

The late testimony this afternoon at the Pearl Harbor investigation featured questions of the division of American sea power, the amount of it available against Japan -- as war in the Pacific drew near. Rear Admiral Inglis, Chief of Naval Intelligence, told of a transfer of warship strength from the Pacific to the Atlantic in May of Nineteen Forty-one, seven months before Pearl Harbor.

All along American sea power had been divided in two -- the Atlantic and the Pacific Fleets. Admiral Inglis stated today that the Pacific Fleet had been inferior to the sea power of Japan, even before a lot of its strength was transferred to the Atlantic. The result of the transfer was, of course, to weaken us in the Pacific -- and make our fleet out there more markedly inferior as compared with the navy of Japan.

In the Atlantic our warships were fighting a sort of undeclared war against the Nazis and ships from the Pacific were transferred in case Nazi Germany should suddenly declare war. At the same time war with Japan

Asiatic Fleet -- stationed in the Far East. It consisted of one heavy cruiser, one light cruiser, and some smaller vessels.

The obvious result of dividing our Navy that way was to leave us with inferior sea power in the face of Japan -- this while ~~xxx~~ war was known to be imminent. Part of the testimony today continued to develop the fact that the Japanese intention of making war was known, thanks largely to the breaking of the Japanese code.

... and advised who played their part
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YAMASHITA

Today at Manila, a Jap General glared at a Jap Admiral -- stared and glowered at him. The General was Yamashita, on trial for being responsible for the Jap savageries in Manila. The Admiral was Denschichi Okoochi -- which sound like hootchy-kootchy, but the Admiral wasn't dancing today. He was a witness against Yamashita.

Admiral Denshichi Okoochi was brought from Tokyo to tell about the status of some twenty thousand Jap sailors and marines who played their part in the orgy or barbarous crime in Manila. At the time, he was Naval Commander of the Philippines -- in charge of the Jap sailors and marines in the Philippines capital. He testified today that he had turned over the command of these forces to Yamashita. ^{Hence} the Jap General was their commander at the time of the outrages.

As he spoke, Yamashita transfixed him with a ferocious glare, which disconcerted Okoochi. He couldn't meet the ^zblazing Yamashita eye, and was fidgety and nervous as he talked.

Actually he was a mediocre witness for the prosecution. Because, when Yamashita's American defense counsel got at him, he half retracted what he had said. He made the admission that while he had sent a message to Yamashita placing the sailors and marines under the General's orders, these forces were still technically under the command of Okoochi. Maybe this halfway reversal of testimony was because of the Yamashita glare, the influence of eye power.

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The crisis came about when they blasted away at a train in which Major General DeWitt Peck, Commander of the First Marine Division, was riding. And they also blew up a section of the track with landmines.

It was then the attack on General Frank Potts. This was reported to General Woodruff. He authorized the Marine Corps to air attack on the Communist-held village, if there is any more shooting at the leathernecks. Villages like that in North China have been visited by civilians, and the lovely hosts for

CHINA

The American Marines in North China are dangerously near the verge of open ~~hostilities~~ hostilities with the Chinese Communists -- and General Wedemeyer, our Commander in China, has authorized the leathernecks to take armed action against the Reds, if these don't stop the shooting.

The trouble is concentrated at a village held by the Communists. The village borders the railroad along which Marines have been traveling with supplies. And the Reds have been shooting at the Marines.

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When the attack on General ~~Peck's~~ Peck's train was reported to General Wedemeyer -- he authorized the marines to make an air attack on the Communist-held village, if there is any more shooting at the leathernecks. Villages like that in North China have been abandoned by civilians, and are merely nests for

the Red Forces. And now a message has been sent to the Communists in the place that if they make any more attacks on the railroad, the village will be strafed by Marine Corps planes.

General Wedemeyer was asked today about reports that Japs involved in the surrender in China have been deserting and joining the Chinese Communists. We've had word ~~of~~ of a ~~sort~~ sort of "Free-Japan" outfit being formed under Red auspices. General Wedemeyer replied that he had not been able to confirm the report, and indicated that Japs joining the Reds was not according to regulations. The General said the Japs were prisoners of war and that his task was to see that they were disarmed and sent back to Japan.

