

Standard.

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

War sensations have been coming fast this afternoon. The fighting for Cherbourg grows more intense, ~~by the hour,~~ ~~Bearing out the warning from the Secretary of War this morning that counter-attacks more fierce, and powerful than any so far, are about to be hurled at the Allies in Normandy.~~

However, tonight even that is eclipsed by the news from the ^{Pacific} ~~other~~ side of the world, that official report of American super-bombers, bigger than any ever used before, striking at the heart of Japan. The bombing we've all been waiting for. And on the heels of that came word from Admiral Nimitz at Pearl Harbor, of an actual landing, in force, on the island of Saipan in the Marianas, not far from Guam, and, less than fifteen hundred miles from Tokyo. The deepest into Japanese territory that Nimitz' forces have struck to date.

First, that raid on the Miado, at home:

The first bulletin from the War Department was curt, merely announcing that B-29's, our new Super-Fortresses of the Army Air Forces, had bombed the heart of Japan today. The first time those great air dreadnaughts have been used against the enemy. The War Department gave out no details; nothing about what part of Japan the big bombers selected for dropping their immense load of high explosive. Nor from what fields they had taken off. But high high officers of the Army intimated that they had started from secret bases somewhere in China, Burma, or India.

So we do not know whether they bombed Tokyo, ~~Enkknx~~ Osaka, Yokahama, or any other of the big war industry cities of the Mikado's empire. But Congressman Starnes of Alabama said on the floor of the House that one of the targets was Tokyo. He told it as a reason why the House should pass the new forty-nine billion dollar appropriation for the Army. It was passed unanimously.

But Tokyo gives us some details about targets, whether they are accurate or not. The Jap radio announce late today that the super-fortresses had bombed northern Kyushu--southeast of Tokyo. The Nips mention specifically certain industrial areas. Their claim is that our new air dreadnaughts inflicted only slight damage and ~~if it~~ of no importance at all. In fact, they claimed that most of the super-fortresses bombs fell into the sea, and they profess to have information that the American planes were based on China, and that their own interceptors

had shot down six of our ^{aircraft} ~~planes~~ including two of the B-Twenty-Nines.

The island of Kyushu is at the southeastern end of the main Japanese archipelago. ~~It is quite~~ ^{Adjoining} ~~to~~ the main island of Honshu on which are Tokyo, Yokohama and most of the other large Jap cities. Kyushu is ~~is~~ separated from Honshu by ~~the~~ Shimonoseki Strait. It was on the island of Kyushu that the great Mongol Emperor Kublai Khan attempted to land troops and conquer Japan centuries ago.

The Tokyo radio reported that one of the ^{on Kyushu} places which the super-fortresses attacked ~~on Kyushu~~ was Yawata, the site of the great Imperial steel works. The Japs admit that the bombings started two or three fires but claimed that they were put out immediately.

The reasons for the secrecy about details are obvious. After Doolittle's historic raid on Japan, on April Eighteenth, Nineteen Forty-two, the ^{we believe} ~~Japs~~ ^{Japs} executed every American airman they captured.

So, it may be some time berore we get the full story of this latest raid on the heart of Japan.

~~the heart of Japan.~~

Not the least exciting part of this news is the fact that these great B-29s are now actually in action. General Marshall, the Chief of Staff, tells us they attacked from distant bases. And he adds that this is only the beginning of a new type of offensive against the Axis.

These new giant planes constitute a new division of our military establishment, ~~it~~ called the Twentieth Air Force. The 20th will take over all operations by these super-fortresses, these leviathans of the stratosphere. In the words of the War Department, they are described as comprising an aerial battlefleet able to participate in combined operations or strike wherever the need is greatest. In other words, an air force whose activities will range over the entire globe. And under the direction of General Hap ~~A~~ Arnold himself.

TR General Marshall intimated that it may not be long before these super-fortresses will be hammering Germany too. Because of their tremendous power and range, the

High Command will be able to use them for operations right around the world.

It has been no secret that these huge planes were being built, though little has been said or written about them. In comparison, the B-24 Liberators and B-17 Flying Fortresses are mere welterweights. (The B-29 is described as a mid-wing, four-engine, all metal monoplane; half again as large as the Flying Fort or the Liberator, and with twice its gross weight.

