

Uncle Sam's biggest task force is now attacking only three hours' flying distance away from Japan proper. The Third Fleet under Admiral Halsey, passed the weekend hurling shells at Marcus Island. Marcus is only a tiny island, but it protects the southeastern approaches to the great port of Yokohama and Tokyo.

The bombardment lasted from dawn to dusk, and followed the pattern of the attacks on Guam, Saipan and the Palau Islands. First a bombardment to neutralize defenses; then an attack.

Admiral Nimitz tells us there was good visibility and that the heavy guns of Halsey's fleet did immense damage to

~~on~~ enemy installations and shore defenses. They inflicted considerable damage and silenced the greater part of the coast defense batteries.

Reports from the fleet itself indicate that Halsey achieved a tactical surprise and so far has met with only feeble resistance from the Japanese. This may mean that Tokyo has permitted the defenses at Marcus to deteriorate. Halsey achieved a surprise because, according to last reports, his ~~great battle~~ fleet was maneuvering off the Palau Islands, almost eighteen hundred miles away from Marcus.

Halsey has piled up a remarkable score in less than two months. Since August Thirtieth, he has attacked the Philippines, the Palaus, the Bonin and Volcano Islands. He has destroyed or damaged four hundred and twenty-nine Japanese ships, and one thousand and sixty-five planes.

General George Marshall, Chief of Staff, ~~of the Army~~, had something to say about the Pacific war today. He announced that Nimitz and MacArthur were so far ahead of schedule that the ~~problem of supplying them~~ had become difficult. ^{he said that} Nevertheless, [^] we have practically finished the job of establishing American army fronts throughout the world.

^{still} Gen. Marshall is in France, ^{and} This morning he was conferring with Lieutenant General Omar Bradley and Field Marshal ~~Sir Bernard~~ Montgomery. He told reporters he had only just started his tour. In talking about the Pacific, he was particularly enthusiastic about Nimitz's naval operations against the Philippines, ^{ing} called them a tremendous success.

ADD PACIFIC

Admiral Nimitz gave out a statement tonight on that Pacific situation. He admitted ^{that} the military situation in China, with the Japs advancing on Kweilin, is exceedingly serious. But Nimitz added that when the time comes for American troops to land on the China Coast, in his own words: "We will be able to do it". Nimitz also said: "I think the Japanese have made progress but I hope they can be stopped". And he added: "Complete success of the Japanese in China would be very detrimental to our efforts. The more they improve their position in China the most difficult will be our task of acquiring bases there".

The top Pacific admiral

~~Nimitz~~ also referred to the operations of

General

~~Douglas~~ MacArthur, *and* prophesied that *MacArthur* ~~the General~~

would be just as successful in the Philippines as

he was in his campaign in New Guinea. And Nimitz

guaranteed the full support of all his naval units

wherever and

whenever MacArthur needed them.

~~and~~ Here ^{is} a report from ^{Gen.} MacArthur; himself.

It concerns a name quite famous in song. You ~~may~~ ^{all} have heard the Navy ditty which runs: "Oh the monkeys have no tails in Zamboanga". MacArthur sent his Liberator bombers escorted by Lightning fighters against the Nipponese on Zamboanga. They set fires all over the waterfront, so that the smoke rose up to four thousand feet. They destroyed installations and depots, ammunition dumps, also six enemy planes and three freighters.

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I've only started on the News, Hugh, but will you carry on for a moment, ^{and} give us your Stan. of Calif. message.

General Hodges' army today sealed the fate of the Nazi garrison at Aachen -- Aix-la-Chapelle. Sealed the garrison inside the city by cutting the last avenue of escape for the defenders of that ancient capital of Charlemagne.

This happened when a tank and infantry column of the American First Army drove southward three miles, capturing a couple of towns on the way, and another column east of Aix-la-Chapelle, struck north and cut one of those new super highways the Nazis built throughout Germany. The Americans found some towns they entered - deserted.

Some of Hodges' men have entered the eastern outskirts of Aix-la-Chapelle, and all day hand-to-hand fighting has been going on in the streets. The Germans ~~are~~ trying desperately to break the ring around them. include veterans of the Russian front -- crack troops. These counter-attacked savagely, but were beaten off.

Shortly after midnight last night, British and Canadian troops pulled off another amphibious landing. This to the rear of the Germans. And they are now in a position to clear out the Nazis who are holding the south side of the Scheldt estuary, so the Allies will be able to make full use of the harbor facilities of Antwerp.

The British and Canadians didn't take the ~~Germans~~ Germans completely by surprise. But they ran into only light opposition as they established two beachheads. Now they ^{have} ~~have~~ the Germans wedged between two Allied forces.

