

AIR WAR

27. - Sumoco. Friday, July 6, 1945.

The air war against Japan is assuming the aspect of the bombing of Nazi Germany during the last year of the European war - an aspect of monotony; that is - the monotony of day by day consistency which, more than anything else, will mean victory, Headquarter out there today reports another giant assault by the from Guam, Saipan, and Tinian, B-29s, Six hundred hitting the main Japanese island, of Honshu. Four thousand tons of bombs devastated five targets along the line from Tokyo to the inland sea.

We haven't been hearing much about the Kamikaze planes and bombs lately. I wonder how the Japs are getting on with their production. Only last week they were shouting that our planes and ships and armies would be wiped out by them.

CHINA

It was stated in China today that American landings in Japan are anticipated, but that the defeat of the Japanese in China is a task for the Chinese.

This declaration was made by Generalissimo Chiang-Kai-Shek on the eve of the Eighth Anniversary of China's war with Japan. Chiang would seem to indicate that the American strategy will be directed against itself, an invasion of the Japanese home islands - not landings on the China coast for a major campaign against the powerful Japanese armies on the mainland.

Chiang Kai-Shek declared: "I have repeatedly said that China will carry the main burden in continental operations".

~~(Mr. T. You might want to add to this a~~

~~bit of personal observation)~~

The Generalissimo seems to be gaining in confidence -- all of which is a reflection of his confidence in his present Chief-of-Staff, Lieut. Gen. Al Wedemeyer, formerly a close associate of Gen. Marshall, in Washington. And with him in China are some of our ablest soldiers.

BRITISH ELECTION

There's no word, of course, about the result of the British election held yesterday. The count of the vote will not be announced until July twenty-sixth - this because of the time needed to tabulate the ballots cast by soldiers abroad. Are there any intimations, any hints of how the voting may have gone?

I don't know how to estimate the signs and portents in British politics, but here are a couple of things that have come across on the wire - and they're contradictory.

There was talk in London today about the possibility of Prime Minister Churchill and the Conservative party getting such a small majority that they won't be able to make things run in Parliament, ^{that} and ^{parliamentary} may have to call another general ~~parliamentary~~ election in a year.

In the London stock market today, however, the confident surmise was that Churchill would win a majority of from seventy-five to ninety seats over all other parties - capturing a total of maybe 360.

WAR CRIMINALS

A most important statement was made in London today. It had to do with Nazi war criminals. But, ^{it} was of an importance far beyond that. It ~~is~~ set forth a principle of the broadest kind of international morality, a principle that might transform the statecraft of the future.

The declaration was made by American war crimes prosecutor, Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, who stated that the proposition in question had been advanced by the United States. It has been, he added, okayed by the other four major powers - Great Britain, Soviet Russia and France. They have, in his words - "agreed in principle".

The proposition is - that the waging of aggressive war is a criminal act. War crimes prosecutor Jackson indicates that in the trial of the Nazi big shots, the Chief stress will be laid on the charge of a conspiracy to wage illegal war. In the case of such fellows as Goering and Von Ribbentrop, the prosecution will not place the major emphasis on

■ accusations of Nazi atrocity. They will be tried first and foremost, as war makers.

"War itself", says Jackson, "is a major crime," and he added, "it is impossible to have war without atrocities".

The American prosecutor went on to say: "The acceptance of this moral proposition is an important step forward. Too many people", he argued, "have thought of war as an honorable, just and legal way of settling controversies". His thesis is that the major purpose in the trial of the war criminals is to reverse that idea - and establish the principle that war is dishonorable, unjust and illegal.

He said: "If we can convince world public opinion that war in itself is a crime, if we can mobilize the legal forces of the world on the side of peace, we will have accomplished something". He contended that all care must be taken to make the trials - fair.

The prosecution of the war criminals must

be impartial and judicial. "It would be a great mistake", said he, "to let this war end on a note of simple vengeance". He wants the trials to accomplish a transformation of international morality. For the American proposition amounts to that - the use of the war criminal trials as a means to put the making of war on the books as a crime.

POLAND

In London today the Polish government in exile went out of business. The exiled regime did not abolish itself, but assumed a status described as - "inactive".

This follows the British and American recognition of the reconstituted provisional government of at Warsaw. Recognition is granted on the basis of a pledge given by the Soviet sponsored group - that free elections will be held in Poland. At the same time, of necessity - Great Britain and the United States withdraw their recognition of the exiled government, the government of Poland that defied Hitler, resisted the Nazis, ^{and thereby made} ~~for~~ Poland the first ^{to oppose Germany} country in the European War.

The London regime still contends that it is the rightful government of Poland; but ^{it} now ceases its operations - ^{becomes} inactive.

A spokesman of the London Poles today stated:- "We still consider this the legal government of Poland, authorized and constituted under the Polish

constitution. But, in view of developments, this government is no longer active".

We hear, meanwhile, that the new Warsaw regime is making plans to take over Polish property in Great Britain - possessions administered hitherto by the exiled government. One question is - what to do with the Polish merchant marine, the ships of which have been operated during the war by the British? That ~~is~~ question remains to be decided.

And meanwhile, the Soviet radio is still accusing the London Poles - charging that the exiled regime, which now retires from activity, has ~~been~~ been influencing Polish troops in Germany against returning to Poland, to live under the new government.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

The new Secretary of the Treasury will be Fred M. Vinson, who hitherto has been war ^Mobligation and reconversion chief. This has just been announced by President Truman.