For speed it is in a class with the fastest of our fighters and pursuit planes, more than three hundred miles an hour. It is nearly a hundred feet long, with a wing span of about a hundred and forty-one feet. The B-29s carry a much larger bomb load, with a longer range than any other bomber in the world, and can climb to greater heights - well over thirty thousand feet.

Their equipment, as we might expect, is the last word in scientific and engineering ingenuity. The super-fortress is armed with fifty calibre machine guns and a twenty millimeter cannon, with multiple gun installations and power turrets. It is operated entirely by electricity, except for the hydraulic brakes. There are other novel features of armament which are still a military secret.

ADD LEAD

A late dispatch from Seattle reports that these great B-Twenty-Nines are rolling off assembly lines in a factory at Seattle, ~~Washington~~ and at four other huge factories, one of them at ~~Wichita~~ Wichita, Kansas; another at Omaha, Nebraska; another at Marietta, Georgia. ^{And} They are being produced on a schedule that makes any previous program look trifling.

Today's raid on Japan was the first occasion when the use of these new ~~giants~~ ^{giants} of the air was reported. The latest story from Washington relates that ~~as~~ a single super-fortress was tried out over Burma several weeks ago. Twelve Jap Zeros tried to bring her down, and the Tokyo radio claimed that they ~~had~~ had succeeded. Actually, that single B-Twenty-Nine shot down two Japs and damaged or destroyed several others.

The incident was not reported at the time ~~as~~ because the air command did not want to let any information leak out. ^{As} ~~xx~~ the B-Twenty-Nine from a

ADD LEAD - 2

distance looks quite like a B-Seventeen, it was better
to leave the Japs in doubt.

Salpa, is about eleven hundred miles west of
Delvotok in the Kurals, the most westerly point at
which Nimitz had struck until last week.

The attack on Salpa, which was accomplished
is great.

PACIFIC FOLLOW LEAD

As for the occupation of the Marianas, Saipan, on which American infantrymen made good their landings, is about eleven hundred miles west of Eniwetok in the Marshalls, the most westerly point at which Nimitz had struck until last week.

The attack on Saipan, which was accomplished in great

protection. The Japanese were offering strong opposition, but they continued to land new troops. To soften the Japs, we before the landing. Task force bombarded not only Saipan but four adjacent islands, with battleships, cruisers and destroyers of the fleet, as well as aircraft based on carriers, taking part. The important feature of this latest operation is that it will enable our high command to cut the main Japanese lines of communication by air and sea between Japan and the islands of the central Pacific. It will also enable a planned movement on the Philippines by the forces of General MacArthur and those due to be

force, began Saturday and the attack continued through Tuesday. Evidently, the landing ~~is already~~ ^{was} a success.

Casualties ~~are reported as having been~~ ^{are} moderate, ~~and~~ ^{so far,}

^{up Nimitz's} reinforcements are still being put ashore under cover of the heavy guns of the fleet and powerful air

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commanded by Vice-Admiral Newton. ^{TR} Saipan is one of the key points in the Japanese system of defenses in the Pacific. ~~There is~~ ^{With} a magnificent harbor; ~~there,~~ practically land-locked, because the entrance is narrow and easily protected. There are several airdromes, and a key radio station.

Although everything seems to have gone ^{obay} ~~splendidly~~ ~~on this operation~~ so far, we must not expect the conquest of Saipan to be easy. In fact, one reporter says ~~it~~ it will be the hardest thus far in the Pacific war; ~~it is~~ likely to combine the worst features of both Tarawa and Guadalcanal. After landing, our ~~men~~ ~~doughboys~~ will have to fight over rolling hills and through ridges and ravines thick with jungle. They have been training for this operation for months.

The Japs claim to have sunk forty Allied landing craft and pretend that the attempt at landing

PACIFIC FOLLOW LEAD - 4

was a failure. That much we know to be false. For in the next sentence Tokyo admits that heavy fighting is now raging on the island.

Hugh, before we talk about France and the Invasion will you give us your evening Standard of California Bulletin.

