. The latest batch of twelve are war centers on all three of the main Japanese islands, along a line of over eight hundred miles.

And here's ~~is~~ a special communique adding to the list of ships destroyed by Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet. The Japs report that Halsey's warships are still operating off Tokyo bay - in the fourth week

of their offensive against the Japanese coast.

The new list today adds forty-nine more enemy vessels to the total, and the figures now show that in the great sea and air offensive the Japs lost more than a thousand ships.

These run all the way from oriental Junks to vessels of war. For example, among the sinkings on Saturday, we find three destroyers, one destroyer-escort, one submarine, assorted ^{Jap} freighters and fishing boats - and seventeen junks.

And the latest tonight, word from General MacArthur, tells of new sinkings by the Army Air Forces based on Iwo Jima - and Okinawa.

BIG THREE

At Potsdam, the policy of secrecy and censorship has been made all the more intense - as a result of the illness of Stalin. On Sunday and Monday, the meetings of the Big Three were suspended, but that, at the time, was not disclosed. And the news correspondents were told a falsehood to cover the fact. They were informed that Messrs, Stalin, Truman and Attlee had met on both Sunday and Monday - when, in fact, they had not. Stalin, it is now known, was confined to his quarters on those two days.

The delay of the Big Three proceedings became known and caused rumors - the suspicion that the Russian - American - British negotiations had run into a snarl. And now to check these rumors, it is revealed that Stalin had been ill.

There is no statement about the malady that ~~xxxx~~ attacked the Soviet Generalissimo, but ^{he} ~~is~~ is ~~is~~ believed to have ^{had} ~~been~~ a cold, complicated ^{by} ~~with~~ indigestion. Stalin apparently is all right now, because the Big Three met again this afternoon, so it is

announced, their first session since Saturday. For three and a half hours Stalin, Truman and Attlee talked things over.

The belief is that the Conference is drawing to a close, and that an announcement of the results will soon be made. - But all this is cloaked in secrecy.

The censorship is so rigid that today, at the radio studio in Potsdam, an Armed American officer was stationed on guard. He was there to check on everything said over the air. All the scripts had been, of course, gone over by the official censor - who used the blue pencil and passed whatever he considered okay. The purpose of the armed officer on guard at the microphone, was to be certain that the broadcasters adhered to the censored text, sticking to it word by word - and not interpolating anything ad lib.

This extreme precaution was taken, we are told, to prevent a premature disclosure of the end of the conference of the Big Three.

London states that the new Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, is anxious to get home. He wants to ~~xxxxxx~~ attend the opening session of the new House of Commons, with its overwhelming labor majority. The new Commons will begin with the taking of the oath, probably Thursday or Friday - and Attlee wants to be back for that.

London likewise informs us that President Truman is going to meet King George. The President, so we heard some time back, had originally intended to visit London. Then, after the defeat and resignation of Churchill, we were informed that he would not go to the British capital. Today the London report is that King George will fly to a British port this week, Thursday or Friday, and there will greet President Truman.

This apparently would mean that the President, homeward bound, would fly from Berlin to a continental port and there go aboard ship, perhaps aboard the cruiser Augusta, which took him to Europe. The ship would call at the British port, and there

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would be staged the meeting of the American President
and the British Sovereign.

PETAINE

At the trial of Marshal Petain today, there was a recital of military history pertaining to the fall of France. The witness, ~~was~~ General Weygand, who had been called to command the French armies as the disaster was breaking. The seventy-five year old Weygand looked feeble and ill, but he spoke in sharp military tones.

He stated that he personally was responsible for the French ~~ix~~ decision to seek an Armistice with the Nazis. Weygand declared that this was a military necessity. The defeat, he said, was hopeless, and further resistance was futile.

He stated that the surrender was not at the instance of Marshal Petain. He charged that in fact, the idea of capitulating to the enemy had been suggested by Premier Reynaud - Reynaud who is now a witness at Petain's trial for treason.

