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Jap Interviewed

Tojo May Name  
FDR As No. 1  
War Criminal

By MURLIN SPENCER AND RUSSELL BRINES  
(Copyright 1945, by Associated Press)

TOKYO — (AP) — Gen. Hideki Tojo, who as Japan's warring Premier launched the attack on Pearl Harbor, declared in an exclusive interview today that the American press now covers his responsibility for starting the war but that history might disagree.

The shaven-headed one-time terror of Asia, who now is living quietly on his comfortable farm outside Tokyo, refused flatly to discuss such questions as whether he expected to be tried as a war criminal and what defense he was preparing, but was willing to talk of many things, in moods ranging from steely-eyed impassivity to hearty laughter.

A little earlier, a formerly highly-placed Japanese politician had told us that Tojo expected to be tried as a war criminal and hoped to accuse President Roosevelt of being the world's top war criminal, then commit suicide in traditional hara kiri fashion. Of this Tojo himself sharply refused to speak.

The politician who informed us of Tojo's plan to accuse Roosevelt of war-responsibility, insisted that the former Premier was roundly hated by the Japanese public because he had thus far failed to commit suicide.

The informant begged that he remain anonymous, saying, "If the people knew I visited him they would kill me."

Quoting a friend in the Foreign Office, this informant said Tojo intended to commit suicide as soon as he had made his expected court defense.

Respects MacArthur

His whole attitude Tojo expressed in this statement:

"Real soldiers fight to the finish in the field. War ends when peace is declared. I respect an enemy who fights hard and cleanly and so MacArthur has respect of myself as well as the Japanese people."

Tojo said we were the first Americans he had seen since Japan's surrender.

Asked who was responsible for starting the war, he said: "The premier and virtual dictator of Japan from before Pearl Harbor until the American took Saigon, replied:

"You are the victors and you are able to name him now. But historians 200 or 300 years from now may judge differently."

Changing the subject, he said that he himself had narrowly escaped death May 25 when a Superfortress fire straddled his house with flames.

Tojo's home is new, in the Yoda street about a half-mile from the imperial palace and a half-hour from the Meiji Shrine where the U. S. West Cavalry Division is bivouacked.

When we first saw him, Tojo was being back in a victory rally and once, chairman of our army military laborer who was filling in a radio-like air raid shelter of concrete.

Dodged Bombs

Tojo subsequently said that he and his family had saved themselves in that shelter in a fire-riddled which was a small out-building within five feet of his home and wrecked the surrounding district.

"You turned my three best pine trees," he said, "into a garden. Now I have to replace them with bamboo." He pointed to his garden which was covered by the charred foundations of the burned out building. Beyond the garden is a basement where Tojo said he intended to store vegetables from his farm and fields areas surrounding the house.

We were taken to the place by Jugo G. Kasoo, a liberal parliamentarian who graduated from the University of Chicago in 1913 and who acted as interpreter for Kasoo last year when he came to the Diet in 1942 through pressure brought by Tojo's totalitarian party, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

Kasoo said he had visited Tojo only ten days ago to pay his respects to the Japanese premier, whom he commended for his upon failure of a coalition between the Emperor's peace announcement from reaching the public.

However, Tojo's home is in such a remote district that Kasoo had to ask the police for fresh directions near the burned-out Shibuya Station.

Police Store at Jeap

The police station turned out to be a mere store for the police. The police were very polite, but asked for Tojo because they thought I was conducting a very prominent American Army gentleman.

With that we whisked off, past a dozen of our staff policemen who were guarding the last vestige of narrow lanes to Tojo's home. In front of the next one-story residence that is possibly the Kasoo discussed house in Asia. It has been built since Tojo came from power, and the Japanese say it is more healthy and safe than any he would permit to be built under his regime.

The house, however, has the appearance of Western and Japanese architecture. A lanai extends from the main part of the house and glass sliding windows and panels, some of which still are shattered with air raid strips.

House a Bribe

The house, some sources say, was some sort of bribe.

While Tojo's police bodyguard

Meat Rationing May End By October 1  
ARTHUR HENS JAI

WASHINGTON — (AP)—The end of all meat rationing by Oct. 1 will be seen as a possibility by some rationing officials today, although no date has been set.

Office of Price Administration officials said the decision would be made by agreement with the Agricultural Department, but one Government spokesman said:

"It supplies look good at the end of the month, rationing will end."

No Date Set  
But Action  
Seems Near  
War Controls  
Disappearing

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Hero Acclaimed

WASHINGTON — (AP)—Stepping from an Army plane which brought him to home soil, Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright gave a hearty salute to a crowd waiting for his arrival at Hamilton Field, Calif. Behind him is his chief of staff, Brig. Gen. Lewis G. Beebe.