INVASION

The latest news from ^{the} Cherbourg Peninsula is favorable. The gist of the evening bulletin from supreme headquarters in London is told in the words, "further steady progress". But the Allied foot soldiers have forged ahead west of Carentan, and they have also advanced between the Vire and ^{de}lle Rivers. The Allied High Command announces that our bridgehead on the French beaches ^{tonight is} ~~is~~ secure and Montgomery's armies are now in the build-up stage.

As Secretary Stimson reported, the Germans have launched not one, but many armored attacks of the utmost violence. The ~~most~~ worst of these were carried out in the sector between ~~the~~ Caumont and Tilly.

According to the most recent account, both Tilly and Caumont, which the Germans had recaptured, are again in British hands after ceaseless ding-dong fighting. When the Allied patrols entered them for the third time, they found them ghost ^{towns,} ~~villages.~~

Another scene of fighting desperate beyond

description was around Caen. There the Germans are still strongly entrenched, although the British and Canadians are pushing in from three sides and have advanced a little. One reporter says the battle there has turned the countryside into an area as ~~dark~~ as the ^(black) mountains of the moon.

Rommel has thrown another armored division into ~~the fray on~~ the eastern sector, and there are now more than seven hundred Nazi tanks engaged at that end of the peninsula.

Bulletins from Germany indicate that the Nazis are growing worried. It reports that the battle is now moving to a climax. Rommel, say the Nazis, is trying to restrict the fighting to a line beyond the range of the heavy naval guns. Berlin also reported Allied paratroopers had landed near Brest in ~~Brittany,~~ ^{Brittany,} and that they were wiped out.

INVASION 2A

Swedish newspapers report the Germans are expecting new landings by the Allies all over the map. For instance, they are talking about possible attacks on the North Sea coast of Germany, near Bremen, Oldenburg or Emden.

Dispatches from Switzerland indicate that German Field Marshal Von Rundstedt is waiting on tenter hooks not knowing where Eisenhower's next blow will fall. Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels tells the Germans they must face the future with teeth clenched.

At the western end of that long battleline, American troops are within three miles of the railway to Cherbourg. Allied heavy artillery is shelling that railroad which is the lifeline of the Germans in Cherbourg.

The battle for Montebourg is not settled yet, but continues in see-saw fashion, first the Allies sweeping the Germans out, and then the Germans coming back. But the Americans have captured Quineville, too, it at the point of the bayonet. That place is on the west east coast of the Cherbourg peninsula.

And there is a new crisis in the relations between General DeGaulle on the one hand and the British and Americans on the other. DeGaulle announced today in London that he had established several administrators in the conquered portions of Normandy. He had previously declared that the plan of General Eisenhower for the administration of liberated French territory was obviously unsatisfactory to his government. ^{Now} DeGaulle has appointed an official whom he described ^S as _^ Commissioner of the Republic of Normandy to take over civil administration in the towns, set free by the invasion.

ITALY

Since the fall of Rome, the news from Italy has
told of high speed movement. Tonight, the British,
French, and Americans of Alexander's armies are less
than eighty miles from Florence. Both the Fifth and
Eighth Armies have captured literally scores of Italian
towns and villages. They have pushed ahead on every
sector and are still pushing along a line two hundred
miles wide. The Germans resisting but only with
delaying action.

TURKEY

A cabinet crisis in Turkey! ~~It~~ ^{is} ~~the~~ ^a result of the passage of German warships through the Dardanelles, ~~which is~~ contrary to international law. No military traffic is supposed to pass through the Straits.

The British protested, and the outcome was that the blame was placed upon the Turkish Foreign Minister, who resigned. ^{The} Prime Minister ~~Saracoglu~~ announced that he [^] himself had taken over the Turkish Foreign Office.

RUSSIA

On the Russian front, the Red army in the north has widened its breach in the Finnish line across the Karelian Isthmus. They now have a gap of more than forty-six miles wide. Govorov's Leningrad army has broken through not only the first line of defenses, but a second line and is now within thirty-two miles of Viipuri, the gateway to Finland. ~~They broke through strong defenses, as the Finns have had thirty-one months within which to build them up.~~

and now Hugel.