

L.I. - Simoco. Thursday, July 5, 1945.

This was the thirtieth consecutive day of non-stop air war on Japan. Tokyo reported that three American air fleets poured a rain of bombs on widely separated places in the home islands of Honshu and Kyushu. One of them was at Tokyo. Another was Nagasaki. Again between four hundred and five hundred of our big planes took part.

The last time I sat in on an interrogation at a B-29 base where the big planes were coming in from a raid on Japan. General Arnold asked one of the young Generals in command of a superfortress group whether it would be necessary to go back to Tokyo -- blast the Japanese capital again. The General, Tommy Power, said that one more raid would just about finish off Tokyo. General Barney Giles, in command of all the Army ~~an~~ air forces in that part of the Pacific, confirmed this.

Many are still wondering: What about the Emperor's Palace? Why not level it to the ground?

Author and Far Eastern Expert Jimmy Young, who lived out there so many years, is one of those who says that we should destroy the Emperor's palace, and the Emperor too, if we can. He says it would completely demoralize the Japanese-- throw them into such a state of funk and despair that it might hasten the end of the war. He admits, however, that the Mikado is the one man who might be able to arrange for a surrender, arrange it in a way that would appear to be on a face-saving basis but that really would amount to a complete surrender.

The last report I had was that the Emperor's palace was still standing.

The Tokyo radio again today returned to that story about an American battle fleet in the waters north of Japan. The Japs first broadcast about this on Monday. So far no word on it from Admiral Nimitz -- and none from Washington. At any rate, Tokyo today declared that the bombardment of Sakhalin Island, reported yesterday, was carried out by eight American warships, and some of our submarines.

SPAATZ

A new job for General Carl A. Spaatz, commander of the Strategic Air Forces in Europe, affectionately known to his friends and fellow officers as ^{"Toohy"}~~"Toughy."~~

The high command has chosen him to repeat in the Pacific the job he did in Europe. ^{That is to say to} ~~He will~~ ^{the} have over-all command of the strategic air war against Dai Nippon. Under him will be not only the Twentieth Air Force with its monster

B-29s, but also the Eighth Air Force now being deployed from Europe to the Pacific, ^{the Eighth to remain} ~~Of that, as a matter of~~

^{under} ~~course~~ Lieutenant General ~~James H. Doolittle will be in~~ ~~command.~~ Major General Curtis Lemay, chief of the

Twenty-First Bomber Command, will become commander of the Twentieth Air Force ^{under "Toohy"} ~~on Toughy~~ ^{This means} Spaatz, ~~which is~~ a promotion for Lemay.

The announcement from Washington does not say where Spaatz will make his headquarters, but the presumption is Guam. ^{the island where} ~~There he will be next door neighbor~~ to Fleet Admiral ~~Chester~~ Nimitz ^{makes his headquarters.}

The appointment of Spaatz will not affect the other air commands in the Pacific. General George Kenney remains as commanding general of the Far Eastern Air Forces under General Douglas MacArthur, ~~having under him~~ ^{including} the Fifth and Thirteenth Air Forces. The Seventh Air Force will still be under Lieutenant General Barney Giles, who ~~will~~ ^{will} also be deputy commander to Spaatz.

CHINA

Tonight the Japanese lifeline on the Asiatic mainland is not so secure. Three big columns of Chinese troops are marching on the city of Paoching, ~~That is~~ a key city protecting the essential railroad from Canton to Hankow. The Chinese are now only five miles away.

If the Japs have to give up Paoching, their communications between Hongkong and Shanghai will be in jeopardy. And the Allies ^{will} ~~could~~ be in a good spot ~~to~~ ^{for a} drive east to Hengyang, ^{the vital rail center of} ~~That is~~ where the Americans have ^d ~~an~~ an airbase that the enemy captured last fall.

The Mikado's forces in China are also virtually cut off from any communication with south China, over land. The Chinese assault on the frontier of Indo-China seems to be doing pretty well.

PACIFIC

~~MacArthur has more good news about Borneo.~~

The Australians in the last twenty-four hours ^{have} ~~advanced~~
~~five miles and~~ captured the Manggar airstrip, thirteen
miles northeast of Balikpapan.

The main ^{Tap} garrison ^{has} ~~of the city~~ withdrew into the
hills to the northeast, ~~and established a strong line~~
~~of defense there, where the diggers will have to find~~
~~fight another battle.~~ But some Japanese ~~continue to~~
~~hold out in Balikpapan itself, holding the region around~~
~~the Pandarsari oil refinery.~~ The Australians attacking
these remnants of the garrison, broke through and
seized control of additional oil cracking plants.

~~There will probably be another tough battle ahead~~
~~of the Australians in the hills northeast of Balikpapan.~~

MacArthur has another piece of news for us tonight.

