

# Japs Captured By Surprise When Bombers Landed On New Georgia

By LEIF ERICKSON

HEADQUARTERS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC AMPHIBIOUS FORCE, July 1.—(Delayed)—(AP)—The rear admiral commanding the Japanese amphibious invasion of the New Georgia Islands declared tonight that the initial troop landings yesterday morning caught the Japanese in flat-footed surprise.

He said also that although reports from the Army land forces during the invasion's second day were meager, "things look favorable so far."

The Army force made the main landings on the narrow channel across the narrow channel from the Munda airfield. Other landings were made at Viru harbor, New Georgia, where early resistance was wiped out in the afternoon.

NEW ENGLANDERS

Much of the Army troops were from Maine, Vermont and Connecticut.

Showing a broad smile of confidence and satisfaction despite the sinking of the transport USS Cawley, the Admiral reported the salient phase of the operation—the landing of troops with their weapons, supplies and equipment—was a future without a decisive effective blow of resistance.

The Admiral, who directed the initial amphibious invasion of Guadalcanal last Aug. 7 and the occupation of the Russell Islands last February, tersely expressed his satisfaction over the New Georgia expedition in this fashion:

"I don't like to see soldiers swim."

The disembarking of troops started at 4:30 A. M. from large transports crowded in the narrow neck of Blanche Channel for the major landing thrust at Rendova Island. The nearest Rendova shore is

heaviest bombing that can be undertaken."

## WEATHER

Little change in temperature.

Scattered showers, and thunder storms this afternoon as early tonight.

Today's Temp. 11  
Sunset Today  
Sunrise Tomorrow

Additional U. S. Weather data will be found on page 10.

Caravan drives with many horses.

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