JAVA

Indonesian resistance ~~was~~ said to be weakening -- as the battle for Soerabaja went into its seventh day. British troops advancing to take full possession of the great naval base today reported nothing more than spasmodic bursts of gunfire - sniping mostly.

Meanwhile, the Dutch authorities report that the new and moderate set of Indonesian leaders are being prevented from negotiating for a settlement, prevented by pressure of the extremists.

FRANCE

A late statement from Paris denies reports that General DeGaulle has decided to resign - give up so quickly the post of Chief of Government, to which he was elected only the other day. Along with the denial, is the official admission that a political crisis continues. The General insists on a coalition government that will include the three major parties, ~~the communists, the socialists, and the popular republicans. The communists are causing the trouble - by demanding a larger place in the cabinet than DeGaulle is willing to grant.~~

The report that the General was about to resign was so insistent. That one Paris newspaper ~~xx~~ put out the headline - "DeGaulle quits".

SUBSTITUTE NAZIS

Verdicts were handed down today in the Nazi atrocity trials in Lueneburg, Germany. Joseph Kramer, the Beast of Belsen, was found guilty. And so was the blond young woman, Irma Grese who was an assistant to the Beast. Twenty-eight others were convicted by the British military court - of murdering and turturing thousands of victims of concentration camp barbarity. Fourteen of the defendants were found not guilty - acquitted.

Sentences will be imposed tomorrow. For the top directors of atrocity and murder, the death sentence is probable. It is virtually certain for Kramer, the Beast of Belsen.

PALESTINE

Things are quiet in Palestine - Today at
Tel-Aviv, where British armored cars ^{are} patrol ^{led} the streets.
~~vigorously. This~~ ^{ing} followed the British warning that armed
attacks would be punished by death.

Meanwhile Jewish newspapers in Palestine today
praised British Troops and police for having shown
restraint in the face of such provocation as stoning
during the Tel-Aviv disorders. And the British
newspapers continue to denounce the rioting by Zionist
extremists.

ZIONISM

Here's a statement on the subject of Jewish belief regarding Palestine - the opinion of the Jewish people in America. To what extent are they in favor of Zionism? Do most American Jews advocate the establishment of a Jewish state in the Holy land? The statement is from the Senate in Washington made jointly by Senators Wagner and Taft.

The question is one about which there has been a lot of argument. I, myself have been reading books giving Jewish opinion on the subject of Zionism. One that surprised me is called "The Jewish Dilemma" - the author a mid-western Rabbi, Elmer Berger. The book is a powerful attack on the Zionist idea of a Jewish state in Palestine, and upholds the thesis that there is no such thing as a Jewish nation - there is just a Jewish religion ^{says he.} The impression given is that many American Jews are opposed to Zionism, ~~opposed~~ ^{opposed} to the establishment of a Jewish national state in Palestine - their view being that the Holy Land should be considered as nothing more than a place where some oppressed people might make their home.

Pretty much the same contention is implied in statements by British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, who draws a distinction between Jews and Zionists - some Jews being in favor of a national state in Palestine and others being against it.

That Bevin contention was criticized today in the statement by Senators Wagner and Taft. They declare that a recent survey of Jewish opinion in the United States shows an overwhelming majority in favor of Zionism. The study that was made gives these figures: Eighty-one-and-one-tenth per cent in favor of a Jewish state. Ten-and-one-half percent against a Jewish state - while nine-and-four-tenths per cent of the American Jews consulted said they were undecided. That, say the ~~xx~~ Senators, is the answer to the question of how Jewish opinion in the United States regards Zionism - in favor by more than eighty per cent.

LABOR

At the Labor-Management Conference, the C.I.O. wage resolution was blocked today -- sent to a special sub-committee for consideration. Along with the C.I.O. demand for a nationwide increase of wages went two substitute proposals -- one drawn up by management and the other by John L. Lewis. The vote that sent the whole wage question to the sub-committee was -- twelve to six. The representatives of the A.F. of L. and of the John L. Lewis Mine Union joined with the delegates of Management in providing the majority.