^{That} The conquest of the Philippines has released the air
forces there for direct use against Japan itself. ^{In fact}

They are already ^{and} operating from forward bases on

MacArthur's

Okinawa and other islands. ~~His~~ fighters and bombers

already

have been in action over the western coast of Kyushu.

Arthur's - Kenney's

air forces ~~under General Kenney~~ sank or severely

damaged a hundred and sixty-four thousand, eight hundred

tons of Japanese shipping in the month of June.

POLAND

The top news ^{from} ~~about~~ Europe tonight ^{concerns Poland.} is ~~that~~ Great Britain ~~has~~ recognized ^s the new Polish government, ^{the one they} called the Government of National Unity. And a story from Washington says it is only a matter of hours before President Truman follows suit. ^{The} ~~is~~ fact, ^{is} our new Ambassador to Poland is already on his way ^{there.} He left Washington this morning by plane for Warsaw.

So ends a dispute that has ^{a lot of trouble} ~~been made canker in~~ ~~the relations~~ between the ~~three~~ Big Three, ~~powers,~~ Uncle Sam, Great Britain and Soviet Russia. ~~As you will recall,~~ It even threatened for a while to break up the World Security Conference at San Francisco.

The U.S.A. would have recognized the new Polish regime before this, if the Government of National Unity had given a guarantee of free elections based on secret ballot and universal suffrage. That promise was a long time coming, but now that it has been made, everything ^{hunksy dory.} seems to be ^{smooth.} The credit for breaking the deadlock

is given to Harry Hopkins. ~~It will have been~~ his last official act as ^a presidential advisor, ~~since he has resigned~~ resigned.

CHURCHILL

Prime Minister Churchill is on his way to southern France, not on business but for a rest. It cannot be a long one, since he is due to be in Berlin for the conference of the Big Three about the Fifteenth of July.

As his countrymen say, the War Premier could do with a bit of relaxation. The election campaign has taken a good deal out of him, ^{— so much so that he will have no} ~~and he won't have any~~ official visitors of any sort, from any country, while he is resting. So say his friends.

Probably he will receive some inkling how he has come out in the election returns before we do. ^{As for} The world at large ^{it} will have to wait three weeks, ^{for the news,} The British do not have our organization and facilities for speedy tabulation of ~~the~~ returns, ^{even though} ~~although~~ their ballots are far less complicated than ours. When you vote for a British Prime Minister, you do ^{it at the same time} ~~not have also to~~ vote for a ~~in~~ raft of candidates for other offices. You just vote

for the member of Parliament in your district; and if you want Churchill to be your Prime Minister, ^{Just cast your} you vote for the

^{M.P.} candidate who will support Churchill. Simple, compared to our system whereby we have to vote for not only the president and vice-president, but in some states also for governors, congressmen, senators; and ~~in some cities~~ ^{and so on} even mayors ^{as well}. But in spite of the simplicity of the English system, it takes them plenty of time to count up the votes. In 22 districts, the voters will not ballot until the Twelfth, and in one district not until July Nineteenth.

No Prime Minister has ever worked harder for reelection than Winston Churchill. He has made numerous radio speeches, toured the country from end to end, and for the last three days of the campaign ^{he} spoke in every quarter of Greater London.

While he is away, ^{resting - and at the Big Three Conference -} Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, will preside over Cabinet meetings.

And from Washington we hear that there will be ^{in attendance} no reporters at the Conference of the Big Three in Berlin.

In fact, it looks as though newspapermen ^{will hardly} ~~would not even~~ be allowed in the vicinity. The announcement comes from the White House. Press Secretary Charlie Ross used these words: "The press will not be allowed at the forthcoming Big Three Conference in the Berlin area." And he added: "All that will be issued will be such official communiques as may be decided from time to time." ~~We may expect to hear some loud rearing about that both from newspapers and from our own Congressmen.~~

MORGENTHAU

Henry Morgenthau is out as Secretary of the Treasury -- as many had prophesied. He resigned today, in a visit to the White House, and President Truman accepted the resignation. However, Morgenthau will continue to run the Treasury until President Truman returns from the Big Three Conference, a few weeks hence.

There is a rumor that Henry Morgenthau may become the American member of the Board of Directors of the International Monetary Fund, when Congress passes the Bretton Woods Plan.

Newspapermen naturally asked the President who would succeed Morgenthau. Mr. Truman replied that he will not be ready to announce this until he returns from Europe.

The President also announces that Associate Justice Owen J. Roberts has resigned. To retire at the end of this month, after fifteen years of service. All of which gives Harry Truman another most important

appointment to make.