Weygand ~~xxxxxx~~ argued that the Armistice had prevented the Nazis from taking possession of the French north African Colonies, and that this had

subsequently enabled the Americans to invade North Africa with such little cost.

Weygand related that when the Americans landed, Petain had secret code communication with Admiral Darlan, who ~~xxx~~ represented the Petain Government in North Africa. And he intimated that Darlan, in ordering French troops not to resist the Americans, had a secret okay. "I approved of his attitude", said Weygand, "and a secret telegram was sent". He charged that orders commanding resistance to the Americans were dispatched without the knowledge of Petain - sent by Laval, whom Weygand called Petain's "evil genius".

Meanwhile, as these proceedings were going on in Paris, Laval arrived in Austria ^{Italy} and was made a prisoner by American forces there. The arch collaborator ^{list} having been expelled from Spain, flew to give himself up. He was taken in custody by the American Sixty-Fifth Division, which immediately sent him under heavy guard to the headquarters of the French zone of occupation. He is being turned over to the French as a war criminal.

Laval has already been condemned to death, in absentia,
by the French courts.- and There is ^a~~some~~ ^{tonight} belief that he
will be brought into the trial of Marshal Petain, to
give his evidence.

[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, appearing to be a continuation of a report or news article. Some words like "Chicago" and "marriage" are faintly visible.]

WAC

In Berlin a Sergeant of the WACS went to a German court today, and asked for an annulment of her marriage. Seems odd for a member of the American Armed Forces to make such a plea to officials of the recent enemy - but this was the case of the Wac Sergeant who married an Army Captain - and he now turns out to have a wife ~~xx~~ back home.

Captain Carl Schultz married Sergeant Kanella Koulouvaris at the German Borough Hall in Berlin. They were ~~xxxx~~ about to have a supplementary wedding with military ceremony, when it was disclosed the Captain's wife back in Chicago objected. He had told the Wac Sergeant that his wife had died. He maintains he had been so informed.

The result of the whole thing was that the Army marriage in conquered Berlin turned into a blighted romance. And today the ~~bride~~ bride of the WACS, in tears, appealed to the German court for annulment of the German marriage ceremony.

COAL

The threat of a fuel shortage for next winter is so serious, that today solid fuels Administrator Ickes called upon the Army to release thirty thousand miners by October First. He warned that if the coal mines were not granted additional manpower, American industry may be forced to go to a four-day week next winter - for lack of coal. The Army hitherto has rejected demands for the release of large numbers of coal miners, and today Senator ~~R~~ Kilgore called upon the War Department to change its attitude - and release workers for the mines.

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT

Here's a hot denial of stories that Elliott Roosevelt, in obtaining large ~~ix~~ loans, was assisted by his father, the President. Brigadier General Roosevelt, after a ~~brilliant~~ career in the Air Force Photographic section, ^{for which he was highly praised by his superiors,} is leaving the Army. And in a late story, just released, he takes upon himself full responsibility for all of his business operations before the war. He states that any claim that his father did anything to help him to raise money is, what Elliott Roosevelt calls, "a deliberate and infamous lie".

~~Brigadier General~~ ^{Elliott} Roosevelt has declared that he had made a full explanation to the Treasury Department and to the Congressional Investigating Committee, and he calls upon the government to make public all the facts, which he says will knock out falsehoods that ~~are~~ are being told.

KITTENS

At St. Joseph, Missouri, a passenger train pulled in from Chicago, and was switched over to the yards. There, the trainmen noticed a faint sound, a plaintive wailing and meowing, the meowing of kittens. They looked around, but couldn't find anything. Then a brakeman said - "get Calico", and they did.

Calico is the local roundhouse cat. Upon being brought to the passenger coach, she immediately climbed into an enclosure between the trucks and the floor of a car - and brought out kittens, one by one.

