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YANKS TAKE NEW GEORGIA HARB[OR] FOLLOWING VIOLENT SEA-AIR BATT[LE]

—D. C. Speaker Says:—

U. S. May Get Axis Bombing This Summer

By WILLIAM FRYE

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A vigorous warning that the United States might be subjected to aerial bombing by the Axis enemy this Summer was voiced here today.

D. C. Speaker, the mythical District of Columbia spokesman who, however, frequently represents authoritative sources who will not be quoted by name, said:

"No major military damage could be inflicted by such raids, but the Axis could well be counting on utilizing such raids to create a frantic defensive phychology within this country in an effort to compel the Allies' command to pull back its strength to the home front to satisfy public clamor.

"If they succeeded in any such plan, it would prolong the war indefinitely and result in an enormous waste of life."

Speaker who said he spoke with full knowledge of the United Nations military situation, said the Army, which is responsible for the defense of the country against enemy air attack, had never lost sight of the possibility. But, Speaker added, the Army also was determined not to allow the possibility to play a disproportionate part in the allocation of its forces.

Asked why the warning was being repeated at this time, Speaker

See U. S. MAY on page 6

Consider Request From Martinique

Reopening of Discussions Concerning French Isle's Status Asked

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Secretary of State Hull said today the United States Navy has received a dispatch from authorities on Martinique requesting re-opening of discussions concerning the status of that French Caribbean colony.

Hull was asked at his press conference whether the Government has received from Admiral Georges Robert, French High Commissioner on the island, a request for the dispatch of an American envoy to Martinique to fix the terms for a change in French authority there.

Such a step could lead to alignment at last of Martinique with the Allies.

He replied that the Navy had received a dispatch from Martinique authorities and that it was being given appropriate consideration.

In reply to other questions Hull said he supposed the authorities involved were speaking for Admiral Robert, who heretofore has stayed aloof from Allied ties.

He added that so far as the State Department is concerned there is not much he could say on Martinique beyond what he had told Admiral Robert when the United States broke off relations with him.

Hull emphasized that he had stated at that time that the United States Navy henceforth would have the primary function of dealing with any new developments on Martinique. The State Department, of course, he said, would collaborate with the Navy wherever necessary.

U-Boat Toll Takes Drop

Germans Claim Only 20 Ships Sunk in June

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hitler's harassed U-boat fleets, punished by Allied planes and surface craft recently as never before, were reported in official German broadcasts today to have sunk only twenty British and American merchantmen totaling 107,000 tons in June.

It was a far cry from the 133 merchant vessels aggregating 651,-000 tons which the Germans claimed as submarine victims in March. And even this claim of twenty was without Allied confirmation.

The Nazi High Command—which in the past has devoted special bulletins to the work of the undersea raiders in the Battle of the Atlantic — incorporated the June report in its regular communique.

"Thirty-one enemy merchantmen aggregating 149,000 tons, as well as three transport lighters, were sunk in the fight against British and American communications during June," said the communique broadcast as recorded by the Associated Press. 'Of the total 107,000 tons were sunk by our U-boats."

Betty Grable To Wed Harry James

HOLLYWOOD—(AP)—Betty Grable said today she will be married to Band Leader Harry James in Las Vegas, Nev., next Monday, and expressed herself as "so happy" over the prospect.

U. S. Planes Hit Palermo And 4 Sicily Air Fields

Meet Virtually No Opposition

By NOLAND NORGAARD

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — (AP) — United States bombers and fighter-bombers of the Northwest African Air Force blasted Palermo and four Axis air fields on Sicily yesterday, virtually without opposition from enemy fighters, it was announced today.

(The Italian High Command communique, broadcast from Rome and recorded by the Associated Press, reported "great damage and many casualties" at Palermo, a port of northwest Sicily. Sardinian targets also were attacked, the communique said. Fires were reported started and several buildings destroyed in Cagliari.)

The attacks by Flying Fortresses, Mitchells, Marauders, Warhawks and Lightnings came after RAF Wellingtons, in a pre-dawn attack, smashed again at the ferry terminus and freight yards of Messina and also at the road south of San Giovanni and San Marco, on the nearby Italian mainland.

One two-ton bomb was among the explosives seen to burst in the Messina yards and many fires were observed. A large fire also developed south of San Giovanni.

The American raids on Sicilian targets yesterday left fires blazing at air fields and many enemy planes were destroyed or damaged in dispersal areas.

"Today Italian laborers will be busy filling in the huge craters made on runways by heavy bombs," an official report added.