Norwegian  
Convicted  
As Traitor

OSLO, Norway — (AP)—Vidkun Quisling was condemned to death today for treason.

A seven-man judge and jury panel convicted the former army major for his treachery in dealing with the Germans who established him as a puppet premier during the long Nazi occupation.

The first announcement was made over the Norwegian radio. Reporters covering the trial were locked in the courtroom and apparently were unable to leave until the end of the session. The last sitting started at 2 P. M. Oslo time and was expected to last at least an hour.

10 Bullets Will  
End His Life

OSLO, Norway — (AP)—Vidkun Quisling was sentenced to death before a firing squad—ten soldiers firing ten bullets.

Quisling, whose name became synonymous with treachery during the war, did not move a muscle as the verdict was read depriving him of his life and his wealth, estimated at more than 1,000,000 kroner (about \$140 rates).

His bed-ridden parents were drawn together and his jaws were clamped hard as the panel of three judges and four laymen read his doom. He was absolutely quiet.

France To  
Take Stand

LONDON — (AP)—France is expected to demand that the Ruhr and Rheinland be internationalized and that Germany be amputated territorially in the west, as well as the east, at the meeting of the Big Five Foreign Ministers here tomorrow.

The French view was forcefully made in an interview with Gen. Charles de Gaulle by the Times of London, which editorially approved the French position.

Wainwright Day  
In Washington

WASHINGTON — (AP)—Tired, gaunt Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, back for a hero's acclaim, told his cheering welcomers today that Americans should learn two lessons from the tragedy of Bataan.

In the future, he said, the U. S. should:

1. Be firm with those "treacherous men," the Japanese.
2. Be prepared so that never again will American soldiers be "forced senselessly to suffer... torment and starvation."

Anger Shown  
By Koreans

SEOUL, Korea — (AP)—Koreans saw a potential powder keg today after American occupation forces moved in and announced that Japanese Administrative officials would remain in office—something which would be under direct orders from Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge, commander of the 24th Army Corps.

Koreans, jubilant in expectation of freedom from American occupation, saw the Japanese remain in office as a serious insult to their honor.

Demonstrators broke out in the capital and political facilities placed under the city with posters of protest.

Storm May Curve  
Away From U. S.

MIAMI, Fla. — (AP)—A tropical disturbance centered about 230 miles east-southeast of Miami at 11 A. M. moving west-north-westward.

As the big storm system moved toward the United States, it showed indications today of curving to the north, away from the United States.

As yet of light to moderate intensity, the disturbance was 1,200 miles east-southeast of Miami at 11 A. M. moving west-north-westward.

Hits Nerve  
Center Of  
Nipponese  
Militarism

TOKYO — (AP) — General MacArthur struck Japanese militarism a death blow today by ordering the Imperial General Headquarters abolished and simultaneously clamping a press and radio censorship on the beaten Empire.

As supreme commander he issued a directive that the headquarters must dissolve by Sept. 12. General Headquarters was set up in 1940 a few months before Pearl Harbor to co-ordinate Army and Navy activities.

Press And Radio  
Censorship On

The blow at the Japanese General Staff will erase the last symbol of Japanese aggressiveness. It was the Japanese headquarters of the entire military setup.

Even as this order was issued by MacArthur, the mobilization was already well under way and trains loaded with hundreds of American soldiers, including personnel in the home island were on their way home.

MacArthur found time today to visit the general hospital in Sapporo, where he talked with liberated prisoners. He also visited many patients afflicted to military attention as they recognized their old chief. But MacArthur insisted to them to remain at ease.

Wainwright  
Anxious And  
Lonely Vigil  
At An End

Mrs. Wainwright

Her white-gloved hands, stretched and shaking, Mrs. Jonathan Wainwright was first to greet her prison-worn husband as he stepped from the plane at the capital's national airport; a hero grasped her in his hand.

His darling, she said, "nothing. He simply took her in his arms for a long kiss."

As photographers, reporters and show-off officers crowded around Mrs. Wainwright held the one that her husband's hand—the one that she would never let go.

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Nip D-Day Strategy  
Jap Plan To Hurl Last Planes  
Against Invaders Disclosed

BY VERN HAUGLAND  
YOKOHAMA — (AP)—Japan was using her last planes for a desperate all-out thrust at the Allied invasion on D-Day—by a day later never come.

The Japanese expected the American landing on Okinawa in late October or early November and planned to hurl every available plane at the invaders.

That was why, it was said, they permitted American carrier and land-based planes to attack and to strike at will without opposition in their history.

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