


There are a number of striking things to be noted in today's reports on Pearl Harbor - reports made by Army and Navy commissions that studied the disaster. The documents were made public by President Truman on the ground that the public is entitled to know about the reports on the reasons, and, the responsibilities.

One thing is this:- The Army and Navy did not want war with Japan at that time. The Navy report states: "On the Fifth of November, Nineteen Forty-one, the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief-of-Staff of the United States Army, submitted a joint memorandum to the President, recommending that no ultimatum be delivered to Japan at that time - and giving, as one of the basic reasons, the existing numerical superiority of the Japanese Fleet over the United States Pacific Fleet.

In other words, the American Fleet was divided, part of it in the Atlantic and part of it in the Pacific. 

→ And our naval force in the Pacific was inferior to the Navy of the Japs. So the Chiefs of the Navy and Army thought it would be unwise to issue an ultimatum to Japan ^{that} ~~which~~ would be likely to cause war.

The Army report touches upon this same point, in stating how far, in its opinion, Secretary of State Cordell Hull was responsible. It declares that the final diplomatic demand issued to Japan, eleven days before Pearl Harbor, was used by the Japs as a signal to begin the war ~~against~~ by the attack on Pearl Harbor. Speaking of the American diplomatic message, today's Army report states: "To the extent that it hastened such attack, it was in conflict ~~with~~ with the ~~effort~~ efforts of the war and navy departments to gain time for preparations for war. However", adds the report, "war with Japan was inevitable". Meaning, of course, that our diplomacy may have hastened the outbreak of war for which the Army and Navy felt they were not ready. They, in fact, wanted a delay of three months before anything decisive was done, but President

Roosevelt directed that this fateful message be delivered to Tokyo.

Today Secretary of War Stimson disagreed with the placing of any responsibility on Secretary Hull, says ~~that it is~~ ^{it's} not justified.

Another striking thing today is the responsibility placed on General Marshall, Army Chief-of-Staff. He, in the opinion of the report, did not give to General Short, our Army commander in ~~Hawaii~~ Hawaii, sufficient indication that war in the Pacific was imminent. Also - he did not take into account a message from General Short, in which that Commander stated the precautions he was taking. Short's message from Hawaii indicated a confusion - so states today's army report.

The placing of Pearl Harbor responsibility on General Marshall is attacked by both Secretary of War Stimson and President Truman. On this point they disagree emphatically with the finding of the Army commission, and the President states in vigorous terms that the conduct of General Marshall was

altogether correct - criticism unjustified.

Much criticism is also directed against Admiral Stark, who at the time of Pearl Harbor was Fleet Commander in Washington. The Navy report states: "The derelictions on the part of Admiral Stark and Admiral Kimmel were faults of omission rather than faults of commission". The trouble being, what they did not do.

As for Admiral Kimmel, who ~~xxx~~ shared with General Short ~~xxx~~ the command in Hawaii, the findings are much the same as have been stated previously. We are told that he ~~xxxx~~ took precautions against attack - but never suspected the kind of attack that was coming. Previous accounts have stated that precautions were against sabotage - and not against a possible air blow. *Everybody having an altogether* ~~there was an~~ incorrect estimate of the Japanese plan. It was believed that when war came, the Japs would strike to the south, against the Dutch East Indies - and not against Pearl Harbor. Today's reports intimate that our commander^s in Hawaii

estimated the probabilities - on what the Japs were most likely to do, and not on what they might be able to do.

The reports are emphatic in answering one charge that has been made - the allegation that there was bad feeling and a lack of cooperation based on ill will, ~~between~~ between the Army and the Navy. This is not true, say the Army and Navy commissions. The best of feelings prevailed between Admiral Kimmel and General Short in discussions of joint defense - the only trouble being that the measures of joint defense were ~~not~~ taken effectively, in time.

The reports make no recommendations for court martial proceedings; but, these may be held. President Truman makes it plain that the question of Pearl Harbor is not closed.