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Airmen taking photographs of the result of the R.A.F. raids on the island of Walcheren, have pictures showing how they have battered the sea-wall so badly that floods have almost cut the ~~island~~ island in two.

As for General Patton, his men have cut loose with a new offensive between Metz and Nancy. This has swept over four more towns, and has inflicted tremendous casualties on the Germans.

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In Berlin a Nazi spokesman declared today that the Allies had begun ~~afresh~~ a fresh, all-out and concerted attack on Germany from all fronts, the West, Italy, the Balkans, and Russia.

RUSSIA

The armies of the Soviet today resumed their crashing advance toward the Baltic. The First Baltic Army tonight is only twelve miles away from Memel, the great port ^{that} ~~which~~ really belongs to Lithuania, but which the Nazis annexed in Nineteen Thirty-Nine. That army captured more than three hundred towns and settlements, and drove close to the last railroad left in German hands; ~~drove~~ to within striking distance, ~~That is~~ the road which runs from Memel to Libau in Latvia, the last avenue of escape for the hundred thousand Germans in that part of the Baltic provinces.

Meanwhile, another Red force, the Third White Russian Army, advanced along the Niemen River and captured a city only thirty-five miles east of Tilsit, the biggest railroad junction going into the middle of East Prussia. Still other columns are advancing on Tilsit on the northeast. ~~So the battle for Riga is now on at white heat.~~

Other Soviet armies in Hungary have seized more than a hundred additional towns and settlements, ~~and are only twenty-seven miles away from Debrecen, a railroad junction town. This means that~~ The Nazis fighting in Transylvania are now in a hopeless position, ~~for~~ It is impossible for them to escape.

And the Second Army of the ~~Y~~ Ukraine has established two bridgeheads on the west bank of the River Tisza, the last natural barrier between that Second Ukrainian Army and Budapest.

WORLD SECURITY

Now about what was decided at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. The air has been full of it today. The name of the new organization to police the world and enforce peace is to be -- "The United Nations." That's the hope of those who conferred at Dumbarton Oaks. And, it will go much further than merely ~~en~~ enforcing peace. It will regulate fundamental economic issues, social problems and other humanitarian factors.

The General Assembly, which will be the policy-making body, will be composed of all peace-loving nations. To deal with the humanitarian aspects of international affairs, there will be an economic and ~~social~~ social council composed of eighteen nations, also a world court.

As for the more select group, the Security Council composed of four permanent members to begin with, [^] those four shall be the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China. In due course, France will be included. In addition to these, six other nations will

be "represented" on the Security Council, and the larger General Assembly will elect those six additional members -- this to be in rotation.

The prime job of the smaller body, the Security Council, will be to maintain peace, either by economic sanctions or force. It will be up to that Council to decide when the peace of the world is threatened and ~~when~~ when it must use force to suppress any aggression.

The force at the disposal of the Security Council will be furnished by individual members of the United Nations. They to contribute planes, warships or soldiers according to formulae still to be decided upon.

But, the Dumbarton Oaks Conference does not indicate any decision made so far as to how the Security Council shall operate its military arm. Also, the report that ~~was~~ came out today doesn't say a thing about any method of settling disputes or how member nations are to do their voting. Neither does it offer any solution of the problem that will arise if one of the permanent

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members became a party to a dispute.

But the Conference does recommend that the International Police Force be under an international high command. That high command to be a military staff committee composed of representatives of the five permanent member nations of the Security Council.

Naturally there will have to be a permanent group of people to function as Secretariat, to be selected by the General Assembly. But there is a string to that. Apparently the Assembly would be able to select only such persons for these permanent posts as the Security Council suggested.

Evidently the Conference visualizes dividing the world up into regional organizations. These to function under the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Oh yes -- and every member nation in the General Assembly will have just one vote.

The idea also is to have an Economic and Social Council. This to be composed of eighteen members elected by the General Assembly. Its function, to deal with

economic conditions, the general welfare of the world,
and broad cultural considerations.

Such, in the main, are the preliminary plans
that have come from Dumbarton Oaks.

Another attack on the Vatican from Moscow. This time ~~it was~~ published in a magazine called "War and the Working Class." ~~It made~~ grave charges against the Holy See. ~~It said,~~ For one thing, that Pope Pius is actively supporting Fascism, and trying to bring about a compromise peace in order to save Germany from being completely crushed.

The article ~~goes~~ on to declare that the ^{Vatican} Holy See has been behind Fascism almost from the beginning.

