

Dung Jap Fanatics Fail In Frenzied Effort To Block Surrender General Is Killed In Abortive Effort To Foil Emperor

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TOKYO (AP)—Well-informed Japanese sources said today that fanatical young Japanese officers on Aug. 14 killed the commanding general of Emperor Hirohito's personal guards division and by force sent troops to surround the palace in a vain effort to prevent the imperial surrender announcement from reaching the people.

The killing climaxed a fantastic attempt to keep Japan geared to war, these sources reported. The finale to the battle over surrender, between the Emperor and certain militarist elements, involved a hot chase after the vital radio recording contained the Emperor's historic capitulation receipt, they said.

Numerous kamikaze (suicide) pilots died to death in Tokyo Bay as the result of the surrender and some threatened to kill Japan's envoys to Manila—but there were no further disorders.

Tokyo tensely had anticipated possible Army rebellion and insubordination.

The sources which gave this information said that the first surrender discussions among the militarists began in February—at the time of the great American carrier raids on Tokyo—and that the Emperor began in March a fruitless effort to obtain advice on capitulation.

Before the surrender actually came, Japan had been officially notified by the United States to Russia that she was willing to yield Manchuria and North China in return for continued Soviet neutrality, these sources added, but this failed.

The Emperor's historic receipt of surrender was finally recorded on Aug. 14 at the Imperial palace in strictest secrecy and was scheduled to be broadcast to the people the next day.

The group of fanatical young Army officers learned of it and a lieutenant colonel and a major marched to the palace to try to prevent its reaching the Tokyo radio. One of them was said, without confirmation, to have been a son-in-law of former War Premier Tojo.

THEIR METHOD

The story continues that they approached Lt. Gen. Mori, commander of the Imperial Guards Division, and the Emperor's troops—at the barracks in Asahi, a twenty-minute march from the palace.

They demanded that Mori station his troops around the palace on the pretext of guarding the Emperor but actually so all outgoing cars could be searched for the radio.

Mori refused, saying he would take orders only from the Emperor himself and the conspirators killed him on the spot. They then wrote fake orders to which Mori's subordinates recognized, the Emperor after Mori had departed for the Palace.

Finally, it was declared, some of the conspirators committed suicide within the Asahi barracks.

Another conspirator, learning of the military plot, fled to the radio station with a sound of more, cornered the radio staff in one room and organ a methodical search of the building for the recording.

ATTEMPT THWARTED

This maneuver also was thwarted when one station employee managed to call the soldiers and telephoned the nearby Eastern Army Command, which sent loyal troops to the scene.

All the while, the all-important recording of the Emperor's Imperial Palace and was delivered to the radio station only a few moments before the broadcast at noon on Aug. 15.

The public, which had been told only that the Emperor would make an unprecedented broadcast, was stunned, because he had been expected to resign continued dogged resistance to the Allies.

The same source which gave this account said that the Emperor earlier had been a momentous two-of-war with the Army for control of the Suzuki Cabinet during a meeting the night of Aug. 6 after Russia had declared war.

Taking his first direct action, the Emperor said to have demanded that the Cabinet agree to his surrender proclamation. The Army clique simultaneously was demanding that the Cabinet reject the Emperor's surrender. Representatives of the Emperor and the general staff sat in on the period frequently and resolutely, who were not personally present.

The Army demanded that the then Foreign Minister, Shigenori Togo, send a demarche to the Allies demanding that the event of surrender Japan's national policy be respected and no occupation forces be sent to Japan.

Togo refused and was supported by other Cabinet members, so the Government sent the Allies a proposal requesting that the Emperor's consent be provided the Emperor's consent.

FAKED LINE

After the Allies accepted this proposal, some young staff officers faked a part of the Imperial communication, which was said, in the hope of stiffening the war spirit of the armed forces.

The line that they put into the communication said, "The Japanese Army and naval forces, upon receipt of the Imperial

Jap Nemesis Noted Task Force Chief Dies At 52

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (AP)—The stout, fighting heart, which carried slender, greying John Sidney McCain through the Navy's strenuous flying course at 32 years of age and to amazing victories over the Japanese, gave out last night—sheer exhaustion from combat duty.

Admiral McCain gave his life for his country. He was suffering from complete fatigue resulting from the strain of the last months of combat, asserted Capt. John Vann, his personal physician.

The 61-year-old Vice Admiral, commander of the 38th Air Task Force, was killed in a crash landing of his P-51 Mustang fighter plane on the night of Sept. 6, 1945, while on a mission over the Japanese home islands.