ADD PEARL HARBOR

Here's a late detail on the Pearl Harbor story. Secretary of War Stimson discloses that General Marshall did not know of the impending break of diplomatic relations with Japan until the morning of December 7th. He immediately flashed the word to Hawaii -- to General Short; ~~he~~ ^a warned ~~that~~ ^{ing} that an attack on Pearl Harbor was likely. ~~Admiral~~ ^a Stark, Fleet Commander in Washington, didn't agree with General Marshall's idea of sending the ~~xxxxx~~ warning, but finally gave his okay.

General Marshall's message arrived in Hawaii at five A.M. on December 7th -- twenty two minutes before the Jap planes came over. By the time the warning was decoded and got to General Stark it was afternoon -- hours after the disastrous attack.

OCCUPATION

Tonight a giant move through the air is under way - from Okinawa to the area of Tokyo Bay. It's, of course daytime over there on the other side of the world ^l early morning -- and great fleets of transports are streaming through bright weather. In other words, the mass occupation of Japan has begun.

The previous landings at Atsugi Airfield were preliminary -- made by technicians to get things ready for the giant landings. Now the big move is going on, and in the swarm of big planes is one that bears an historic name -- Bataan. That's the private ^{C-54} ~~transport~~ of General MacArthur -- who is riding to Tokyo in ~~the plane~~ ^{his} called "Bataan." I filmed it at Manila on my way through.

At the same time Marines and Sailors of the Fleet are ready to land in force and take over the

Yokosuka Naval Base. Admiral Nimitz arrived today and went aboard the great battleship South Dakota, making it his flagship. He will represent the United States, ~~XXXX~~ President Truman [^] at the formal surrender in which General MacArthur will figure as the supreme

commander for all the Allies out there.

Admiral Nimitz today declared that seapower had won the war -- sea power having made it possible to launch the atomic bomb that terminated the conflict so abruptly. He pointed out how the Navy had seized island bases one after the other on the road to Japan, so that air power could get within range of the Jap home islands -- the air power that finally launched the atomic bomb. — And he might have mentioned the B-29s that flattened most of the cities of Japan before the Atomic bomb was dropped. There are many who would say that the war with Japan was won jointly by the Navy, the Marines, the Army, and the Air Forces that struck such mighty blows.

ATOMIC BOMB

American scientists of the Atom are going to Japan as soon as they can. Top physicists who developed the Atomic Bomb are eager to inspect the scene where the elemental devastation hit Japan - Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They want in particular to check on Japanese reports that radioactivity has been lingering in the earth, the ground poisoned and causing fatalities long after the explosions. This has been stated positively by Tokyo propaganda - and it bears on a dispute that came ^{up} ~~about~~ over here right after the disclosure of the greatest military headline of the war.

At that time one technician who had done some work ~~on~~ the Atomic Bomb project, stated that fatal radiation might linger in the ground for as long as seventy years after an explosion. This was officially denied - ~~but we are told today that Atomic explosions are known to create certain by-products: as these by-products are highly radioactive - and dangerous. All of which is~~ ^{that}

~~dramatized by a disclosure today that the Germans, working on the smashing of the Atom, might have tried to employ the radioactive by-products as a new and peculiarly horrible kind of poison gas.~~

~~And then it is recalled how precautions of the most complicated sort were taken in the Atom Bomb researches over here. For example,~~ After the test explosion in the desert of New Mexico, Dr. Enrico Fermi, the Italian physicist of the Atom, examined the crater made by the blast of the Atom. He went to the crater in a specially ~~bx~~ built tank, and it is now believed that this tank was made of the metal cadmium which is a protection against ~~radioactive~~ radioactivity.