~~And,~~ ^{And,} ~~it declared~~ that the last Pope, Pius the Eleventh, ^{gave} ~~had given~~ his blessing not only to ^{Spain's} Franco, but also to Mussolini. The article ^{says further} ~~declared~~ that the Vatican ~~had~~ also rendered important services to Hitler. It made the positive statement that "when Hitler came to power, Cardinal Pacelli, as Papal Secretary of State, ordered the leader of the Catholic Center Party in Germany not to oppose Hitler" It said further that the Vatican has not once openly condemned either Hitler, Goering, Himmler, or any other organizers of mass murders.

CHURCHILL

Winston Churchill is in Moscow and with him is the British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden. The story announcing the fact from London indicates that they are in the Soviet capital for a military conference with ~~Marshal~~ Stalin and ~~Foreign Commissar~~ Molotov, a conference to decide plans to put the final squeeze on Germany.

Not only Eden accompanied the Prime Minister, but some fifty other assistants including the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Churchill's own Chief of Staff, and a host of other officers. ^{TP} This is the first time Churchill has met Stalin since the Teheran Conference in November, Nineteen Forty-Three.

AIMEE

~~Tomorrow the funeral of a National figure, in N.Y., one of our foremost~~
~~Today, thousands of people, in California, this~~
~~afternoon~~ ~~attended the funeral of Aimee Semple~~
~~McPherson.~~ ~~The words they chanted, at least those of~~
~~her flock, indicated that they believe she will have~~
~~a physical resurrection. The words they sang were~~
~~"She will rise, she will rise".~~ ~~A conservative guess~~
~~estimated that more than ten thousand dollars~~
~~worth of flowers were sent to her funeral.~~
~~Among the mourners were no fewer than fifteen hundred~~
~~ministers, all of whom Amy Aimee Semple McPherson~~
~~herself had ordained.~~ ~~Her casket was laid in a marble~~
~~vault on the side of which were two life-size marble~~
~~angels. On the grass slopes behind that vault was~~
~~a white cross six hundred feet high and two hundred~~
~~and fifty feet wide made entirely of flowers, two~~
~~full carloads of them.~~

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And

by her followers. there were said to be

LOVE

In ^{an} English police court, a gentleman appeared in the dock, charged with having broken a bottle over the head of his landlady. It was only a pint bottle, but it lacerated her scalp.

The magistrate asked the ^{gent}~~man~~ whether he had anything to say for himself.

The gentleman replied: "Please, Your Worship, I had to give her a tap to get rid of her. She is just madly in love with me and follows me wherever I go." Then he continued: "I ask Your Worship, what is a chap to do?"

In this case, His Worship said, the thing for a chap to do was to pay a fine of forty dollars. But the Magistrate spoke too soon. The minute he pronounced that decision, there was a to-do in the back of the courtroom, and up came the landlady with forty dollars - ten good English Pounds - and laid it on the clerk's desk.

Then she explained that the defendant had always behaved as a gentleman toward her.

Now let's hear from another kind of gentleman, who I am sure would never ~~use a bottle if he wanted to~~ ^{smack} hit his landlady over the head -- Hugh, I mean you.

BASEBALL

Taken from early bc.

The World Series is over for Nineteen Forty-Four, and from now on employers and employees will be able to resume the ancient custom of working during the afternoon, instead of hanging over the radio.

The end was just what the experts expected, a victory for the Gashouse Gang, the Cardinals. Nevertheless, everybody had to admit that the Browns did a marvelous job in winning as much as two games against such a powerful team as the Cards.

The last game was a three-to-one affair, which was really settled in the fourth inning. In that one inning, the Cards made all their three runs.

The one surprise was that the Browns weakened at their strongest point. Everybody agreed that they won the American League pennant as a new brand of hitless wonders, because their fielding was so good. A good deal of their defeat in the Series has been due to faulty fielding.

COMMONS

off to Churchill
While Winston Churchill was in Moscow, ~~he~~ became
the subject of a violent scene on the floor of the
~~British~~ House of Commons. A Labor member charged him
with having taken advantage of his wartime prestige to
defend land racketeering. This arose over a debate to
provide for the rebuilding of areas in Britain that
had been bombed out. Labor members objected on the
ground that it would reward land speculators and the
great landowners of Britain. Last Friday the Prime
Minister intervened and asked the Commons to pass the
bill immediately, without making any further to-do.
This aroused the Labor members, who gave vent to their
anger today.

During part of the debate, Lady Astor got into
a vehement dispute with a Conservative member. She kept
interrupting him while he was speaking, which nettled
the honorable gentleman. So he suggested that the bill

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should provide compensation in carrots, said it was obviously intended for donkeys. Then he turned to Lady Astor and said: "Do you understand now?"

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She replied: "I understand what a hypocrite you are." For that the noble Lady was on the verge of being thrown out by the speaker. But she withdrew her remark, apologized and resumed her seat -- spluttering and fuming as she did so.