Well, it all turns out to be a bit of drama in the domestic life of a cat. Calico had her kittens in what the news dispatch describes as - a hot-box cooler. This turned out to be hot, rather than cool. And, when the temperature started climbing above a hundred, Calico decided it was time to remove her kittens to another nursery.

So she took them over to a passenger car standing on the tracks, and tucked them into the snug and comfortable space between the trucks and the floor -

nice and homelike, according to the ideas of a cat. The trouble was that shortly afterward, while Calico was chasing a mouse, the car was hooked onto a train, which pulled out for Chicago.

This must have ^{distressed} ~~distressed~~ Calico, but everything turns out happily. The kittens were gone for thirty-six hours. But, having the nine proverbial lives, they're okay - and the railroad men have provided Calico with a box in the corner for her household.

HERO

Ten years ago, football players of the nation were applauding a West Point halfback - Monk Meyer -- one of the lightest in history. A skinny little guy. And tonight they can applaud all over again.

Monk Meyer was an all-American star, and weaved his way through many a broken field for many a West Point touchdown. He had that old do-or-die spirit--that winning determination. When tackled by a big line-men and nearly knocked out, he'd get up and fight on. On the gridiron he made history with the Army teams on which he played. If he failed the first time he'd stay with it until he got that ball where he wanted it to go.

Well, the story today tells how Monk, now Lieutenant Colonel Monk Meyer, won the Distinguished Service Cross for an exploit in the Philippines. Single-handedly, he destroyed three Jap pill boxes in northern Luzon. But he had to carry the ball several times before he did it. The ball in this case being - charges of T.N.T.

Monk Meyer was leading troops along the Ville Verde Trail, when his outfit was blocked by a Jap strong point consisting of three interlocking pill boxes. They tried to get at them by the usual methods; but.....

~~it didn't work~~ without any luck.

So Monk Meyer took a powerful charge of T. N.T., climbed to the top of one of the ^{pad} interlocking pill boxes, and dropped the high explosive into an opening. Nothing happened. Instead of a violent explosion underground, just a dead silence. Something was wrong with the fuse.

So Monk Meyer tried it again. He dropped another charge of T. N.T. in the pill box - with exactly the same result. Those fuses certainly were on the blink. He tried ~~it~~ a third time- and each attempt was an adventure of desperate peril, under enemy fire. Two duds as futile as football fumbles, each failure in a hail of bullets. And now once more.

The third time- bang! The fuse was okay, and the blast of high explosive destroyed all three of the interlocking pill boxes.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

FEET

Here's one about a new Army celebrity who is called by an appropriate name. John Barrymore was surnamed - the Profile. Frank Sinatra is - The Voice. And Private Phil Whelan is called - the Feet. Yes, he's in the infantry, the branch of service with the aching dogs.

Last week at Fort McClellan, Alabama, Private Whelan came in from a hard march, walking with the Infantry. And his feet sure did hurt. He felt a sense of indignation, of injustice. So he sat down and wrote a letter of protest to the local post newspaper.

In this, the G. I. pointed out that in Air Forces the fliers name their planes after pretty girls. In the Navy, Ensigns name their boats after their favorite cuties. But how about the infantry?

The G. I. argued that, for the infantryman, the equivalent of planes and boats are his feet. And he wrote:

"Isn't there some pretty girl who would like to have my feet named after her?"

The letter was published, and private Whelan has been overwhelmed with a deluge of mail.

A girl from Texas writes: "You can call your feet after me. I'll be glad to be a candidate for: Miss Bunion of Nineteen Forty-five."

Today, Army photographers went to get pictures of the walking soldier who has gained fame as the Feet. They found him up to his ankles in mud. He said that he had received so many letters from girls offering their names for his feet, that, if he obliged them all, he'd have to be a centipeã.

One damsel from Tennessee writes to him: "I'd be darn proud to have my name dragged through the mud of Japan. Go ahead and drag it."

And now Hugh -- the Voice, not the Feet!