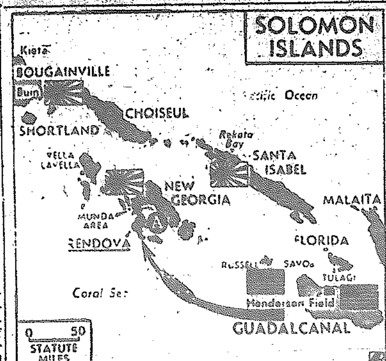
At Palermo seven direct hits were scored on a large barracks. In a raid on the Sciacca air field a few enemy fighters were encountered and Lightnings shot down two while a third, a Messerschmitt-109, was destroyed by Italian anti-aircraft shells intended for the raiders.

Flying Fortresses, which made the seven hits on the barracks, also started fires in a military stores area. The crewmen failed to sight any enemy fighters and the flak was comparatively light. The slackening of the ground fire impressed the pilots.

Resume Divorce Suit on July 13

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — (AP) — The divorce suit of Arthur A. Cameron, 42, wealthy Texas and Indiana oil operator, against June Knight will be resumed July 13 when the blonde, 30-year-old former actress undergoes cross-examination.

The recess, scheduled at the trial's outset because of the press of other court matters, was called late yesterday after Miss Knight's attorney, former Governor James V. Allred of Texas, introduced a letter in which Cameron threatened her mother with an alienation of affections suit.



U. S. FORCES LAND ON RENDOVA ISLAND—The Navy announced in a communique that combined American forces (arrow), have landed on Rendova Island (A) in the central Solomons. Flags indicate major American and Jap bases in the Solomons.

June Air Blitz Hammers Europe

Unparalleled Pounding Given and Enemy Faces Still Greater Test

LONDON—(AP)—Striking from three directions, the mighty air arms of the American and British Allies subjected Axis Europe to a design of destruction unparalleled in all history during the month of June, and for the enemy the worst was still to come.

During the month, Allied aerial power reached out in rising fury from bases in Britain, in Northwest Africa and in the Middle East —with American and British fliers co-operating smoothly to keep the offensive going virtually around the clock.

FEATURES

These accomplishments stood out:

1. The unconditional surrender of the Italian fortress Island of Pantelleria on June 11, first island ever conquered by air power alone; the subsequent capitulation of Lampedusa, Linosa and Lampione, and the pattern of destruction spread over Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.

2. The great destruction wrought by the RAF in its city-by-city bombing of the Ruhr Valley, to whose concentrated industries Hitler looks for replenishment of his war machine.

Also significant were the two American Liberator raids last week on Axis airfields near Athens and Salonika, an aerial pointer toward a possible Balkan invasion route, and inauguration by the RAF of a bombing shuttle service between Britain and Africa with an important raid on both the outbound and homeward trips.

Available figures did not reveal the total weight of explosives dumped upon the European enemy during the month, but Capt. Sir Harold H. Balfour, Under Secretary of State for Air, told the House of Commons yesterday that the RAF alone now is dropping bombs on Germany at three times the 1942 rate.

RECORD TOTAL

Reliable estimates placed the RAF's June bomb deluge delivered from homeland bases at a record 13,500 tons, topping by some 1,000 tons the May record of 12,500 tons. A great proportion of this June destruction was spread upon the Ruhr in nine major attacks, including the assault on Duesseldorf on June 11 by the war's greatest heavy bomber force.

The U. S. Eighth Air Force, while carrying out only seven bombing missions embracing a dozen targets as compared with nine raids and nineteen targets in May, was reliably understood to have greatly increased its bomb tonnage per raid by turning out in double the strength of only a few weeks before. More than 200 planes, for instance, were sent on the Wilhelmshaven Voxhaven raid June 11.

A highlight of the month for the Britain-based American fliers was their first penetration of the Ruhr. Their raid on the large synthetic rubber factory at Huls on June 22 was rated as probably one of the best bombing jobs of the war.

In addition, June brought an official statement that the numbers

See JUNE BLITZ on page 6

Raid French Coast Area

Heavy Blasts Heard Across Channel

LONDON—(AP) — Enemy targets along the French coastal area were reported under attack by Allied planes last night as Britain itself passed the seventh consecutive night without a raid.

There was no immediate official announcement concerning last night's Allied operations, but observers along the British southeast coast reported a formation of fighters swept back at a height of 20,000 feet after a number of heavy explosions had been heard across the strait.