VICE-ADM. MCCAIN

McCain was born in San Antonio, Texas, and served in the U. S. Navy during World War I. He was a member of the United States Olympic team in 1920, representing the United States in the 100-meter dash.

TROOP HAND BILLS

As previously reported, young kamikaze pilots then scattered handbills over Tokyo urging continued resistance and threatening to shoot down the surrender emissaries when they looked for Mori. Other pilots divided their outside planes into Tokyo Bay.

McCain was another group set fire to the Premier's official residence but was driven off before burning much damage.

No more than 35 civilians were said to have committed suicide in front of the palace gates in the radical anti-bow movement ceremony of hara kiri.

McCain was killed just long enough to see victory accomplished but not long enough to see the Emperor's broadcast on Wednesday night.

NEUTRALITY BID

The same source told this story of the neutrality bid to Moscow:

Japan last June officially announced to Russia Japan's willingness to give up Manchuria and North China. The document, delivered to Moscow by Ambassador Naito, said to more than that but it implied in official fashion that Japan was bargaining with Russia neutrally.

Moscow failed to answer officially, but the answer was implied when Stalin soon concluded a treaty with China. Russia also failed to answer Tokyo's notification in July that Japan was considering sending an envoy to request Russian mediation.

The first big debate of the general staff was Feb. 25, 1945, these sources said. At that time, the staff was divided into two factions, one favoring the Emperor and the other favoring the Army. The Emperor's faction was led by Gen. Hata, former War Minister.

STATESMEN CALLED

Hirohito summoned the Gen. Hata and other statesmen in March, the story continues. These former Premiers were asked their opinion about efforts to continue a peace. Gen. Hata favored peace but refused from advising the Emperor because of fear of assassination by Army elements.

Militarists had another memorable meeting on Aug. 6, 1945, when they decided to accept the Emperor's surrender. The Emperor's decision was announced to the public on Aug. 14, 1945.

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21 BELIEVED KILLED IN EAL PLANE CRASH



TROOPING TO TOKYO—Troops of the U. S. Army's First Cavalry Division arrive to occupy Yokohama, Japan. The First Cavalry Division will also be the first troops to enter Tokyo, on Saturday, taking the leading role in General MacArthur's occupation. (Signal Corps Photo from NEA)

Display Of U. S. Might M'Arthur Leads Triumphant Occupation Of Tokyo Today

YOKOHAMA (AP)—General MacArthur will lead a three-mile parade of American military might into the heart of Tokyo Saturday (Friday, U. S. time) and within three days all the capital will be occupied. It was announced today.

Strikes Flare

The number of workers made idle throughout the nation because of labor disputes soared beyond the 100,000 mark today for the first time since months before Japan's surrender.

Idle Worker Total Passes 100,000

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Probe Stirs Up Congress

The investigation became a certainty when the Senate unanimously passed a resolution yesterday calling for an inquiry by a four-man committee of five Senators and five Representatives.

Old Campaigner

Leatherneck Duck Ready For Discharge

Analyzing President's Message

Truman Stands Behind Many Of FDR's Ideas But Also Has Own

Mecklenburg Casualties

WEATHER

Partly cloudy, humid, and with westerly weathered afternoon and evening showers.

Army Planes Find Wreck Of Airliner Near River

FLORENCE, S. C.—Twenty-one persons were killed early today in the crash of an Eastern Airline plane en route from Miami to New York, Betty Frier, of the Florence News, told the Associated Press.

All of the passengers and crew members died in the crash and several of the bodies were badly burned, Miss Frier said, quoting witnesses who had returned from the scene of the crash.

Shaw Field at Sumter reported earlier that the plane was flying three miles south of the field, on which it was flying when radio contact with it was lost at 2 A. M. today.

The area in which it was reported located in a dense swampland.

The Shaw Field base first reported the sighting of the wreckage near the Pee Dee River about ten miles east of Florence.

The report said the plane appeared to be "a complete wreck."

Army planes from Shaw Field and Laurinburg-Maxton had been searching for the plane since early morning when it was first reported missing.

The plane, carrying ten civilians, nine military personnel and a crew of three, was on a flight from Miami to New York.

New York offices of EAL said radio contact was lost around 1 A. M. Betty Griffith had reported it was encountering bad weather and was attempting to make a landing at Florence near here.

Missing Airliner Had 22 On Board

NEW YORK (AP)—An Eastern Air Lines representative said today the company had been unable to contact a 21-passenger plane since about 5 o'clock (EDT) this morning when the plane reported it was running into bad weather and attempting to reach Florence, S. C.

The plane was en route from Miami to New York, the spokesman said, adding that no information was available immediately. But the status was so bad we are not sure Griffith said the plane was due to reach Florence, S. C.

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