SALVATION ARMY

General George C. Marshall, ~~is the~~ Chief-
of-Staff of the United ~~Rxxxx~~ States Army, - ~~and I don't~~
~~suppose that, with such matters as atomic bombs to~~
~~occupy his mind, General Marshall goes in much for baby~~
~~shows. Yet~~ in Kansas City ~~over~~ this week end, ~~the Chief~~
~~of Staff is likely to~~ ^{will} hear ^{the} story of a display of
infant pulchritude - out in India, of all places.
The ~~H~~indus don't go in so much for baby shows either.

General Marshall will be guest of honor
at the Kansas City celebration of the Eightieth
Anniversary of the Salvation Army. The story tells
about a thing the Salvation Army did for some American
soldiers in the distant Indian state of Hyderabad.

The G. I's, were desperately homesick
out there, and a Salvation Army officer hit upon a
scheme to beguile their nostalgia. Many had pictures
of their children. Some had never seen their babies -
just the pictures.

The Salvation Army man went out
collecting the photographs, the snapshots - and he

staged a baby show. Eighty youngsters were entered. For Judges he brought a Methodist missionary and a British nurse on a trek of twenty miles through the jungle.

Was the baby show a success? Well, you should have seen the competition among the G. I. daddies - and the pride of the hard-bitten soldier whose baby took the first prize.

All of which is a tip-off to ^{one} story ~~the~~ General Marshall ~~is likely~~ ^{will} to hear at the Eightieth Anniversary celebration of the Salvation Army.

FOLLOW JAP CODE

The Pearl Harbor investigation has produced such dramatic headlines of code breaking that I thought I'd try to pick up some information from the F.B.I. in Washington. People who have seen the current motion picture feature, the House on Ninety-Second Street, will recall that one scene shows the F.B.I. cipher-^{unravelling}~~posting~~ department in operation. The F.B.I. deciphered secret enemy writing during the war, and could tell plenty about such undercover matters as the breaking of the Japanese code.

I phoned the office of J. Edgar Hoover. And how much confidential information about international secrets did I get? None at all. The F.B.I. isn't chatty in that way. So we came to a compromise. Instead of an international secret, I was given ^{a cockeyed}~~a~~ story. Which was not so bad -- for next to the disclosure of a world shaking mystery, I'll take ^{an}~~a~~ anecdote as a ^{substitute.}

J. Edgar Hoover's office told me that when the war crisis began, they had only a few cryptographic ^{men} experts who worked at secret ciphers that criminals like

to use now and then. So, there had to be a huge expansion to take care of the Nazi and Japanese espionage. They started a cryptographic ~~xx~~ school, and trained hundreds of expert workers in the business of deciphering. Mostly women -- because of the manpower shortage.

~~When~~ Women ^{seem to have been} ~~are~~ quite competent at the long, tedious and involved work ^{required to} ~~that it takes~~ crack a code -- ~~and~~ They have some special advantages over men. ^{Which} ~~was~~ was illustrated in the case of a mysterious notebook that was turned ^{into} the F.B.I.

The notebook, ~~which~~ ^{it} somebody had lost, was found by a patriotic citizen, and in it he saw a couple of pages of strange symbols, letters and numbers -- sinister looking. He immediately thought - ~~xx~~ spy, and did his wartime duty by sending the book to the F.B.I.

In Washington, one of ^{the top de} ~~the~~ cipher ^{ing} ~~besting~~ ^{experts} ~~others~~ took a look at it, and could make nothing of the pages of peculiar symbols. They looked entirely unfamiliar. -- ~~It~~ must be some sort of new fangled code. He called over one of the girl experts, handed the notebook

to her, and told her to go to work on it.

She looked at the mysterious symbols and said:
"What do you want me to do, knit this?"

"What do you mean -- knit?" demanded the chief.

"Why," ~~she~~ ^{she:} said, "Those are knitting symbols.

They're direction for making a sweater or a pair of socks or something."

~~Whereupon the face of the cryptographic chief
grew red especially.~~ Then the lady decipherer proceeded

to prove her point by getting knitting needles, some
yarn and following the directions. ~~She turned out~~

Result - an excellent
~~perfectly good~~ pair of socks, *which she gave to*
~~And I hope she gave them~~
- J. Edgar Hoover, who by the way is
~~to the cryptographic chief to wear~~
still Washington no. 1 eligible batchelor.

From the mysterious code came a pair
of socks for J. Edgar.

And now ~~though~~ what came from you?