FIELD DAY

British Mustangs, Typhoons and Spitfires had a field day yesterday with Axis transportation in France and Belgium by shooting up more than twenty locomotives to boost the bag to well over 30 in a 24-hour period. Two planes failed to return.

These attacks wound up a record month of aerial assaults on Germany and occupied Europe in which the RAF alone loosed bombs with a total weight of approximately 13,500 tons, a great part of them on the now-devastated Ruhr Valley.

A German radio broadcast recorded by the Associated Press said Red Cross trains, each carrying 400 persons, were being used to remove mothers, children and old persons from that bomb-ruined district. The evacuees are being carried, the broadcast said, to "remote safe districts of the Reich."

Drive In Central Solomons Presse[d]

65 Jap Aircraft, 17 U. S. Planes and One U. S. Vessel Lost; Campaign On In Guinea Area

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON—(AP)—American invaders of the central Solomons [illegible] tured Viru Harbor, near Japan's Munda airbase, the Navy announced [illegible] fierce sea and air battle off Rendova Island in which at least 65 enemy [illegible] teen United States planes and a 7,712-ton United States transport were [illegible]

Viru, a port village, had been used by the Japanese as an [illegible] which lies about 30 nautical miles to the northwest on New Georgia [illegible] also been employed as a place for landing supplies. Its loss by the enemy [illegible] specific American territorial triumph in the currently developing [illegible] drive in the central Solomons is only one part.

The other part is being conducted by General Douglas MacArthur's forces striking northward in the New Guinea are aloward the great Japanese base of Rabaul, toward which the offensive in the Solomons also is pointed.

ENEMY REACTION

Secretary of War Stimson said at a press conference today that the operations were progressing satisfactorily according to plan under the general direction of MacArthur but added that strong enemy reaction was expected.

The first such reaction, the Navy communique disclosed, came Wednesday morning a few hours after American troops landed from Naval transports on Rendova Island, five miles south of Munda.

The Japanese, at that time, counter-attacked with a force estimated at 110 planes of many types—fighters, Mitsubishi medium bombers, Aichi dive bombers and various others, including torpedo planes.

The attacks continued from the morning until late afternoon against United States Naval forces putting troops and supplies ashore.

LANDINGS CONTINUED

Under the fierce hail of enemy fire, anti-aircraft fragments and shell bursts the landing units continued their operations while American ships and planes battled the Japanese sky forces. Sixty-five of the enemy planes were shot down, "according to an incomplete report," and seventeen United States planes were reported missing.

Torpedo planes of the Japanese squadrons caught the 7,712-ton transport McCawley, formerly the Grace Line's Santa Barbara, and disabled her after she had put her troops ashore. Subsequently the crippled vessel was assaulted and sunk by a Japanese submarine.

"Reports indicate that all personnel were removed before the vessel sank and that there was no loss of life," the communique said.

American air forces the communique brought out, also played a major role in the starting of the offensive in the Solomons area.

On Tuesday night (Solomons time) Avenger torpedo bombers and Dauntless dive bombers heavily attacked the Japanese airfield, stores and camp areas at Vila, Kolombangara Island, in the Munda area.

ATTACK JAPS AT MUNDA

On Wednesday morning Mitchell medium bombers, Dauntless and Avenger bombers attacked Japanese defensive positions and the camp area at Munda itself and the communique said "a large fire was started." There was no mention of attacks on Japanese ships or shipping.

The Navy said the captain of the American ship lost was Com-

See YANKS on page 6

Campaign L[illegible] Gen. MacA[rthur]

By C. YATES McDANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA—(AP)—Twin [illegible] a momentous offensive against the Japanese in the South and Southwest Pacific were thrust today by land, sea and air, with General Douglas MacArthur for the first time in supreme command of operations.

They were as the tines of a fork pointed west and north toward New Britain Island whose volcano-studded harbor of Rabaul can accommodate a good-sized Navy [illegible] whose airdromes make [illegible] mighty air fortress [illegible] and New Georgia Island in the [illegible]

[illegible]

Action Fits Words Of Secretary Knox

HOLLYWOOD — (AP) — Latest American successes in the South Pacific constituted timely action to fit the words of Navy Secretary Frank Knox.

"The war lords of Tokyo know not where or when the next blow will fall," he told a war bond rally here last night. Then, pausing momentarily while a smile spread across his face, he deviated briefly from his speech to add:

"Tojo found that out this morning. Just before I took the rostrum I was informed that other enemy-held islands have just been occupied by the Navy and Marines."