~~In the plants where the Atomic work was done, especially high smokestacks had to be built to make sure that radioactive by-products would be thoroughly dissipated in the ~~xxxx~~ atmosphere at as lofty an altitude as possible. And all workers were protected by thick shields - the atomic processes~~

blood test at a hospital revealed that the white corpuscles were only one-tenth of normal. The red corpuscles - about two-thirds normal. Tokyo declares that medical studies have revealed that ~~medical studies have revealed that~~ the internal organs which contribute to the making of the blood had undergone striking changes - were injured in the same way as if they had been exposed to high power radioactivity.

WAR CRIMINALS

The list of big-shot war criminals was disclosed today - leaders of Nazi Germany who are to be tried by an International Commission. The list is pretty much what we would expect - with a surprise or two.

It's headed by Goering, Ribbentrop, and Rudolf Hess. The name of Hess is unexpected, because word from England had been that he was unlikely to be tried. Hess who made the melodramatic parachute jump in Scotland has been reported for some time mentally deranged, out of his mind.

The list goes on with such notorious Nazis as Alfred Rosenberg, and the anti-semitic rabble rouser Julius Streicher. One surprise among the Nazi Party leaders is Martin Bormann, who was Deputy to Hitler. He was with the Nazi Fuehrer in the final battle for the German Chancellery in Berlin, and his name on the list today is the first real indication that Bormann had survived. It had been thought that he might have perished along with Hitler and Gobbels.

Bormann is reputed to have been present at the death of Hitler, and his testimony at the trial will presumably include statements about the final end of Der Fuehrer - concerning which some doubt is still expressed.

On the list are high German commanders like Admiral Doenitz, who succeeded Hitler as Fuehrer and signed the surrender of Germany. Also, Chief-of-Staff General Jodl, and Grand Admiral Raeder.

And we note the name of Dr. Schacht, the financial wizard of Naziism. Also - Krupp. The head of the great Krupp works, which was the key to German armament, is to be tried. He is the only German industrialist on the list.

~~The release of the names of the twenty-four war criminals is accompanied by an uproar along the newspaper line. It seems that the release date was broken by a Communist newspaper in Paris. The Red editor published the list in advance, and other journalists are angry.~~

D.D.T.

In Boston, they are using that wartime insecticide, D.D.T., in a fight against infantile paralysis. That's the new one in the story of the bug destroying stuff that the Army has found so effective in the Tropics - against insect pests of the jungle.

On Guam, Saipan and Tinian I found no bugs at all - no mosquitoes - no flies, because the islands had been sprayed with D.D.T. And it was the same in Manila, and on Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.

There has been an increase of infantile paralysis in Boston - one district in particular. And today the Public Health Commissioner ordered that this district be sprayed with five hundred pounds of D.D.T. in liquid form.

How does the insecticide work against infantile paralysis? It just kills all the flies, the flies that ~~xx~~ are believed to carry the virus that causes the dread malady - polio.

HOME

In Chicago, a husband and wife have in their house tonight a sort of Home Sweet Home Official, who is commissioned to stop domestic battles that might break out. ~~The Husband and wife~~ couldn't get along, and went to court about it. The judge persuaded them to reunite and he appointed a household peacemaker who is commissioned to report on any matrimonial rows and wrangles.

It happened this way. The husband and ~~his~~^{wife} were stating their case in court, and off to one side, listening, was their twelve year old son. The boy finally spoke up. He told the judge that he wanted Dad and Mom back home again, only he wished they would in his words, "Quit fussing."

That gave the judge the idea. The parents agreed to try domestic life again, and his honor told the twelve year old boy: "I will appoint you 'a friend of the court' to report back to me if your parents do any more fussing."

So tonight Dad and Mom are looking at each other, and whenever they happen to think of something

sharp to say to each other they look over at Sonny Boy, and restrain themselves. And if there should be any suggestion of a rising pitch of voices with an

ill-tempered accent, Sonny Boy will say: "If you don't

stop that I'll send you to bed without supper. ² and

1/2 I'll report you to the judge!"

And now Hugh, all joking aside, what have you to report?