Yesterday, when the resignation of Secretary Morgenthau was made public, the President stated that he had picked a ~~new~~ successor, but would not announce the ~~name~~ name until after the forthcoming conference of the Big Three - to be held about ten days from now. However, we have the name sooner than that - President Truman himself having ~~just~~ ^{today} stated that he will nominate Fred Vinson as soon as he returns from the conference.

ARMY SCANDAL

A headline scandal broke in the Army Air Force today - a scandal connected with the payment of bribes to get men out of military service. At Mitchel Field, the First Air Force tells of the operation of what it calls "a complex~~ed~~ organized racket". The method of the racket was to get men discharged on the grounds of fraudulent ~~ix~~ ailments. Bribery for medical discharged. The First Air Force states that two officers await court martial and a number of soldiers are involved.

TRAVEL

Here's a late one for people who intend to make long railroad trips. You'll have to do without Pullman accommodations if the trip is less than four hundred and fifty miles. This has just been ordered by the office of defense transportation. The purpose is to provide better ~~xxxx~~ train accommodations for ~~g~~ troops deploying across the country, and is effective on July Fifteenth.

CORPORAL

Today was the deadline for Corporal Jim Newman of Fort Worth, Texas. Literally the deadline - the line of death, as set for him by the Army doctors. Corporal Jim a veteran of Bataan, ^{who} was wasting away, after three years of horror in a Japanese prison camp. The Army doctors, after doing everything they could to save him, gave up hope, and announced that he couldn't live any more than five days - and those five days were up today.

The whole country has been following the story of Corporal Jim - how he was sent home to die, and how ~~when~~ at home he promptly began to show new signs of life and spirit. He said his Mother's home cooking would save him, would cure all those ailments caused by malnutrition of a Japanese horror prison. He ate heartily of Mother's home cooking - and Texas watermelon, and meanwhile, the days were ticking off, those five days that the Army doctors had given him to live, the deadline today.

So what's the news from the ^{sick}~~xxx~~ room at Fort Worth, Texas? Corporal Jim, still dining on Mother's home cooking, sent his brother out for chevrons. He was a mere private when captured at Bataan, but was promoted to Corporal while a prisoner of the Japs. He never had a chance to wear his Corporal's chevrons. Today he said he wanted them on his uniform, to wear when he got well enough to go strutting on the street in Fort Worth - a proud Corporal, chevrons and all. ~~Also~~ ^{Also} he had his brother procure the decorations and ribbons to which he is entitled - a whole string of them. He intends to wear them too, along with the chevrons. Today he talked about all that - in high spirits.

The case does seem to be an interesting one from the point of view of medical science. Civilian physicians give an opinion a little less pessimistic than the verdict of the Army doctors. They say that if Corporal Jim survives for the next couple of days, he has a possible chance of getting well. The corporal,

immensely bucked up by home surroundings and Mother's home cooking, is jubilant, with confidence.

PIGEONS

In Boston they seem to have found a solution for a major civic problem - a problem of pigeons. In addition to the bean and the cod, Boston has large flocks of pigeons, and the favorite haunt for the birds is the City Hall. You ~~know~~ know what a swarm of pigeons can ~~do~~ do to a stately building, with dignified architecture - like the Boston City Hall. The pigeons desecrate the majesty of the edifice, ^{much} ~~to~~ ^{to} the chagrin of cultured Boston.

So they've been looking for a way to do something about it - how to chase the pigeons from City Hall.

And today's news tells of a method that is being discussed by the superintendent of public buildings, Patrick O'Connor, and the Commissioner of Public Works, Robert Curley.

The idea is to chase the pigeons away by a whistle, a whistle so piercing and screeching that it will virtually disrupt the eardrums of the birds. But what about the Bostonians? Won't their eardrums

be disrupted, too? No, not at all.

The whole thing is very scientific, up in the realm of sounds of such high frequency that they are inaudible to human ears. Birds, pigeons, ~~for~~ for example, can hear tones of higher pitch than human beings can.

So therefore the Bostonians won't hear the whistle - but the pigeons will. And it will set up agonizing vibrations in their ears. In other words, give the birds a pain in the ear.

The scheme is to set the contraptions going at sundown, when the pigeons come flocking to City Hall. The Bostonians won't hear a thing, but the birds will, and they'll flee in dismay - holding their ears, ~~if the pigeons have anything to hold their ears with.~~ In that way, an end will be made to the pigeon desecration of the Boston City Hall.

ALLERGY

People have strange allergies. With some it's just hay fever. With others it's an allergy for cats, or strawberries, ^{or eggs, or maybe just dust.} And here's one - which would certainly seem to be the most calamitous and catastrophic allergy of all.

We have a story from an Atlantic City hospital about Lieutenant Alfred Elkins, a navigator from a bomber in the Pacific. He contracted sundry maladies in New Guinea - including ^{a most} ~~that~~ disconcerting allergy.

Women's face powder, even the slightest bit, irritates his eyes and makes him sneeze. So does the rouge the girls wear. As for lipstick, it causes his own mouth to break out with sores. In other words, Lieutenant Elkin has an allergy against artificial female beauty.

If you should see him blinking with irritated eyes, sneezing violently, and nursing a sore ~~mouth~~ mouth - you can guess what has happened. He has come in contact with face powder, rouge and lipstick - and you know

what those articles are likely to be smeared on.

Lieutenant Elkins is described as an eligible ~~xxxxxxx~~ bachelor - eligible, that is, except for that unfortunate allergy. He might of course find that eighth wonder of the world, a girl who doesn't use make up. But it looks as if the Lieutenant might

stay a bachelor, doesn't it Hugh? You are our Sunoco expert on such matters. Or have you something more serious on your mind tonight?