(Word had just been flashed that the Trobriand, Woodlark, Rendova and New Georgia island groups had been invaded by forces under General Douglas MacArthur.)

PROGRESS "MIRACULOUS"

[illegible]

"We had a [illegible] fight a naval war [illegible] over the seven seas [illegible] "We had a [illegible]

See ACTION FITS on page [illegible]

Exhaustive Plans Made For Drive

By TOM YARBROUGH

SOUTH PACIFIC HEADQUARTERS—(AP)—The Navy Department's communique announcing the landing of United States armed forces in the New Georgia Islands marked the execution of an offensive plan supported by such exhaustive preparation that it couldn't very well fail.

It is the first offensive move in this area since the Russell Islands were occupied in February after the long battle at Guadalcanal. Many officers and men have been waiting impatiently for this move which puts American forces about 120 miles farther northwest up the Solomon Islands line.

South Pacific Headquarters declined to amplify Washington's brief announcement [illegible]

[illegible]

—From Bataan To Solomons—

They Call It Pacific

—By Clark Lee—

Chapter 28

We learned soon after our arrival in Brisbane that the United States was fighting the Pacific war with only one hand, and that the day of the final destruction of Japan's power was still far off.

I spent a month in Australia, inspecting our defenses and waiting for the Jap's next move. American troops and planes were being piled up in the country, but the number was small—perhaps too small for MacArthur to be able to defend Australia, let alone start an offensive against the Japs.

Finally, toward the end of the month, the Japs made their move. They started down into the Coral Sea with a huge armada. It looked like they were headed for New Caledonia, so I flew over to New Zealand, then up to Fiji and to New Caledonia. From stories of American Navy fliers I met in the planes en route, I got the details of the Coral Sea Battle—the first in history between aircraft carriers and Japan's first decisive defeat.

As a result of the battle, the pressure was off New Caledonia. It looked as if the initiative was passing to the United States. But there were no more land fronts in the Pacific, and if any fighting was to be done, it was up to our Navy to do it.

I flew on up to Pearl Harbor to get accredited to the fleet. It seemed as if the plane would never reach Honolulu. For four hours I sat in the bombardier's place in the nose of the PB2Y2, watching for the Hawaiian Islands until my eyes ached. When we finally sighted Oahu I didn't recognize it until we swung over Malli beach, bounced over the Marine airfield at Ewa and settled down on the waters of Pearl Harbor. It had taken me seven months to make the trip from Shanghai to Honolulu.

I telephoned my wife and apologized for being a little late getting back and would she excuse it please? She would.

I found that she was working at an airfield; and that was only one of the many changes brought to the Islands by the Japanese attack six months before. All the civilians not in Army or Navy uniform were at work, building airfields, repairing ships, constructing docks; or serving in hospitals, acting as air raid wardens, or helping the Red Cross. Everybody carried a gas mask. The blackout was strict-

See THEY CALL on page 11

—Meaning Of Landings:—

Beginning Of Unfolding Pattern Of Pacific Isle Reconquest Marked

By C. YATES McDANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA — (AP) — American bombers pinned the Japanese Air Force to its bases in New Britain and New Guinea while American Army units gained a fighting foothold at Nassau Bay and landed unopposed on Trobriand and Woodlark Islands under cover of Allied warships.

The strategical significance of the concerted operations overshadowed their magnitude. The closely correlated thrusts along a 700-mile arc from Nassau Bay, in northeast New Guinea, to New Georgia Island, in the Solomons, do not constitute a major offensive calculated to roll back the Japanese.

But the speedy three-dimensional actions do mark the beginning—a small beginning—of the unfolding pattern of reconquest in the island-studded reaches of the Southwest Pacific.

YANKS IN BATTLE

The shores of Nassau Bay were not held strongly by the enemy, but American soldiers who fought their way to a foothold after clambering out of surf-battered landing craft guarded by speedy motor torpedo boats are now in contact with the Japanese. The scene of the action is only twelve miles south of Salamaua and eight miles from Mubo, the outlying bulwark of the enemy's long-held Lae-Salamaua base.

Rabaul, the northeastern anchor of Japan's lateral and vertical chains of offensive-defensive island bases in the Southwest Pacific, has been developed into a powerful bastion. But control of Kiriwina, principal island of the Trobriand group, and Woodlark [illegible]

See DRIVE PATTERN on page 6

WEATHER

Rain tonight.
Little change in [illegible]

Today's Temp[illegible]
Sunset Today [illegible]
Sunrise Tomorrow [illegible]

[illegible]