

PACIFIC WAR AT SEA—JAPANESE STRIKES HARBORS—JAPANESE OCCUPY ISLANDS

Bombers of Japan Again Strike at Guinea Port

Regard Moresby As Vital Gateway By C. YATES Mc DANIEL

MELBOURNE.—(AP)—Rising Sun bombers struck their third consecutive blow at Port Moresby today and, although the raid was the weakest of the three, it underscored the fact that the Japanese regard the south coast New Guinea port as the gate which must be forced to open the way for invasion of northern Australia.

In contrast to the mass assaults on the town yesterday and Monday, only three bombers were seen in the attack today and these dodged in and out of high clouds in a display of new respect for the hard-hitting ground defenses. Fighters which probably accompanied the big planes apparently remained still higher, out of sight in the cloud banks. There were no reports of casualties or damage.

PLAN TO HIT BACK Prime Minister John Curtin voiced confidence that the steadily strengthening Allied defenses would not only hold the port but from it would hit back against the whole far-stretched Japanese assault front in the New Guinea area.

Commenting that the Japanese radio had announced capture of Port Moresby, the Prime Minister said "I am confident that the Japanese are not going to fall into Japanese hands merely by radio proclamation."

Addressing the Commonwealth House of Representatives at Canberra, Curtin announced that the British had given General Douglas MacArthur authority of "the highest order" and declared that the Australian government "has now become a much more active partner in operational planning in the Pacific."

WEATHER Warmer tonight.

Italian Battleship Set Afire By British

LONDON.—(AP)—Light British forces set fire to an Italian battleship of the 35,000-ton Littorio class with gunfire rained her with torpedoes and a three-day running fight in the Mediterranean, the Admiralty announced tonight.

Japs Take First Indian Territory

Occupy Andaman Islands in Bay of Bengal Without a Struggle

NEW DELHI, India.—(AP)—Japanese forces have completed an unopposed occupation of the strategic Andaman Islands athwart the Bay of Bengal supply routes to Calcutta in their first seizure of Indian territory.

Another Ship Is Victim

Some of Survivors Landed at Southport

NONPOLK, Va.—Continuing their intensive campaign against Allied merchant shipping off the Atlantic coast, Japanese planes blasted a medium sized American vessel into a V-shaped derelict early Saturday morning, sending her captain E. V. Peters, of New York, in almost certain death.

Tough Days Ahead For Tough Bearded Gents

WASHINGTON.—The War Production Board ordered production of safety razors, straight razors and razor blades curtailed today, under a limitation program which WPB said would allow an average of one blade a week to each shaver.

Jap Attack On Vladivostok Seen As Forerunner Of Nazi Offensive

LONDON.—The consensus of military opinion as Spring heralds the great battles of 1942 is that the advantages to Japan of an invasion of Siberia outweigh the dangers and the attack may come soon—before the Nazis launch their drive in Western Russia.

Say 140,000 Nazis Slain In Fighting Since Feb. 1

“Going Through A Meat Grinder”

Charge Laid To Chamber Says It Organized Anti-Labor Campaign

Japs Seize Burma Field

Capture an Airdrome North of Toungoo

Say U. S. Boat Seized

Reinforcement Urged For Philippines

Philippine Town Occupied by Japs

American “Flying Tigers” Bag 40 Jap Planes But Lose A Pal

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Chairman Cordell Hull today urged the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to attempt to supply beleaguered American and Filipino forces in the Philippines with reinforcements of troops and air planes.

Wake And Marcus Isles Attacked

Enemy Small Boats, Seaplanes and Numerous Shore Installations Destroyed by Americans

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The Navy reported today that a Pacific fleet task force had raided Japanese-occupied Wake and Marcus Islands recently, destroying enemy small boats, seaplanes and numerous shore installations.

U. S. Raid Caused Blackout In Tokyo

New Raid in Philippines

Japs Attack Manila Bays Defenses

Philippine Town Occupied by Japs

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WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The official notation “killed in action” was given today to the names of 40 American and Filipino pilots who were shot down during the “Flying Tiger” attack on Japanese-occupied Thailand.

Report Jap Plane Over Town South of Darwin

MELBOURNE.—(AP)—A Japanese plane was reported over Katherine during the night but no bombs were dropped.



PEARL HARBOR.—(AP)—Two sudden, savage and “highly successful” assaults on Wake and Marcus Islands—the latter only 360 miles from Tokyo—were disclosed in first-hand accounts by Navy spokesmen today.

JAPS MADE PRISONERS Several Japanese were taken prisoner, and coastal shore installations at both outposts were battered for hours from the sea and air.

IN GUAM AREA The island north of Wake and 3,000 miles northwest of Wake and in the same general area as the island of Guam which the Japanese retaken last December in one sense, Marcus is Japan's Hawaii as a strategic outpost for the mainland.

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Note To Readers Dispatches from Berlin, Tokyo and other sources are published by the news service.