And how about Harold Ickes? Well, it looks as tho the Curmudgeon -- as he calls himself, will stay on as Secretary of the Interior, Petroleum Administrator and Hard Fuel Administrator. President Truman announced today that he is sending Ickes to London to ^{renegotiate} ~~renegotiate~~ the agreement with the British government concerning the oilfields in the Middle East. Furthermore, the President told newspapermen that he did not contemplate accepting the resignation of Ickes.

Altho Harold Ickes has been bombarded with ~~ext~~ criticism, and railed at, during his long stay in Washington as a Cabinet member, he also has been highly praised by many who have worked with him. For all his saturnine mein and vitriolic pen, he seems to be an indefatigable ~~worker~~ worker, and a man of parts.

RAILROADS

After a few days, traveling is going to be exceedingly tough for civilians. Director Johnson of Defense Transportation broke the news today that the government is requisitioning a great number of Pullman cars and day coaches to handle the movement of troops across the country. ^{Said Director} Johnson said, "The pinch is on, and civilians are going to feel it."

The reason is that soldiers are returning from Europe at a far faster rate than the government expected. Director Johnson said that fifty thousand more returned in June than they had ~~planned~~ ^{expected}. In July, there will be a hundred thousand more than ~~they had~~ ^{originally} expected. ~~to~~

~~So,~~ ^{consequently} two thousand more Pullmans and many more day coaches will be assigned ~~to be used only for the~~ ^{for the} ~~of our home-~~ ^{of our home-} ~~coming troops.~~ ^{coming troops.} And that's real good news.

AIR TRANSPORT

Here is the first considered estimate of postwar air transportation in America, its luxuries and speed. The Air Transport Association of America prophesies that there will be something like a thousand airliners, ranging from fourteen-passenger planes to six-motored craft, carrying up to two-hundred-and-four. Pan American announced clippers to carry two hundred.

Some of these planes will speed across the country at three-hundred and four-hundred miles per hour. Some of them will be fitted out with staterooms and berths, all of them with reclining chairs, lounges and rest rooms; some with pressurized cabins -- and all will have air conditioning, and telephone service.

Before the war we had a total of three-hundred-and-fifty-nine passenger transport planes in this country.

Postwar, coast-to-coast flights, will start

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off on a nine to ten hour basis -- breakfast in New York, dinner in San Francisco. But that time will be cut some in a year or two.

But, here is the big news: Three major airlines will compete for the trans-Atlantic business. The Civil Aeronautics Board today authorized Pan American, American Export and Transcontinental and Western Air to handle the Trans-Atlantic end. At the same time the announcement came that the Board has permitted American Airlines to buy out American Export.

And President Truman has approved all this.

MEAD

Who are the Democrats going to run against Tom Dewey? Well,

It became officially known today that Senator James M. Mead of New York ^{is going to} ~~will~~ run next November as Democratic candidate for Governor of the Empire State. The news came to light through a speech made by Mead's colleague, Senator Bob Wagner of New York. While inaugurating the new Chairman of the Labor Relations Board, Wagner mentioned Mead as the next Governor of New York.

The news is not much of a surprise. In fact, it had been assumed that the Democrats would draft Mead to run against Governor ~~Bob~~ Dewey. Today's revelation by Senator Wagner ^{seems to} ~~just~~ makes it official.

LABOR

Goodyear
The rubber plants of Akron, Ohio, are now turning

out rubber under Navy control, by order of President

and
Truman. That ends the strike, the walkout that has

provoked the bitterest criticism of the Union by Army and

Navy officers, also the War Labor Board. Union officials

protested that the seizure of the plant was totally

unnecessary. The Army and the Navy said that if the

strike continued, it would cripple the war effort, *and that*

Already much ground has been lost.

One of the most curious of all strikes occurred at

Dunkirk, New York. There the men walked out because the

management refused to fire one of the workers.

~~Thereby hangs a tale.~~ *it seems*
That worker was a hard boiled

veteran named Cornelius Verton. He was much annoyed

because they gave him a woman assistant. The woman

complained to the Union, said that he cursed her and

made her do most of the heavy lifting. Then he told her

that if she didn't like it, she could run along. She complained that he had ^{hash} ~~used~~ words ~~not fit for the ears~~ ~~of the Union~~. The Union ~~held a hearing, which Cornelius refused to attend~~. They suspended him from membership for a month and ^{asked} ~~notified~~ the Company to take him off the payroll, ~~for that time~~. The management ~~of the Company~~ said Cornelius was much too good a man to be fired, even if he did swear. They refused to fire him, ^{Whereupon} ~~so~~ twenty-three hundred men went out on strike.

~~The case was cited to the Regional Labor Board. The Labor Board held a hearing, and declared the strike had no justification, ordered the strikers to go back to work. They obeyed, but they still protested against working with Cornelius.~~ ^S Now the case is up before the National Board. *And now Hugh - it's up to you.*